Dear Church Family,

Isn’t God simply amazing? Just a few weeks ago we were dealing with sweltering heat, at least for us it was considered sweltering, and now there is a definite nip in the air promising and reminding us that fall has come. This is the time of the year that we call fire in the mountains back in Wise County. It is one of my favorite times of the year.

I love the fall and all it brings, but it tends to remind me that life is flying by. It seems only yesterday that we were planning VBS and before we are ready we will be celebrating Thanksgiving and Christmas.

It is tradition in many churches to focus on stewardship during this time of the year. I have been using Wednesday nights to do some stewardship training and I know our finance committee is working on doing something special in the fall as well. One of the thoughts that continue to come back to me is that we need to be ever grateful for the blessings we have.

A contemporary Christian artist told a true story about a little boy who attended a concert and saw a video presentation of the situation in other less fortunate countries. The little boy was moved by the struggle other children had in those places. He reached into his pocket and pulled out one of the three dollars he received for his birthday. He asked his mom, “How many kids will this feed?”

She replied, “The missionary says that it only takes a dime a day to feed a child, so that would feed ten kids.”

The little boy reached into his pocket and pulled out the other two dollars, handed them to his mother and said, “Here, feed them all.”

While he was a little naïve on how many children could be fed by his giving, he was wise beyond his years to realize that there was a need to give. As we complete the church budget and prepare for the ministries of the next year, consider how you can give your all for the One who gave His all for you. Let us all consider how we can give our time, talents, effort and resources to support what God is doing through Wytheville Baptist Church.

In His service,

Pastor Rusty Mullins

EMORY & HENRY COLLEGE CONCERT CHOIR

The 2008 Emory & Henry College Concert Choir is proud to present a concert of sacred choral music at St. Paul United Methodist Church, 330 Church St., in Wytheville, VA on Sunday, October 12th at 4:00 pm. The concert celebrates the Psalms in choral music, from Renaissance master to contemporary gospel settings, including the masterful cantata, “I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes” by Adolphus Hailstork, professor of music at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA. Everyone is invited to this awesome night of music that will bless your soul.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

We are missing two DVDs from the Discipleship class “A Women’s Heart, God’s Dwelling Place” by Beth Moore. Missing are the introduction, session one and two. If you should have these please bring them to the church office. Thank you for your help.

MY TURN IN THE NURSERY

Last Sunday was my turn in the Nursery to work. My heart wasn’t in it, and my feelings were hurt. A child from its mother did not want to part, and cried a lot with its broken heart. I prayed that soon the hour would end, that I could relax no more children to tend. Soon the hour was over, felt good to be free. I said once a month was too much for me! That very Sunday, as I sat in the pew, a very good sermon, but visitors were few. But down came a woman and her soul was saved. She was the mother of the crying babe. Then it dawned on me that I had been a part of one being saved, giving God her heart.

From that day on, I would never dread “Working in the Nursery” while souls were being fed.

*Author Unknown*

HOLY COMMUNION

Given that we observed Holy Communion at Homecoming, which was the last Sunday in September, we will not observe Holy Communion in October.
Praise Page

ALMA HUNT 2008 OFFERING FOR VIRGINIA MISSIONS
Goal: $1,167,500
Wytheville Baptist Church Goal: $665
WBC offering as of September 26th:
$1,300

Praise the Lord for our newest Members

Lonny, Sallie and Jonathan Bess
pictured with youngest son Noah.
154 Wildwood Lane
Max Meadows VA
24360
637-1179

Praise the Lord for our newest Members

Allan and Lisa Long have returned from a short term mission to Juarez, Mexico. The trip was associated with Engineering Missions International. We will have more information about their mission trip in our November Beacon.

REVIVAL 2008

Praise the Lord, we will have a Revival this year that focuses on prayer. Our Revival will begin on Sunday, October 26th and end on Wednesday night, October 29th. During our services we will be blessed with music, testimonies and prayer. There will be prayer guides for those who want them. So pass the word about this powerful gathering and let us begin now to focus on coming together with bended knee as we seek God’s Will for the work to be done.

news for CHILDREN, YOUTH And Young Adults

And Beyond

Steppin’ Up

WEDNESDAYS:
5:15 pm Children’s Choirs—Sonshine Singers, (grades 1-6), Little Praises (Preschool) and Cherub Chimers.
6:40 to 7:30 pm: “Kids In Action” (grades 2 to 6) and “Mission Friends” (Pre K to 1st grade). Each week following our church wide supper, our children will come together for learning and fun as they find out more about how they can know and serve our Lord Jesus.

STEPPIN’ UP (1st-6th grade)
Friday, October 3: 6:00—7:30 pm: “Friday Night LIVE”
This is going to be a wonderful year of “Getting To Know God”! Kids will experience awesome worship through music, scripture, occasional drama and fun activities! Each month, children will join together in the sanctuary and launch into an upbeat, fun time of worship and sharing! This month we will focus on Jehovah Nissi—God is our Battle Fighter! Then they will be divided into age groups for a simple snack, activities and prayer stations which focus on the night’s theme. The children will come back to the sanctuary for a final “pop quiz” of the night and closing worship time! It is going to be a jam packed time full of high energy and excitement as we explore God’s character, learn His many names, and experience His nature in our lives!

Our Friday Night LIVE’s will be the first Friday of each month and we URGE everyone to invite all the children of our community to attend. Let’s pass the word, hang up flyers, provide transportation and bring as many children to our FNL’s as we can. All children in our community are invited to come together for this joint time of celebration, worship and learning.

If you would like to be a helper for these Friday Night LIVE events, I encourage you to call me asap. I need extra hands and extra adults to greet and love on these children as well as to help with activities and supervision. Thank you for your support and your prayers as we create a fresh new year of “Getting To Know God” for our children.
Dear Church Family,

Thank you everyone for being there for us through Joe’s illness and his passing. We don’t know what we would have done without you.

God Bless,
Adren and Joe Mack Eldridge

Dear Church Family,

For all of your various overwhelming expressions of condolence and sympathy, I don’t have words to adequately express my appreciation and how much it meant and continues to mean to me. This has been a very difficult time, as you all know, and your cards, flowers, and emails helped to ease the pain. The worst thing for a parent to go through is the death of a child, but your thoughts and prayers gave me a sense of comfort even in this very sad time. For all you have done, for your support, and for being such wonderful friends I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart. Your friendship means so much to me.

Thank you again and God Bless,
(Mrs. “B”)
Keeping your Teens in Touch with God: Why Teens turn away from the Church and How you can prevent it is by Dr. Robert Laurent. What causes some teens to abandon their early Christian beliefs while others flourish and grow in their spiritual relationships? Dr. Laurent gives you powerful insights on how you can strengthen and support your teens’ faith.

Hidden Motives has four novellas in one book. The four authors are Carol Cox, Gail Martin, Diann Mills, and Jill Stengl. These four romances emerge from mysterious shadows. Romance is blossoming and lives are on the verge of exciting changes--- but these four women are also threatened by suspicion, mystery, and danger. Should these women push forward in spite of the danger?

One Christmas Angel is by Pamela Griffin and Tamela Murray. One unique Christmas Angel handcrafted by a child, brings joy to two romances. This colorful Christmas angel heralds love and heals hearts.

Alaskan Midnight was written by Joyce Livingston. It has four stories that come from pieces of broken lives. Four women head to Juneau, Alaska, hoping to stitch a new new section in their life quilt --- a more beautiful section without the tearstains of the past.

Here is a book that has been in our library for five years, but has had very little circulation. It is loaded with all kinds of information that should interest all Christians. So What’s the Difference? is written by Fritz Ridenour. It gives us a look at 20 worldviews, faiths, and religions and how they compare to Christianity. It includes Mormonism, Jehovah’s Witnesses, Judaism, Freemasonry, Humanism, New Age, Roman Catholicism, Islam, Unitarianism plus others. This best selling guide will help you recognize the real difference between the Christian faith and other viewpoints and make it easier for you to explain and share your faith with others.

As we enter the new year with our library ministry team, we would like to welcome Wanda Hamm as she joins with the other team members, Mary Hall, Betty Matheny, Doris Terry, and myself, to work together to provide a large selection of Christ centered books for your enjoyment.

Dear Church family,

As you know, October is set aside each year as a special time we remember to thank our ministers. Pastor Appreciation Month is a reminder to us to do what we should do on a regular basis – be appreciative for all the time, effort, and dedication it takes to lead the local church.

The Pastor Relations Committee will lead our church family in thanking Rusty and Jennifer for all they do for each of us and our church on Sunday, October 5, 2008. We ask you to take time to write Rusty and Jennifer a special card, expressing your gratitude to them and encouraging them in their ministry. A basket will be placed on the back table in the sanctuary to collect the cards. In addition, we will present Rusty and Jennifer with a special gift that morning. If you would like to contribute toward that gift, please send your donation into the church office, either in person or through the offering, marked “Pastor Appreciation” by Friday, October 3.

During this special month, let us also be reminded that the best way we can encourage our pastor and minister of youth is pray for them on a continual basis. As a church, let us commit to praying for the leadership of church during the month of October. Pray that God will lead their work and the ministry of Wytheville Baptist Church.

If you have questions, please contact the church office or a member of the Pastor Relations Committee. Thank you for your participation in this special celebration.

Sincerely,

Wytheville Baptist Church Pastor Relations Committee
Cindy Jarmul, Chair
Nancy Herndon
Allan Long
Bill Valley
Dale Wood
**O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING**  
(1739)  
My tongue will speak...of your praises all day long. Psalms 35:28

Author: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)  
Composer: Carl G. Glaser (1784-1829)  
Arranged by: Lowell Mason (1839)

Charles (28 year old) and John (32 years old) Wesley were two English brothers sent to America by the Church of England to support the Anglican’s in the Georgia Colony. Although both brothers were ordained ministers Charles was noted as the great hymn writer, while John was assigned the position as Chaplain to the colonists. Also on board the ship,”Windjammer,” were six German immigrants of the Moravian faith making their way to America.

On their journey in early January of 1736, a storm over took the “Windjammer” while the Moravians were on deck singing hymns. The main sail split, the mast broke in two parts, waves swept over the deck, and passengers ran screaming down below. During the chaos the Moravian brothers stood firm and did not miss a note. The Wesley brothers spellbound at the calmness of the Germans singing their hymns clung to the railing and held their positions until the storm passed. After the storm John Wesley asked, “Were you not afraid?” the Moravian replied, “Thank God no.”

Although John and Charles were clergymen in the Church of England, they disagreed with church policies but never formally withdrew from the established church. They did organize a club called “The Holy Club” to encourage personal religion and beliefs. Friends dubbed it Methodists.

Charles returned to England while John stayed on in America. He learned enough German from the Moravians to translate some of their hymns. He traveled to Charleston, S.C. where he published America’s first hymnbook. Afterwards he also returned to England.

Charles wrote six thousands hymns. John preached throughout England. His theme was “Free Grace” and he preached no less than forty thousand sermons. But he was never allowed to preach in the Church of England.

Peter Bohler, a Moravian leader once told Charles, “Had I a thousand tongues, I would praise God with all of them.” Thus the seed was planted. Charles wrote an eighteen stanza hymn describing his praise to the Lord. When John compiled his “Collection of Hymns” in 1780, he chose O For A Thousand Tongue To Sing as his first hymn in the collection using verses seven, eight, nine, and ten of Charles’ original eighteen. These are the verses we know and enjoy singing today.

Baptist Hymnal. *O for A Thousand Tongues To Sing.* Pg. 216.

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**Junior High Weekend**  
**October 10-12, 2008**  
**Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center**

Students in grades 6-8, join us for an extraordinary weekend to discover the power of oneness that Paul talks about in Ephesians 4:4-6! Featuring guest speaker Jeremy Hughey and worship leader Beth Champion Mason, Junior High Weekend offers celebrative worship, special interest conferences, recreation, fellowship, and more. For more information or to register, visit the Junior High Weekend website.

**AXIS COLEGIATE CONFERENCE**  
**October 24-26, 2008, Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center**

The Axis conference for college students, and college-bound high school seniors, features dynamic worship, Christian fellowship, and great training opportunities through breakout sessions. This year Phil Nelson, a pastor and specialist in apologetics training for university students, will be speaking on issues related to worldview in a post-Christian culture. Worship music will be led by Chris Orr Ministries. The cost of $80 per person includes conference fees, lodging for two nights, and lunch and dinner on Saturday. For more information, visit the Baptist Collegiate Ministries website or email Greg Alexander.

**185th BGAV Annual Meeting**  
**November 11-12, 2008, Roanoke, Virginia**

Come join us at the 185th Annual Meeting of the Baptist General Association of Virginia as we consider “Who's My Neighbor?” This year we are looking at ways of reaching beyond the church doors to meet and serve “neighbors” in our community, our state, and our world. Connect 2008 features speaker Tony Campolo and musician Kate Campbell, as well as special messages from Larry Holland and David Coffey, breakout sessions, the ministry fair, and more. Visit the Connect 2008 website for more details.

**SIMPLE CHURCH:**  
**Returning to God’s Process for Making Disciples**  
**Monday, December 3, 2007  9:30am - 2:30pm**

What are we trying to accomplish with persons in our churches? To simply keep them busy? If you're interested in accomplishing something more intentional and significant, join us for this one-day seminar featuring Eric Geiger, co-author of SIMPLE CHURCH: Returning to God's Process for Making Disciples. More information is available here. To register, please contact the Southwest Virginia Christian Leadership Network by phone at 866.223.9344 or by email at gary.chapman@vbmb.org.
The Missions Committee of the Highlands Baptist Association requests that all the congregations in the association remember the Pastors and Staff in their prayers. As our churches pray for each other, a spirit of unity and boldness will move our associational churches closer to the fulfillment of the Kingdom of God, here, on earth.

**October**
- 5: Wytheville, Rev. Rusty Mullins & Staff
- 12: Alleghany, Rev. Harold Taylor
- 19: Angel’s Rest, Pastor Search Committee
- 26: Austinville, Dr. Becky Plott

Please keep these in your prayers this month.

**WILDFIRE—MEN’S IMPACT WEEKEND 2008**

Imagine thousands of guys, many with their sons, coming together to worship God and learn more about the life of true adventure He intends for us as men. Even more, imagine a two-day event packed full of work shops, exhibits, and fun around the stuff that men love: hunting, fishing, football, baseball, motorcycles, racing, extreme sports and other outdoor activities featuring some of the leading experts in the world. Team Wildfire is partnering with Thomas Road Baptist Church and the Southern Baptist Convention of VA (SBCV) to host the 2008 Men’s Impact Wildfire Weekend! This groundbreaking, extreme weekend is scheduled for October 10-11, at Thomas Road Baptist church in Lynchburg, VA. Some special guest will be former Redskin wide-receiver Art Monk who is in the NFL Hall of Fame; Darrell Green who was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame; pitching coach for the Pittsburg Pirates, Randy Tomlin; Willie and Phil Robertson, avid hunters who host a weekly series on hunting; Bill Gillespie, director of strength and conditioning for Liberty University football and many, many more.

Register online at www.wildfireweekend.com or phone 1•866•834•WILD (9453)

**ANNUAL FALL MEETING OF THE HIGHLANDS ASSOCIATION**

We will gather at Calvary Baptist Church, 1400 Floyd Hwy. North, Floyd, VA 24091, 540•745•3744 for our Annual Fall meeting of the Highlands Association, Sunday, October 12th. Everyone is invited but only Massagers from our church can vote. Registration will be at 2:30 pm with Call to Order at 3:00 pm. The Business Session continues at 4:00 pm and dinner will be served at 5:20 pm. The evening service will begin at 6:00 pm with Pastor Rusty Mullins as guest speaker.

**WMU ASSOCIATIONAL FALL MEETING**

Women from all over our area will gather at the Blacksburg Baptist Church, 550 N. Main Street, Blacksburg, VA 24060, 540•552•3869, on Saturday, October 18th, from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. The ladies are asked to bring their favorite brunch dish to share. These dishes will be judged and the lady with the best recipe will be given a prize. There will also be door prizes of Longaburger Baskets. We will be delivering the paper back books and Christmas cards that we have received.

**SPECIAL INVITATION**

Join the “Young-At-Hearts Group” for a trip to Virginia’s most famous peak, Peaks of Otter, enjoying God’s picturesque fall beauty Tuesday, October 21, 2008 where we will enjoy a limited lunch menu, “dutch treat.” There will be a bus tour that takes approximately one hour for $8.00. Tickets will be available at the country store. Reservations are not required for the tour. Persons wishing to go, please call Mary Helen Porter, 228-5358 NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 3, 2008. Reservations are required for LUNCH. Departure time is 9:00 am. In case of inclement weather we will meet at church in the fellowship hall at 12:00 noon. Church bus has been reserved.

Mr. & Mrs. Brandon and Laura Hall
5801 Ellis Street Apt. D
Colorado Springs CO  80902

Aaron Crowgey
250 19th St. Apt. #7202
Knoxville TN  37916
There is no Scrappin Silly on the regular night in October. Instead there will be an all day Scrappin Silly at Lesa’s home, 430 N. 11th Street, on Saturday, October 18th. The times will be from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm. The cost will be $15.00 and will include lunch. Space is limited so contact Lesa now for your reservation and payment. Call Lesa with any questions and to get your name on her list.

Agape has asked that we bring Peanut Butter for the months of October, November and December to help feed those in need in our community. Please, no glass containers.

The leaves are turning and the wind is beginning to blow. Cold weather is almost here and parents, who have little, are searching for winter clothes that will keep their children warm. If you have any new or gently used children’s winter clothes, coats or shoes, new underwear, t-shirts, or socks, please bring them to the clothes closet down stairs next to the nursery. We especially need boys’ clothes from new born to 10 years old. Please no summer clothes, we have packed them away and brought out the winter items. If you would like to make a monetary donation please earmark your check “Children’s Clothes Closet” and place it in the offering plate.

The Koinonia Sunday School Class will provide a wonderfully prepared meal and deliver it to Crossroads Shelter on Sunday, October 12th.

On the first Sunday of every month we receive an offering to help those in the community that are struggling to make ends meet. Sunday, October 5th, will be our first Sunday of the month and we will again ask that you give from the heart. There are boxes that our children made that are prominently placed on the table in the main hall across from the new church office and on the table at the back of the sanctuary. These boxes will provide a place to put your offering. If you can not give on this specified Sunday you may place your offering in the boxes at any time. These boxes are checked daily and all offerings are placed in the Benevolence Fund.

Thank you for giving from the heart.

Last month:

- We helped many families, which were caught in the gas crisis due to the hurricanes, buy fuel to help them get to work.
- We helped keep the electricity on for four families.
- We helped minister to a lady many miles away who had lost her husband.

EXTENDED CARE: Louise Marcum, Maude Umberger, Dee Phillips, Marylce Jackson, Wilma Himmelman, Mary Chapman, Blair Whitt, Dora B. Williams.

FAMILY: Pastor Rusty, Jennifer and family; Cathy Pugh’s daughter, Debbie Stoots; Lisa Crowgey’s grandmother, Lena Dutton; Lesa Wood’s sister and niece, Sherrie and Jamie; Mary Helen Porter’s great niece, Donetta Overly; Phillip Aker’s grandmother, Annie Taylor; John and Virginia Watt’s extended family, Ann Tooms; Sonny Archer’s mother and aunt; Debbie Grubb’s mother, Sue Ingo; Ann Pruett’s mother; Betty Matheny’s mother and father, Eugene and Sybil Tinnel; Veronica Lopez’s mother, Maria Hernandez; Venita Wolford’s sister, Barb Riding; Colleen Dunford’s nephew, Curtis Simmerman; Dee Phillips’ son, Ralph; Dan Robinette’s mother, Catherine Robinette; Velma Roberts’ sister, Sylvia Bohon; Allan Long’s uncle, Berrell Long, cousin, John Garrick and friend, Mark Warren; Lisa Long’s family & friends, Alma Stuart, Jeremy, Becky Harrison, Souin Cottrell, Mendy Cozar, Woody Altizer and his daughter Kara, Helen Sayers, Kyle Bartlett, Shirley Eversole, Evelyn Lundy, John Daniel Edmonds, Richard Crotts, Harry Fleming.

FRIENDS: Kelsey Wilburn, Siani and Suphala, Richard & Martha Riggle, Krupa Emmanuel, Lindy Tabor, Lori Mock, Ellie Potvin, Austin Michael Melton, B.J. Dail; Julian Arnold; David Schappacher’s son Matt; Perry and Leigh Ann Cee; John Sagherian; Jeremy Harrell; Joey Etter; Ronald King; Susie Williams; Rev. Wade and Elizabeth Tucker, their granddaughter, Bailey Bowers and Wade’s sister, Carolyn Leather; Iva Catron; Bland Ministry Center; Sue Waddell.

Our men and women serving in the Armed Forces: Kevin Dalton and his family, Jason Crandell, Rob Bracknell, Benji Bird, Brandon & Laura Hall, Cory Toddd, Byron Reed, T.J. Bilbrey, Thomas Collins, Brandon & Lindsey Wood, Deloris Romero, Tommy Munsey, Daniel Kilgore, and any others we may have left out.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY TO:
Dewey and Sherry Long upon the passing of Dewey’s step-sister, Kathy Looney.
Adren Eldridge, Joe Mack and Vicki Eldridge upon the passing of their beloved husband and father, Joe Eldridge.
Ora Bailey, and family, upon the passing of Ora’s beloved husband, Lyle Bailey.
Elton and Mabeline Robinson upon the passing of Elton’s brother, Ray Robinson.
O.J. and JoAnn Campbell and family upon the passing of O.J.’s cousin, Joe Campbell.