



Where Faith  
*Comes To Life*

# THE CROSSROADS

## I'VE BEEN THERE

By Rosemary Fisk

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### Baptist Church of the Covenant

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The late autumn timing for pledge cards and stewardship testimonies coincides for me this year with the anniversary of my full year away from my church family on weekends. Howard and I continue to travel to Tusculumbia for caregiver duty. My mother passed away in January, almost as quickly as the Hospice workers showed up. But my bedridden father has rallied repeatedly to remain in charge of the household business. "We can't let those pears go to waste! We need to make preserves!" My sister knew I had recycled boxes and boxes of old jars and whispered, "Rose, you are so busted."

My dad remains a feeder despite his helplessness, and he sends each visitor home with a jar of sugary preserves that are a beautiful amber and remind us of what country children ate in place of candy during those long winters of the Great Depression. I would not take anything for the grace of this extended time with him.

I am always humbled by our many church members who step in and feed others as daily practice. From Carol Dean telling me, "don't worry about your Family Promise slot this time, we'll cover it!" to Mike Casey organizing the monthly food drive, to Lynn Smith delivering rice and beans to Puerto Rico, and so many others - you all have made the space for me to step back for this brief time and know that you have it covered. My heart is also with our other members in my same situation. The beautiful thought is how often we hear, "I know exactly what you're facing. I've been there."

My pledge and financial support for our church's ministries seem all the more important to me when I can't serve in person. Why do I give? I am grateful beyond words to have this one way to stay connected until I can return to Sunday worship and become a feeder again, whenever that will be.

## — WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS —

### CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS ON SALE NOW!



The deadline to order Christmas Poinsettias is now Wednesday, November 1.

The poinsettias are \$26. To order a poinsettia for placement in the Sanctuary Christmas Eve in honor or memory of a loved one, complete an envelope available in the foyer and on the piano in the Fellowship Hall, include your payment, and return it to the church office. All proceeds benefit the Birmingham Boys Choir.

## — WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP —

- Nov. 1 "Civil Discourse," Vic Dippenaar
- Nov. 8 "Civil Discourse," Vic Dippenaar
- Nov. 15 "Thanksgiving," Pastor Sarah
- Nov. 22 No Activities, Thanksgiving Holidays
- Nov. 29 Vesper Service with Zack Graves



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29  
CHILDREN'S SABBATH



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5  
ALL SAINTS' DAY



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12  
PLEDGE SUNDAY

## — CHILDREN AND YOUTH —



FALL FUN!  
OCTOBER 29, 2:00 P.M.

PRESCHOOL - 6TH GRADE FAMILIES



Join us at the Henderson's house for pumpkin carving and decorating! Games and S'mores until 4:00 p.m. Bring your own pumpkin! Bring carving tools to share. Some decorations provided.

## — UPCOMING EVENTS —



**OCTOBER 31**  
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

BCOC members and friends from the community will transform our parking lots into a street carnival for Trunk or Treat! More information about ways to volunteer can be found in the last issue of Crossroads or the website [www.bcoc.net/looking-ahead](http://www.bcoc.net/looking-ahead).

**Please help us by signing up to participate. Sign up lists can be found on tables in the Fellowship Hall. Volunteers arrive between 5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

**ADVENT CRAFT NIGHT**  
**NOVEMBER 12, 5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.**  
**FELLOWSHIP HALL**



All Friends and Families are invited to an evening of fun in preparation for the Advent season!

Register with the church office.

Pizza supper provided. \$2 supply fee per person. At the end of the night you will have a clay nativity.

**BCOC ANNUAL ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET**  
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12**

During Coffee Fellowship and after Sunday School



Get your Christmas shopping completed early while knowing you are helping to provide a living wage for artists, artisans, and producers from around the world!

Featuring products from Sojourns Fair Trade and Work of Worth.

If you know any organizations that might be candidates for participating, please contact [Lori Bateman](mailto:Lori.Bateman@bcoc.net).

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES



### TAKE WHAT YOU NEED

FOR SOCKTOBER: Socks, lip balm, cough drops

### REFUGEE INTEREST GROUP OF ALABAMA

NOVEMBER 12, 2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

The Refugee Interest Group of Alabama will be meeting at BCOC on and we would love to invite any BCOC members interested in our work to attend!

The Refugee Interest Group was organized in October 2016 by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Birmingham (UUCB) to explore ways to support refugees in Birmingham and beyond.

Dr. Wakar Uddin will share a presentation about the Rohingya Refugee Crisis in Burma (Myanmar). Dr. Uddin is Professor of Plant Pathology at Pennsylvania State University and is also Director General of the Arakan Rohingya Union, Founding Chairman of the Burmese Rohingya Association of North America, and President of Muslim Aid America.

## OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENTS



Don't forget to reset your clocks, Sunday November 5! Daylight Savings Time ends. We fall back an hour.

OFFICE CLOSED FOR  
VETERANS' DAY  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10



Dan Lawhon is the minister on-call in case of emergency.

## CHURCH BUSINESS

### WEEK OF OCTOBER 15

General Fund \$9,235.00

Building Fund \$258.25

### WEEK OF OCTOBER 22

General Fund \$7,595.98

Building Fund \$384.10

General Fund Gifts needed each week to meet the 2017 Budget: \$13,791.00

*The indebtedness of the church is \$531,453.93*

### OCTOBER 18 BUSINESS MEETING

1. Nominating Committee Report - Several positions still open. Four deacons with 3 year terms, two deacons with 1 year terms, three COM positions, and Worship Committee Chair.
2. Quarterly Financial Report, Kathy Grissom - September revenue increased over previous months. Revenue exceeded expenditures by \$3,000.
3. Parking Lot Purchase update - Loan application in process. Hope to close by Oct. 31
4. 2018 Budget - Approved by vote of the church
5. 2018 Pledge Card - Approved by vote of the church
6. Ordination News - Taylor Bell to be ordained November 26  
Anna Lautenschlager to be ordained at BCOC, approved by vote.



## BIRTHDAYS

Melissa Evans II/1

Leigha McLendon II/1

Steve Mulvihill II/3

Tom Austin II/4

Michael White II/4

John Hollis II/4

Rynnie Morehead II/7

Dolores Lovechia II/8

Laura Gilmour II/8



## PRAYER CONCERNS



### HOME

Luke McLendon

Mark David Jackson

Bob Powell, Cottdonale  
Christian Church,  
Cottdonale, AL

Shalom Baptist Church

Corita Blanco

Boca de Mariel, Cuba

Elizabeth Lott, St.  
Charles Avenue Baptist  
Church, New Orleans

*with sympathy*

Sympathy is expressed to Zelma Pattillo in the deaths of her nephews, Wayne Dale and Rick Mullins.

DEACON OF THE WEEK: CHRISTA ALLEN, 243-243-4010

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 - CHILDREN'S SABBATH**

*Helpers Pickup* - Esther Gardner, Lynette & Don Sandley

8:30 a.m. - *Lobby Monitors* - Thelma Jackson-Ward, David Henderson

8:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. - *Alley Door Monitor* - Monty Hogewood, David Goodwin

9:00 a.m. - Morning Worship

*Greeters, Ushers & Offering* - Children & Youth

*Worship Care* - Ann Carol Mann, Daniel Ingram

10:00 am. - *Coffee Fellowship* - Brian Berthiaume, Carol Watson

10:30 a.m. - Sunday School

*Offering Counters* - Kathy Grissom, Elaine Stephens

*Helpers Class* - Bill Smith

*Building Lockup* - David Hoefelman

11:30 a.m. - Ministries & Missions Study Group

2:00 p.m. - Fall Fun Activity, Henderson's house

5:00 p.m. - Youth Music

6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - Snack Supper

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Youth Bible Study

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 30**

9:30 a.m. - Staff Meeting

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

**TUESDAY, October 31 - Halloween**

5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Trunk or Treat volunteers arrive

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Trunk or Treat!

8:00 p.m. - Clean-up

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1**

*Check Signers* - Larry FitzGerald, Morgan Ponder

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Adult & Preschool Dinner (FH), Handbells

5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Dinner - Children

5:45 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Leadership Learning Academy

6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - Children's' Choir

6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - Mission Friends

6:15 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Prayer, Announcements, "Civil Discourse"

6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Preschool Music

6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Children in Action

*Building Lock-up* - Lynn Smith

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. - Adult Choir

*Choir Lock-up* - Morgan Ponder

**THURSDAY, November 2**

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. - "Psalms and Prayer," Room 203

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4**

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Saturday Morning Grocery Ministry  
Tim Liptak, Lisa Whitman

DEACON OF THE WEEK: DENNIS HODTWALKER, 205-586-3131

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5 - ALL SAINTS' DAY**

*Helpers Pickup* - Pat Hawley, Mary Helen & Joe Dixon

8:30 a.m. - *Lobby Monitors* - Bob & Pam Patterson

8:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. - *Alley Door Monitors* - Suzanne & Mike Martin

9:00 a.m. - Morning Worship

*Greeters, Ushers & Offering* - Deacons

*Worship Care* - Connie McCrory, Eljee Bentley, Will Martin

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. - *Glass Lobby Greeters* - Brent Cotton & Tom Austin

10:00 a.m. - *Coffee Fellowship* - Tom Austin & Brent Cotton, Frank McCrory

10:30 a.m. - Sunday School

*Offering Counters* - Jenny Smith, Ronald Williams

*Helpers Class* - Brian Berthiaume

*Building Lockup* - David Hoefelman

5:00 p.m. - Youth Music

6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - Snack Supper

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Youth Bible Study

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6**

9:30 a.m. - Staff Meeting

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8**

*Check Signers* - Larry FitzGerald, Morgan Ponder

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Adult & Preschool Dinner (FH), Handbells

5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Dinner - Children

5:45 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Leadership Learning Academy

6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - Children's' Choir

6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - Mission Friends

6:15 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Prayer, Announcements, "Civil Discourse"

6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Preschool Music

6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Children in Action

*Building Lock-up* - Lynn Smith

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. - Adult Choir

*Choir Lock-up* - Tim Liptak

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9**

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. - "Psalms and Prayer," Room 203

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

Office Closed for Veterans' Day

*Dan Lawhon, on call*

**SATURDAY,**

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Saturday Morning Grocery Ministry  
John Hollis, Pat Hawley

Worship, October 29  
Sermon by Sarah Shelton  
"Re-formed"

First Reading Exodus 34:1-12  
Second Reading I Thessalonians 2:1-8  
Third Reading Matthew 22:34-46

Worship, November 5  
Sermon by Valerie Burton  
Communion

First Reading Psalm 34:1-10  
Second Reading Revelation 7:9-17  
Third Reading Matthew 5:1-12