

ILLUMINATOR

"Ye are the LIGHT of the world." Matthew 5:14

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TELL SOMEONE

You Can Share the Good News

Jesus said, "*Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone*" (Mark 16:15).

Evangelism has become overcomplicated. The gospel isn't a formula, program or sales pitch. It's not about winning an argument. It's about winning a soul. Evangelism is simply telling two stories: yours and Jesus'. And everyone loves stories. You can do this!

Beginning **Sunday, September 17th at 6:00 P.M.**, in the Fellowship Hall, Larry Adams will leading a six-week Bible study on evangelism.



ELIZA BROADUS STATE MISSIONS OFFERING

CHURCH GOAL ----- \$600.00

FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART

One of the foremost fears in the hearts of many churches is that they might go a whole church year and not baptize anyone. It is possible for churches to be evangelistic and burdened for lost souls and still see no results. After all, it is God who opens the eyes and draws people to salvation.

On the other hand, churches can become so preoccupied with themselves that they forget why they exist. Those churches may become so program oriented or so self-focused that they no longer place a priority on reaching the lost. Did you know that last year we baptized the lowest number ever – five people?

This is one reason I have preached so much on the Great Commission and the command to go and make disciples. This is our mission. This is why we are offering the six-week video study, Tell Someone, led by our evangelism director, Deacon Larry Adams, on Sunday nights at 6:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. I cannot think of a better use of our time than to learn how to more effectively tell someone about Jesus.

In the introduction to the book, Greg Laurie writes, (an exact quote) *"This is what every follower of Christ should be engaged in on a regular basis:*

*SHARING our faith,
LEADING others to Christ
DISCIPLING them
And HELPING them to get grounded in the church –
And then GOING out and DOING it all again."*

He then adds, *"This study is not written to make you feel bad or condemn you if you haven't engaged others with the Gospel message.*

*This study is written to
ENCOURAGE and EQUIP you."*

This may be the most important study you can possibly undertake this year, Jesus said, *"you shall be witnesses"*. We are called to Tell Someone about Jesus. What a blessing and what a wonderful feeling to lead someone to Christ. Plan now to come and participate in this six-week study.

Bro. Tony

Tony.Brown@whitesburgfbc.org

Our second Day of Prayer and Fasting, starting at 6:00 P.M. on Sunday night, Sept. 17 – 6:00 P.M. on Monday night, Sept. 18th. Pray specifically for God's direction for our church. The pastor has challenged us with going and making disciples. Let us pray for our church to become fully and intentionally a Great Commission church.

FAITH AND FAMILY

On Monday, I had a hard time with my computer. I needed to check an online account for group registrations and begin pricing items for Trunk-or-Treat, but I could not get my web browser to work. I even tried three different browsers, but none of them would open a page! Adding to the frustration was the fact that one else in the office was having this problem. My e-mail was working, I could print on the network, but I could not get the browser to work. I switched between wired and wireless connections, still no change. I scanned my computer for malware, but it didn't find any problems. I ran Windows diagnostics and the network troubleshooter, but as far as those programs were concerned everything was hunky-dory.

Shortly before I left for the day, I clicked on my anti-virus program and expected it to run in the background as usual. Before I left for the day, I failed to notice that the anti-virus program never opened. On Tuesday morning, I discovered that the virus check did not happen. I tried to run it again but, similar to the browser, it would not open. Then I suspected that some type of conflict between these programs were causing both of them to be ineffective. After a little finagling, I was able to repair the problem and both programs began working just fine.

That is when God spoke to me. He told me that His people find themselves in the same predicament at times – a conflict between two people results in them both being ineffective and hampers the work and wellness of the larger system. At first, I thought God was talking about Christians in the Church being at odds and damaging the usefulness of the Body. While the argument could be effectively made for that prospective, God nudged me to narrow my scope and consider families instead of the church.

How often does conflict between Christian parents not only cause strife for them but also for their children? How about conflict between a parent and child? That too tends to cause problems with the other parent and other children. In the middle of this conflict, the response tends to be driven by fear or pride, anger may result from either, and resolution is attempted through denial (may help for a little while, but soon there will be an explosion of some sort) or insisting that the other party acknowledge their wrongfulness (and, therefore, the "correctness" of self). In the process, more damage may be done and far too often the family breaks apart.

After realizing what God was sharing with me, I had to stop and ask Him why He was sharing this with me. His answer was simple, "So you can share it with others." God reminded me that Christian families cannot deal with conflict the way the world does, not if they want His will to be done. James 4:6-10 says,

"But he gives greater grace. Therefore he says: God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Therefore, submit to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be miserable and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you."

Whatever the conflict may be, when it comes, keep your eyes on Him so you are not overcome by fear, anger, pride, and what the world is telling you. Whatever it may be, remember that God is in control and is always near. I know it can be scary, but God will see you through.

In Christ,
Jeremy
2 Timothy 1:6-7



Practice, Practice, Practice!! I grew up playing basketball, volleyball, softball and played the tuba in band. One thing I can tell you for certain is that those that put the most time into what they played were always the more dedicated members of the team. I learned that there may be many people with more talent, but it is those that are dedicated that reap the most reward.

Last week I was on the third floor with the youth planning our Christmas variety show and could hear the wonderful sounds of kids laughing and singing. Our church was full of people practicing. Youth upstairs, children in the choir room, and adults in the choir room. At every practice people sang, people laughed, people prayed, and people extended love towards others. If you are not a part of practicing, come on out and join us!

This year we will be doing an actual play with the Adult Cantata. We need actors and actresses that will be committed to weekly practices. This is a great ministry opportunity and a way to share the Good News through drama.

The choir will be having a big practice session and fellowship at the home of Jerry & Phyllis Ingram the first part of October. We will announce the date/time in a couple of week – so be ready, it will be a great time of singing and fellowship.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION SCHEDULE

December 3 – Youth Christmas Variety Show – 6:00 P.M.

December 10 – *Star of Wonder* – Children's Play and Musical – 6:00 P.M.

Church-wide Christmas Fellowship

December 17 – *Sing Gloria* Play and Cantata – 6:00 P.M.

HEAVENLY VISION

Known as the "queen of gospel song writers", Fanny Crosby (1820-1915) wrote more than 9,000 Christian hymns, including "Blessed Assurance" and "Safe in the Arms of Jesus". Blind from a young age, she developed a love for poetry and Scripture, memorizing about five chapters of the Bible each week. Crosby was the first woman to speak in the U.S. Senate, lobbying to support education for the blind.

A well-meaning pastor once told Crosby, "It is a great pity that the Master did not give you sight when he showered so many other gifts upon you."

She responded that her blindness was a blessing she would not wish away. "When I get to heaven," Crosby said, "the first face that shall ever gladden my sight will be that of my Savior."



Please continue to lift up our Ocala friends in prayer over the next few weeks. Highlands has opened their church for people to camp out in over the days ahead as residents of Florida begin to recover from Hurricane Irma. Please remember our kids at Camp Sozo and the people that we have encountered at the homeless park near Interfaith Ministries.

Don't forget to attend our in-depth Bible study in the book of Genesis. Invite your friends, bring them with you. Meet us at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall for a light dinner and then we will move to the third floor for Bible study.

You may now sign-up to attend Crowder Concert on November 16 – if we have ten or more going, the ticket cost will be \$15, but if less than ten, the cost will be \$20. Money is due in advance so tickets can be purchased.

You may also now sign-up for Winter Xtreme. When you sign up, a \$25 deposit is due. If you sign up and pay for deposit by October 8, you will get \$5 off your registration. The cost this year is \$120, which includes room and conference admission.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SNACKS

September 17

Philip & Julie Bentley

FALL 2017 YOUTH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 30 – Movie Trip – Location and time to be announced

October 7 – Lamplight Theater Kingsport – Mortality Room \$8 Admission –
Play starts at 6:30

October 27 – Bonfire after the Football Game

November 3 – LOCK-IN – 8:00 P.M. – 7:00 A.M.

November 15 – Instead of Youth Bible Study we will be helping with Operation
Christmas Child

November 16 – Crowder American Prodigal Tour – UVA Wise, \$20

November 19 – Church-wide Thanksgiving Dinner

November 22 – Thanksgiving Break – No Bible study

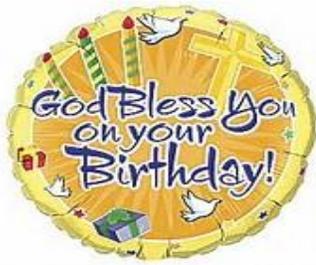
December 3 – Youth Christmas Variety Show

December 20 – Christmas Caroling at Food City

December 27 – No Bible Study

December 29-31 – Winter Xtreme - \$120

We will also plan on attending *Star Wars the Last Jedi*



- Sept. 18: Cory Harris, Rhonda Triplett,
Shae Wiseman
20: Kayla Stambaugh
21: Blakely Bailey, Kendall Ison
22: Vickie Combs, Wayne Fleming,
Donna Watts
23: Michael Combs, Brody Cook
-



We extend CONGRATULATIONS to TIM & SUSAN (Lewis) MILLER on the birth of their daughter, ADA MARIE, born on Saturday, September 9, at 10:20 P.M. at WARH. Ada weighed 6 lbs. 7 oz. and was 19 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches long. Proud grandparents are: Tick & Diane Lewis and Jessie and the late Yvonne Miller. Also to welcome Ada is her big brother, ANDREW. May God bless this new little one and her family.



The FBC staff and church family extends love and sympathy to REGINA BROWN and family in the death of her aunt, JERI BLAIR.



As many of you know, our church is participating with Kentucky WMU in the Christmas Backpack Project. We have committed to provide 25 filled backpacks for distribution to children living in poverty in Kentucky and Cincinnati at evangelistic events. We have 14 filled (with a promise of four or more coming soon) and some extra items for additional backpacks.

If anyone would like to participate in this project, the following items are needed:

- Empty backpacks for older children
- Underclothes for old children
- Non-perishable food items
- Toys (small enough to fit in a backpack)

Each backpack will also include a copy of the Christmas story leaflet and a Mailbox Bible Club postcard.

Backpacks need to be turned in no later than October 16th. For more information, contact the church office or Carol Brown, WMU Director.



The Young at Heart will meet next Friday, September 22nd at the Mountain Heritage Village for lunch at 11:30 A.M.

DEACONS MEETING

Saturday, September 16, 7:30 A.M.

FILL THEM WITH



It's that time of year again to start thinking about **SHOEBOXES!!!** For the month of September, we will be collecting: crayons, colored pencils, markers, loose paper, glue sticks and scissors.

Shoeboxes are filled with toys, personal hygiene products, school supplies and religious materials telling the story of The Greatest Gift Ever Given – Jesus Christ.

Last year the Whitesburg First Baptist Church donated over 400 shoeboxes and was a part of one of the largest collection in southeast Kentucky and southwest Virginia with close to 9,000 shoeboxes collected. That would not have been possible without the generous donations of our people.

If you want to be a part of the 2017 Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Project, please see Lee Adams or email her at Lee.Adams@uky.edu or call her at 606-634-5698. If you would like to donate money, you may write the check to Whitesburg First Baptist Church and write *Shoeboxes* in the memo line.

Thanks for supporting the Shoebox Ministry and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with millions of children all over the world.

DEACON RECOMMENDATION

The deacons recommend that Bill Wilson be placed under the deacon watchcare program for this coming year. His mentors are: Jerry Ingram and Dennis Wayne Fleming.

EXTENDED SESSION WORKERS

Sept. 17

Pam Pratt, Holly Caudill

Sept. 24

Laura Whitaker, Liz Sergent

PRESCHOOL WORSHIP

Sept. 17

Becca & Calvin Cook

Sept. 24

Lee Adams

CHILDREN'S CHURCH WORKERS

Sept. 17

Angie Horn, Tracie Day, Kathy Perry

Sept. 24

Viva Anderson, Brenda Cook



This is one of the most active ministries of our church. Therefore, we are revising our prayer chains. If you are presently participating on any of the prayer chains (day, night, text, e-mail) and wish to remain or to be taken off, please contact our Prayer Chairman, Cheryl Hall (633-0416) or the church office (633-2277) by **September 17th**.

If you would like to participate in this ministry, please contact Cheryl Hall or the church office.

Once we have revised the prayer chains, a copy will be posted in The Illuminator.

LAST SUNDAY'S STATISTICS

Sunday School -----	128
Adults --	72
Youth --	22
Children --	27
Preschool --	7
Morning Worship -----	175

SPECIAL MINISTRIES

Housing Authority -----	5
Letcher Manor -----	
AWANA/IGNITE/YOUTH -----	117
Children: 83 Adults: 34	

ADDITIONS TO DATE

(September – August)

By Baptism -----	
By Letter -----	
By Statement -----	
TOTAL ADDITIONS -----	

TOTAL RECEIPTS

Budget Receipts -----	\$ 6,677.21
Budget Requirement -----	\$ 7,171.00
Family Life Center -----	\$ 200.00
Designated -----	\$ 66.00
State Missions -----	\$ 150.00
Budget Required to Date -----	\$262,327.00
Budget to Date -----	\$238,604.42

IN THE HOSPITAL

PEGGY BATES, Local ARH
 BERTHA DAY, Local ARH
 GERALD HACKER, Lexington
 TESSA CAUDILL, Bristol
 ELLIE HUTCHINGS, Kosair Children's
 JIM BRASHEAR, Louisville

FAMILY LIFE CENTER

TOTAL NEEDED – PHASE 2

\$500,000.00

GIVEN TO DATE

\$425,157.00

NEEDED

\$74,843.00

DEACON OF THE WEEK

September 17 - 23

OZZ JACKSON