

September 2014
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THE BEACON

What's INSIDE

A publication of Wytheville Baptist Church

- Reflections
Pg. 2
- Children's News
Pg. 3
- Higher Ground Youth
Pg. 4—6
- WMU
Pg. 7
- Church News
Pg. 8
- Monthly Schedule
Pg. 9
- Calendar
Pg. 10—11
- Prayer Requests
Pg. 12
- Library Notes
Pg. 13
- Young-at-Heart
Pg. 14
- Church News
Pg. 15—17
- Outreach
Pg. 18
- Deacon News
Pg. 19

HOW you can
HELP

Become a *Vital Volunteer*
in the children's music
department

Let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.



1 Chronicles 16:10, NIV



205 Church Street
Wytheville VA 24382

YOUR CHURCH STAFF

Wytheville Baptist Church.....	228-3712
E-mail Address, Office	office@wythevillebaptist.org
.....	wythevillebaptist@yahoo.com
Rev. Robert Blankenship, Supply Pastor	223-8089
James Spraker, Organist.....	228-3934
Bonnie Wright, Minister to Youth	620-9406
Amanda Phillipie, Minister to Children	336-233-1040
Jan Stone, Secretary/Treasurer	223-0296

Address Change Requested

Reflections

Jesus said, as recorded in Matthew 11:28, “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” Personally, I don’t know of anyone that isn’t weary for some reason or burdened by something, so I consider that this passage applies universally to everyone. Jesus gave no other qualifications in this invitation, he simply stated, “Come to me....”

I find it disturbing that the church, at least in the Western world, continues to be one of the most segregated institutions in existence. As unfortunate as that truth may be, it exists nonetheless: Whites worship with whites, blacks worship with blacks, Koreans worship with Koreans, Latinos with Latinos, etc. But this division, in my opinion, runs more deeply than just along the lines of race. The wealthy worship, in many cases, with the wealthy; the working class with the working class; the younger folks with the younger folks; and the more traditional folks with the more traditional.

I believe this pattern of worship continues simply because people want to worship where they feel safe, among others that accept them as they are, without being judged for some perceived shortcoming about their person, their lifestyle, the way they dress, or their worldview. People just want to be accepted for who they are without feeling that they have to measure up to the standards of another.

As I think about these words of Jesus, “Come to me...,” I envision Jesus standing in one of two stances. In the first stance, Jesus is facing his audience, arms outstretched, with a loving countenance, saying those words, “Come to me....” In the other stance, Jesus is standing with his side toward his audience, arms folded across his chest, looking at his audience out of the corner of his eye, and he is thinking, “No, not you.” Our concern should be, which Jesus do we want our church to represent.

In His service,
Rev. Robert Blankenship

DEACON AND LEADERSHIP TEAM JOINT LUNCHEON MEETING

On Sunday, October 12, at 12:00 p.m. there will be a joint Luncheon Meeting in Williams Fellowship Hall. The Deacons and Leadership Team will meet with Rev. Darrell Fletcher, Field Strategist and Bi-vocational/Church Security Specialist. Rev. Fletcher has suggested this meeting to offer his assistance during this period of transition in the life of our church. This joint Luncheon Meeting is for the Deacons and Leadership Team only. Lunch will be provided.



OUR NEW DEACONS

On Sunday, August 17, Mike Cassell representative of the Deacon Selection Team presented the four Deacon candidates for election. Thank you to Tommy Anders, John Claypool, Eric Crowgey, and Guy Sutphin for accepting this important role in our church. Let us all encourage and pray for these four men as they join the Deacons in serving our church as God would lead.



THANK YOU

Thank you to Chris Bracknell, Mike Stoker, Mike Cassell, and Rev. Robert Blankenship who have fulfilled their three year commitment as Deacons on August 31, 2014. We pray God’s blessings on these men for giving of their time and talents to further the Kingdom of God.

DON'T FORGET OUR BENEVOLENCE OFFERING

The purpose of the Benevolence offering—to help others in need. Last month you helped:

- ◆ You helped five families with gas.
- ◆ You helped three families with their electric bill
- ◆ You helped one young mother with her water bill
- ◆ You helped a family pay their rent
- ◆ You helped a lady buy her medicine



We will receive a Benevolence offering Sunday, September 7, following our worship services. We ask that you once again give from the heart. 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

Please bring Peanut Butter, Spaghetti Sauce, and Spaghetti Noodles for the months of September, and November 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 a.m. and the fourth Thursday of each month beginning at 12 p.m. If you would like to be part of this vital ministry, please contact Chris and Rhonda Bracknell, Guy and Linda Sutphin, Lee Montgomery, or Carroll Stewart.

Children's Clothes Closet

The WBC Children's Clothes Closet has been a blessing to many in our community. These children's clothes are free and we always have new families that utilize this ministry. If you have any new or gently used children's summer clothes, shoes, new underwear, t-shirts, or socks bring them to the clothes closet down stairs next to the nursery.

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 Children's Clothes Closet will be open Thursday, September 25, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

CHILDREN'S GROUPS (Weekly Worship and Activities for ages K to Grade 5)

Sundays:

- 9:00 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 10:45 a.m. "SPLASH" (Children's Church)

Wednesday:

- 5:30 p.m. Cherub Chimers' Practice
- 6:00 p.m. Wednesday night supper
- 6:40 p.m. Kids-Wythe-a-Mission



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY

The children will lead our worship service Sunday, September 28. Please have all the children here every Sunday and Wednesday night as we prepare for this special service. Please make a special effort to be here to support, love on, and pray for the children of our church.

If there is anyone who feels led to be part of the lives of our children, and would like to help our Sunshine singers learn their songs for special services and missional presentations at our local retirement and nursing homes; please see someone on our Equipping Team or Amanda Phillippe. What a wonderful way to serve as you lead a child in the ways of our Lord and Savior.



Praise the Lord ! We were truly blessed as we witnessed the baptism of Holly Jean Wolford Sunday, August 24, 2014. Please continue in prayer for this young girl that she will be filled with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all kinds of skills.

Youth News

And He stopped the rain.

God is so good; we prayed that many lives would be touched by the Lord during the Branded 2014 Conference that was held on Saturday, August 23. We watched the weather all week with ominous predictions of bad weather. Then the thunder, lighting, wind, and a hard rain came Friday night. We watched Saturday morning as the skies became overcast with thick dark clouds. As we prepared ourselves in prayer we said, "It's not our event God, it's Yours; Your Will be done." Then the clouds parted, the sun came out, and the ground dried. Branded was an amazing time of music, drama, and two messages by Andy Nixon. Lives were touched. Youth came forward accepting the Lord, adults made there way to give their hearts and lives to Christ. What an amazing four hours filled with the Glory of God. After it had ended, and people were making their way home, the rain drops began again.

GOD IS SO GOOD!



CHURCH-WIDE FELLOWSHIP COOK-OUT WAS SO MUCH FUN

The Fellowship Team sponsored a Church-Wide Fellowship Cook-Out at Claytor Lake Baptist Camp Sunday afternoon, August 17. Look at the wonderful time we had.



BRANDED 2014 YOUTH CONFERENCE



Thanks again [Bonnie Rogers Wright - Branded 2014](#) & Wytheville Baptist Church! What you all did for Jesus was phenomenal & I hope to be part of yours and other churches committed to the same witness! [#awesome](#) *Andy Nixon*

The following was written by Andy Nixon and published on his website andy@rocktheword.org on August 26, 2014

Jesus followers need each other.

This weekend I spoke at an evangelical event in Southwest Virginia. Churches from relatively small towns came together for an evening of music, drama, and speaking with the goal of hosting an event where youth and parents would commit to deeper relationships with Jesus Christ.

All I can say is – it worked! Six hundred people, almost all families, worshiped together and at the end many came forward to pray as God moved.

Late that night, I reflected on everything that occurred. Of all we saw, and there were many moments, the thought I returned to repeatedly was the teamwork of the churches. A team of churches came together to put on an event none could have accomplished on their own. The mission of reaching kids for Jesus was simply too big. Cooperation was an essential, harmony a must – and to see churches work seamlessly with both was powerful.

In 1 Corinthians, Paul describes the church this way, he writes,

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

Paul knew believers would play different roles within the church. He also knew, though, how indispensable each part was to the mission of the church. As Paul carried the metaphor forward, he understood for the church to succeed each person, each church, each part of the body was essential. The mission was simply too big for any one part to accomplish it on its own, it would take the body or as we might say today – a team.

Paul is still correct. His words are not just church yesterday, they are church today.

Part of Paul's thinking is revealed in the last phrase - *and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.*

The Holy Spirit leads us to missions beyond ourselves. Paul is teaching us how the Holy Spirit works and offering us a clue. If your mission does not require you to ask for help the mission is too small, and we might do better to ask Jesus first - *who do you want me to work with* - and then second - *Jesus, what do you need us to do.*



READING AND MUSIC FOR THE FAMILY

Dr. Steve Spangler will be our guest speaker Sunday, September 21. On Saturday, September 20, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. we will have a time of family fellowship as Dr. Spangler shares with us readings from his book, "Lena's Grace." This book is a collection of short stories, essays and poems, many illustrated by photographs. The collection focuses on the author's family history and experience and includes vivid descriptions of twentieth century mountain life. You will laugh, cry and be touched by the tales told through the eyes of a mountain man at heart. Dr. Spangler will also bless us with his music. There will be light refreshments provided. Please join us and invite all your family and friends.

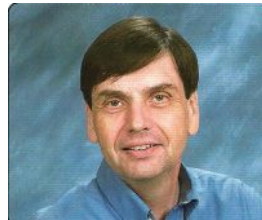


YOUNG-AT-HEART

We had a great time at our **Young-at-Heart** (YAH) group meeting on August 19 as we traveled to **Wolf Creek Indian Village** in Bastian. For all of you **WBC** senior citizens who did not go with us—thirteen of us will say you missed out on an adventure as we learned of the Indian lifestyle from the late 1400's. You can't imagine some of the things they ate back then, very interesting to say the least—cattails and bee hives! Their housing was something to behold—they were all naturally air conditioned! Even though each family was allotted about five acres to farm, they had no horses to help plow the soil. Manpower did it all. We also toured their museum and gift shop.

Our group consisted of Doris Terry, Sylvia McGhee, Guy Sutphin, Chris and Rhonda Bracknell, Gary and Jackie Carson, Eric and Ann Collins, Delores Dove, Bonnie Agnew, and Frank and Carroll Stewart. We took our brown bag lunch and ate at their picnic shelter. Many thanks to Bonnie Agnew for bringing us lots of 'goodies' for dessert.

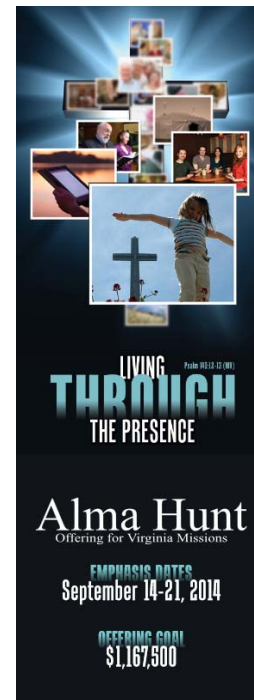
Our Next **YAH** meeting will be in the **Fellowship Hall at WBC** on September 16. Our entertainment will be a mini concert of upbeat gospel music by **Jim Spraker**. Everyone is invited to this meeting on Tuesday, September 16, at 12 noon. Just bring your bag lunch and come join us.



Carroll Stewart,
YAH Chairperson



On August 2, Kathryn Isaacs and Mabel Crabtree Circle members met at the lake home of Doris Terry for fun, food, and fellowship. Jerry Stone provided the music, and a short Vesper Service was held in the late afternoon. Everyone who attended received a blessing and had a wonderful time. We express a heart-felt “thank you” to Doris for her gracious hospitality.



“I know that the Lord secures justice for the poor and upholds the case of the needy. Surely the righteous will praise your name, and the upright will live in your presence.”

Psalm 140:12 & 13 NIV

WBC goal \$1,000

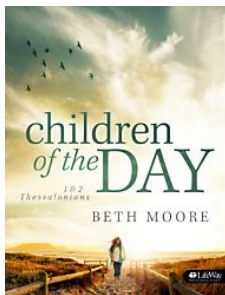
Although the state emphasis for Alma Hunt Offering and Virginia Baptist missions is September 14 – 21, 2014, WBC's focus will begin Wednesday night, September 3, at 6:40 p.m. with a program on state missions presented by the Kathryn Isaacs and Mabel Crabtree Circle. The Alma Hunt Offering, which supports Virginia Baptist missions and ministries not funded through regular streams of giving, will be collected throughout the month of September. Please support our missionaries and mission projects with your giving and your prayers. The state offering goal is \$1,167,500. The Circle will have a brief business meeting after the program, in the fellowship hall. There will be no meeting on Tuesday, September 2. Our projects for September are the Family Resource Center and Transient Coupons.

NEW BETH MOORE BIBLE STUDY

“Children of the Day: 1st and 2nd Thessalonians”

"You are children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness." 1st Thessalonians 5:5

Journey to the shores of Thessalonica with Beth Moore in this 9-session study on 1st and 2nd Thessalonians, which will begin on Sunday, September 14, 6:00 -8:00 p.m. This newest Beth Moore women's Bible Study will be led by Linda Lively and Cathy Valley.



Join **Beth Moore** and walk the shores of Thessalonica with this verse-by-verse Bible study. During this nine week study, you'll learn how to let go of past mistakes and discover your circumstances are not coincidental—God's timing is impeccable! Whether you're facing family crises, medical diagnoses, relationship troubles, doubts, or fears you'll come away encouraged that even though it may not feel that way, you are exactly where Christ wants you to be!

Please plan to join us for this in-depth study. You may opt to be present for the video session only, or to go deeper by purchasing the member book at \$16, available at the first session. Reserve a spot by notifying the church, Linda, or Cathy. Be sure to let us know if you need childcare.



ATTENTION HANDBELL PLAYERS

Handbell rehearsals will resume on Sunday, September 7, 5:00 to 5:45 p.m. upstairs in the Koinonia Sunday School Classroom. We have new music, old music, and Christmas music to practice. I look forward to having everyone return who played last year. We welcome anyone, high-school aged or above, who is interested in joining us. If you would like to play, and did not play last year, please notify Cathy Valley at 223-0650, or bcvalley@embarqmail.com before September 7.

THE NELLIE BAUSELL LIBRARY NOTES

September 2014

Al Lacy is the author of **Wings Of The Wind**. Early in his life, tragedy and hardship caused young Hunter McGuire to lose everyone he loved: his parents, his little sister, and his best friend. Years later, Dr. Hunter McGuire grieves once again after becoming separated from the young nursing student who has stolen his heart.

This time, however, a tender reunion takes place after Jodie shows up unexpectedly and helps Hunter tend the wounded at the Battle of Antietam. Yet their struggles have just begun, for their life together is threatened by more than the two realize. And only One can save their love: the God who walks "on the wings of the wind."

Allison's Journey was written by Wanda Brunstetter. Allison Troyer's widowed father sends her out of Lancaster county and into Missouri, hoping her aunt can teach his daughter how to cook and sew. After all, the nineteen year old tomboy is of marriageable age and needs to learn how to manage an Amish household. But can this girl, who feels as faceless, purposeless, and neglected as her tattered Amish doll, find love among strangers?

T. Davis Bunn authored **Riders of the Pale Horse**. With chilling foresight, this novel presents the story of three Americans—one determined to deliver nuclear knowhow to Islamic militants, and two determined to stop him before it's too late. "For one hundred years the west failed to understand communism. In the end it did not matter; there was nothing left worth understanding. For more than one hundred years the west has failed to understand Islam. This time it matters..." (U.S. State Department Official, 1992)

Carroll Stewart

HOME: Paula Moore, Wanda Hamm, Trooper Jim Porter, Tom Moore, Joel Campbell-Hilton, O. J. Campbell, JoAnn Campbell, Velma Roberts, Doris LeGuin

EXTENDED CARE: Nancy Herndon, Henrietta Price, Dorothy Hamilton, Marion Doran, Rev. and Mrs. James Massey, Lloyd Linkous, Mary Evelyn Whitt

FAMILY: Nancy Bishop's mother, Pearl Bishop; Sylvia McGhee's family, Jakie and Gary Smith; Colleen Dunford's daughter-in-law, Kym; Cheryl Walker's father, C.W. Markham; Nancy Herndon's cousin, Phyllis Vencille; Rick and Brenda Tucker's daughter, Julie Tucker-Lloyd; Dee Nolan's father, Bud Edge; Linda Lively's mother, Betty Smith; Cathy Valley's mother, June Taylor; Veronica Lopez's mother, Maria Hernandez

FRIENDS: Chelsie Johnson, George Kirk, Thomas Spaulding, Wesley Perdue, Harry Joe Yates, Bonnie Anthony, Cathy Pugh, Don Dunford, Dennis Reynolds, Fern Huff, Rev. David and Becky Plott, Bland Ministry Center

THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES: Greg Carson, Dr. Josh Armentrout, Zachary Taylor, Thomas Munsey, Ryan Shupe, Kevin Dalton, Benjy Bird, Cory Todd, Thomas Collins, and all the others who serve our nation

PASTORAL CARE: Supply Pastor, Rev. Robert Blankenship, is accessible for any pastoral need. If you would like to make an appointment with Rev. Blankenship, please notify our church secretary, Jan Stone, by calling the church office at 228-3712. If you call before 9 a.m. or after 5 p.m., please leave a message. For pastoral emergencies at night or during weekends, please call the Deacon of the Week.



CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY TO:
Scott and Kara Sutphin and their family upon the passing of Kara's grandmother, Vivian Hatfield Gillespie

Jim and Carolyn Porter upon the passing of Carolyn's cousin, Paul Cline

September 3: Spaghetti, Toss Salad, French Bread, Apricot Pound Cake. Hot Pockets for the children.

September 10: Pork Loin, Stuffing, Baked Apples, Corn on the Cob, Rolls, Cookies and Ice Cream. Corn Dogs for the children.

September 17: sloppy Joes, Buns, Cole Slaw, Tater Tots, Baked Beans, Chocolate Éclair Cake. Hot Dogs for the children

September 24: Broccoli Cheddar Chicken, Jell-O Salad, Rolls, Veggie Tray and Dip, Ginger Bread with Lemon Sauce. Chicken Nuggets for the children



Meetings

- Wednesday, September 10: Equipping Team—2:00 p.m.**
Stewardship Team—5:00 p.m.
- Monday, September 15: Deacons'—7:00 p.m.**
- Wednesday, September 17: Church Business—6:40 p.m.**

September Birthdays

1 Victoria Willis	14 Sandra Stump	Becki James
2 Russ Throckmorton	15 Greyson Whaley	Cathy Brown
3 Jacob Mercer	17 Erin Veasey	25 Cindy Booher
4 Timothy Burke	Jamie Claypool	Belinda Horney
6 Kenneth Cregger	Tommy Wassum	Sarah Long
8 Mark Alderman	18 Colleen Dunford	26 Tommy Anders
9 Clayton Wright	Jim Spraker	Marty Suthers
10 Harlan Clemons	19 Lloyd Linkous	27 Aaron Crowgey
Stephen Collins	20 Justin Ray	28 Angela Peters
11 Jessica Taylor	Austin Ray	Kelli Martin
	22 Natasha Wood	29 Sarah Spradlin
	Lisa Crowgey	

NURSERY 10:30 AM
September 7: Nursery Worker
September 14: Nursery Worker
September 21: Nursery Worker
September 28: Nursery Worker

DEACON OF THE WEEK
September 7: Bonnie Agnew
September 14: Tommy Hilton
September 21: Mary Helen Porter
September 28: Lee Montgomery


SPLASH CHILDREN'S CHURCH 10:30 AM
September 7: Katie Wright
September 14: Amanda Phillippe
September 21: Penny Mitchell & Katie Wright
September 28: Children's Sunday

USHERS
10:30 Team III: Chris Bracknell, Jim Porter
Bill Valley, Danny Sowers

TELLERS
Lee Montgomery and Guy Sutphin

GREETERS
Designated Ushers for the month of September

September 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1 11:30am to 1:00pm Community Food</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>  <p>LABOR DAY</p>	2	3	4	5	6
<p>7 <i>The Lord's Supper Observed</i> <i>Benevolence Offering received</i> 9:00am Fellowship Time with Coffee and Treats 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service with speaker Rev. Robert Blankenship, Splash—Children's Church 5:00pm Handbell Choir practice 6:30pm Higher Ground Youth Group</p>	<p>8 11:30am to 1:00pm Community Food</p> <p>7:00pm Web & Social Media meeting</p>	9	<p>10 2:00pm Equipping Team meeting 5:00pm Stewardship Team meeting 5:30pm Cherub Chimers practice 6:00pm Wednesday Night Supper 6:30pm Higher Ground Youth 6:40pm Adult Bible Study, Kids Wythe a Mission 7:30pm Adult Choir practice, College Age and Young Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>11 11:30am to 1:00pm Community Food</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 10:00am WBC helps at Agape Food Pantry</p>
<p>14 9:00am Fellowship Time with Coffee and Treats 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service with speaker Rev. Robert Blankenship Splash—Children's Church 5:00pm Handbell Choir practice 6:00pm Beth Moore Bible Study 6:30pm Higher Ground Youth Group</p>	<p>15 11:30am to 1:00pm Community Food</p> <p>7:00pm Deacons' meeting</p>	<p>16 12:00pm Young-at-Heart will enjoy a mini concert by Jim Spraker</p>	<p>17 5:30pm Cherub Chimers practice 6:00pm Wednesday Night Supper 6:30pm Youth Group 6:40pm Church Business meeting, Kids Wythe a Mission 7:30pm Adult Choir practice, College Age and Young Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>18 11:30am to 1:00pm Community Food</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 6:30—8:00p.m. Reading and Music by Dr. Steve Spangler in the fellowship hall</p>  <p>STATE MISSIONS</p>
<p>← Alma Hunt Offering Emphasis for Virginia Missions →</p>						
<p>21 9:00am Fellowship Time with Coffee and Treats 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service, with guest speaker, Dr. Steve Spangler, Splash—Children's Church 5:00pm Handbell Choir practice 6:00pm Beth Moore Bible Study 6:30pm Higher Ground Youth Group</p> <p>Alma Hunt Offering →</p>	<p>22 11:30am to 1:00pm Community Food</p>	23	<p>24 5:30pm Cherub Chimers practice 6:00pm Wednesday Night Supper 6:30pm Youth Group 6:40pm Adult Bible Study, Kids Wythe a Mission 7:30pm Adult Choir practice, College Age and Young Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>25 11:30am to 1:00pm Community Food Kitchen</p> <p>12:00pm WBC helps at Agape Food Pantry</p> <p>2:30pm Children's Clothes Closet</p>	26	27
<p>28 9:00am Fellowship Time with Coffee and Treats 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Children led Worship Service</p> <p>2:00pm Bridal Shower for Rachel Crowgey</p> <p>5:00pm Handbell Choir practice 6:00pm Beth Moore Bible Study 6:30pm Higher Ground Youth Group</p>	 <p>Children's Worship Service</p> <p>29 11:30am to 1:00pm Community Food</p>	30				