



Wytheville Baptist Church

The Beacon Volume 72 Number 12 December 2024

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THOUGHTS FROM OUR PASTOR

An End and a Beginning

This year has been a dynamic year for Wytheville Baptist. The two studies on prayer are central to what has happened. The studies have deepened the prayer life of this church. These courses have helped us in our ability to hear God speak and deepened our faith and trust in God. Both are a result of a two-year discerning and planning process. A group of individuals took time to focus on the question. What does God want Wytheville Baptist to be or do? Brought what they discerned to the church to consider, and spiritual growth happened for many people. The result was much spiritual fruit within and outside the church. Our discerning and planning process deepened and broadened the community of faith in the town of Wytheville.

(Continued on page 2)



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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Address Change Requested

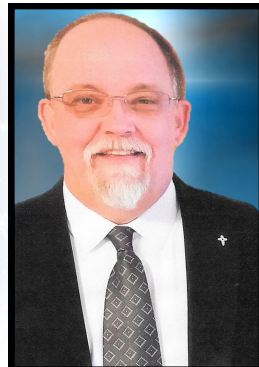
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Why not set aside time to discern the question, what does God want Wytheville Baptist to be or do? again. This is a different question than, what successful programs have other churches done that we could repeat? The other churches were successful because that is what God wanted them to be or do. If we can discern what God wants us to be or do, and are willing to live into it, then we cannot fail. We cannot fail because this is God's plan and desire for us. We cannot fail because this is what God is preparing, equipping, and encouraging us to be and do.

Would you be willing to make 2025 a Year of Discernment for the future of Wytheville Baptist? Know it will take time to hear God speak, to evaluate what are our best options, and how can we carry through on God's desire for us. This is not about finding a recommendation for us to vote on at the next Business Meeting. It would be a year of brainstorming, telling stories, looking for scriptural examples that would lead us to answer the question: What does God want Wytheville Baptist to be or do?

This is about, what is God's dream for this community of faith. It is not about, what is our dream in living for God. If we can hear, see, and carry out God's dream for this church we will see great spiritual growth on top of what we have already seen. Are you willing to be part of this process and watch how God supplies greatly again for our spiritual growth and our town of Wytheville?

Because of God's Love,
Pastor Tim



The Flower Team will order our Christmas Poinsettias soon. We will be getting red poinsettias. The price will be \$20 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 Wednesday, December 4. We will have a booklet of remembered loved ones on December 15

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
Wednesday, December 4.
Please print legibly.

CIRCLE OF LIGHT WOMEN'S MINISTRY



The Circle met on November 11, 2024, at 12:30 in the Williams Hall with 8 ladies participating. (Nine women attended the “Social Luncheon” at the Open Door Café on 4th of November.) Chairperson Lynn Arnold welcomed everyone, took Prayer Requests and led the prayer for those mentioned. She gave the Devotion entitled, “When Your Spiritual Tutor Is A Toilet”, based on Romans 8:38-39.

Linda Lively informed the group that the collection of “Hygiene Bags” was an ongoing project and that they can be brought to the church at any time. She will deliver the stamped Christmas Cards collected in November and will see that they are delivered to the Network and then on to the men and women at the New River Valley Correctional Jail in early December.

It was decided that the Circles would join together for a Christmas Pot-Luck Dinner/Ornament Exchange. THE DINNER WILL BE ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, AT 6:30 P.M. IN WILLIAMS HALL. Members are to see Lynn to sign up for food to be brought. Each lady is invited to bring a guest (male or female) and an ornament for their guest to exchange.

The December “Social Luncheon” at Open Door Café will be on Monday, December 2, at 12:30. The Circle of Light will not meet in January, but will have the “Social Luncheon” on Monday, January 6, weather permitting. The meeting adjourned, as the ladies enjoyed their lunch and fellowship.

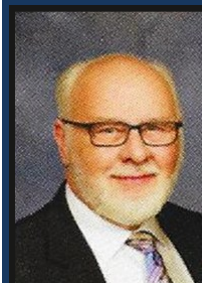
Respectfully submitted, Linda Sutphin, Secretary/Treasurer



CIRCLE OF HOPE WOMEN'S MINISTRY

During the November meeting, Ty King gave a thought provoking devotion concerning Thanksgiving, we met our goal of \$1,000 for Mike and Monica Brennan's Safe House which will soon be sent to them, also two Flood Buckets were packed. Our next outreach will be packing approximately 900 Christmas Food Boxes at Bland Ministry Center on Saturday, December 14, at 10:00 a.m. During January we will help the Pregnancy Resource Center's Sanctity of Life by asking our congregation to donate 0-1 size diapers. Please pray and think about another mission outreach project that we can do in the future. At our next meeting we will enjoy the Pot-Luck Dinner and Ornament exchange on Monday, December 9, at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Ladies, join us!

The Anchor Holds



A Child Of The King

Notes from our
Minister of Music
and Worship



Jerry Stone

During the month of November, we celebrated with thanksgiving and praise to our Lord and Savior for all He has done for us. Hopefully we will carry this thanksgiving and praise to God throughout the coming year.

One song, that we sang in November that took root in my mind and continually surfaces night and day is “*I’m a Child of the King!*” The chorus goes like this:

Oh, yes! Oh, yes! I’m a child of the King.

His royal blood now flows in my veins.

*And I who was wretched and poor now can sing,
“Praise God! Praise God! I’m a child of the King!”*

The Child of God—Jesus, came to earth as a baby. And because this Child grew up, obeyed His Father’s will, and became a Sacrificial Lamb so our sins could be forgiven, we are now children of the King! As Mary did, can we treasure these things and ponder them over and over in our hearts? I wish you could see me now—hands raised shouting GLORY TO GOD with a heart overflowing with thanksgiving! ***Hallelujah!*** Can you grasp that, His royal blood is surging through your veins. Can you feel His presence in your life? Can you now sing: ***“PRAISE GOD! PRAISE GOD! I’m a child of the King!”***

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If you haven't found that joy or can fully say, "Praise God! I'm a child of the King!" find some quiet time with God and your Bible and ask God to help you discern what He wants for your life. He has a plan for you and if you live into that, you can say with assuredness, "Praise God! I'm a child of the King!"

Merry Christmas To All,

Jerry



Due to the busy Christmas Season, the canceled Wednesday night events on December 25 and January 1, and many in our congregation who will be traveling; we have made a decision not to have our regular 5th Sunday Sing on Sunday, December 29.

Our next 5th Sunday Sing will be March 30, 2025. We will have congregational singing, special singing, and solos. Please join us in March as we sing praises to our God. Bring your friends and family.



Christmas Eve CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

We will gather in the sanctuary on Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24, at 6:00 p.m. to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We will give honor to our Savior with songs of the season, remember His birth with the reading of scripture and a devotional, share in Communion, and light our candles. Please make plans to be with us and celebrate the real joy of Christmas.

Youth Evangelism Strategies—Missionaries to Wind River Indian Reservation, Wyoming



God has laid it on my heart to emphasize the need for prayer whenever I get the chance to speak to someone. It is paramount for this ministry to have you all praying for us. Recently, I had many people come up to me and say specifically that they were praying for us every day. This is a great encouragement because sometimes ministry feels so removed from your loved ones or people that you would just like to hang out with. This month we were blessed to be with many of those loved ones that have partnered with us for so many years. Thank you! We think of you often!

We are very close to meeting the matching fund's goal! This is because of your giving and great concern for those women and children caught in the horrendous cycle of sex trafficking.

Please pray for those to whom the "good news" is great news! Visit us on our web site at www.hibiscushaven.org.

God bless, Mike and Monica Brennan



Don't forget to support the Open Door Café that serves all guests regardless of their ability to pay.

A gift card from Open Door Café would be a great Christmas gift for someone this year. Drop by and pick up several for everyone on your Christmas list!



SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING

The Wytheville Baptist Church will be ringing the bells and managing the collection buckets for the Salvation Army, on Friday, December 20, at both Wytheville Walmart entrances. The time is from 6:00—9:00 p.m. The schedule and workers are listed below.

6:00—7:00 Chris and Rhonda Bracknell and Gary and Billie Taylor

7:00—8:00 Roger and Carolyn Clements and Pastor Tim and DeAnne

8:00—9:00 Lynn Arnold and Roger Hudson and Guy and Linda Sutphin

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 Open Door Community to help those in our community who need help. This offering will be received during the month of December.

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

There will be a **HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE** at the Agape Food Pantry, 1355 W. Spring Street, Wytheville on Saturday, December 14, from 12:30—2:00 p.m. There will be a tour of the Pantry and

Light Holiday Snacks will be served. Join us!

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

DID YOU KNOW: in October there were 410 families served, \$3,260 donations received, but there was \$7,969 spent on food. We need your help so we can help others.

DID YOU KNOW: Food Lion holiday boxes stay right here in Wythe County. You can purchase one of these boxes for only \$6 and your donation will come right to Agape!

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 Guy and Linda Sutphin.

A Called Business meeting for the purpose of electing two new Deacons to serve from 2025-2027 was held November 10. It is our privilege to welcome these two men to the Deacon Team.



Tommy Hilton



Roger Clements

Thank you to Delores Nolan and Jerry Stone for serving the past three years as Deacons.



TITHING ENVELOPES

Our Offering Envelopes for 2025 will be ready for pick-up during the month of December. We will begin using the new envelopes the first Sunday in January 2025. The boxes of envelopes will be placed on the table in the main hallway next to the church office door. 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.



MONETARY GIFTS FOR 2024

If you would like to give your tithes or a monetary gift to WBC and have it documented on your tithe report for 2024, please have your tithes or monetary gifts turned into the church office no later than Sunday, December 29.



DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

We need your help. Everyone is invited to help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas on Friday, December 6, at 10:00 a.m. Come out and enjoy the fellowship while make the church beautiful.



BLESSINGS FOR JANET AND VERONICA

On Wednesday night, December 18, there will be a basket placed in the fellowship hall to place cards of encouragement and monetary gifts for our wonderful Janet Montgomery and Veronica Lopez. Janet and Veronica tirelessly work to provide a meal every Wednesday night for our church family. Janet creates a menu, buys the food, transports the food to the church, stocks the refrigerator and shelves. Veronica helps prepare the food, serve the food, and cleans up afterwards. They both welcome us and serves us with a smile and a hug. They don't do this for pay, but because they love the Lord and their church family. Therefore, we would like to give back to these ladies in a wonderful way during this very special time of the year. Please help us bless these very special ladies with cards of love and monetary gifts on Wednesday, December 19.



PRAYER LIST

Our prayer list published in our Wednesday night prayer sheet 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 before the end of December. All other names will be removed from the list and a new list will be published in our Wednesday Prayer List on January 8 .



The Nellie Bausell Library Notes

If you look for Me at Christmas—you won't need a special star.
I'm no longer just in Bethlehem, I 'm right there where you are.

You may not be aware of Me amid the celebrations.
You'll have to look beyond the stores and all the decorations.

But if you take a moment from your list of things to do
AND listen to your heart, you'll find I'm waiting there for you.

You're the one I want to be with, you're the reason that I came,
And you'll find me in the stillness as I'm whispering your name.

Love, Jesus

God bless you at Christmas and always!

Carroll Stewart
Librarian

DECEMBER 2024 BEACON ARTICLES

Due to the busy Christmas season, all January 2025 Beacon articles, announcements, meetings, events, times, etc. need to be turned in to the church office no later than Monday, December 9. Thank you for your help.

CHURCH OFFICE DATES CLOSED

The church office will be closed Wednesday, December 25, and Thursday, December 26.

The church office will be closed Wednesday, January 1, 2025. There will be no Wednesday night supper or any church functions on Wednesday, January 1.

HOME: Emery Pruett, Rick Arnold, Ann and Eric Collins, Mary Graham, Diane Ball, Danny and Sharon Sowers, Carlisle Hostetter, Carroll Stewart, Jackie and Gary Carson, Pamela Clark, Joel Hilton, Betty and Dan Robinette, Rick Walker, Bill and Cathy Valley, Tom Collins and family, Missy Throckmorton, Sylvia McGhee



EXTENDED CARE: Dolores Dove, Joe Crowgey, Marjorie Wassum, Adren Eldridge, Colleen Dunford

FAMILY: Rev. Bill Lively's brother-in-law, Sid; Pastor Tim and DeAnne's daughter-in-law, Kate; Pam Clark's sister and husband, Alan and Lorie Buchanan; John Willis' brother-in-law; Janet Montgomery's sister-in-law, Kay Parrish; Cindy and Sonny Archer's son-in-law, Glenn Brown, and friend, Robine Edmiston; Felisia Miller's friend, Marsha; Sharon Sowers' brother; Ty King's brother-in-law, Bryan King; Lynn Arnold's son, Adam; Dee Nolan's sister-in-law, Brenda Edge, and her friend's granddaughter, Aria Montgomery; Jenny Stoker's brother-in-law, Mike Cortellesi, and Mike and Jenny's daughter, Maria; Almetta Cruff's friends Robert Ayers; Lynn Perry's daughter, Cheryl; Diane Ball's daughter and granddaughter, Holly and Trinity.

FRIENDS: Mike and Monica Brennan's Safe House, Becky Purdue, Ron Blevins, Tom and Becky Smith's son Andrew, Berry Collins' granddaughter, Sierra; Jack Quesenberry, Barbara and Brian Guy, Jake Hancock, Bland Ministry Center, the lost, those dealing with addiction, those dealing with depression, WYVE, Young Life, Teachers, Students, First Responders, Medical Personnel, Wythe County, our Nation, people in Venezuela and their Pastor, Ramon Tovar, and his family; people in Ukraine, Israel, and Palestine, Friends and Family affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton.

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.



CHRISTIAN SYMAPTHY TO: The family and friends of Glenna Turner upon her passing.

December 4: Lasagna, Toss Salad, French Bread, Banana Pudding



December 11: Baked Potato Soup, Meat and Cheese Sandwiches, Veggies and Dip, Apricot Pound Cake

December 18: Ham or Turkey, Rolls, Christmas Salad, Mac and Cheese, Christmas Desserts

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Meetings

Thursday, December 5: WBRBN—6:30 p.m. at Dublin Baptist Church
Monday, December 9: Circles' Christmas Dinner—6:30 p.m.

December Birthdays

4: DeAnne Irving		17: Rachel Crowgey
8: Michael Wyco		18: Luis Lopez
10: Madeline Catron		26: Phyllis Dillon
13: Rick Walker		

DEACON OF THE WEEK

December 1: Lynn Arnold
December 8: Eric Crowgey
December 15: Delores Nolan
December 22: Jerry Stone
December 29: Chris Bracknell

USHERS Team III:
Danny Sowers and Chris Bracknell

TELLERS
Ty King and Tommy Hilton

NURSERY WORKERS

December 1: Lynn Arnold, Lisa Crowgey, Jenny Stoker
December 8: Linda Lively, Veronica Lopez, Janet Montgomery
December 15: Linda Sutphin, Billie Taylor, Rhonda Bracknell
December 22: Carolyn Clements, DeAnne Irving, Ty King
December 29: Lynn Arnold, Lisa Crowgey, Jenny Stoker

December 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 Communion Observed Benevolence Offering Received</p> <p>8:45am Growing in Christ in the fellowship hall. 10:30am Worship Service Special Speaker, Rev. William Lively "Good Promise" Jeremiah 33:14-16 and Communion. You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page</p> <p>First Sunday of Advent</p> 	<p>2 12:30pm Ladies Social Lunch at Open Door Café</p>	<p>3 10:00am A Time of Prayer</p>	<p>4 All orders and money for Christmas Poinsettia need to be turned in by tomorrow, December 4.</p> <p>6:00pm Wednesday night supper 6:45pm Spiritual Conversation 7:45pm Choir practice</p>	<p>5 6:30pm WBRBN will meet at Dublin Baptist Church.</p>	<p>6 Church office closed</p> <p>10:00am Everyone is invited to help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas.</p> 	
<p>8 8:45am Growing in Christ in the fellowship hall, 10:30am Worship Service "Zechariah's Song" Luke 1:68-79. You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page .</p> <p>Second Sunday of Advent</p> 	<p>9 6:30pm Circle of Light and Circle of Hope with their husbands and friends will have a Christmas Dinner in the fellowship hall.</p>  <p><i>Christmas Dinner</i></p>	<p>10 DEADLINE: Newsletter Articles</p> <p>8:00am Wythe County Ministerial Association</p> <p>10:00am A Time of Prayer</p>	<p>11 6:00pm Wednesday night supper 6:45pm Spiritual Conversation 7:45pm Choir practice</p>		<p>13 Church office closed</p>	<p>14 10:00am Packing Christmas Food Boxes at Bland Ministry Center</p> <p>1:00—4:00pm Parents Afternoon Out.</p>
<p>15 8:45am Growing in Christ in the fellowship hall. 10:30am Worship Service "A More Powerful One" Luke 3:7-18. You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page .</p> <p>Third Sunday of Advent</p> 	<p>16</p> 	<p>17 10:00am A Time of Prayer</p>	<p>18 6:00pm Wednesday night supper 6:45pm Spiritual Conversation 7:45pm Choir practice</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 Church office closed</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 9:00am Growing in Christ in the fellowship hall. 10:30am Worship Service "He is Coming" Micah 5:2-5a. You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page</p> <p>Fourth Sunday of Advent</p> 	<p>23</p>	<p>6:00pm in WBC's sanctuary</p>  <p><i>Candlelight SERVICE</i></p>	<p>25 Church office closed</p> 	<p>26 Church office closed</p>	<p>27 Church office closed</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 9:00am We will not meet for Growing in Christ 10:30am Worship Service "Growing" 1 Samuel 2:18-20,26. You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 10:00am A Time of</p>  <p><i>NEW YEAR'S EVE</i></p>			<div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px;"> <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> </div>	