

Wytheville Baptist Church



Volume 71 Number 11 November 2023

The Beacon



PASTOR'S THOUGHTS Are There New Things for You

Recently while reading the Gospel of Matthew, there was a verse that stood out to me. It jumped off the page and grabbed my attention. God asked me a question that I will think about for days. Please take a moment with this one verse before reading the rest of this article.

He said to them, "Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old." Matthew 13:52 (NIV)

Continued on Page 2

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS

- Pg. 1—2 Pastor's Notes
- Pg. 3—4 Music Notes & Thank you
- Pg. 5 Shoebox Ministry
- Pg. 6 Spiritual Conversation & KIMC Circle
- Pg. 7 Monthly Schedule
- Pg. 8—9 Calendar
- Pg. 10 Prayer Requests
- Pg. 11 Library Notes
- Pg. 12—13 Outreach
- Pg. 14 Pastor-Church Relations Team Report & Matching Funds Letter
- Pg. 15 Poinsettia Orders



205 Church Street
Wytheville VA 24382

**Boldly
offrmed 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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Address Change Requested

(Continued from page 1)

When reading this verse, God asked me: “Are you just relying on all the old things you have learned or are you open to the new treasures I want to share with you?”

There are many things I have learned about God over the past thirty years in my relationship with God. Most days I stand strongly on the principles I have learned. I review favorite verses, continue spiritual practices that have helped me to grow, and spend each day seeking how God is working around me. If I am honest though, I coast in my relationship with God reviewing all the old treasures I have received from God.

This verse asks me to examine: what are my new treasures from God? Have I found the new treasures God has for me this month? Or did I miss them? It would bother me if I missed these new treasures because I was too busy. So once again I am looking for ways to slow down and seek to see God’s work around me and in me. This means I am evaluating my daily habits and routines to find ways to live life more simply. All this will open opportunities for me to look more deeply at what is right in front of me. It will allow me to contemplate how God is present in each moment sharing new treasures with me.

I would like to encourage you to also look for the new treasures God is sharing with you. It is great to have a firm foundation to stand on. Please do not forget though God wants to build on that foundation by bringing you new treasures.

Because of God’s Love,
Pastor Tim



The Flower Team will order our Christmas Poinsettias from Coulter’s Florist. This year we ordered red poinsettias with two plants per eight inch pot, wrapped in gold foil, and adorned with a red bow. The price will be \$22 per pot. If you would like one or more pots of poinsettias “In Honor Of” or “In Memory Of” someone special, please fill in the form below, earmark your check “poinsettia” and attach it to the completed form. Place your check and completed form in the offering plate or bring them to the church office no later than noon Monday, December 4. We will have a booklet of remembered loved ones on December 10.

Please Print Legibly

Your Name _____

Number of pots: _____

Amount Paid _____

“In Honor Of” _____

“In Memory Of” _____

All orders need to be turned in no later than
Monday, December 4.
Please print legibly.

Pastor-Church Relations Team Report October, 2023

The Pastor-Church Relations Team, along with staff continue to meet at two-week intervals as we study the book How to Pray – a Simple Guide for Normal People by Pete Greig. We are preparing to facilitate this study and lead small groups as we explore this exciting book with the congregation during the Pastor’s Sabbatical in the spring of 2024. We are learning a great deal and enjoying the development of a deeper walk with God through prayer.

After an anonymous church member challenged the congregation to match funds up to \$15,000.00, a letter was sent to WBC members explaining the matching funds for Pastor Tim’s Sabbatical and the church’s Renewal. The Estimated Budget Amount Form for the Pastor was submitted to the Stewardship Team reflecting no change in the Pastor’s Salary.

Please pray for this team as we search for an Interim Pastor and plan for the Sabbatical period.

Respectfully submitted, Cathy Valley, Chair



Dear Church Family,

On August 28, 2023, Pastor Tim received an email from the Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Program Team that our congregation was not selected for funding for the Sabbatical that Pastor Tim and DeAnne have planned in April 2024. This was a disappointment for the Pastor-Church Relations Team.

Not getting the grant meant only one door had closed. We all knew that God would work out the details and we continued to pray for God’s will for our church. We all believed that God would make a way.

We did not have to wait very long until another door opened on September 28, 2023. An anonymous church member walked into the church office offering to establish a matching fund to cover the cost of the Sabbatical.

This church member is willing to match up to \$15,000 for every dollar that is given by church members. This means if you give \$10, the anonymous donor gives \$10. If you give \$100, the donor gives \$100, etc. The donor is matching the donations given by the other church members.

The anonymous church member also stipulated that the monetary gifts would be split between the church and the pastor...50% to the church and 50% to the pastor.

Please pray how God may ask you to contribute to this upcoming chapter in our community of faith.

Mark your contribution for the Sabbatical Fund. The anonymous donor also requests that any gifts to the church be made by November 30, 2023. Should you have any questions feel free to contact any member of the Pastor Relation-Church Team.



Notes from our Minister of Music and Worship



JERRY STONE

Intercession—what an amazing, wonderful, humbling, and powerful word that is a true expression of unconditional love.

In preparation for the time Pastor Tim will be on Sabbatical, the Pastor-Church Relations Team and Staff are studying the book “How to Pray: A Simple Guide for Normal People” by Pete Greig. In Pastor Tim’s absence, the church will study this book, discuss, and participate in prayer together. Since my time with this study and in preparation, I have truly embraced intercessory prayer. I once used the words “prayer” and “intercession” interchangeably, but now I know that prayer, simply put, is talking with God. During prayer, we give God praise, ask God questions, lift our cares and burdens to Him, and seek His Will for our lives. Praying grows our understanding of and strengthens our relationship with God.

Intercession happens when we feel a deep burden for others and reach beyond ourselves and our needs in prayer for them. Pete Greig says, “While interceding, we can at times get indignant and move beyond saying a nice prayer to a place of spiritual contention.” Some would call this spiritual warfare for the deliverance of others.

Intercession is valuable and can impact a hurting and dying world. We can stand in the gap on behalf of a person, group of people, cities, and even whole nations. We go to God and then continue to go to Him in prayer on behalf of others seeking God’s Will for their lives.

(Continued on page 4)

We can see the intercessory prayer that Jesus prayed on the cross in Luke 23:34: *"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."* Can you also see Jesus' powerful act of intercession when He died on the cross for our sins? And even now Romans 8:34b tells us, *"Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also **interceding for us.**"* That makes me want to sing the Hallelujah Chorus! I also read in Romans 8:26-27, *"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but **the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.** And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because **the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.**"*

Jesus and the Holy Spirit are interceding for us and we in turn need to boldly come before the throne of God interceding for others

Because of His Love,

Jerry



**thank
you!**

Thank you to Susan Keene, Dee Nolan, Jerry Stone, and Selena Engelke for participating in Church Street Trunk-or-Treat; and to Jenny Stoker, Linda Lively, Cathy Valley, and Janet Montgomery for donating candy.

May God bless each of you for showing the love of Jesus in a dark world and planting seeds of love in the lives of children who, for some of them, would otherwise never hear of Jesus and His love or even hear a kind word spoken to them.

2023 OPEN DOOR CAFÉ STUFFED STRUT

5K RUN WALK OR ROLL A-THON

**In-Person Thanksgiving, November 23
Virtual Nov 1 - 30**

FOR SERIOUS AND CASUAL RUNNERS 10 AND UP - CHIP TIMED

The Stuffed Strut begins at 8:00 a.m. on Thanksgiving morning in downtown Wytheville, at the new Open Door Café. The route is a relatively flat paved course around downtown Wytheville. November mornings in our climate zone can be frigid. Please dress accordingly.

Parking is available at the Café, next door at the HOPE Ministry Center, and across Main Street in a church parking lot. On-site registration opens at 6:45 a.m. We will serve warm refreshments immediately after the run's conclusion, in time to get everyone home for a big Thanksgiving lunch.

1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers in several age and mobility categories will receive recognition.

Open to ages 10+.

Stuffed strut Date: Thursday November 23, 2023

Start Time: 8:00 a.m. EST

Price: ~~\$40~~ \$35.00 Run / walk or roll, Fee + \$3.10 Sign Up Fee.

Registration: Price increases to \$40.00 after October 30, 2023 at 11:59pm EDT.

For more information, log onto:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Wytheville/StuffedStrut2021>



REGISTRATION STARTING	REGISTRATION ENDING	PRICE
October 31, 2023, 12:00am EDT	November 22, 2023, 11:59pm EST	\$45 \$40.00 Run / walk or roll Fee + \$3.40 Sign Up Fee
November 23, 2023, 12:00am EST	November 23, 2023, 11:59pm EST	\$45.00 Run / walk or roll Fee + \$3.70 Sign Up Fee

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 remainder 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 November

This offering is never hoarded up or put in a savings account but is always used to help others for the glory of God.

Thank you for giving from the heart.



AGAPE FOOD PANTRY

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

WBC helps 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 noon. If you would like to be part of this vital ministry, please contact Guy and Linda Sutphin.



DECEMBER 2023 BEACON ARTICLES

All December 2023 Beacon articles, announcements, meetings, events, times, etc. need to be turned in to the church office no later than Monday, November 13. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Shoebox Ministry

IT'S TIME FOR SHOEBOXES!!

We truly believe in the mission of this ministry—giving to some of the neediest children in the world and providing them with information that can lead them to the Lord. For anyone who would like to pack a shoebox and bring it to the church, I will see that it is taken to a relay site. **Remember, Shoebox Week is November 13-20.**



Ideas to pack your shoebox: small toys, balls, jump ropes, small musical instruments, school supplies, hygiene items (toothbrush, comb, washcloth), socks, tee-shirts, hats, gloves, sunglasses.

DO NOT INCLUDE—toothpaste, liquids, medicines, candy of any kind, or toys promoting violence.

Use an empty average size shoebox or a shoebox size plastic box. We also ask that you provide \$10 for shipping. Decide whether you want to pack your box for a girl or boy and for what age. Fill your boxes and bring them to the church during the week of November 13-20. We ask that you also pray for all the boxes, those who will distribute them, and those who will receive them.



Thanks for your help in advance.

Janet Montgomery



Pastor Tim and DeAnne will be on vacation Monday, November 20, through Sunday, November 26. Our guest speaker on Sunday, November 26, will be Rev. Scott Thayer.

The Church office will be closed Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, November 22-24.

There will be no Wednesday night supper, Spiritual Conversation, or Choir practice November 22.

SPIRITUAL CONVERSATION

Please join us in the fellowship hall every Wednesday night at 6:45 p.m. as we delve into our Spiritual Conversation on the book of Deuteronomy. The schedule is:

November 1 : Deuteronomy 28:1-35

November 8: Deuteronomy 28:36-68

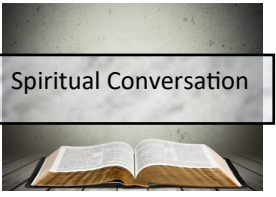
November 15: Deuteronomy 29

November 22: *Happy Thanksgiving* 

November 29: Deuteronomy 30

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

We have a Wednesday Night Children's Program for Preschoolers at 6:45 p.m. in the nursery.



Spiritual Conversation



KATHRYN ISAACS AND MABEL CRABTREE CIRCLE

The Circle met on Monday, October 9, at 12:30 p.m. for a "Road Trip" to Bland Ministry with 11 ladies participating. Chairperson Lynn Arnold welcomed the group. Once at the Bland Ministry facilities, everyone enjoyed the informative tour directed by Susan Keene. The group was especially impressed with the workings of the Clothes Closet and Food Distribution Center. Following the tour and prayer by Lynn, the Circle was treated to a luncheon featuring potato soup, sandwiches, and cookies provided by the Ministry ladies. It was fun for all!

Lynn made the group aware of the needs of the Wytheville Minnick School and told of ways each might help by providing personal hygiene items. Cathy Valley stated that an updated list for the "Sonshine Project" will be distributed in November. The November Mission Action Project will be Stamped Christmas Cards for the inmates at the New River Jail. Members need to be considering a new name for the Circle since we will no longer be a Southern Baptist Mission group.

The December Circle Meeting is to be an evening meeting, with a Pot-Luck Dinner and an Ornament Exchange.

The nine ladies present on Monday, October 2, at The Open Door Café Social Luncheon reported a time of good fellowship and good food. (The Circle will meet on the first Monday of each month for another social luncheon, at the Café.)

The Nellie Bausell Library Notes



THE PERFECT CHRISTIAN. How sinners like us can be more like Jesus by Tony Evans. Can a Christian really be perfect this side of Heaven?

Of course not, but Jesus Himself nevertheless commands His people, "You are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect." These words offer quite a contrast to the cries of our secular society, which has lost its moral compass and any sense of absolute truth. This ungodly age dupes us into thinking that being a tad better than the world somehow makes us acceptable to God. As Christians, however, we know that God—not the world—sets the standards for us.

In *The Perfect Christian*, gifted teacher and nationally acclaimed speaker, Dr. Tony Evans, calls believers back to God's demand for perfection. With powerful biblical teaching, heart-grabbing insights, and unforgettable anecdotes, he challenges you to "march in a new direction in keeping with the perfect demands of our loving heavenly Father."

At the end-of-the-chapter, "Test Your Perfection I. Q." questions invite you to consider how close to perfection you are now and how you can grow from there.



HOME: Bill Lively, Jackie Carson, Pamela Clark, Joel Hilton, Jean Moore, Lynn Perry, Lynn and Rick Arnold, Glenna Turner, Eric and Ann Collins, Betty and Dan Robinette, Rick Walker, Bill and Cathy Valley, Tom Collins and family, Missy Throckmorton, Sylvia McGhee



EXTENDED CARE: Joe and Jane Crowgey, Marjorie Wassum, Adren Eldridge, Mary Hall, Colleen Dunford, Rosalene "Posey" Heath

FAMILY: Delores Nolan's brother, Buddy; Janet Montgomery's sister-in-law, Kay Parrish; Carolyn Clements' sister-in-law; Guy and Linda Sutphin's great granddaughter; Lewis Powell, Almetta Cruff's aunt, Nancy Parks Maye, and her friend, Edward Coffee; Carla Estep's son, Christopher Sheppard and his family, and her mother, Peggy Asbury; Mike and Jenny Stoker's daughter, Maria; Carroll Stewart's brother and his wife, Jimmy and Dee Canada; Lynn Perry's daughter, Cheryl; Diane Ball's daughter and granddaughter, Holly and Trinity.

FRIENDS: Derek Kitts, Rob and Gale Kern; Jake Hancock, Sean Smith, Chris, Mark and Mary Boenke's daughter, Bridget; Harold Cochran, Mike and Patty Compton and family; Andrew Wilson, Dawson, Eric J., Bill, Barbara Guy, Bland Ministry Center, the lost, those dealing with addiction, those dealing with depression, Teachers, Students, First Responders, Medical Personnel, Wythe County, our Nation, people in Venezuela and their Pastor, Ramon, and his family; people in Ukraine, Hawaiian Island of Maui, Morocco, Libya, Israel, and Palestine.

THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES: Airman Joseph Robinette, Thomas Collins, 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.

November 1: Beef Stroganoff, Broccoli and Cauliflower Salad, Rolls, and Chocolate Pound Cake

November 8: Barbecue Chicken, Cole Slaw, Baked Beans, Corn Bread, and Peach Fluff

November 15: Thanksgiving Dinner—Turkey, Stuffing, Gravy, Green Beans, Sweet Potatoes, Pumpkin and Pecan Pie

November 22: *No Wednesday Supper, Spiritual Conversation, or Choir.* Have a blessed Thanksgiving.

November 29: Baked Potato Soup, Crackers, Chips, Dip, Sub Sandwiches, Cookies, and Ice Cream



Meetings

Every Tuesday: A Time of Prayer—10:00 a.m.
 Thursday, November 2: P-CR/Sabbatical & Staff—1:30 p.m. Monday,
 Monday, November 13: KIMC Circle at WBC—12:30 p.m.
 Tuesday, November 14: WCMA—8:00 a.m.
 Wednesday, November 15: Staff—10:30 a.m.
 Thursday, November 16: PCR/Sabbatical & Staff—1:30 p.m.
 Monday, November 27: Discipleship—3:00 p.m.
 Thursday, November 30: P-CR/Sabbatical & Staff—1:30 p.m.



November Birthdays

3 Alan Ball	24 Betty Robinette
4 Cindy Jarmul	25 Jackie Carson
8 Mary Helen Porter	27 Dot Alexander
17 Linda Hostetter	29 Jane Crowgey



DEACON OF THE WEEK

November 5: Tommy Hilton
 November 12: Janet Montgomery
 November 19: Delores Nolan
 November 26: Jerry Stone

USHERS Team 2:











Tommy Hilton, Guy Sutphin,
 Linda Sutphin

TELLERS

Guy Sutphin and Rick Walker

November 2023



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—Closed</p>			<p>1 6:00pm Wednesday Night Supper in the Fellowship Hall 6:45pm Spiritual Conversation in the fellowship hall on Deuteronomy 28:1-35 7:45pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>2 1:30pm Pastor-Church Relations/Sabbatical Team and Staff meeting</p>	<p>3 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>4 </p>
<p>5 Daylight Savings Time Ends <i>Communion Observed</i> <i>Benevolence Offering Received</i> 9:00 to 10:00am Principles of Faith meets in the fellowship hall. We are studying Parables in Matthew-Matthew 13:24-30,36-43. 10:30am Worship Service “Let the Redeemed” Psalm 107:1-9. You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page.</p>	<p>6 12:30pm Ladies’ Social Lunch at the Open Door Café</p>	<p>7 10:00am A Time of Prayer</p>	<p>8 10:30am Staff meeting 6:00pm Wednesday Night Supper in the Fellowship Hall 6:45pm Spiritual Conversation on Deuteronomy 28:36-68 in the fellowship hall 7:45pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>9 </p>	<p>10 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>11 </p>
<p>12 9:00 to 10:00am Principles of Faith meets in the fellowship hall. We are studying Parables in Matthew -Matthew 13:31-35. 10:30am Worship Service “Believers Who Died” 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page.</p>	<p>13 12:30pm KIMC Circle will meet in WBC’s fellowship hall. Bring your Brown Bag Lunch. </p>	<p>14 8:00am Wythe County Ministerial Association meeting. 10:00am A Time of Prayer BGAV Annual Meeting 11/13-15 in Richmond</p>	<p>15 6:00pm Wednesday Night Supper in the Fellowship Hall 6:45pm Spiritual Conversation on Deuteronomy 29 7:45pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>16 1:30pm Pastor-Church Relations/Sabbatical Team and Staff meeting</p>	<p>17 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>18 <i>Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry 11/13-20/2023</i></p>
<p>19 9:00 to 10:00am Principles of Faith meets in the fellowship hall. We are studying Parables in Matthew -Matthew 13:44-46. 10:30am Worship Service “A Woman Leads” Judges 4:1-7. You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page.</p>	<p>20 </p>	<p>21 10:00am A Time of Prayer </p>	<p>22 Church Office Closed No Wednesday night supper, Spiritual Conversation, or Choir practice on this night.</p>	<p>24 Church Office Closed </p>	<p>25 </p>	
<p>26 No Principles of Faith today. Spend this time with God. 10:30am Worship Service Special Guest Speaker—Rev. Scott Thayer. You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page. </p>	<p>27 3:00pm Discipleship meeting</p>	<p>28 10:00am A Time of Prayer</p>	<p>29 6:00pm Wednesday Night Supper in the Fellowship Hall 6:45pm Spiritual Conversation on Deuteronomy 30 7:45pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>30 1:30pm Pastor-Church Relations/Sabbatical Team and Staff meeting</p>	<p></p>	