

WYTHEVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Volume 68 Number 9
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The Beacon



PASTOR'S THOUGHTS WAITING

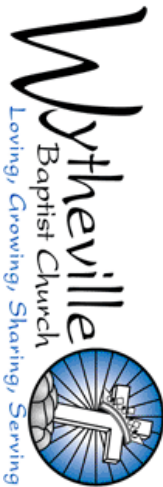
Most people today are waiting for this pandemic to be completely over. At moments, it seems like we are close to the end, and then things change. It appears the only constant in the last 18 months is if you wait a day, things will change. Recommendations and guidelines have filled our months and continue to change. These changes are confusing, and sometimes people wonder what they should do. Fewer social activities and events have left people hungry for gathering for interaction with others. Church activities that have happened for years have been canceled and postponed.

People are wondering: where is God while all this is happening? If God

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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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 Rev. Timothy Irving, Pastor 284-1575
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Address Change Requested

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wants the best for us, why is God not stopping this pandemic? These types of questions have been asked by people of faith for centuries. During the Babylonian Exile of the Jewish people, they wondered what had happened to God's care. Seventy years of captivity was a long time to wait for God to restore their nation. Yet as they wondered and asked questions about God, Isaiah shared a good word with them (Isaiah 30:18).

*Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you;
therefore he will rise up to show you compassion.*


*For the LORD is a God of justice.
Blessed are all who wait for him!*

I believe it is the same God who is present for us now as we wait for the end of the pandemic. A God who continues to shower grace and mercy upon us. A God who wants to love on us and show us compassion for the path we are walking. It is a confusing path that has many ups and even more downs it seems. Yet Isaiah lets me know that God longs to pour grace into my life.

Why are we walking this path? I do not know and may never be able to answer that question. So instead, I will trust the word Isaiah shares about God and the action I must take. "Blessed are all who wait for God!"

So, wait I will while doing what I can to help others to see God is present and wants to show us grace and compassion during a pandemic.

Because of God's Love,
Pastor Tim



Western Blue Ridge Baptist Network

- ◆ **Western Blue Ridge Baptist Network web site:**
<http://westernblueridge.wix.com/baptistnetwork>
- ◆ **Leadership Team meeting:** Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 7, 2021, 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.
- ◆ **Hearts and Hammers** – Dave Clonch shared that they are doing ramps in Giles and Pulaski Counties, that Bland Ministry Center supplies the “people power” with the visiting mission teams and that the funds are from state grants. Several projects were done with a team from South Carolina. Another team will be coming in September.
- ◆ **Bland Ministry Center:** Special Projects Coordinator Susan Keene gave the following report:
 1. “USDA food boxes are being given out on Tuesdays. The first week of August 178 boxes were given out.
 2. “In July a total of 539 boxes were given on Thursdays of the month. She said they will continue receiving these donations and giving them away on “Free Produce Day” Thursdays. A large quantity of Gatorade has been received. Some was taken to Bluefield College for their Athletic Department.
 3. “The summer feeding program has been well received.
 4. “The School Supplies program and the school dental program will be done.”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



You can use this QR Code to quickly reach the WBC website.

Use this QR Code to quickly reach the WBC sermons.



thank you!

This month we recognize our Baptism Team which consists of Ty King, Rhonda Bracknell, and Emery Pruett. This position is vital to the life of our church as people step forward for baptism. This position entails seeing that all necessary baptismal equipment and facilities are available and ready prior to each baptismal service. Assist at baptism times by meeting the candidates at the appointed time, show candidates the dressing rooms, answer questions, assist them in dressing, getting towels, hairdryers, and any other necessary items. Assist candidates into and out of the pool and to dressing room following baptism. Prepare the baptismal area, robes, towels, and handkerchiefs for the next baptismal service. Please pray for this team as they help others through this life changing experience.

**THANK YOU TO OUR BAPTISM TEAM
FOR TAKING CARE OF WHAT GOD HAS ENTRUSTED
TO WBC.**



If you would like a new updated in-house Church Directory, please contact the church office.



JERRY STONE

NOTES FROM OUR MINISTER OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 5 :15-20

On Sunday, August 15, Pastor Tim gave a message from Ephesians 5:15-20. What a great message! I was truly blessed. The scripture in that passage that spoke to me was 19b and 20.

Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

There’s solid scientific evidence to prove that singing is, in fact, good for your body and your mind. Singing, especially a gospel song, provides comfort, encouragement, and a feeling of happiness. It’s a mood lifter and anti-depressant with no side effects. When we find singing in the Bible, it usually points to times of joy and rejoicing, and our worship of God is so vitally connected.

Singing opens and softens our hearts to let the Holy Spirit come in and convict us. We sing because God is at work in us, bringing us closer to and knowing Him better through the message of the gospel. In the Bible, singing isn’t just good for us; it is a command to us. So Let’s All Keep On Singing!

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The second part of this verse that genuinely blessed me spoke to the fact that we all should make it a priority in our lives as Christians to give thanks to God for EVERYTHING, for both big blessings and the small blessings we see every day in our lives. Can you see His blessings today? Can you see them in a cool breeze, someone smiling and laughing behind that mask, a beautiful summer flower, the taste of a freshly picked tomato, someone who has received Christ in their heart? Even when the future looks bleak with COVID and the events around the world start to overwhelm us, we need to remember that God is still in control, He wants to bless us, and we need to give thanks to Him with all praise, honor, and glory. *“ALWAYS (in every situation) giving thanks to God the Father for EVERYTHING, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

WHAT A BLESSING!
ALWAYS GIVING THANKS!
GOD IS GOOD!

Jerry



LOOK! WHO HAS JOINED
THE WBC FAMILY!!!

ALAN AND DIANE BALL

Alan is a wonderful addition to our choir and is also a digital photographer. Diane has a ministry in making cards and sending them to uplift and encourage others. The blessing of adding this couple to our church family is huge.



If you haven't met this couple yet, you're in for a real treat. Go by and introduce yourself to them; you'll be glad you did.



Children's Clothes Closet

The leaves are starting to fall and the air is getting cooler. We have warm school clothes in WBC Children's Clothes Closet. These children's clothes are free to the community 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 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday or 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Friday.

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. The Children's Clothes Closet will open on Thursday, September 23, from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m.



COATS FOR KIDS

Knights of Columbus Council 17313, in partnership with WBC, St. Mary's Catholic Church, St. John's Episcopal Church, and other local charities, will be holding their 1st annual "Coats for Kids" drive. We will be collecting used and new coats for children in grade school and pre-school level. This joint effort would benefit the needy children in our area. If you would like to help provide a warm coat for a child, please bring your contributions to the church by September 12 or contact Betty Robinette. Thank you for your support.



OCTOBER 2021 BEACON ARTICLES

All October 2021 Beacon articles, announcements, meetings, events, times, etc. need to be turned into the church office no later than Monday, September 20. 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 September.

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.



Did you hear about the blessing given to Open Door Café?

A \$5,000 check was presented to them by the Newmar Kountry Klub Fulltimers Chapter. This gift will help feed many people who might otherwise go without a meal. Thank you to everyone who gave to this great cause.



AGAPE FOOD PANTRY

Please bring canned vegetables for the month of September 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.

Postponement of Activities

Dear Sisters and Brothers of Wytheville Baptist,

Over the past week, I have had discussions with the people who attended the Prayer Meeting last Wednesday and the Deacons. All who have spoken with me have felt the same way about upcoming plans for the Fall. Because of the resurgence of COVID, we are going to postpone the activities we planned to start again in September. We will not start Wednesday Night Suppers, Fellowship Groups, or have the Church Picnic (planned for Sept. 12). I wish we did not have to do this but it is the safest thing to do at this time.

We are still asking folks to wear masks during Worship Services on Sunday. We will continue to have our Wednesday night Prayer Meeting and Spiritual Conversation by Zoom. If you have not attended and would like to participate, please send me your email address so I can send you a link to join us for the meeting. If you cannot attend on Wednesday evenings, I do record the Spiritual Conversation (Bible Study) part of the meeting and post it on the Church's Facebook page normally by noon on Thursdays.

Contact me if you have any questions, concerns, or comments.

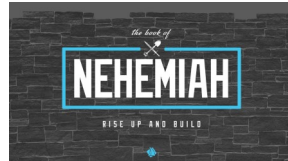
Please continue to pray for God to end this pandemic so we can once again gather in all the ways we have in the past.

Because of God's Love,
Pastor Tim

SPIRITUAL CONVERSATION

Please join us at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom for our Spiritual Conversation on the book of Nehemiah. Contact Pastor Tim or the church office to receive your invitation via email to join our time of study. The schedule is:

September 1: Nehemiah 7
September 8: Nehemiah 8
September 15: Nehemiah 9
September 22: Nehemiah 10
September 29: Nehemiah 11



We hope you will join us as we study Nehemiah and how we can apply God's Word to our lives.



Alma Hunt Offering for VA Missions September 12-19, 2021

**YOU
WILL
BE
MY
WITNESSES**
ACTS 1:8

ALMA HUNT OFFERING
for Virginia Missions
SEPTEMBER 12-19, 2021 | ALMAHUNT.ORG

OBGAV WBC Goal : \$1,000 wmv

The poster features a smiling woman in a blue shirt and a blue baseball cap. The text is overlaid on the image. At the bottom, there are logos for OBGAV, WBC Goal : \$1,000, and wmv.

As always, this critical offering seeks to meet real needs of real people by funding ministries in a variety of specific areas. For 2021, the allocations of this offering are being redirected in a way that will allow us to focus on human needs arising from the COVID-19 crisis. Please give as the Lord leads you.

The Nellie Bausell Library Notes



The Faith of Dolly Parton: Lessons from Her Life to Lift Your Heart, Tennessee native and award winning writer Dudley Delffs spotlights ten inspiring lessons he has drawn from Dolly's life, music, and attitude. His reflections are personal, practical, and profound as Dolly's example reminds us all to trust God during bad times, stay grounded during good times, and always keep our sense of humor.

Dolly Parton grew up listening to Bible stories and singing hymns in the little mountain church where her granddaddy preached. Over the years her deep-rooted devotion blossomed into the vibrant faith that has sustained her through decades of extraordinary success, debilitating struggle, and a fifty-year marriage that's still going strong.

Dolly Parton has entertained, educated, and inspired millions of fans for over five decades. Whether she's writing songs, performing live, recording new albums, tackling new movie and TV projects, expanding her wildly successful Dollywood theme park, helping children around the world through her Imagination Library, or donating millions to worthy causes; the Queen of Country Music has never been shy about crediting her Christian faith for her success.

Carroll Stewart

Librarian

HOME: Danny Sowers, Tom Collins, Kathleen Landrith, Carla Estep, Adam Lester, Missy Throckmorton, Frances Felty, Dan Robinette, Bill Valley, Jean Moore, Lee and Lynn Perry



EXTENDED CARE: Ann Collins, Adren Eldridge, Mary Hall, Nancy Herndon, John Matheny, Colleen Dunford, Rosalene "Posey" Heath

FAMILY: Carla Estep's mother; Cheryl Murdock's brother-in-law and sister; Carroll Stewart's brother, Jimmy Canada; Cathy Valley's brother, Stan Taylor; Almetta Cruff's mother and uncle, George Parks; Pat Anderson's Pastor and wife, Rev. Rob and Shannon Haynes; Bonnie Agnew's sister, Bobbie Gilliam; Daniel Burke's mother, Nellie Burke; Paula Moore and her son

FRIENDS: Teachers, Students, First Responders, Medical Personnel, Tim Warden, Rose Hamlin, Connie Moore, Tim Clemons, Jason, John Viars, DeeDee Hosier and Bland Ministry Center, Wythe County, our Nation, people in Venezuela and their Pastor, Ramon.

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: 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:

- ◆ Rick Tucker and his family upon the passing of his beloved wife Brenda.
- ◆ Chris and Ty King and their family upon the passing of Chris's father, K.W. King, Jr.
- ◆ John Matheny and family upon the passing of his beloved wife, Betty.
- ◆ Chris and Rhonda Bracknell and their family upon the passing of Chris's mother, Evelyn Bracknell.
- ◆ Family and friends of Della Dunford upon her passing.
- ◆ Arnie and Cheryl Murdock and their family upon the passing of Arnie's mother, Stella Mae Murdock.



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

Wednesday, September 8: Staff—10:30 a.m. in the conference room
 Tuesday, September 21: Discipleship—3:00 p.m. in church parlor



September Birthdays

- 1 Victoria Willis
- 2 Russ Throckmorton
- 4 Timothy Burke
- 10 Stephen Collins
- 16 Michael Warner
- 17 Jamie Claypool



- 18 Dede Cresap
- Colleen Dunford
- Jim Spraker
- 22 Lisa Crowgey
- 25 Cindy Booher
- 26 Tommy Anders
- 27 Aaron Crowgey



DEACON OF THE WEEK

September 5: Eric Crowgey
 September 12: Guy Sutphin
 September 19: Gary Taylor
 September 26: Tommy Hilton

USHERS Team 1:

Tommy Anders, Gena Anders
 Joe Crowgey, Carlisle Hostetter

TELLERS


Ty King and Tom Collins

GREETERS

Designated Ushers for the month of September

September 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Church Office Hours Monday thru Thursday—9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Lunch from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Friday—9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.</p>			<p>1 7:00pm Spiritual Conversation on Nehemiah 7 via Zoom</p>	<p>2 7:00pm Choir Practice</p> 	3	4
<p>5 <i>Benevolence Offering received</i> 10:00am Choir meets in the Choir room 10:30am Worship Service in the sanctuary You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page or Wytheville Baptist Church YouTube</p>	<p>6 LABOR DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p>	7	<p>8 10:30am Staff meeting in the Conference Room 7:00pm Spiritual Conversation on Nehemiah 8 via Zoom</p>	<p>9 7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	10	11
<p>12  HAPPY GRANDPARENT'S DAY! 10:00am Choir meets in the Choir room 10:30am Worship Service in the sanctuary You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page or Wytheville Baptist Church YouTube</p>	<p>13 </p>	14	<p>15 7:00pm Spiritual Conversation on Nehemiah 9 via Zoom</p>	<p>16 7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	17	18
<p>← Alma Hunt Offering for VA Missions, August 12—19, 2021 →</p>						
<p>19 10:00am Choir meets in the Choir room 10:30am Worship Service in the sanctuary You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page or Wytheville Baptist Church YouTube</p> <p>→</p>	<p>20 </p>	<p>21 3:00pm Discipleship meeting</p>	<p>22 7:00pm Spiritual Conversation on Nehemiah 10 via Zoom</p> <p></p>	<p>23 2:30 to 4:00pm Children's Clothes Closet 7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	24	25
<p>26 10:00am Choir meets in the Choir room 10:30am Worship Service in the sanctuary You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page or Wytheville Baptist Church YouTube</p>	27	28	<p>29 7:00pm Spiritual Conversation on Nehemiah 10</p>	30		