

# FIRST BAPTIST NEWS & VIEWS



NOVEMBER 2020

WWW.FBCHILLSVILLE.ORG

#### Dear FBCH Family -

Some of you may recall the narrator's opening lines to a once-popular television show:

"It is a dimension as vast as space and as timeless as infinity. It is the middle ground between light and shadow, between science and superstition, and it lies between the pit of man's fears and the summit of his knowledge. This is the dimension of imagination. It is an area which we call...**The Twilight Zone**."

The Twilight Zone's episodes often imaginatively forced people to confront an essential truth about humanity, such as the cost that comes with being prideful or judgmental, that awareness is good but paranoia is destructive, or that not all gifts are given with the best of intentions. It toyed with our minds, and it gave many people the heebie-jeebies...probably because it hit a little too close to home sometimes!

Perhaps second only to *The Twilight Zone* when it comes to giving people the heebie-jeebies is...**Stewardship Month!** Yes, it is *that* time again, and November is *that* month. You are entering...the Stewardship Zone. The same month which hosts our biggest Thanksgiving celebration of the year just seemed like the right time to examine biblical truths about stewardship in light of our thankfulness to God and our faith in His goodness. But **have no fear** (and don't stay home to avoid the messages!) – I won't be beating you over the head telling you to give more, or holding you up by one ankle and trying to shake your spare change loose. Instead, we're going to spend three Sundays asking the question "*What if...*"

Usually, when we begin pondering the future unknowns of life, our minds quickly run to all of the worst-case scenarios, and then we begin feeling and acting as if they are bound to happen. They aren't! So when it comes to focusing on stewardship this month, we'll be asking:

"What if ... we humble ourselves and pray?"

"What if ... we seek God first?"

"What if ... we do something extraordinary?"

As we think about how thankful we are to God, it's a great time to explore another essential truth about humanity: how our thankfulness is reflected in our lives. The giving of our time, talent, and treasure is a direct expression of our relationship with God. If He is first, we give back to Him first. If not, other things seem to always crowd Him out. As we seek to know Him more intimately and to trust Him more completely, how we invest in the kingdom becomes a wonderful way to stretch ourselves spiritually and grow. Our guiding principle should be based on "How much can I give?" rather than "How much do I have to give?" This is a generous church, and I pray that you will be a part of the faithfulness of generosity. God loves a cheerful giver, and what the Bible says about giving (such as in 2 Cor. 9:6-8 below) is exactly what you will find to be true when you use what God has given you to invest in kingdom purposes:

...the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows generously will also reap generously. Each one must do just as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace overflow to you, so that, always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;

God wants those blessings for you – all sufficiency, all that you need to do the good deeds He has prepared for you, overflowing grace! **Put the Lord first in your giving this month.** If you have never given, don't start at FBCH! Pick a worthy charity and begin by finding the joy of giving there, and you'll learn where the joy comes from in giving back to God. May He continue to bless the faithfulness of this church in our giving, and may He grow us as His people when we practice good stewardship with all that He has entrusted to our care. Let's ask "**What if...?**" and imagine all of the great things God is capable of doing when we are faithful. Let's be part of something extraordinary at FBCH!

Gripped by grace,

Pastor Ryan

# **CHURCH UPDATES/EVENTS**

Pastor Ryan will begin a new online Bible Study November 18.

**Building & Grounds** had the church power washed.

**Budget committee** is working on the 2021 budget.

**Personnel** continue searching for a full-time Worship & Youth Pastor.

Ed Naff & Betty Williams are starting the **Keeping in Touch Ministry**.

**WMU** is **suspending** the collection and distribution of **Christmas cards** through the church this year due to COVID concerns.

The **Church office** will be **closed** Thanksgiving Day Nov. 26 and Friday November 27.

The Love Fund recipient for the 4th quarter is Jim Ring.
The collection will run through the end of December.
When giving to this special ministry, please write "Love Fund" on your check or donation envelope.

To You and Your Family
Have A Blessed Thanksgiving!!









## Food Items for the Food Pantry in November



Nov. 1 - Pinto beans & Cornbread mix

Nov. 8 - Soups & crackers

Nov. 15 - Canned meats & Canned fruits

Nov. 22 - Cereals

Nov. 29 - Peanut butter crackers

Drop off items at the church in our outside Drive-by Food Pantry donation tote. It will be on the porch steps during weekly office hours (9am to 3pm) for your convenience.

Thank you and God Bless!!!



Applesauce, fruit, granola bars, individual spaghetti, mac & cheese, nabs, etc.





# NURSING HOME RESIDENTS



Laurel Meadows Nursing Home 16600 Danville Pike Laurel Fork, VA 24352

#### **LEONA LAYHER**

Ridgecrest Assisted Living 1000 Ridgecrest Ln. Room #2302 Mt Airy, NC 27030

## **SHUT-INS**

Wayne & Norene Sowers

**Doris Childs** 

Laura Melton

Zelma Goad

Glenda Yonce

Joe Mina

Mindy Cox

Glenna Blevins

Nina Goad

Kyle Nester

Jean Worrell

Joyce Bowman

# Samaritan's Purse

**November - Monetary donations needed.** 

#### DO NOT INCLUDE items that are:

Used or damaged, war-related (toy guns or military figures), glass, liquid,

toothpaste, or candy.

Contact Judy with any questions.

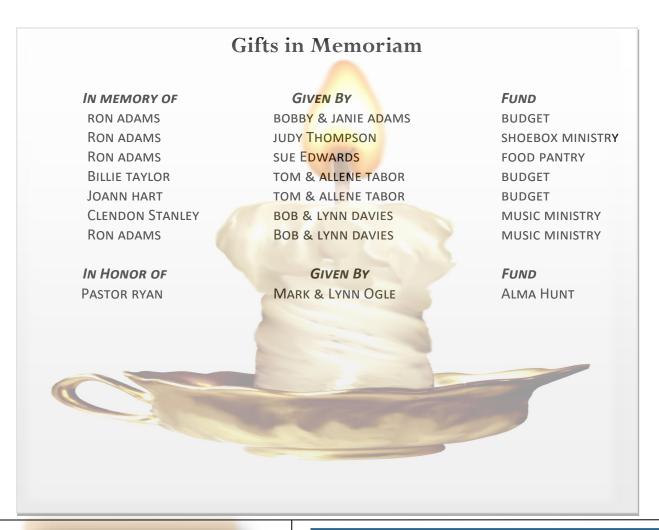


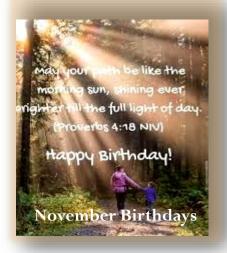


Use our Givelify online giving tool to help you remain consistently faithful in your giving! It's easy and only takes a few moments to get started, and allows you to set up automatically recurring tithes if you desire (we highly recommend it!). *Try Givelify today!* 

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29 Sunday School (online) 10am Prayer 10:30am Worship Service	Sunday School (online) 10am Prayer 10:30am Worship Service	15 Sunday School (online) 10am Frayer 10:30am Worship Service	8 Sunday School (online) 10am Frayer 10:30am Worship Service	1 Daylight Savings Time ends! Sunday School (online) 10am Frayer 10:30am Worship Service	Sun	
30	23 7pm Deacons' meeting	16	9 1pm Joanna Mission (canceled)	2 4:15pm Annie Armstrong (canceled)	Mon	
	24	17 6:30pm Building & Grounds Meeting	10 3pm Budget meeting	ယ	Tue	
	25 Evening Bible Study (online)	18 Evening Bible Study (online)	11	<b></b>	Wed	
	26 Happpy Thanksgiving!!	19 7pm Church Council meet	12  form Student-led Ministry (fellowship hall)	5  fpm Student-led Ministry (fellowship hall)	Thu	
	27 Church Office CLOSED	20	13	9	Fri	
	28	21	14	7 9am Handy Helpers 10-3 Gideons Faith Run Rally (sanctuary)	Sat	





- 6 Kathy Williams
- 16 Debbie Layher
- 24 Karon Felts
- 25 James Armentrout
- 26 Laura Melton
- 27 Jayne Shorter
- 28 Kyle Nester

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE						
Nov.	Nursery	Altar Flowers	Ushers			
1	Not Available	Horn of Plenty	See Pat Sharp			
8	Not Available	Horn of Plenty	to volunteer			
15	Not Available	Horn of Plenty	Deacon			
22	Not Available	Horn of Plenty	Betty Williams			
29	Not Available	Horn of Plenty				



### **November Anniversaries**

- 3 Joe & Reva Brown
- 4 Joe & Connie Mina
- B Jim & Norma Ring
- 12 Wayne & Norene Sowers
- 24 Sonny & Donna Kaye McIver

# First Baptist Church of Hillsville

1401 North Main Street Hillsville, VA 24343 (276) 728-7801

www.fbchillsville.org fbchillsville@gmail.com

fbcpastormills@gmail.com

Pastor Ryan Mills

Praise Leaders (Interim) Becky Adams & Donna McIver

**Deacon Chairman** *Mark Stout* 

Administrative Assistant Norma Ring

Treasurer Polly Sturgill

**Assistant Treasurer** Glenda Gardner

Personnel Chairman Mike Fariss

Budget Chairman Sam Sweeney

THINK YOU KNOW FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH...?

Jesus First

Neighbors FIRST

Love First

That's First Baptist!

Return Service Requested