

WYTHEVILLE Baptist Church

And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

Romans 8:16



♦ Volume 64
♦ Number 4
♦ April 2017

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

Reflection, Repentance, and Remembering

Lent is a time of reflection on our life journey. Where have we walked in the past? How have we missed the bright path God has for us? These two questions should be a central focus for our Lenten journey. It is easy to miss the path sometimes with all the busyness of our lives. Then sometimes we chose not to walk on the path because we just believe it is too hard to do. When we reflect on these happenings in our lives, we can become discouraged and think it will never be possible to move forward on the spiritual path.

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Our time of reflection should naturally lead us to a place of repentance. We should come before God and admit our failures and our lost wanderings in the dark places. We should be open with ourselves and with God about how we have made some wrong choices. Often with 20/20 hindsight we can see the mistakes, missteps, and missed opportunities of our spiritual life. If we remain in this place though we truly miss one of the greatest characteristics of our wonderful God!

God desires and wants to forgive us for our past failures. God does not want us to see just our lost image and to live within the sorrows of our past wanderings. God wants to forgive us so we can serve God in the fullness of the blessings God has for us. Psalm 130:1-4 (NIV) shows us this aspect of God:

*Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord;
Lord, hear my voice.
Let your ears be attentive
to my cry for mercy.
If you, Lord, kept a record of sins,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness,
so that we can, with reverence, serve you.*

The truth is we could not stand if God only keep a record of all our failures. Yet God forgives us and provides a clear way for us to step back up to the spiritual path and continue the journey (Read 1 John 1:9). So as you continue your Lenten reflections and turn to God with true repentance, remember God forgives you and cleanses so you can have a firm place of growing in the Kingdom of God.

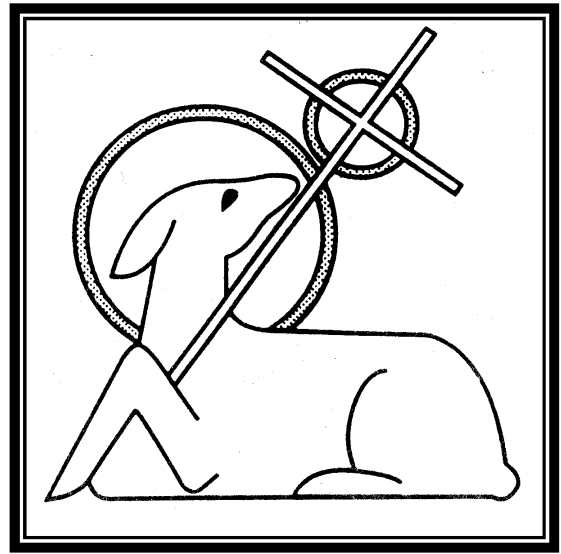
Because of God's Love,
Pastor Tim





Judy Collier

Notes from our Music Director



“Truly, O God of Israel, our Savior, you work in mysterious ways.” —Isaiah 45:15. Before I took the position of Music Director, I pronounced the Lord as True Director and put all things under His control. This past month has revealed the dates we chose for “A Lamb, by Choice” were perhaps not *His* choices. Ours were logical: Palm Sunday and Good Friday. His choices are divine and they don’t have to be logical, for His ways are above our ways. So, when – among other things – illness and surgeries seemed to pervade the choir and participants, and weeks were lost that were necessary to bring the enactment to fruition for Holy Week, I really had no fear. For I knew The Director was working, doing something I knew was for the best. Not only does Eastertide continue until June 4, but the enactment is not solely a Holy Week presentation—it spans the entire Bible with

the image of Jesus as the Lamb of God, so it’s applicable to any time of year. So after much prayer, we have **rescheduled** **“A Lamb, by Choice” to Sunday, May 21, and Monday, May 22.** I am excited that we will now have more time to really enjoy the preparation. The journey is what prepares us for the destination, and I’ve found the preparation time of an enactment of this type to be very meaningful in the life of the church. Participants find they have talents “they knew not of”; they get to interact with other members in fun and creative ways that create new and lasting bonds among the body. The preparation actually be-

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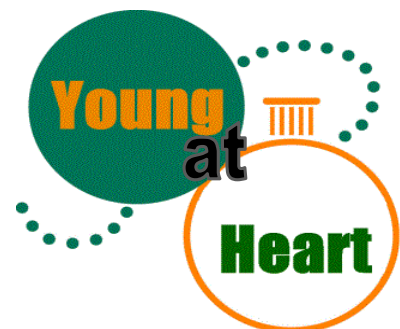
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comes a relationship building block that's beautiful to watch. So I know this is the Lord's doing. We pray the enactment will bring eternal rewards, but the process can be, and usually is, also "life-changing" for the church. Growing together in the climb is what makes the mountain-top so beautiful. If at all possible, don't miss the peak experience by not participating in the joy of the journey in some area of the production. We need many assistants and helpers besides the various character roles—and "silent props" (as Maria Stoker coined the description of the role she wanted to play!). And there are still "silent prop" positions available! Just see

me or Sharon Taylor. See Nancy Herndon for set design. Another benefit of a postponed date, is that some of our youth then may be free to do some specials. I want to thank our marvelous soloists Sharon Taylor, Cathy Valley, and Rick Walker for giving the choir time to work on their music for "A Lamb, by Choice," and for jostling their schedules and plans at the last minute to cover for each other. Our Director is good, faithful, holy, and His timing is perfect. May the wonderful role He has planned for our lives show forth His Glory and Love to a world that is in desperate need of Him.

With great
anticipation and joy,
Judy

Our Young-at-Heart group did not meet in March due to WBC hosting Soup and the Word. We will gather for our April 18 meeting at Moon Dog Brick Oven, 205 East Main Street, at 12:00 noon. Examples of their menu are: Subs (\$5 for half sub), salads, pizza, lasagna, spaghetti, calzones, and hot wings. Parking is limited. We will be looking forward to seeing you then. **Bring a friend.** Every one is invited to join us there. We'd love to see you—.



Youth News

The following is a message sent to WBC by the Backpack Program Coordinator, Mike Pugh:

Dear Wytheville Baptist Church,

I thought I would send you a picture of Pack Night. Bonnie brings the group each month as one of our regulars. Roger and Becky Hudson are there every single week and we count on them greatly to make our program a success.

Please share with your church that they are as important a part of our program as is anyone? The roots of Wytheville Baptist Church run very deep with the HOPE PACKS program and I am proud to call you guys partners and friends.

I send my best regards,

Mike Pugh, Backpack Program Coordinator

Look how they shine for Jesus!



CAN YOU HELP US CLEAN-UP?

The Claytor Lake Baptist Camp Building will be cleaned once a month during this summer/fall by the Western Blue Ridge Baptist Network Churches. Roger and Becky Hudson have signed up to clean the camp on Saturday, October 14, for WBC. If you would also like to help, contact either Roger or Becky. More information will be forthcoming closer to the October date.

Kathryn Isaacs and Mabel Crabtree Circle News

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, April 3, at 7:00 p.m. in Williams Fellowship Hall. The Mission Action Project for April will be Bland Ministry and Tray Cards. The program will be given by Carroll Stewart. Doris Terry and Mary Hall will serve as hostesses.

Thanks to all our members. Ladies we extend an invitation to those who are not members, “*Come Join us.*”

Janet Montgomery

LADIES—start making plans to attend the Women’s Spring Banquet Saturday, May 13. Invite your mothers, daughters, aunts, sisters, and friends to this amazing, fun-filled night full of good food, good fellowship, a special speaker, and door prizes. This will be a Potluck dinner with the Circle providing the meat. So get those favorite recipes out and join us.



WORKSHOP ABOUT GRIEF

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

6:40 PM

The workshop is FREE and open to the public.

Supper is available at 6 pm. Suggested meal donation \$5.

Please make reservations with the church office

276-228-3712 by April 3

Grief happens not just at a time of death.

Grief happens when there is any loss or change:

Marriage, Divorce, Birth, Empty Nest, Retirement, Health Issues,
Financial Situation, New Job/Promotion, Moving/Relocation, etc.

At this workshop we will learn about:

Types of Grief

The 10 Steps of the Grief Process

SEDER MEAL

Don't forget to join us for this wonderful encounter with Passover.

The Passover Haggadah ("telling" in Hebrew) demands that each person see him or herself as having personally come forth out of Egypt. During the seder, we don't just tell the story of the Exodus, we see, smell, feel, and taste liberation. Many of the elements of this sensory experience appear on the seder plate (k'arah). The seder plate holds items, each of which symbolizes a part of the Passover story.¹



Join us in Williams Fellowship Hall Thursday, April 13, at 7:00 p.m. as we experience and learn about the Seder Meal.

¹ Rabbi Jill Jacobs, "The Seder Plate", *MyJewishLearning*, n.d.,
<http://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/the-seder-plate/>

Soup and the Word

Join us during these last two gatherings of **Soup and the Word** beginning each Tuesday at 12:00 p.m. We meet at noon each week to accommodate people's lunch hour. The dates and locations of these final gatherings are as follows:



April 4 St. Paul United Methodist Church

April 11 Wytheville Baptist Church



COMING EVENTS IN APRIL

Wednesday, April 5 A Workshop on Grief, 6:40 p.m. WBC

Sunday, April 9 Palm Sunday—Prayer, Fellowship Time, Sunday School, and Worship Service

Wednesday, April 12 Bible Study—Exodus 12—The Passover

Thursday, April 13 The Seder (Passover) Meal, 7:00 p.m. WBC

Sunday, April 16 Sunrise Service 7:00 a.m. at St. Paul United Methodist Church with Pastor Tim Irving speaking. Breakfast to follow in their fellowship hall
WBC—Prayer in Conference Room at 8:45 a.m., Fellowship Time at 9:00 a.m., Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., Easter Morning Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

April 5: Veggie Beef Soup, Crackers, Grilled Cheese Sandwiches, Chips, Pickles, Dirt Dessert

April 12 Turkey, Dressing, Gravy, Green Beans, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Easter Cake

April 19: Chili, Baked Potatoes, Toss Salad, Broccoli and Cheese, Crackers, Cookies and Ice Cream

April 26: Chicken Salad Croissants, Tomato and Lettuce, Pickles, Chips, Veggie Tray and Dip, Strawberry Short Cake



Meetings

Monday, April 4:	Worship Team—7:00 p.m.
Thursday, April 6:	Western Blue Ridge Baptist Network Leadership Team—6:30 at Dublin Baptist Church
Wednesday, April 12:	Staff meeting—7:30 p.m.
Monday, April 17:	Deacons' meeting—7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 19:	Wythe Ministerial Association—8:00 a.m.
Wednesday, April 19:	Church Business Conference—6:40 p.m.
Monday, April 24:	Leadership Council—7:00 p.m.

April

Birthdays

1 Danny Sowers	9 Pam Newberry	25 Missy
3 Venita Wolford	12 Stephanie Smith	Throckmorton
Evelyn Comber	15 Pamela Moore	Ann Collins
4 Judy Collier	Judy Rankin	28 Jackie Chapman
5 Jenny Stoker	16 Norma Jean	29 Billie Taylor
8 Andrei Stoker	17 Wolford	
Lee Harrell	17 Rhonda Bracknell	
	22 Brett Booher	
	23 Jacky Scott	
	24 Eric Collins	
	Katie Wright	



NURSERY 10:30 AM

April 2 :	Nursery Worker
April 9:	Nursery Worker
April 16:	Nursery Worker
April 23:	Nursery Worker
April 30:	Nursery Worker

SPLASH CHILDREN'S CHURCH 10:30 AM

April 2:	Children's Ministry Team
April 9:	Children's Ministry Team
April 16:	Children's Ministry Team
April 23:	Children's Ministry Team
April 30:	Children's Ministry Team

DEACON OF THE WEEK

April 2 :	Janet Montgomery
April 9:	Chris Bracknell
April 16:	John Claypool
April 23:	Eric Crowgey
April 30:	Guy Sutphin

USHERS

Team IV:	Tommy Hilton, John Willis Betty Robinette
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TELLERS

Guy Sutphin and Jamie Claypool

GREETERS

Designated Ushers for the month of April

April 2017



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

<p>2</p> <p><i>Benevolence Offering Received</i></p> <p>8:45am Prayer in the Conference Room</p> <p>9:00am Fellowship Time with Coffee and Treats.</p> <p>9:15am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am <i>Worship Service with special guest speaker Rev. Alan Wilder</i></p> <p>11:30am Adult Choir practice</p> <p>6:30pm Higher Ground Youth</p>	<p>3</p> <p>11:30am Community Food Kitchen</p> <p>7:00pm Kathryn Isaacs and Mabel Crabtree Circle meeting</p>	<p>4</p>  <p>12:00 noon hosted by St. Paul UM Church</p> <p>7:00pm Worship Team meeting</p>	5
<p>9</p>  <p>8:45am Prayer in the Conference Room</p> <p>9:00am Fellowship Time with Coffee and Treats.</p> <p>9:15am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Worship Service</p> <p>11:30pm Adult Choir practice</p>	<p>10</p> <p>11:30am Community Food Kitchen</p>	<p>11</p>  <p>12:00 noon hosted by Wytheville Baptist Church</p>	1
<p>16</p>  <p>7:00am Sunrise Service hosted by St. Paul UM Church and Pastor Tim Irving speaking followed by breakfast in their fellowship hall</p> <p>8:45am Prayer in the Conference Room at WBC</p> <p>9:00am Fellowship Time with Coffee and Treats.</p> <p>9:15am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Easter Morning Worship Service</p>	<p>17</p> <p>11:30am Community Food Kitchen</p> <p>7:00pm Deacons' meeting</p>	<p>18</p> 	1
<p>23</p> <p>8:45am Prayer in the Conference Room</p> <p>9:00am Fellowship Time with Coffee and Treats.</p> <p>9:15am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Worship Service</p> <p>11:30am Adult Choir practice</p>	<p>24</p> <p>11:30am Community Food Kitchen</p> <p>7:00pm Leadership Council meeting</p>	<p>25</p>	2
<p>30</p> <p>8:45am Prayer in the Conference Room</p> <p>9:00am Fellowship Time with Coffee and Treats.</p> <p>9:15am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Worship Service</p> <p>11:30am Adult Choir practice</p>			



Wednesday		Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1
5	<p>6:00pm Wednesday Night Supper 6:30pm Higher Ground Youth Program 6:40pm Workshop on Grief 7:40pm Practice session for “A Lamb, by Choice</p>	<p>11:30am Community Food Kitchen 6:30pm Western Blue Ridge Baptist Network Leadership Team meeting at Dublin Baptist Church</p>	7	<p>8</p> <p>10:00am WBC helps at Agape Food Pantry</p>
12	<p>12:00pm Retired Teacher’s meeting in the fellowship hall 6:00pm Wednesday Night Supper 6:30pm Higher Ground Youth Program 6:40pm Adult Bible Study 7:30pm Staff meeting 7:40pm Practice session for “A Lamb, by Choice</p>	<p>13 MAUNDY <i>Thursday</i></p> <p>11:30am Community Food</p>  <p><i>Seder Meal</i> 7:00pm Seder Meal in the fellowship hall</p>	<p>14</p> <p><i>Good Friday</i></p>	15
19	<p>8:00am Ministerial Association meeting 6:00pm Wednesday Night Supper 6:30pm Higher Ground Youth Program 6:40pm Church Business Conference 7:40pm Practice session for “A Lamb, by Choice</p>	<p>20</p> <p>11:30am Community Food Kitchen</p>	21	22
26	<p>6:00pm Wednesday Night Supper 6:30pm Higher Ground Youth Program 6:40pm Adult Bible Study 7:40pm Practice session for “A Lamb, by Choice</p>	<p>27</p> <p>11:30am Community Food Kitchen 12:00pm WBC helps at Agape Food Pantry 2:30pm Children's Clothes Closet</p>	28	29



HOME: Danny Sowers, Rick Walker, Jane Crowgey, Missy Throckmorton, Harlan and Mae Clemons, Almetta Cruff, Bill Valley, JoAnn Campbell, Sylvia McGhee, Norma Jean Wolford, Nancy Herndon, Rosalene "Posey" Heath

EXTENDED CARE: Velma Roberts, Linda Osborne, Mary Evelyn Whitt

FAMILY: Carroll Stewart's niece, Susan Canada; Norma Jean Wolford's sister, Frances; Pastor Danny Collins' sister, Betty June Addington; Jamie Saunders' brother, Johnny, and father, Bill; Debbie Grubb's sister, Tammy Johnston; the wife of Judy Collier's cousin, Dianne; Bea Shearwood's nephew, Alex Puckett; Frank and Charlotte Newland's daughter, Cathy Biglin, and son, Frank; Veronica Lopez's mother, Maria Hernandez

FRIENDS: Christian Sympathy To: Holly Montgomery's family upon her sister-in-law's passing, Venita Wolford's family upon her nephew's passing, the family and friends of Dan Challengren upon his passing; Randy Hand, Wally Hutton, Boyd Sult, Bob Bishop, Mary Gobal, Ace Kennedy, Sis Cassell, Marti Byrum, Shirley Cormier, Curt Campbell, John and Linda Phillips' daughter, Megan Govin; Monica Grubb, Bland Ministry Center

THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES: Zachary Taylor, Gregory Carson, Thomas Munsey, Ryan Shupe, Kevin Dalton, Benji Bird, Cory Todd, and all the others who serve our nation

PASTORAL CARE: Our Pastor, Rev. Tim Irving, is accessible for any pastoral need. If you would like to make an appointment with Pastor Tim, please call the church office at 228-3712 or his cell phone: 276-284-1575. For pastoral emergencies at night or during weekends, please call Pastor Tim on his cell phone or the Deacon of the Week.



CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY TO:

Norma Jean Wolford and her family upon the passing of her brother, Johnny Longanacre. Mary Hall, Frances Nash, and their families upon the passing of Mary and Frances' brother, Rufus Spence.



The Nellie Bausell Library Notes

April 2017

Joel Osteen is the author of *I Declare: 31 Promises to Speak Over Your Life*. The words you speak determine the way you live. Speaking God's promises can bring about His amazing blessings. If you spend just five minutes a day reading these words and declaring the truth of God's Word over your life, you'll be amazed at what happens.

Broken into thirty-one segments, this book defines the most powerful blessings in Scripture and encourages readers to declare one each day for a month. The declarations will affirm God's blessings in the areas of health, family legacy, decisions, finances, thoughts, outlook, and overcoming obstacles.

Do you remember the following two books by Rick Warren? We still have them and I think someone would like to read them again.

The Purpose Driven Life: What on Earth am I Here For—You are not an accident. Even before the universe was created, God had you in mind, and He planned you for His purposes. These purposes will extend far beyond the few years you will spend on earth. You were made to last forever!

The Purpose Driven Church: Growth Without Compromising Your Message and Mission. Every church is driven by something. Tradition, finances, programs, personalities, events, seekers, and even buildings can each be the controlling force in a church. But Rick Warren believes that in order for a church to be healthy it must become a purpose-driven church, built around the five New Testament purposes given to the church by Jesus.

Carroll Stewart

DON'T FORGET OUR BENEVOLENCE OFFERING

The purpose of the Benevolence offering—to help others in need.

Last month you helped:

- ◆ Four families with gas for their car
- ◆ Four people with a room for the night
- ◆ Three families with their electric bill
- ◆ One couple with help on their rent



We will receive a Benevolence offering Sunday, April 2, following our worship service. We ask that you once again give from the heart. This offering is never hoarded up or put in a savings account, but always used to help others for the glory of God.

Thank you for giving from the heart.

AGAPE FOOD PANTRY



Please bring Spaghetti Sauce, Spaghetti Noodles, and Peanut Butter for the months of April, May, and June to help feed those in need in our community. Please, no glass containers.

WBC considers it a privilege to help the Agape Food Pantry distribute food on the second Saturday of every month beginning at 10:00 a.m. and the fourth Thursday of each month beginning at 12:00 p.m. If you would like to be part of this vital ministry, please contact Chris and Rhonda Bracknell or Guy and Linda Sutphin.

COMMUNITY FOOD KITCHEN

The Community Food Kitchen is open every Monday and Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for those who are in need of a meal.

If you would like to help feed those less fortunate, please consider sending a check to Hope Ministries, P.O. Box 987, Wytheville, VA 24382, and earmark your check "Community Food Kitchen."





Children's Clothes Closet

It's beginning to warm-up outside and there are clothes available in our WBC Children's Clothes Closet. These children's clothes are free and we always have new families that utilize this ministry. If you have any new or gently used children's clothes, shoes, new underwear, t-shirts, or socks; bring them to the clothes closet down stairs next to the nursery.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please earmark your check "Children's Clothes Closet" and place it in the offering plate. The Children's Clothes Closet will open on Thursday, April 27, 2017, from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Spread the Word of God by telling others to listen to the Sunday morning message by logging onto:

www.wythevillebaptist.org
then click the Sermons tab.

Once there, people will find each Sunday's sermon plus all the previous sermons of past months. Thank you to our Multi-Media Team Leader, Daniel Burke, for providing this link for our encouragement, learning, and inspiration.



MAY 2017 BEACON ARTICLES



All May 2017 Beacon articles, announcements, meetings, events, times, etc. need to be turned into the church office no later than Wednesday, April 18. Thank you for your help.

Thank You!

Dear Church Family:

I would like to thank my Church family for all the calls, cards, thoughts and prayers during my recent surgery and post-surgery. Everyone has been so kind and I really appreciate all the well wishes. Thank you again!

God Bless!
Roger Hudson

Dear Church Family:

Thank you to everyone for your love, concern, phone calls, beautiful cards, and especially all your prayers during my recent surgery and recovery.

Love you all,
Marjorie Wassum

Dear Church Family:

I love and appreciate you all and I want you to know how much I appreciate all the beautiful cards, visits, phone calls, and especially all the prayers that were prayed on my behalf. To have a church family to care so much is a blessing beyond belief.

God Bless you all,
Jane Crowgey

Dear Wonderful Friends,

I just want to tell you how much I appreciate your prayers, concern, well wishes, offers of help, errands run, and wonderful food gifts left at my door. I'm simply overwhelmed. Thanks to the good Lord, your prayers and your TLC, I am so blessed with your friendship and this wonderful church. May God bless you richly and keep you well!

In His care and your care too,
Judy Collier

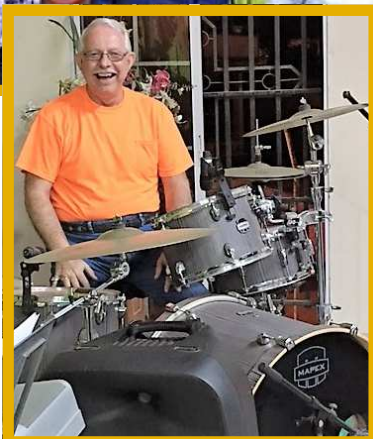
Pastor Danny Collins in Honduras

Our Team





The Children



Pastor Danny helping with the music!



- ◆ Pray for Jaye and Mark who are now interim BCM leaders at Radford. The BGAV hopes to have a permanent leader in place no later than June of 2017. While their salary is fully funded by the BGAV, a permanent leader will be expected to raise over \$900 per month of their own support. The Leadership Team notified the BGAV that they can count on at least \$300 per month from Western Blue Ridge Baptist Network Churches. Please continue praying for God to guide Wilford and his team at the BGAV in their search.
- ◆ Darrell Cook, Leader of Virginia Tech's Baptist Collegiate Ministries, will have until January 2018 to raise approximately 20% of his annual support. Darrell has received pledges for just over 1/3 of the total he needs next year.
- ◆ The Western Blue Ridge Baptist Network web site can be reached by searching the name or by copying and pasting
<http://westernblueridge.wix.com/baptistnetwork>
- ◆ Remember your contact person is the only one who can post information for your church on the Network web site. Please remember to post your church's activities on the Network website.
- ◆ The Leadership Team is organizing a dinner for Pastors and their spouses at Shoney's in Dublin on Tuesday, April 18, at 6:00 p.m. This gathering will allow our pastors to spend time together and support each other's ministries. As before the Network will cover the meals cost.
- ◆ Several of you have expressed an interest in deacon training. After reviewing Tom Stocks training video called SETTING THE DEACON FREE. The Leadership Team decided to sponsor a training session on May 20 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. with Tom pre-

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senting the program. Pastors, please mark your calendar and plan to attend with as many active, inactive, or prospective deacons as possible to learn more about this unique approach to deacon service. Please contact pastor Gary Poff from Castle Rock Baptist by May 1 with the number that plan to attend from you congregation. Gary can be reached at 540-626-3259 or gpoff@vt.edu.

- ◆ The Youth Leaders who attended the dinner meeting in February are organizing a ***Youth Back to School*** event at Claytor Lake for Saturday, August 5. Amy Cundiff from Belspring is acting as coordinator and can be reached at 540-250-7275 or ascundif@pcva.us for details on how your church can help plan this event for the youth of our churches.
- ◆ Every Network church has an equal say in what we do as a Network, so it is very important to have your representative at Leadership Team meetings whenever possible. The next meeting will be 6:30 p.m. at Dublin Baptist (across from Hardee's) on April 6, 2017.

Claytor Lake Baptist Assembly Inc.

- ◆ The Camp building will be cleaned once a month during the summer. Thanks Holly Aker and the Network churches who are providing teams this summer.
- ◆ We worked at the camp Saturday, March 18. All three of the commodes were replaced and grab bars were added in the stalls. Plans are to also repair the lights in the meeting area, give the building a good cleaning, and turn the water back on for the April 1 opening of the camp.

Thanks for your support. Please remember to pray for the churches in our Network as we all strive to tell lost souls of His saving grace.

In His service

David Clonch

Moderator/Director Western Blue Ridge Baptist Network



205 Church Street
Wytheville VA 24382

YOUR CHURCH STAFF

Wytheville Baptist Church	228-3712
E-mail Address, Office.....	wythevillebaptist@gmail.com
.....	wythevillebaptist@yahoo.com
Rev. Timothy Irving, Pastor	284-1575
Judy Collier, Music Director	780-6872
Maria Hildebrand, Pianist.....	228-3712
Bonnie Wright, Youth Director	620-9406
Jan Stone, Secretary/Treasurer	228-3712

Address Change Requested