

# Wytheville Baptist Church

*The Beacon* Volume 72 Number 3 March 2025

## PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

### Excitement is Building

During the next six weeks many things are happening on Church Street. Many of them will be happening at our church. In preparation for these events many things have happened within our building. Rooms have been decluttered, straightened, and redecorated. Some rooms have been completely remodeled. As I have walked around the church looking at all that has been done, I am excited about showing off our church during the upcoming events. I would like to thank each person that has taken part in getting things ready. The list of names would more than fill this article. Next time you come to church, walk around the first and second floors to see the majority of what has been done. There are still plans for more to be done. If you would like to help, please let the church office know.

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## WHAT'S IN THE NEWS

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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

Wytheville Baptist Church ..... 228-3712  
 E-mail Address, Office ..... wythevillebaptist@gmail.com  
 ..... wythevillebaptist@yahoo.com  
 Rev. Timothy Irving, Pastor ..... 284-1575  
 Jerry Stone, Minister of Music and Worship ..... 228-3712  
 Jan Stone, Secretary/Treasurer ..... 228-3712

Address Change Requested


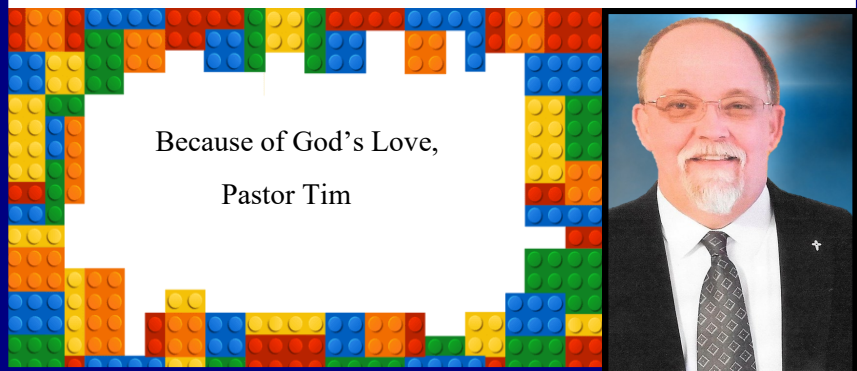
(Continued from page 1)

Barnabas Partnership has a training event on March 8<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 2pm at our church. Anyone who would like to attend can; you will be able attend two breakout sessions and receive training. See the bulletin board or handouts at church with the list of sessions. Our church will provide soup and sandwiches for this event. Thanks to the Ladies' Circles and to Janet.

We begin Soup and the Word on March 11<sup>th</sup> at St. Paul's at Noon. Then we host Soup and the Word on March 18<sup>th</sup>. These Lenten services are attended by many in our community and are always a great time of fellowship with our sisters and brothers here in town. Hope you will attend.

Virginia Baptist and Fresh Expressions are having an information event about the Dinner Church Encounter on April 7<sup>th</sup> at our church. Leaders from around our area will attend to learn about this method of outreach into their communities. We need a few people to be around that day to help folks around the church, help register them as they come in, and to help with a few other things during the event. If you can help that day, please let the church office know.

This is an exciting time for us. I am looking to see how God will use us to minister to others. Plus, I wonder how God will use all these activities to guide and lead us into the bright future God has for this church.



## Western Blue Ridge Baptist Network

**WESTERN BLUE RIDGE BAPTIST NETWORK WEB SITE:**  
<http://westernblueridge.wix.com/baptistnetwork>

- ◆ The next bi-monthly meeting is 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 3, 2025.
- ◆ **Venezuela Ministry:** Charles Damron shared that he emailed the latest letter from Pastor Ramon. He found he can use email to translate Pastor Ramon's message to English. Also, that Pastor Ramon can translate Charles' email into Spanish. Success! Pastor Ramon asked for prayer for their ministry, that Deacons will help, and especially for his son Luis' university classes.
- ◆ **Bland Ministry:** Dee Dee Hoosier was not at the meeting; she has strep. She emailed this report: "Everything at BMC is steady and moving forward. We served over 900 families at Christmas. We hope to break ground for the new dental clinic by May. We will get two loads of seed potatoes in April. Please let us know if any church would like to come and pick some up. Please be in prayer for all those who are sick and experiencing hardship."
- ◆ **Ministry Dinners:** Held at El Ranchero Mexican Restaurant, Dublin at 6:30 p.m.
  - March 4 – Secretary/Admin Assistant/Treasurer
  - April 1 – Youth Ministers
  - May 7 – Music Ministers/Leaders
  - August 5 – WMU/Women Ministries
  - September 2 – Deacons October 7 - Pastors

C. F. Damron  
WBRBN Missions Development Team





### CIRCLE OF LIGHT WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Who's ready for Spring? I've seen evidence that it's coming. There has been a lot of spring cleaning, painting, and sprucing up in preparation for the visitors attending training and meetings at our church in the next few weeks. The restrooms have received a much-needed makeover and just take a look at the downstairs. Many thanks to those who have worked so hard to make those rooms welcoming again.

Circle of Light and Circle of Hope will provide lunch for the Barnabus training that will take place on March 8<sup>th</sup>. We will keep our aprons on as we will do it all over again on March 18<sup>th</sup> when Wytheville Baptist hosts Soup and the Word. We will also be providing breakfast once this month for the workers at the Bland Ministry dental clinic.

A big thank you to all those who brought soup last month for Souper Bowl Sunday month. I know that a lot of tummy's appreciate your generosity. What an honor to feed God's people.

Choose Joy, Lynn Arnold



### CIRCLE OF HOPE WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Thank you to everyone who helped with the February project of collecting cans of soup for Souper Bowl Sunday. As always, you truly are a blessing to others who need a helping hand.



This will be a busy month with two lunches to prepare. One for the Barnabus Training event on the 8<sup>th</sup> then one for Soup and the Word on the 18<sup>th</sup>. And just look around at all the hard work our folks have done to clean the house for our company, visitors, and possible new members. We will also provided breakfast for about 40 workers at Bland Ministry dental clinic on Saturday, March 22.

As always, pray and think about another mission outreach project that we can do in the future. At our next meeting we will discuss and make a decision on the project God wants us to be involved with. We will meet on Monday, March 10 , at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Ladies, join us!



### Jerry Stone

*Shout for joy* to the Lord, all the earth.  
Worship the Lord *with gladness*;  
come before him with *joyful songs*.

Psalm 100: 1-2

*Excitement and expectancy fill the whole church!!* Have you looked around the church and seen all the creativity, activity, and plain ol' hard work from so many in our congregation and construction workers? What excitement as they clean, paint, restore, and make new the different rooms and even bathrooms! The laughter, the love, the joy as they work together making the church beautiful. We are in a time of excitement as we work in sync to see things come together and become more inviting for our upcoming events and others who will join us.

And we are filled with expectancy as we delve deeper and deeper and become more aware of what God would have us do personally and collectively as a church by our study of Discerning God's Will. What an amazing study that is helping us draw closer to the Lord.

Excitement is joy unspeakable and full of glory. God unexpectedly provided for the preparation of our building as we invite other Christian organizations to assemble at our church,

*(Continued on page 4)*

to welcome guests in, and we can embrace and disciple new members as God sends them to us. What an unexpected Joy!

Expectancy is hope. Hope in Christ as it says in Jeremiah 29:11:

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*

Our hope stands firm in the Lord as we witness God’s Hand of Love, Mercy, and Grace move in the life of our church family. God has led us, provided for us, filled us His love and caring, and given us blessed hope.

***Excitement and expectancy—Hallelujah and Amen!!!!***

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms,

*Jerry*



***Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock  
of our salvation! Let us come into  
his presence with thanksgiving; let  
us make a joyful noise to him with  
songs of praise! Psalm 95:1-2***

Join us Sunday, March 30, at 10:30 a.m. as we sing songs of praise and glory to our Lord. This is not a service just to hear good gospel music. This is a service to raise our voice in thanksgiving and praise for all God has done for us.

***Come and bring your family and friends.***



*where everyone belongs*

A huge shoutout to our partners at Feeding Southwest Virginia for their donation of 504 food boxes. These food boxes will be used for our Nourishing Neighbors program and will be distributed to homebound seniors in our community. Our work is made possible by our volunteers, our partnerships, and the community support we receive. We are grateful for everyone who supports and believes in our mission.



Hibiscus Haven is a sanctuary where healing begins for survivors of human trafficking.

Nestled in the heart of Hawaii, our mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and restore the lives of those who have been exploited. This is a place of peace and refuge.

Contact us at [www.hibiscushaven.org](http://www.hibiscushaven.org)

As of now we are still on the Reservation. We are waiting on God’s timing for our house to sell. God is still putting pieces into place that need to be done before the transition. So, please pray for His will and timing as we look forward to the safe house branch of this ministry to begin in full.

When the seas are unruly and fishermen can’t go out, they don’t just sit back and relax. They mend nets, repair equipment and ready themselves for the season to come! This is what we are doing right now for we know the challenges ahead will be new! If you look around, there seems to be a circus everywhere you look! And circuses can be very distracting. So, join with us in prayer for intense focus and enthusiasm for all that God is doing.

Mike and Monica Brennan



### **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 March.

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



### **AGAPE FOOD PANTRY**



Please bring canned fruits and vegetables for the month of 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 Guy and Linda Sutphin.



### **APRIL 2025 BEACON ARTICLES**

All April 2025 Beacon articles, announcements, meetings, events, times, etc. need to be turned into the church office no later than Monday, March 17. Thank you for your help in this matter.

## Reaching New Heights



Saturday, March 8

WBC will be hosting a training event sponsored by Barnabas Partnership on Saturday, March 8, from 10 am to 2 pm.

We ask for your prayers for this event and for the people that will participate.



## SOUP AND THE WORD

Soup and the Word is a special time to bring Christian brothers and sisters together from different churches in the area. We gather on Tuesdays at 12:00 noon for a song of praise, a brief devotional reminding us of the price Jesus paid for us, and then a lite lunch of hot soup and sandwiches. The dates and locations are as follows:

- March 11: Soup & the Word – St. Paul's UMC – 12 Noon
- March 18: Soup & the Word – Wytheville Baptist – 12 Noon
- March 25: Soup & the Word – West End UMC – 12 Noon
- April 1: Soup & the Word—St. John's Episcopal—12 Noon
- April 8: Soup & the Word—Wytheville Presbyterian—12 Noon
- April 15: Soup & the Word—Mt Pleasant UMC—12 Noon



### **Dinner Church Encounter:** A Food to Faith Initiative

WBC will host Dinner Church Encounter on Monday, April 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This is a 1-day training event, beginning with rich theological history of the dinner church vision, and progresses throughout the day toward more practical insights that would enable a leader or group to imagine hosting a Dinner Church in their own community. Register at:

FreshExpressions.com/event/FoodtoFaithWytheville  
\$15 BGAV affiliate

For questions contact Jon Davis / [jon.davis@freshexpressions.com](mailto:jon.davis@freshexpressions.com)



What fun the children had at *Parents' Night Out* on Friday, February 14.



Watch for our next exciting fun time for the children.



### JIGSAW PUZZLE PARTY

We are excited to invite you to our Jigsaw Puzzle Party, Monday, March 3. We will meet the first Monday of every month from 10:00 a.m. to Noon (puzzles included). We would love for you to join us.



The Ladies' Luncheon at Open Door Cafe follows for anyone wanting to attend. For more information, please contact Carolyn Clements: 757-871-5048 or Billie Taylor: 276-228-4204

## The Nellie Bausell Library Notes



Recognize International Women's Day  
March 8<sup>th</sup>

On this day, we stand so tall,  
Honoring women, one and all.  
Their strength, their wisdom, their guiding light,  
Shining boldly, burning bright.

Through every challenge, big or small,  
Women rise with courage, stand so tall.  
With hearts of fire and hands that mend,  
They lead, they build, they help, they tend.

So let us cheer and show our praise,  
For all they've done in countless ways.  
March 8<sup>th</sup>—a day to say,  
We honor women every day!

~ Catherine Pulsifer ~

**Carroll Stewart**  
Librarian



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



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

**FAMILY:** Angelo and Brenda Faraci's granddaughter, Josie; Pastor Tim and DeAnne's daughter-in-law, Kate; Mike and Jenny Stoker's daughter, Maria; Lynn Perry's daughter, Cheryl; Diane Ball's daughter and granddaughter, Holly and Trinity.

**FRIENDS:** Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of Jake Hancock upon his passing. Darrel and Nancy Mayo, Art and Shaina Mertz, Matthew and Lacey Abate's son, Grayson; Sam Dickerson's sister, Bertha; Mike and Monica Brennan's Safe House, Ron Blevins, Jack Quesenberry, Barbara and Brian Guy, Bland Ministry Center, the lost, those dealing with addiction, those dealing with depression, 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 SYMPATHY TO:**

The family and friends of Carol Baily upon her passing.

Abigail (Abby) Quesenberry and her family upon the passing of her father, Rev. Don Snyder.

Almetta Cruff upon the passing of her friend, Patricia Stone.



**March 5:** Chili, Baked Potatoes, Broccoli and Cheese, Crackers, Chips, Apricot Pound Cake

**March 12:** Chicken Parmesan, Rolls, Green Beans, Jell-O Salad, Cookies and Ice Cream

**March 19:** Stuffed Shells and Cheese, Toss Salad, French Bread, Peach Fluff

**March 26:** Baked Potato Soup, Crackers, Chips, Dip, Veggies, Ham and Cheese Biscuits, Chocolate Caramel Cake



**Meetings**

- Monday, March 3: Puzzle Party—10:00 upstairs
- Monday, March 3: Ladies' Luncheon—12:30 p.m. Open Door Café
- Monday, March 10: Circle of Light—12:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall
- Monday, March 10: Circle of Hope—6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall
- Tuesday, March 11: WCMA—8:00 a.m.



**March Birthdays**

- 3: George Archer
- 4: Guy Sutphin
- 6: Veronica Lopez
- 11: Carolyn Clements
- 15: Roger Hudson
- 18: Jan Stone
- 19: Carl Moss



**DEACON OF THE WEEK**

- March 2: Tommy Hilton
- March 9: Roger Clements
- March 16: Jenny Stoker
- March 23: Lynn Arnold
- March 30: Eric Crowgey

**USHERS Team II:**

Tommy Hilton, Guy Sutphin, Linda Sutphin

**TELLERS**









Guy Sutphin and Lynn Arnold

**NURSERY WORKERS**

- March 2: Linda Sutphin, Billie Taylor, DeAnne Irving
- March 9: Carolyn Clements, Lynn Arnold, Ty King
- March 16: Lynn Arnold, Lisa Crowgey, Jenny Stoker
- March 23: Linda Lively, Veronica Lopez, Janet Montgomery
- March 30: Rachel Wilson, Alyssa Robertson, Diana Torres

# March 2025



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>						1
<p>2 <b>Communion Observed Benevolence Offering Received</b></p> <p>9:00am Growing in Christ in the fellowship hall 10:30am Worship Service “Veil Removed” 2 Corinthians 3:12-18 and Communion. You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page</p>	<p>3 10:00am-12:00pm Jigsaw Puzzle Party meets upstairs 12:30pm Ladies Luncheon at Open Door Café.</p>	<p>4 10:00am A Time of Prayer</p>	<p>5 <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b></p> <p>6:00pm Wednesday night supper 6:45pm Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary 7:45pm Choir practice</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 Church office closed</p>	<p>8  10:00am-2:00pm Barnabas Partnership Event</p>
<p>9  9:00am Growing in Christ in the fellowship hall 10:30am Worship Service “Declare and Believe” Romans 10:8-13. You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page</p>	<p>10 12:30pm Circle of Light meeting in the fellowship hall. Bring your Brown Bag 6:03pm Circle of Hope meeting in the fellowship hall.</p>	<p>11 8:00am Wythe County Ministerial Association 10:00am A Time of Prayer 12:00pm Soup and the Word at St. Paul’s UMC</p> 	<p>12 6:00pm Wednesday night supper 6:45pm Spiritual Conversation Discerning God’s Will 7:45pm Choir practice</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Church office closed</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16 9:00am Growing in Christ in the fellowship hall 10:30am Worship Service “Let Me” Luke 13:31-35. You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page</p>	<p>17 </p>	<p>18 10:00am A Time of Prayer 12:00pm Soup and the Word at Wytheville Baptist</p> 	<p>19 6:00pm Wednesday Night Supper 6:45pm Spiritual Conversation Discerning God’s Will 7:45pm Choir practice</p>	<p>20 </p>	<p>21 Church office closed</p>	<p>22 Providing breakfast for about 40 workers at Bland Ministry dental clinic</p>
<p>23 9:00am Growing in Christ in the fellowship hall 10:30am Worship Service “God’s Love Better Than Life” Psalm 63:1-8. You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 10:00am A Time of Prayer 12:00pm Soup and the Word at West End UMC</p> 	<p>26 6:00pm Wednesday Night Supper 6:45pm Spiritual Conversation Discerning God’s Will 7:45pm Choir practice</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Church office closed</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>30 9:00am Growing in Christ in the fellowship hall 10:30am Worship Service in Song. You can also see the service on Wytheville Baptist Church Facebook page</p> 	<p>31</p>					