

# WYTHEVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Volume 68 Number 1 January 2021

## The Beacon

### PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

#### A NEW START

The last ten months have been something we never expected to happen. Our lives and the way we do so many things changed suddenly. Almost no one living had ever experienced a pandemic. Major events were canceled, and most Holidays were celebrated differently than ever before. Even activities and Worship Services at churches were changed. Do you ever remember a time when attendance at Worship Services was limited to so few people?

Now we are getting ready to begin a new year, 2021. Hopes are high for this year to be different than last year. We expect to have most people in our country vaccinated against COVID-19 sometime this year.

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# Wytheville

Baptist Church

Loving, Growing, Sharing, Serving

205 Church Street  
Wytheville VA 24382

**Boldly affirmed in the bright future God has planned for us, we seek to be inventive and resourceful while encouraging one another on a deeper spiritual journey.**

YOUR CHURCH STAFF	
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Cathy Valley, Pianist.....	228-3712
Jan Stone, Secretary/Treasurer.....	228-3712

Address Change Requested

(Continued from page 1)

After that, we are looking for a more normal way of life as we had in years previous. We expect sometime this year to have activities and events at church again in a full way. Wednesday night suppers, Sunday School, prayer meetings, small groups, and Bible Study are just some of the events that we have longed to have again. The church expects to be a place of activity and encouragement once again.

As we look toward this and plan to become a church reaching out to those who need a relationship with God, it is good to keep Isaiah 43:18,19 (NIV) in mind. God says through the prophet Isaiah these words:

*"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."*

Might God be saying these same words to us at this time?

This new year does give us time to start afresh. We can begin new practices in our spiritual lives. We can seek new ways of reaching out to our community to help them respond to the call of God for salvation and eternal life. People are living in our town who do not know God and who are not attending a community of faith anywhere. What if the new thing God is doing is placing us in contact with those who need to know the love, grace, mercy, and peace of God for the first time?

We may begin this year with some of the restrictions and concerns of the past year still in place, but I think at some point in this year those things will fall away. Now is the time to prepare our hearts for the incredible work God is starting in us and looking to do through us this year.

Because of God's Love,  
Pastor Tim



thank  
you!

Thank you to our Security Team—Chris Bracknell, Tommy Hilton, and Gary Taylor. These men keep us safe as we worship and are diligent in locking doors and keeping the facilities secure. Thank you to all our Ushers—Tommy and Gena Anders, Joe Crowgey, Carlisle Hostetter, Tommy Hilton, Becky Hudson, Guy Sutphin, Glenna Turner, Danny Sowers, Bonnie Agnew, Chris Bracknell, Gary Estep, Betty Robinette, Roger Hudson, Zannah McCoury, John Willis—who greet us at the door as we come in for service, receive the offering, and help us in any way. You all are a blessing.

**THANK YOU SECURITY AND USHER TEAMS  
FOR TAKING CARE OF  
WHAT GOD HAS INTRUSTED TO WBC.**



- ◆ **WESTERN BLUE RIDGE BAPTIST NETWORK WEB SITE:**  
<http://westernblueridge.wix.com/baptistnetwork>
- ◆ **LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING:** We plan to have our Leadership Team meetings on even numbered months. Our next regular meeting will be Thursday, February 4, 6:30 p.m. at Dublin Baptist Church. If the Network can be of any help during this time please let us know and please continue to pray for our country.

As we look forward to the future, please continue to pray for our Network churches and our country.

In His service, Charles Damron,  
Moderator/Director  
Western Blue Ridge Baptist Network





Dear Deacons,  
Thank you so much for the nice fruit basket. I'm really enjoying it. Thanks to Eric and Lisa Crowgey for delivering it.  
Marjorie Wassum

Dear Deacons,  
Thank you for the beautiful fruit basket. It was enjoyed by our family during the Christmas season. Thank you to Chris Bracknell for delivering it and his visit with us. Our Deacons are truly are a blessing to WBC.  
In God's Hand,  
Jerry and Jan Stone

Dear Deacons,  
Thank you for the fruit basket that Dovey delivered to my workplace. I was able to share it with my co-workers and we all enjoyed it.  
I miss you and look forward to the time we can worship together safely and comfortably.  
Thanks again,  
Bonnie Agnew

Dear Deacons,  
Chris Bracknell visited us and brought us a basket of fruit. Thank you such kindness. We are enjoying the delicious fruit and miss everyone from church.  
Love to all of our church family,  
Eric and Ann Collins



## NOTES FROM OUR INTERIM MUSIC DIRECTOR JERRY STONE

I SOUGHT THE LORD, AND HE ANSWERED ME;  
HE DELIVERED ME FROM ALL MY FEARS.  
PSALM 34:4N

During our worship service on Sunday, December 13, I sang a special called, "God Said You're Gonna Make It." That is such a powerful song and reminds us that God is in control no matter what comes our way. Look at some of the words in this song.

"God said you're gonna make it, you're gonna make it through the raging storm."

*Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress. He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed. They were glad when it grew calm, and he guided them to their desired haven. Psalm 107:28-30*

"You're gonna make it, for the master's onboard"

*Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10*

"So I'm not givin' up, I'm not turnin' round."

*Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. James 1:12*

"You got to hold to God's unchanging hand."

*Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. God did this so that, by*

*(Continued on page 4)*

*two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm, and secure. Hebrews 6:17-19a*

In these unprecedented times, we definitely need to do as scripture says and hold on to this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.

In this new year, please stop and reflect on the fact that “God Said You’re Gonna Make It.” His Word tells us this so stand firm in the love, grace, and mercy He blesses us with every day.

In God’s Unchanging Hand,

*Jerry*



Thank you to our two Deacons that have taken on a commitment to serve until the end of 2023.



**Tommy Hilton**



**Janet Montgomery**

Please keep all our Deacons in your prayers.

Thank you to Delores Dove, Jenny Stoker, and Danny Sowers for serving their commitments as Deacons as they rotate off this Team. You are an integral part of our church body and greatly loved.



### **Children’s Clothes Closet**

Winter is here and we have warm clothes in 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; please bring them to the church office between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please earmark your check “Children’s Clothes Closet” and mail it to the church or drop it in the mail slot on the door leading to the main hallway. **If permissible**, the Children’s Clothes Closet will open on Thursday, January 28, 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](http://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.

You can also listen to the sermons live on Facebook by searching for Wytheville Baptist. The services are also on YouTube. Thank you to Gary Carson for providing these links.



### **FEBRUARY 2021 BEACON ARTICLES**

All February 2021 Beacon articles, announcements, meetings, events, times, etc. need to be turned into the church office no later than Monday, January 18. Thank you for your help in this matter.



### **DON'T FORGET OUR BENEVOLENCE OFFERING**

Our Benevolence offering is divided between helping our members and regular attendees in a time of need and the rest is sent to the Wythe County Ministerial Association and administered by Hope Ministry to help those in the community who need help. This offering will be received during the month of January.

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.*



### **OPEN DOOR CAFÉ IMPORTANT HEALTH & SERVICE NOTICE**

We will continue with To-Go style meals. Outdoor seating is now available to enjoy your to-go meals, but you may not seat yourself. Please see a volunteer to be seated. Masks must be worn except for when eating and drinking. Tables are reserved for active eating only of parties of 6 or less, and social gatherings outside of meals are prohibited. Monetary donations are still gladly accepted and needed as we work to serve all. The hours will remain 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



### **AGAPE FOOD PANTRY**

**YOU CAN HELP**



Please bring canned fruits and vegetables for the months of January, February, and March 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.

Dear Wytheville Baptist,

In light of the COVID-19 situation here in the Southwest part of Virginia and the Governor's press conference on December 10, we are going to make some changes to Worship Services and Office hours. There will be a new 10 person limit to gatherings starting Monday. Although this does not apply to churches, the Governor asked churches to set an example for the rest of the community. I have emailed and talked with the Deacons and they are in support of these changes.

We will not have services again until the situation is better. Office hours will be from 9 to Noon, Monday through Friday. If you have business at church please consider calling to discuss your business instead of stopping by the church.

The COVID situation is much worse than when we closed the church early last year for a number of months. It is hard for everyone, especially during one of the most important times of the church year. We need to do all we can to help stop the spread and keep people safe.

May God continue to bring great blessings to you and your family in this new year. Stay safe, use wisdom, and be careful. There will be a time when this is over and we will gather again as the church triumphant.

Because of God's Love,  
Pastor Tim



*"No, dear brothers and sisters, I am still not all I should be, but I am focusing all my energies on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us up to heaven." Philippians 3:13-14*

## RECORDS OF CONTRIBUTION

You will receive your record of contribution for 2020 by January 15, 2021. If you do not receive your statement, or if there are any errors, please contact our Financial Secretaries, Ty King or Cheryl Murdock.



## TITHING ENVELOPES

Our Offering Envelopes for 2021 will be ready for pick-up the latter part of January. The boxes of envelopes will be placed on the table in the main hallway under the Library windows. The boxes will be in numerical order and an alphabetical list of names will be provided with assigned envelope numbers. Please note your box number may have changed from last year. If you cannot find your box or do not have an assigned tithing number and would like one, please contact the church office at 228-3712.



## PRAYER LIST

Our prayer list published in our bulletins and Beacons has become very long. Some on our prayer list have inadvertently been left on the list after our prayers for them have been answered. Therefore, we will purge the list and start fresh. We ask you to carefully look over the list of names and if there is someone you would like left on the prayer list, please call the church office. All other names will be removed from the list the last of January and a new list will be published in our February Beacon.



## QUARTERLY BUSINESS CONFERENCE

Please join us for the Quarterly Business Conference Wednesday, January 20, at 7:00 p.m. in WBC's sanctuary as we conduct the business of the church.

# The Nellie Bausell Library Notes



## January 2021



This came from Facebook so some of you may have seen it but I think it is worth repeating.

You can shed tears because they are gone,  
Or you can smile because they lived.  
You can close your eyes and pray they will come back,  
Or you can open your eyes and see all they left for you.  
Your heart can be empty because you can't see them,  
Or you can be full of the love you shared.  
You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday,  
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.  
You can remember only that they are gone,  
Or you can cherish their memory and let it live on.  
You can cry and close your mind and feel empty,  
Or you can do what they would want.  
Smile, Open your heart,  
Love and go on.

~Elizabeth Ammons~



*Carroll Stewart*  
Librarian



**HOME:** Missy Throckmorton, Almetta Cruff, Lee Perry, Adam Lester, Pamela Clark and Phillip Miller, Frances Felty, Kathy Landrith, Jean Moore, Rick Walker, Lynn Arnold, O.J. Campbell, Dan Robinette, Adren Eldridge, Bill Valley

**EXTENDED CARE:** Mary Hall, Elton Robinson, Nancy Herndon, Betty and John Matheny, Colleen Dunford, Mae Clemons, Della Dunford, Rosalene "Posey" Heath

**FAMILY:** Jackie Carson's daughter, Tracy Robinette; Chris King's father, K.W. King; Dee Nolan's sister-in-law, Celia Kibler; Kathy Landrith's cousin, Pat Morgan; DeAnne Irving's cousin, Steve Wilhelm; Adam Lester's father, Andy Lester; Missy Throckmorton's brother-in-law, Mark Armentrout; Zanah McCoury's daughter, Renita K. Martin White; Janet Montgomery's son-in-law, Maurice Johnson; Becky Hudson's cousin, Nancy; Gabby Warner's mother and sister; Michael's cousin, Graham; Almetta Cruff's uncle George Parks and friends, Betty Edwards and Sharon Mitchell; Arnie Murdock's brother-in-law, Howard Vest; Daniel Burke's mother, Nellie Burke; Gary and Carla Estep's niece, Lindsey, granddaughter, Everleigh, Carla's mother, and brother-in-law, Ron Femi; Paula Moore and her son

**FRIENDS: Christian Sympathy To** Dee Dee Hoosier and family upon the passing of her husband, Danny Hoosier; Teachers, Students, First Responders, Medical Personnel, Linda Phillip, John Viars, Bryan and Cheryl Walker, Rev. Bob McFall, Ronnie Pierce, Angel Foster, Martha F. Umberger, Debbie Grubb's brother, Steve Ingo; Phil Tobelmann, Joey Dunn, Jerry Morgan, Bland Ministry Center, Wythe County, our Nation, and people in Venezuela

**THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES:** Airman Joseph Robinette, Thomas Collins, Gregory Carson and all the others who serve our nation

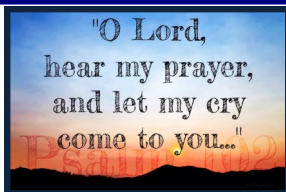
**PASTORAL CARE:** Our Pastor, Rev. Tim Irving, is accessible for any pastoral need. If you would like to make an appointment with Pastor Tim, please call the church office at 228-3712 or his cell phone:



Sylvia McGhee and family upon the passing of her brother, Henry Wells

Kathy Landrith and family upon the passing of her brother, Steve Bittle

Jack Hancock and family upon the passing of his son, Doug Hancock



**When a decision is made pertaining to having Wednesday night suppers, we will announce this to our church family and friends. Watch and listen for more information.**



## Meetings

Tuesday, January 12	Discipleship—7:00 p.m. on Zoom
Wednesday, January 13:	Staff—4:00 p.m. on Zoom
Tuesday, January 19:	Deacons'—7:00 p.m. at the church
Wednesday, January 20:	Quarterly Business Conference—7:00 in the church sanctuary



## January

## Birthdays

1 Wanda Hamm	9 Keith Dunagan
Maria Stoker	10 Pastor Tim Irving
4 Lynn Arnold	Mary Hall
5 Carla Estep	15 Jerry Stone
Chris Bracknell	16 Brenda Tucker
Glenna Turner	Cynthia Inman-Willis
John Claypool	19 George Hamm
6 Pauline Moore	23 Linda Lively
Jesus Alfredo Esquivel	Sara Wingard
7 Collin Phillips	26 Rick Tucker
	27 Jonathan Stoker
	28 Adren Eldridge
	31 Cathy Valley



## DEACON OF THE WEEK

January 3:	Eric Crowgey
January 10:	Guy Sutphin
January 17:	Gary Taylor
January 24:	Tommy Hilton
January 31:	Janet Montgomery

## USHERS Team I:

Tommy Anders, Gena Anders  
Joe Crowgey, Carlisle Hostetter









## TELLERS

Emery Pruett and Guy Sutphin

## GREETERS

Designated Ushers for the month of January

# January 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 	2
3 <b>Benevolence Offering Received</b> <b>No services or functions held at the church until further notice</b> <b>10:30am</b> Log onto Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page or Wytheville Baptist Church YouTube to hear Pastor Tim's message for today	4	5	6 <b>7:00pm</b> Adult Bible Study on Zoom	7 	8 	9
10 <b>No services held at the church until further notice</b> <b>10:30am</b> Log onto Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page or Wytheville Baptist Church YouTube to hear Pastor Tim's message for today	11	12 <b>7:00pm</b> Discipleship meeting on Zoom	13 <b>4:00pm</b> Staff meeting on Zoom <b>7:00pm</b> Adult Bible Study on Zoom	14 	15	16
17 <b>No services held at the church until further notice</b> <b>10:30am</b> Log onto Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page or Wytheville Baptist Church YouTube to hear Pastor Tim's message for today	18 	19 <b>7:00pm</b> Deacons' meeting at the church	20 <b>7:00pm</b> Quarterly Business Conference in the sanctuary	21	22 	23
24 <b>No services held at the church until further notice</b> <b>10:30am</b> Log onto Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page or Wytheville Baptist Church YouTube to hear Pastor Tim's message for today	25 	26	27 <b>7:00pm</b> Adult Bible Study on Zoom	28 <b>2:30 to 4:00pm</b> <b>If permissible</b> Children's Clothes Closet	29	30
31 <b>No services held at the church until further notice</b> <b>10:30am</b> Log onto Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page or Wytheville Baptist Church YouTube to hear Pastor Tim's message for today					