

Ringgold Baptist Church

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Return Service Requested

**A Word from Pastor Duane**

Last week, the weather forecaster predicted a snow apocalypse. Although I am a little skeptical of weather forecasts, I made sure we had the basic necessities of bread and milk, along with other essentials. As we drew closer to the weekend, the forecast for snow lessened and the forecast for ice increased. This meant a greater possibility for the power to go out. I did not want to be without power for a prolonged period of time, so I dug my 30-year-old generator out and tried to get it going without success. I replaced everything replaceable to get it to run. I replaced the old gas, hoses, filter, spark plug, even the carburetor. I sprayed starter fluid in the carburetor and it fired up, but it wouldn't run once the starter fluid was gone from the carburetor. I suspect I received a faulty carburetor from China, but I couldn't get another one before the storm was supposed to arrive.

My mom had no way to have heat at her house if the power failed, so I brought her back to Ringgold because we do have gas logs and a gas stove. However, her lift chair is electric, and her hospital bed is still back at her house. I didn't want her to be stuck in her chair, so I began to search for a generator along with everyone else who waited until the last minute to get prepared. Fortunately, after much searching, I located a generator I felt would meet our needs if indeed the power was out for an extended period of time. Then, I made sure I had plenty of gas to run the generator for a while. I also made sure I had enough propane to run the heater in my workshop so I could put the new generator together and get it running without freezing to death. I spent a lot of time, effort, and money to prepare for the forecast of a blizzard. Praise the Lord we didn't lose power. We stayed warm and full without ever having to start the new generator. Was it a waste of time? It's never a waste of time to be prepared, besides another storm is predicted for this coming weekend.

I think we all have become skeptical of weather forecasts since they very rarely play out the way it is predicted. We were all burnt badly over Y2K as we prepared for everything to go haywire. Again, it didn't happen; but there is one prediction that needs to be heeded. In fact, it's really a prophecy instead of a prediction. Jesus said He is coming back, and we need to be ready. That prophecy will not fail. However, He didn't give us a timeframe. He just said be ready because "He will come as a thief in the night." He will come at a time we do not expect, so always be prepared. Even though Jesus is coming for His church at some point, all of us may not live that long. So, when our time comes to leave this earth, we must be prepared. We are not promised tomorrow. Procrastination is not a good option. Many people waited until the last minute to get ready for the storm and found items they needed were not available. What we need to be prepared for Jesus is always available, because there is room in heaven for everyone who will come to Jesus.

So, what do we need to do to be prepared for Jesus' return? He made it really simple for us. The Bible says in Romans 10:9-10,⁹ that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." However, don't procrastinate, be prepared, be ready, because He could come before you finish this article. Don't be left behind. If you are not prepared before Jesus comes for you, you will miss heaven; and I really want to see you there.

Pastor Duane

STAFF / SERVICE TIMES / MONTHLY SERVANTS**STAFF**

Pastor.....Rev. Duane Caldwell
Administrative Secretary.....Cheryl Hogg
Minister of Music.....Daniel Wolfe
Minister to Children.....Stephanie Barts
Minister to Youth.....Brandon Barts
Organist.....Ginger Collie
Pianist.....Leslie Blair
Groundskeeper.....Doug Motley
Maintenance.....Kevin Barker

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Friday
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

CHURCH SERVICES
Sunday School - 9:15 am
Sunday Morning - 10:30 am
Sunday Evening - 5:00 pm
Wednesday Evening - 6:30 pm

Audio - Carl Davis / Tim Chesher

Backpack Buddies

Week of February 02—Kitty Anderson and Rebecca Hughes
Week of February 09—Betty Jo and David Foster
Week of February 16—Phyllis and Sammy McCormick
Week of February 23—Linda and James Snead

Ushers - Mac McDowell, Butch Boyd, Sammy McCormick

Nursery Schedule

February 01 — Dianne Donahoe and Gayle Barts
February 08 — Bonnie McDermont and Katie Williams
February 15 — Brooke and Carl Davis
February 22 — Ashlee and Aidan Hudgins

Bereavement Team

February - Larry and Ginger Collie
March - Ray and Sara McDowell

Deacon Moment...

As we travel into the new year, I would like to let you know who your Deacons are for the 2026 calendar year. Deacons serve an important role in our church, and I hope you lend each of us your prayers and support as we strive to serve Ringgold Baptist Church and the surrounding community.

I have been asked to serve as the Deacon Chair for 2026. I do consider it an honor to serve as chair, and I hope that I can live up to the expectations and the standards of those who have served in this position before me. Ray McDowell will be serving as the Vice-Chair for 2026, and Brian Horne will take over as Secretary for the Deacon Team. Also serving on the 2026 Deacon Team will be Brandon Barts, Chris Bass, Johnnie Dodson, Ronnie Farthing, Mike Gauldin, Sammy McCormick, Mac McDowell, Brad McDarmont, and HT Ricketts. I think I can speak for all of us that our hope as Deacons is that you use us as additional support for your spiritual growth, and you contact us if you have any needs or concerns. We are here for you, our church, and our community. In the coming weeks you will receive a letter from your personal Deacon representative, letting you know who they are and how to contact them if needed.

As I said before, please pray for your Deacon so he can receive guidance in helping support you, the other members of RBC, and the surrounding community. We are not here to just support the membership, but also examples to the surrounding community. If you know of a need not only within the church body, but in the community as well, please let a Deacon know so that we can add this to our prayers and our weekly conversations. It is with your support that we hope to continue to spread God's word throughout Ringgold and beyond. It is a challenging time to be a Christian in today's world, however we must stay strong in the spirit of Christ and be living examples so that the Christian and non-Christian alike can see that there is a better path, the narrow path, that leads to life everlasting. It is my hope and prayer that each of you has a wonderful 2026, and I look forward to serving you.

Yours in Christ,

Art Johnson



Wednesday
February 11
6:30 PM



CHILDREN AND YOUTH



The month of February makes me think of LOVE and I really get to thinking about God's Love for me and you. When I see a heart, I think about love. We say or talk about love a lot in our lives. I want you to think about what love is and discuss this with all of the members of your family.

If we really want to know what love is, the best place to find the answer is in the Bible. God not only told us what love is, he showed us. We can look in the Bible in Romans 5:7-8. The bible says, "God showed how much he loved us by sending Jesus to die for us, even though we were sinful." That's real love!! God loved us so much that He sent His Son to die for us even though we did not deserve it.

As you go through the month of February, I want you to think about love. I want you to think about your love for your family (parents, grandparents, siblings, cousins, aunts/uncles). I also want you to think about your relationship with Jesus and understand that God's love for us is greater than any love we have felt before.

We continue to meet during our regular church service on Sunday mornings during church service and on Wednesday evenings at 6 and Sunday evenings at 7. We would love to have you attend with us!

If you need to get in contact with me, please feel free to call or text 434-709-4709.
~Stephanie Barts

UPCOMING CHILDREN/YOUTH EVENTS

Sunday, February 8 - "Souper" Bowl after church service
Youth will serve during this meal

Saturday, February 14 - WinterJam Youth Trip

Bring a Friend

Inviting a friend to church might seem like a small gesture, but it can have a profound impact on both your lives. Sharing your faith and fellowship can strengthen relationships and open doors to spiritual growth. Let's explore why inviting a friend to church is a meaningful step in your Christian journey.

Following Jesus' Example

Jesus often invited others to join Him, extending warmth and acceptance. In the Gospel of John, Philip invited Nathanael to meet Jesus, saying, "Come and see" (John 1:46, NIV). This simple invitation led Nathanael to become one of Jesus' disciples. By inviting a friend, you are following in the footsteps of the early disciples.

Sharing the Good News

Jesus commissioned us to share the Gospel with others:
"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19, NIV)
Inviting a friend to church is a practical way to share the love and teachings of Jesus. It allows others to hear the Good News and experience the hope and joy that comes from knowing Him.

Strengthening Friendships

Attending church together can deepen your friendship and strengthen your faith. Proverbs 27:17 says:

"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another" (NIV)

~Brandon Barts

ANNOUNCEMENTS



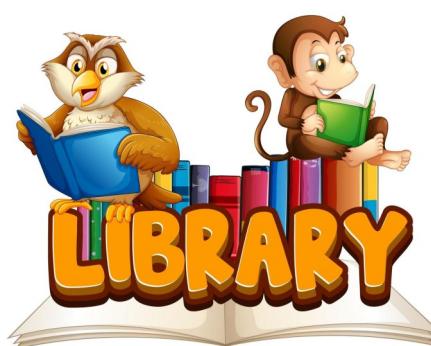
THANK YOU

Dear Ringgold Church Family,
Thank you so much for all your prayers, cards, food, phone calls and visits. We are so blessed to be a part of such a wonderful church family. And a very special thank you to Pastor Duane, who has been so faithful in his visits and prayers. We cannot express how much we appreciate all your prayers and support.

Love,
Ken and Kathy

RBC CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

WILL MEET
ON
SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 15
AT 6:00 PM



ATTENTION PARENTS!!

New children's books have been added to the library.

A series of five books introducing the characters from the Winnie-the-Pooh Collections by A.A. Milne,

beloved British author and poet. Milne wrote Winnie-the-Pooh for his son, Christopher Robin Milne and his adventures with his stuffed animals.

Read to your children early and often.



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 22
6:00 p.m.

If you are a chair of a committee, you should attend this meeting.

SUPPORT THE RBC YOUTH MISSION TRIP

SUNDAY
FEBRUARY
8
AFTER CHURCH



DELICIOUS SOUP
AND DESSERTS!

IT'S A WIN-WIN FOR
EVERYBODY

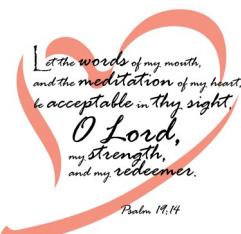
Donations cheerfully
accepted

J.O.Y. Club News

Our Friend to Remember for February is

Curtis Lewis
558 Davis Drive
Ringgold VA 24586

You may leave cards for Curtis in the mailbox through February 28th.



The J.O.Y. Club has been active at Ringgold Baptist Church for 48 years. Age is not a pre-requisite to join and you don't have to be retired to join the fun!

Our February meeting will be on Tuesday, February 24 at noon.

A Pot Luck lunch will be served so bring your favorite dishes to share.

ALSO—bring a canned food donation for God's Storehouse

Happy Valentine's Day!



Our Deepest Christian Sympathy to

The family and friends of Betsy Hall in her passing.

The family and friends of John Gourley in his passing.

The family and friends of Tammy Fielder in her passing.

The family and friends of Michael Moore in his passing.

The family and friends of Sam Swanson in his passing.

The family and friends of Teresa Henderson in her passing.

The family and friends of David Richardson in his passing.

The family and friends of Brian Wilson in his passing.

The family and friends of Sheila Terry in her passing.

The family and friends of Carol Hastings in her passing.

The family and friends of Andy Myers in his passing.

The family and friends of Tom Martin in his passing.



THE WORK OF RBC



VOLUNTEERS ON JANUARY 20 FOR DAN RIVER FOOD DISTRIBUTION AT KENTUCK MINISTRY CENTER

THE NIGHT THE LIGHTS WENT OUT IN RINGGOLD.....

THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING WENT ON WITHOUT A HITCH!



Dear Baptists in Ringgold,

I have often been totally clueless why membership in Ringgold Baptist Choir remains relatively unchanged. So I did an internet search with the question, **“Why should I sing in the church choir?”**

The answer is not surprising. “Singing in the church choir allows you to express your devotion and connect with your faith while building community with others. It also provides an opportunity to improve your singing skills and contribute to the worship experience, regardless of your musical talent.”

And it went on to illustrate the Benefits of Singing in the Church Choir, including Personal Growth and Development, Community and Connection, Spiritual Benefits, and Social and Emotional Well-being.

The article concluded with, “Participating in a church choir is not just about singing; it’s about being part of a community, growing spiritually, and expressing devotion through music.”

Join us every Wednesday evening at 7:15 in the (you guessed it) Choir Room.

May God’s blessings bring you to sing God’s praise.

-Dan



W.M.U. HIGHLIGHTS

THANK YOU

- ♦ For preparing and serving for **“Lunch Bunch”** on Thursday, **January 8**.
- ♦ To all who prepared meals and delivered them to homes on **January 19th** for the **“Friends@Home”** Ministry.

Thirty (30) meals were delivered to **sixteen (16) homes**.

- ♦ For packing **“Backpack Meals”** for identified Kentuck Elementary students for weekends.
- ♦ For **ALL** the volunteers that helped with the **Dan River Food Distribution from God’s Storehouse** on **Tuesday, January 20th** at the Kentuck Ministry Center.

LUNCH BUNCH

- ♦ **Thursday –February 12 at 11:00 AM.**
- ♦ Please call the church office by **Monday, February 9th** to say yes or no as to whether you will attend.

FRIENDS @ HOME MINISTRY

- ♦ The next meal date has not been decided yet.

SIT Ministry – the **nurse at DRHS** has a need for deodorant for men & women.
There will be a tote in the FLC hallway.

FEBRUARY CHURCHWIDE MISSION OUTREACH FOR HOUSE of HOPE (homeless shelter)

1. Coffee (ground) for coffee maker
2. Sugar & creamer (non-perishable)
3. Paper products – toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, plates
4. Plastic utensils – forks, spoons, knives
5. Cleaning products for kitchen and bathroom (***Pine-Sol, *Fabulosa, Lysol, etc.**)
6. Laundry detergent
7. Fabric softener sheets
8. Bottled water
9. ***13 gallon trash bags**
10. ***8 gallon trash bags**

Items marked with * are those that are used and needed the most

There will be totes in the FLC hallway for your donations.



MISSION GROUP OPPORTUNITIES at RBC:

- ♦ First Tuesday at 7:00 PM at RBC
- ♦ Second Tuesday at 10:00 AM at RBC

As always, THANK YOU for your continuous support of mission projects and mission offerings at RBC.

*Suzanne Emerson
WMU Director*