

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

ILLUMINATOR

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

VOL. LIV

NOVEMBER 15, 2017, WHITESBURG, KY 41858

NO. 45



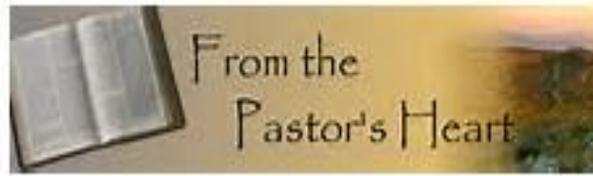
Sunday, November 19, 6:00 P.M.

Church will provide meat, rolls and drinks.
Please bring salad, vegetable or dessert.



Tuesday, November 21, 6:00 P.M.

**(Regular Wednesday night
activities cancelled.)**



Thanksgiving season is a time to reflect on what you are most thankful for. But, let me turn that thought around – for what are you the least thankful? Yes, you heard it right – least thankful. A devotion I read a couple of weeks ago posed that very same question. Now, it's a trick question.

The question is not asking you to name bad things in your life for which you are not very thankful. Instead, it raises for consideration: of all the blessings in your life, which ones do you thank God for the least? You may be thankful; but do you take your blessings for granted and forget to thank Him?

When the Samaritan leper returned to Jesus to thank Him and praise Him for healing, Jesus asked about the others he had healed. *"Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?"* (Luke 17:17-18). Were the nine least thankful for being healed?

On Sunday, I will preach from the prophet Haggai about people who choose to run away. The irony of the story is that people chose to run away ... to themselves. They forgot God, but they did not forget themselves. Call it greed...selfishness...pride...even lack of gratitude, but the Bible says they ran to their own houses.

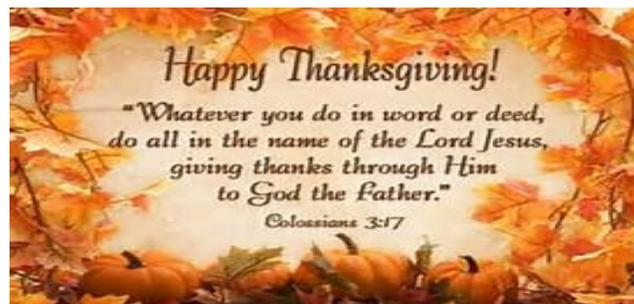
Thanksgiving and Christmas are seasons of selfless giving. As I write this article, I can hear the children downstairs putting together the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. I hear laughter...music...people enjoying sharing with others. When we start giving to others, we discover joy and fulfillment. When we give willingly to God and His house instead of keeping our blessings to ourselves, He will bless our obedience.

So, what are you least thankful for? What has God blessed you with that you forget to thank Him for? I can think of a million blessings, especially the gift of Jesus. Can you think of some ways God has blessed you? Have you remembered to "turn back", like the Samaritan, and "give glory to God"?

On behalf of Carol, Robert, and Bethany, I pray you enjoy a safe and blessed Thanksgiving. May God be so good to you. We love you.

Bro. Tony

Tony.Brown@whitesburgfbc.org





"I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world." John 16:33

Considering the recent events in Las Vegas and Texas, it seems as though it is a good time to share this article that a friend sent to me. I am so thankful that Jesus provides us with peace during times of trouble.

Talking to Kids During Times of Crisis by Bill Emeott via Lifeway Kids Ministry 101

The devastating crisis that occurred in Las Vegas has evoked many emotions. At times it's simply been overwhelming. As we step back from media coverage and begin to process how we, as ministry leaders, can help parents and children navigate these emotions, here are some things to keep in mind.

Most young kids probably aren't even aware of the tragedy that happened Sunday, thankfully. In this situation, ignorance may be the best plan. I suspect they'll hear things...and you should be ready to have meaningful conversations, but I would advise to be careful about the media exposure and adult conversations that you allow your kids to be exposed to over the next few days.

When dealing with older kids, you'll need a plan. Below are some ideas that might help you and the parents you serve as they deal with their children during this crisis.

Be Sensitive: I believe that God gives us a sense, a tug...the Holy Spirit...that leads us when we're careful to listen. Be especially sensitive to His guidance during tragedy and crisis. Beg Him to lead you as you offer advice and comfort. He wants you to be successful. He wants you to "say the right thing". Start with prayer.

Be Talkative: Talk with your children. Include them, when appropriate, in family discussions regarding the crisis. Find opportunities to talk to your child about the situation (around the dinner table, when "tucking" in your child for bed, in the car while driving to school). Most children are talkative by nature. Take advantage of this time to share and talk.

Be Honest: Tell the truth. Don't deny that something bad has happened. Be honest with yourself. Recognize your own feelings. Understand that you have feelings regarding this crisis. Know how you feel and understand that your feelings play a part in shaping your child's feelings.

Be Respectful: Ask your child how he/she feels about the crisis and be respectful of his/her feelings. Realize that their feelings are real and respect their feelings. Give your child permission to feel the feelings that they have.

Be Age-Appropriate: Each child develops at different rates. You know your child and their level of understanding. Some guidelines to follow might include the avoidance of euphemisms and complicated explanations. Answer questions asked but be careful not to overload your child with too much information. If they want to know and you've created an atmosphere of freedom to ask, they will!

Be Reassuring: Reassure your children that it's going to be okay. Assure them that they are safe. Many children may begin to fear leaving your presence. Honestly assure them that their feelings are important and that you and those to whom you entrust them are considering their safety. If you're visually frightened, your child is likely to assume your fears.

Be Hopeful: Support your child as they work through the emotions of this crisis. Expect them to be concerned but offer them the hope that we have as Christians. Explain that God is in control. He can use this crisis for His good. We may not understand His ways but we can trust His heart. Pray with your child. Teach them to seek God for their strength, especially in crisis. Allow this time to grow them as followers of Jesus.

**Article shared with the permission of Lifeway*

In Christ,
Jeremy
2 Timothy 1:6-7



"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever." 1 Chronicles 16:34

If you missed Shoebox Dedication Sunday, you really missed a wonderful time of worship. During our service, the children brought shoeboxes forward that they had prepared at their lock-in. After all the boxes were packed in, we prayed for the children and families that would receive each of those boxes. Our service was filled with songs lifting praises up and our sermon was challenging. At the end of our service, we had a special time of prayer for Christina Fisher. Come out and join us on Sunday morning for worship, we would love to have you.

The Sunday following Thanksgiving we will light our first Advent candle and begin singing Christmas music. This is a great time to join and be a part of the celebration of Christmas. One way you can be a part is to pray for all of those involved in leading worship throughout the Christmas season. Pray for strong, healthy voices and restfulness to be prepared for worship. Another way you can help is by telling people about what it is we are doing and inviting them to come. This is a great opportunity to share the Good News with our community. If you would like flyers to place around town or give to people, let me know.

SCHEDULE

November 19:	No Children's Choir or Adult Choir Practice
November 26:	Regular Practice at 7:00 P.M.
December 3:	Children's Choir Practice – 5:00 P.M. Youth Christmas Variety Show – 6:00 P.M. No Adult Choir practice
December 6:	Adult Choir Practice – 8:00 P.M.
December 9:	Children's Choir Practice – 9:00 A.M.
December 10:	<i>Star of Wonder</i> – Children's Play and Musical – 6:00 P.M. Church-wide Christmas Fellowship immediately following
December 11:	Adult Choir Practice – 6:00 P.M.
December 14:	Adult Choir Practice – 6:00 P.M.
December 17 –	<i>Sing Gloria</i> Play and Cantata – 6:00 P.M.



November is the month of Thanksgiving, but it often also includes the beginning of Advent. This year, November 26th, is the first day of Advent. The season of Advent is about Jesus, the Word, "coming". It's about the anticipating and preparing for Christ's arrival.

God comes to us in many and various ways. He speaks to us through the prophets and saints. He comes and speaks to us when we are listening. He comes in the beauty and mysteries of nature. Most of all, God comes in the person of Christ, speaking to his listeners face to face. That's what Advent is really all about: God visiting the earth in person to speak with anyone and everyone who is ready to do so.



"Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving." Colossians 2:6-7

On Wednesday, December 20th, our youth will be singing Christmas carols in the foyer of Good City. If you would like to come and join us, you are more than welcome. We will be starting at 5:00 P.M. If you have anyone you would like for us to visit and sing carols for, just let us know.

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL SNACKS

*November 19
Philip & Julie Bentley*

*November 26
Regina Brown, Tracie Day*

YOUTH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 22:	Thanksgiving Break – No Bible study
November 26:	Practice, 4:00-8:00 P.M.
November 29:	Practice, 6:30-8:00 P.M.
December 3:	Practice following morning worship (lunch will be provided) Youth Christmas Variety Show, 6:00 P.M.
December 20:	Christmas Caroling at Food City
December 27:	No Bible Study
December 29-31:	Winter Xtreme - \$120

THANKSGIVING BEATITUDES

Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire. If you did, what would there be to look forward to?

Be thankful when you don't know something, for it gives you the opportunity to learn.

Be thankful for the difficult times. During those times you grow.

Be thankful for your limitation, because they give you opportunities for improvement.

Be thankful for each new challenge, because it will build your strength and character.

Be thankful for your mistakes. They will teach you valuable lessons.

Be thankful when you're tired and weary, because it means you've made a difference.



AWANA CHRISTMAS STORE

Our Awana kids will soon have the opportunity to use the points they have earned towards Christmas gifts for their family members. Perhaps you can provide some new or gently used items for this store. Suggested items include:

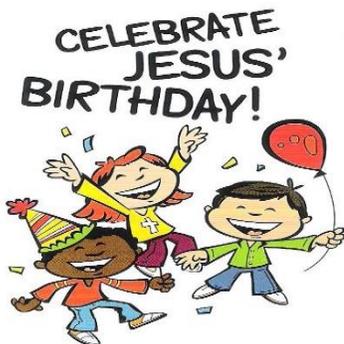
- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Wallets | Purses |
| Jewelry | Small Tools |
| Keepsake Boxes | Belts |
| Lotions | Sports memorabilia |
| Christmas Candy | Sports Equipment |
| Small toys | Books |
| DVDs | Hats |
| Gloves | Scarves |

If you are able to help, please drop items off by December 6th (at the church office or give to Jeremy or Angie). We will also need help wrapping gifts on the night of December 13th, 6:30-8:00 P.M.

For the food upon my table.
For the clothes that I may wear.
For the shelter of my little home,
For all the comforts there;
For health to do my daily tasks
For eyes that I may see.
For ears to hear the songs of joy,
Dear God, I now thank Thee.

For light that brightens every day
And my peaceful rest at night,
For the still small voice that helps me choose
Between the wrong and right.
For the fellowship of my friends,
And neighbors kind and true;
For trees and flowers, birds and bees,
And the skies above the blue.

Oh, I couldn't count my blessings,
I have many, many more,
And each day I am more thankful
Than I was the day before.
And for Christ my loving Savior,
Throughout all eternity,
My grateful heart will sing Thy praise
And offer thanks to Thee.



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



**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
ON NOVEMBER 23-24 FOR
THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY.**

**THERE WILL BE NO ILLUMINATOR
NEXT WEEK.**



The FBC staff and church family extends love and sympathy to SANDY BANKS, TILITHA SPERGER and families in the death of their sister, BILLIE MARTIN; and to PHIL BENTLEY, RANDY BENTLEY and families in the death of their mother, HELEN BENTLEY.



- Nov. 19: Renee Chapman, Carrie Hall, Mike Harris, Brenda Stone, Lori Thomas
20: Saranell Caudill, Quinn Fisher
21: Enoch Cox, Byron Thomas
23: Betty Combs, Jean Pratt
24: Daryl Boggs, Michael Caudill, George Kincer, Justin Polly, Jim Sergent, David Setzer
25: Tick Lewis
26: Steven Combs, Kathy Perry, Shelli Robeson
27: Brayden Cook
28: Fred Adams, Paul Pigman
29: Ali Hall, Christopher & Kaylea Keller
30: Brody McBee
Dec. 1: Harold Bolling, Deric McHone
2: Karla Ramirez, Kloe Ramirez, June Webb
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On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, a Sunday School Teacher asked her class of children what they would be thankful for during the coming celebration. One of the boys eagerly responded, "I'll be thankful I'm not a turkey!"

EXTENDED SESSION WORKERS

Nov. 19

Laura Whitaker, Liz Sergent

Nov. 26

Linda Setzer, Tricia Lewis

Dec. 3

April Ramirez, Rita Broome

PRESCHOOL WORSHIP

Nov. 19

Becca & Calviston Cook

Nov. 26

Jeremy Horn

Dec. 3

Lee Adams

CHILDREN'S CHURCH WORKERS

Nov. 19

Saranell Caudill, Margaret Fisher, Rita Broome

Nov. 26

Angie Horn, Tracie Day, Kathy Perry

Dec. 3

Viva Anderson, Brenda Cook, Lori Thomas

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

HELEN BENTLEY

FEBRUARY 14, 1914 - NOVEMBER 15, 2017

LAST SUNDAY'S STATISTICS

Sunday School ----- 140
Adults -- 74
Youth -- 21
Children -- 33
Preschool -- 12
Morning Worship ----- 218

SPECIAL MINISTRIES

Housing Authority -----
Letcher Manor ----- 30
AWANA/IGNITE/YOUTH ----- 138
Children: 98 Adults: 40

ADDITIONS TO DATE

(September – August)

By Baptism ----- 1
By Letter ----- 0
By Statement ----- 1
TOTAL ADDITIONS ----- 2

TOTAL RECEIPTS

Budget Receipts ----- \$ 6,996.26
Budget Requirement ----- \$ 7,171.00
Family Life Center ----- \$ 100.00
Designated ----- \$ 1,323.00
Budget Required to Date ----- \$327,166.00
Budget to Date ----- \$297,596.46

FAMILY LIFE CENTER

TOTAL NEEDED – PHASE 2

\$500,000.00

GIVEN TO DATE

\$427,107.00

NEEDED

\$72,893.00

DEACON OF THE WEEK

November 19-25
DANNY CAUDILL

November 26 – December 2
J. W. COMBS