

*THE* FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

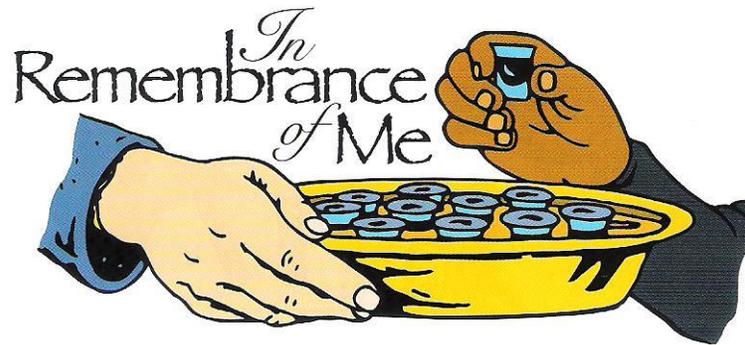
# ILLUMINATOR

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

VOL. LIV

OCTOBER 25, 2017, WHITESBURG, KY 41858

NO. 42



**OBSERVANCE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 6:00 P.M.**

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**5:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.**

**CHURCH PARKING LOT**

## FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART

This Sunday I will continue my sermon series on people in the Bible who chose to "Run Away" with part 5, "**Running Away from Suffering**". This message is well-timed since we will later observe the Lord's Supper during the evening service. Jesus suffered; but he did not seek to run away from it. As a matter of truth, we refer to Jesus as *The Suffering Servant*, "a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief", who suffered the wrath of God as he bore the sins of the world and shed His blood for a ransom for many. "By His stripes we are healed." Praise God!

But how do we handle suffering? I will be addressing the two terrible philosophies of *how to handle suffering* from the words of a little-known woman in the Bible. This woman in the Bible is not looked upon favorably by believers. She is always viewed as a "bad guy". But to be honest, I think we are too hard on her. She faced immense agony and grief that might have destroyed most people. She carried what we refer to today as *survivor's guilt*. Yet, when it was all over, she was still going.

Of course, I will not leave us there with the two horrible philosophies. I will give a third one – in light of Jesus and the New Testament understand of suffering. That's the one we must choose in order to make any sense out of suffering. I hope you will come Sunday morning to Sunday school and worship. Then come back Sunday night at 6:00 for the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

I love you and pray for you. Remember to *set your heart on things that are above* and to *go into all the world and make disciples*. You are a disciple and you are called to make disciples. What a great calling! Let's carry it out with willingness and in the power of the Holy Spirit. See you Sunday!

**Bro. Tony**

[Tony.Brown@whitesburgfbc.org](mailto:Tony.Brown@whitesburgfbc.org)

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J. Wilbur Chapman, a traveling evangelist in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, practiced what he called a rule for Christian living: "Anything that dims my vision of Christ, or takes away my taste for Bible study, or cramps my prayer life, or makes Christian work difficult is wrong for me, and I must, as a Christian, turn away from it."

St. Paul offers similar advice – presented in positive terms – for Christians: "Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things" (Philippians 4:8, ESV).

What guidelines to you follow in your daily walk with Jesus?



# FAITH AND FAMILY

Brother Tony, Brenda and I had an interesting conversation during our staff meeting this week. Stewardship was part of the discussion for our devotion and how the meaning today tends to focus on finances. Brother Tony brought up the fact that stewards were traditionally responsible for their master's households (land, servants, livestock, children, etc.) and would be expected to take good care of and make good use of their master's possessions.

Some of the biblical examples of this role of the steward include: Eliezer of Damascus, the head of Abraham's household as mentioned in Genesis 15:2 and most likely the servant sent out to find a wife for Isaac in Genesis 24; Joseph would serve in the steward role for both Potiphar (Gen. 39:4,5) and Pharaoh (Gen. 41:40,41); and, during his time with Pharaoh, Joseph had a steward over his own household (Gen. 44:1). Without a doubt stewards had a great responsibility and were expected to serve diligently and wisely.

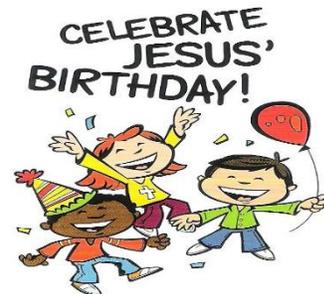
In the past few weeks, God has been calling my attention to the parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30. Through the use of this parable, Jesus makes it clear that the servants of God (Christians) are expected to take good care of the Master's possessions and make good use of all that He has given us. On the surface the parable may be about money, but there is no mistaking the fact that it was meant to convey a much deeper meaning to Jesus' audience at that time and His followers today. In our relationship with God, we are expected to make good use of all He has provided to us in order to further His kingdom. This applies just as much to our talents, spiritual gifts, and relationships, as it does to our finances – all can be used in the process of disciple making. The Master is going to return, will you "Share your master's joy"?

In Christ,  
**Jeremy**  
2 Timothy 1:6-7

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31**  
**5:00 – 8:00 P.M.**  
**Church Parking Lot**



**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 5:30 – 8:00 P.M.**  
(3 year-olds through 4<sup>th</sup> Grade)



*"Shine, Jesus, shine,  
Fill this land with the Father's glory.  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze,  
Set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow,  
Flood the nations with your grace and mercy.  
Send forth Your word,  
Lord, and let there be light."*

This Sunday our call to worship is *Shine, Jesus, Shine*. When I first started attending our church, this song was typically sung on Youth Sunday. It is one of my more favorite hymns and it ranks in the charts as one of the top hymns.

Graham Kendrick wrote *Shine, Jesus, Shine* after thinking about the holiness of God, and how He desires for us to live continually in His presence. He had a longing for revival in churches and a spiritual awakening, but also recognized that we cannot stand in God's presence without clean hands and a pure heart.

Stanza one shares that Christ is the light of the world and that His light is shining on us in the middle of darkness. The stanza also shares that His truth can set us free. Stanza two focuses on coming before His awesome presence. The stanza speaks of moving from the shadows into His radiance, and how by His blood we can enter His brightness. The final stanza focuses on how we can display His brightness, and how that our lives can be a mirror to tell His story.

As we sing this week, and as we reflect on the words of this hymn, I pray that we focus on being more of a mirror. I know it is a lofty goal for us as followers of Christ but one that we should strive to be. Have a great week and come out and join us in the choir.

## **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 immediately following

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





On November 3<sup>rd</sup> our youth will be having a lock-in at our church. It is an event they look forward to each year. We will have many fun activities that night, and as always, have really good food. Please encourage your youth to attend and have them invite/bring friends.

If you signed up for the Crowder Concert on November 16<sup>th</sup>, your ticket has been purchased. Your ticket was \$20, please bring that to the church office or get it to me or Jeremy as soon as possible.

The cost for Winter Xtreme this year is \$120. The first deposit of \$30 is due by November 5<sup>th</sup>. The second deposit of \$30 will be due on November 19<sup>th</sup>, third deposit on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, and the final deposit of \$30 due on December 17<sup>th</sup>. As always, if you need assistance please let us know.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL SNACKS

*October 29  
Regina Brown, Tracie Day*

## FALL 2017 YOUTH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 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 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

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Xvxn though my typxwritxr is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll – xxcxpt for onx kxy. I havx many timxs wishxd it workxd pxrfxctly. It's trux that thx othxr kxys work grxat, but just onx kxy not working makxs a hugx diffxrxncx.

Somxtimxs our church sxxms likx my typxwritxr – not all thx kxy pxoplx work. You may say to yoursxlfx, "Wxll, I'm just onx pxrson. I don't makx or brxak thx church." But it doxs makx a big diffxrxncx bxcausx a church, to bx xffxctivx, nxxds thx activx participation of xvxy pxrson.

So, thx nxt timx you think your xfforts arxn't nxcxssary, rxmxmxmbxr my typxwritxr and say to yoursxlfx, "I'm a kxy pxrson in thx congrxgation, and I'm nxxdxv vxry much."



# Operation Christmas Child

A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

Since the beginning of Operation Christmas Child in 1993, countless individuals have shared their passion for the project and inspired families, groups and churches to pack shoebox gifts. These project leaders create opportunities for people across the U.S. to touch the lives of children and families around the world and to bring hope through the Good News of Jesus Christ.

For the month of October, we will collect Hygiene Items: soap, washcloths, combs and toothbrushes. You can also make a donation by making your check payable to First Baptist Church and write Shoeboxes on the memo line.

If you have any questions, you can contact Lee Adams at (606) 634-5698 or email her at [Lee.Adams@uky.edu](mailto:Lee.Adams@uky.edu). As always, we appreciate your support in this ministry of our church.

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## SHOEBOX DEDICATION

Sunday, November 12, 11:00 A.M.

## SHOEBOX COLLECTION WEEK

November 13 – 20



**Sunday, November 5**

## A PRAYER FOR PUMPKIN PEOPLE

The pumpkin prayer, a Christian alternative to Halloween traditions, reminds people of all ages what God has done for us.

While cutting off the top of the pumpkin, pray, *"Lord, open my mind so I can learn new things about you."* (Prov. 1:7)

While removing the seeds and pulp, pray, *"Remove the things in my life that don't please you. Forgive the wrong things I do, and help me forgive others."* (Matt. 6:14-15)

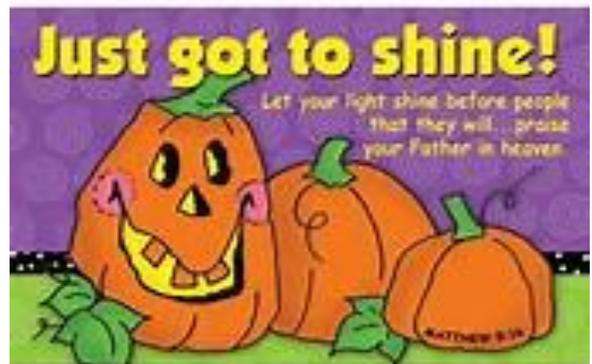
While making eyes, pray, *"Open my eyes to see the beauty you've made in the world around me."* (Psalm 104:24)

While making the nose, pray, *"I'm sorry for the times I've turned up my nose at your many gifts."* (James 1:17)

While making the mouth, pray, *"Let everything I say please you."* (Psalm 19:14)

While lighting the candle, pray, *"Lord, help me show your light to others through the things I do."* (Matt. 5:16)

After carving your pumpkins, display them as examples of how God's love transforms us into new creations. (2 Cor. 5:17)



## THE CARPENTERS' SONS

Tom Lincoln was a carpenter and a part-time farmer. He found it hard to eke out a living in the backwoods of Kentucky. Few took much notice when Tom's wife, Nancy, gave birth to a baby boy in their log cabin. The year was 1809.

The baby, named Abraham, grew to be six feet four inches tall. Abraham, largely self-educated, became president of the United States – one of America's best. From poverty to president! Quite an achievement for a poor carpenter's son!

About 1,800 years before Tom and Nancy, there lived another carpenter, a man named Joseph. He and his wife Mary also lived on the edge of poverty.

Joseph and Mary, expecting their first child, traveled to Bethlehem from their home in Nazareth to register for the census required by Rome. Upon arrival, they could not find lodging. Reluctant to see them without any shelter at all, an innkeeper allowed them to stay in a shed behind his inn. That was when the baby came. They called him Jesus, meaning "God will save".

Who would have guessed that God came visiting the earth in that little child?

Two carpenters' son. One was a brilliant, honest man who held American's highest office.

The other? You and I know him as Jesus the Christ, the Lord and Savior of the world.

Both wanted to build a better world. One is still trying to do so. The other would praise him for his effort.

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A little girl was busily drawing a picture. When her mother asked what she was drawing, the girl replied, "I'm drawing a picture of God."

"But honey, no one knows what God looks like," said the mother. "Well, they will when I get through!"

## EXTENDED SESSION WORKERS

**Oct. 29**  
Melissa Newell

**Nov. 5**  
Julie Bentley, Tiny Caudill

## PRESCHOOL WORSHIP

**Oct. 29**  
Lee Adams

**Nov. 5**

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH WORKERS

**Oct. 29**  
Viva Anderson, Brenda Cook

**Nov. 5**  
Amanda & Byron Thomas



Oct. 29: Waylon Adams  
30: Edison Banks, Tina Sizemore  
Nov. 3: Robert Brown, Deanna Hipps,  
Mary Holbrook, Daniel Hurst  
4: Evie Johnson

## LAST SUNDAY'S STATISTICS

Sunday School -----	125
Adults --	68
Youth --	26
Children --	23
Preschool --	8
Morning Worship -----	156

## SPECIAL MINISTRIES

Housing Authority -----	6
Letcher Manor -----	
AWANA/IGNITE/YOUTH -----	124
Children: 87	Adults: 37

## ADDITIONS TO DATE

(September – August)

By Baptism -----	0
By Letter -----	0
By Statement -----	1
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONS -----</b>	<b>1</b>

## TOTAL RECEIPTS

Budget Receipts -----	\$ 7,698.00
Budget Requirement -----	\$ 7,171.00
Family Life Center -----	\$ 325.00
Designated -----	\$ 68.00
Budget Required to Date -----	\$305,353.00
Budget to Date -----	\$277,938.73

## IN THE HOSPITAL

ELLIE HUTCHINGS, Louisville

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## FAMILY LIFE CENTER

### TOTAL NEEDED – PHASE 2

\$500,000.00

### GIVEN TO DATE

\$426,447.00

### NEEDED

\$73,553.00

## DEACON OF THE WEEK

October 29 – November 4

**MIKE WATTS**