

Ringgold Baptist Church

4620 Ringgold Church Road
PO Box 100
Ringgold, VA 24586
Phone: (434) 822-5959
E-mail: office@ringgoldbaptist.org

Return Service Requested



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 - Todd Fitts—Matt Riddle

Nursery

January 04—Carl and Brooke Davis
January 11—Ashlee and Aidan Hudgins
January 18—Sherry Shively and Frankie Gilbert
January 25—Nancy Adams and Mary Mills

Backpack Buddies

Week of January 05—Bobra Robinson and Sherry Shively
Week of January 12—Suzanne and Ronnie Emerson
Week of January 19—Brian and Cheryl Horne
Week of January 26—Cheryl Hogg and Pam Tuck

Ushers - Chris Bass, Chester Sneed

Bereavement Team

January - Sammy and Phyllis McCormick
February - Larry and Ginger Collie



A NOTE FROM PASTOR DUANE

Rather than my usual article this month, I wanted this article written by Ellen Boyd to go on the front page. Ellen gives her perspective of how participating in the Thanksgiving meal this year affected her. This is one of two articles Ellen shared with us. The other is inside the newsletter. I pray we all can have an attitude of helping others in 2026 and beyond.

My red coat looks different to me after Thanksgiving Day. After delivering Thanksgiving food to the truck stops, Butch and I were on the way back to the church when we found the homeless camp someone had mentioned. We picked up more food and went back and parked as close as we could to the woods where we saw the tents. I would like to say that I jumped out of the car, filled with the spirit and then skipped merrily into the woods. But I had never been to a homeless encampment before. I had given food to a single homeless person on the street. I had given plates to a homeless couple sitting beside Dollar General last year. But this was different – before the homeless were in my world. This Thanksgiving I was going to go into their world. But we called out to them and got permission to drop the food. We felt good about bringing it to them. Then we went home to our home.

But I couldn’t stop thinking about them. Early that Thanksgiving morning I had been fretted trying to get the food done and thinking that I really needed to finish painting the kitchen. And I was fretted trying to clean up, well because we are not the neatest people. All that morning I had spent my time worrying about how my food or table looked. All that morning I had spent my time worrying about how my house looked. But after meeting homeless people with no food, no table and no home, I couldn’t stop thinking about them.

I am going to try to care more, do more. Now don’t get me wrong, I am still going to want to do things to my house and clean up better if you are coming there. But I also need to do a better job at looking at the true need around me.

Oh, and about my red coat. A couple of weeks ago, I bought a red coat. Now, I didn’t NEED another coat and especially the extravagance of a RED coat. But it was on sale and I had a coupon. But on Thanksgiving I looked at the old brown coat that the homeless woman at the camp was wearing. Her coat kept her from the constant cold she was living in. Her coat could possibly keep her alive. My coat just made me happy.

Don’t get me wrong, I am keeping my red coat and will definitely wear it at Christmas. It will keep me warm but also when I look in the mirror it will be a reminder to care. I found out that someone I know is trying to collect 1000 coats for the homeless and needy here in the Danville area. He is over the 700 mark now. I am going to buy a couple of coats to donate. Actually looking for a warm RED one!

Thank you, Ellen, for sharing your experience with us. When we realize there are those near us who are homeless, it makes us realize how blessed we are. As we realize the needs around us, the next step is to find ways to meet those needs. I pray each of you have a happy, blessed, and productive new year as we minister to those around us.
Pastor Duane

DEACON MOMENT

Well, I guess it is time to say Happy New Year. To some people, New Year resolutions are something that they have on their mind; resolutions like losing weight, eating healthy, and exercising. These are some things we should do to keep our physical health in good shape, but as Christians, we need to be mentally aware of the Holy Spirit that lives in us.

Hopefully, we do not have to jumpstart the Holy Spirit, but there are ways in which we can live closer to the one that Jesus sent us as a Comforter. One resolution could be to read the Bible from front to back. This is a big process, and I have to be honest to say I have not been able to accomplish that but have been told if you just read a few verses each day, you can accomplish reading the Bible from front to back. A way to keep the Holy Spirit front and center is a dedicated prayer life which I’m sure you all have.

One of the most meaningful things that I do are the Wednesday night and Sunday night Bible studies. We have a small group and it’s one-on-one with our Pastor. He has scripture in which he likes to bring out but opens it up to questions that we may have that pertain to our life today. My hope is that the Wednesday and Sunday night Bible studies may be a part of your New Year’s resolutions. I know I’m talking to the choir, as they say, but sometimes we need to be reminded of the opportunities we have here at Ringgold Baptist Church.

I pray that some of your New Year’s resolutions will be successful, but admittedly, we all seem to fall short, but pick some of these resolutions to be fully committed to, then when you wake up in the mornings, you can look around and say the same thing that an old friend of mine taught me years ago: life is good, God is great.

I would like to share the following poem.

*How can I use the New Year to better serve my Lord?
I'll read my Bible every day and be more in accord.
I'll find new ways to serve others; I'll love my neighbor, too.
I'll focus on "give" instead of "get" in everything I do.
I'll forgive the people I'm mad at; angry feelings I'll discard.
I'll try to love my enemies, even though it's hard.
In the New Year, I'll lift people up, instead of putting them down.
I'll fill my heart with love and joy and never wear a frown.
I'll let go of my worries; put it all in His hands.
I'll repent and try to sin less and obey all His commands.
These New Year's resolutions are difficult, at best.
Yet, here's what I can do each day that will put my soul at rest.
I'll love my Lord with all my heart, with all my mind and soul.
If I do that essential thing, I'll leave the rest in His control.
~Anonymous*

Submitted by Eddie Dodson



UPCOMING CHILDREN/YOUTH EVENTS:

- *Going Snow Tubing or Ice Skating (Date TBA)**
- *WinterJam - If you would like to attend, please give either Brandon or Stephanie \$20 to hold your spot.**
- *Youth Summer Mission trip money was due at the END of December. The cost is \$100 per person. If you need to reach out or weren’t able to pay by then, please let Brandon know. We will be going June 8-12 to Norfolk, VA.**

CHILDREN

As we go into the new year, I think it would be good to focus on one word for the year. Instead of a long list of resolutions, choosing one word and keeping it present in our minds is a great way to turn the new year’s resolutions into focus. There are so many things that we can focus on throughout the year, which thing will be yours? Talk within your family, see if you have a specific resolution or if your family can focus on one as a whole. You can keep each other accountable.

We have really been having a great time during Children’s Church! We would love to have you attend with us on Sunday mornings during the church service at 10:30.

Just as a reminder we also meet on Sunday evenings at 7:00 and Wednesday evenings at 6:00. This has been a wonderful time of learning and fellowship with the children.

If you need to reach out to me, please feel free to call or text me at 434-709-4709 with any questions you may have.

~Stephanie Barts

YOUTH

A new year is right around the corner and with it comes a new opportunity for your students to make a difference in their homes, schools, and in their world. They need our encouragement and prayers to help them push through the obstacles around them and become the person God wants them to be.

1 John 4:7-12
Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from Grod. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

Youth: live your life to represent Christ in all your ways and actions and if a friend asks questions, pray that the Holy Spirit will help you answer correctly and help lead them to Christ. Also, invite them to Youth, it is amazing what an invitation can do.

If you need to reach out to me, please feel free to call or text me at 434-251-8512 with any questions you may have.

~Brandon Barts

A PEOPLE CALLED RINGGOLD
MAKING A DIFFERENCE

THANKSGIVING VOLUNTEERS WHO STAYED STILL
LONG ENOUGH TO BE CAUGHT IN A PHOTO
(QUITE A FEW FACES ARE MISSING)



THANKSGIVING MORNING AT THE TRUCK STOP

As usual, we were running around our house trying to get everything ready to get to the church on time. We were taking turkeys and had signed up to help fix the to-go boxes. And then we were going to deliver the meals to the truck stops in the area, just as we have done for a couple of years now. I can't say that it is easy to approach trucks and ask the driver if he would like a Thanksgiving meal. Some won't talk to you, some speak a different language. When approaching one driver, he angrily said "What do you want?" But after explaining what our church was doing, he calmed down and took the food. As we walked back to the car, he yelled to us "This is the best thing that happened to me today!" Now, he wasn't going to starve - he could have gotten snacks at the Pilot store. It wasn't just the food; it was the food made by people from a church that wanted to feed strangers. A church that cared.

There are other stories, like the bus driver transporting an empty bus. He had just talked to his wife and told her he couldn't find anywhere open to eat any Thanksgiving food. They had just hung up when we knocked on his window and gave him a plate. As we left he was calling his wife to tell her angels had brought Thanksgiving food. Can't say we were angels, but we didn't mind being their delivery service.

Another driver this year refused the meal because he was 30 minutes from home. But he asked that our church keep doing this outreach. He said he was a long-distance truck driver for 17 years and was always away on Thanksgiving. He said a plate like that would have meant so much. A simple plate, a simple meal. When you think about is though, food or a meal is mentioned with importance in the Bible. Food gives daily life, Jesus gives eternal life. And on Thanksgiving Day the members of Ringgold Church gave friends and strangers the food of the body and the food of the soul together in a Styrofoam box.
~Ellen Boyd

I would like to thank all of you that did the cooking of turkeys and desserts, help cook at church, cut pies, serve, deliver meals etc. I would like to thank Ronnie Emerson for all that he does. I know the meals are appreciated as I take meals to people that I know myself which two of the people have no family or vehicles. I also noticed a man standing at the entrance to food lion at Cane Creek Shopping Center at the Kentucky Road entrance that had a sign asking for food and just a duffle bag. I had an extra meal over what I was delivering so I turned around and gave it to him. A tear was brought to his eye when I gave it to him and when I pulled away I saw him open the box and eat the food in my rear-view window. So, your work is appreciated. I never would have thought when I came up with the idea for the meal that it would last this long, but it all happens with all of you.
~Matt Foster

Dear Ringgold Baptist Church,
Thank you for the Thanksgiving Day meal you provided to our residents at the Danville House Apartments. We greatly appreciate the effort your group, especially Matt Foster, puts in to organizing and to all your volunteers in hosting this event for our senior and disabled residents every year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
~Leah Pierce, RSC

On Thanksgiving Thursday, A People called Ringgold held its 18th annual Community Thanksgiving Meal. Approximately 75 people were fed in the Family Life Center, another 125 "To Go" boxes were distributed and the food that remained was donated to the Salvation Army, where we were told that it would feed another 75 people. A very special "Thank You" to everyone who made the Thanksgiving Meal here at RBC this year a very special and exciting event. If you baked a turkey, made a dessert, volunteered in the kitchen, acted as a server or driver, your involvement in this annual event did not go unnoticed and was greatly appreciated. Since 2007, people have enjoyed a great meal with lots of fellowship from "A People Called Ringgold".
~Ronnie Emerson

J.O.Y. Club News

JOIN US IN JANUARY

*Our first meeting of the New Year will be held
Tuesday, January 27th at noon
and all are invited to join us
—there are no age restrictions!
Bring a covered dish and dessert to share and
come prepared to have fun and fellowship.*



*Don't forget to bring a canned item
for God's Storehouse.*

Our Friend to Remember
for January is

Shirley Davis
856 Little Creek Rd.
Ringgold, VA 24586

You may leave your cards
for Shirley in the
mailbox through
January 31.



A special *Thank You* to our Ringgold Baptist Church family
for the Christmas cards & gifts.

*The RBC Ministry Staff
Pastor Duane, Cheryl, Dan, Stephanie,
Brandon, Ginger, Leslie, Kevin and Doug*

Our deepest Christian sympathy to:

The family & friends of Paul White in his passing.

The family & friends of Christine Mitchell in her passing.

The family & friends of Milton Bowling in his passing.

The family and friends of Carolyn Durham Perry in her passing.

with
Sympathy

Announcements, Events & Reminders

2025 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

will be available

BY REQUEST AND FOR PICK-UP ONLY.

Please notify Cheryl at

822-5959 or office@ringgoldbaptist.org if you wish

to have a copy of your statement.

Dear Ringgold Baptist Church,

THANKS!

Thank you for the prayers and concern during my battle with cancer. Praise God I am cancer free because of answered prayer and knowledgeable doctors.

Sincerely,
Larry Wayne Oakes

COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11
5:00 PM

LIGHT SUPPER

All who have agreed to serve on a committee are asked to attend, elect officers, and plan the work for 2026.



BAPTIST MEN'S DAY

January 25 will be Baptist Men's Day at RBC.

This is always an exciting day and you won't want to miss it!

RBC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED DAN RIVER FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Tuesday, January 20
4:30-6:30 pm

Kentuck Ministry Center



THURSDAY, JANUARY 8
11:00 AM

PLEASE call the church office (822-5959) by Monday, January 5 to let us know whether or not you will attend.

SAVE THE DATE!



SUNDAY, JANUARY 25 at 6:00 pm
If you are the chair of a committee, you are on the

FAMILY NIGHT DINNER AND DEVOTIONS

WEDNESDAY,
JANUARY 14
6:30 pm

Hosts: Agape
Sunday School Class



W.M.U. Highlights—Review of 2025

SPECIAL OFFERINGS:

- Annie Armstrong Offering for North American Missions – \$2,075.00 (goal was \$2,500).
- Alma Hunt State Mission Offering – \$2,004.00 (goal was \$2,000).
- Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions – December 31, 2024 offering was \$5,162.62. As of 12-14-25, \$2986.00 has been donated towards the goal of \$4,000.
- God's Pit Crew Blessing Buckets Love Offering in April – \$1,740.00.
- Backpack Buddy Ministry Love Offerings in 2025 – \$2,215.00. Spent \$2,768 for BB food items in 2025.
- Baby Bottle Boomerang donations to Transition Pregnancy Center from Mother's Day to Father's Day – \$1,303.21.

SPECIAL EVENTS & PROJECTS:

- "Lunch Bunch" started in February 2024 for all the widows and widowers in the RBC church family and is still going strong. This ongoing church ministry takes place the second Thursday of each month at 11:00.
- "Friends @ Home" is a NEW OUTREACH MINISTRY partnered by the WMU and Deacons' Ministry which began in February 2025. Dinner meals are prepared by different women each month and delivered by Deacons to the homes of those that we do not see on a regular basis depending on varying circumstances.
- The WMU provided the monthly birthday cake in March for the residents having birthdays at Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute.
- The WMU provided the monthly birthday cake in May for WW Moore Detention Center.
- Coffee, sugar & creamer, paper products, plastic utensils, cleaning products, laundry detergent, fabric softener sheets and bottled water were donated churchwide and given to House of Hope (local homeless shelter).
- WMU volunteers participated in a "Bear Dressing Day" at the Claire Parker Foundation on February 26 to help prepare the Care Box Bears donated to partner hospitals.
- The Eva Walton Circle and the Morning Mission Group provided lunch for students and leaders on June 23 & 24 at the Impact Virginia worksite in Ringgold.
- School supplies were donated to KES, DRMS and DRHS in August.
- Donated items for the SIT Ministry were delivered to the school nurses at KES, DRMS and DRHS upon request during the school year. The items needed were for emergency situations at the schools.
- The WMU sponsored a spaghetti dinner on March 23 to support the youth mission camp in the summer.
- RBC was in charge of the Dan River Food Distribution in January, April, July and October at the Kentuck Ministry Center with an average of twenty (20) volunteers each month to pack the boxes and distribute them to the clients.
- Ringgold Baptist Church WMU hosted the Annual Pittsylvania Baptist Association WMU meeting on April 29 at 4:00 PM.
- RBC responded to God's Storehouse emergency need for canned food in April.
- Needed items requested by the Danville Pittsylvania County Cancer Association were collected and delivered during August.
- A bountiful supply of peanut butter and boxed cereal was donated to God's Storehouse in October to help with global hunger.
- Backpack Ministry began the 14th year of providing weekend meals for children identified by Kentuck Elementary and Dan River Middle Schools. Thirty volunteers help throughout the school year to pack the bags on a weekly basis.
- The Eva Walton Circle and Morning Mission Group do monthly mission projects in addition to the churchwide mission projects that have been listed.

RBC IS VERY THANKFUL FOR ALL WHO PACKED AN OCC BOX OR GAVE MONEY FOR BOBRA TO SHOP THIS YEAR.
530 BOXES WERE FILLED AND SENT TO CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD!
PRAISE THE LORD!

THANK YOU RINGGOLD BAPTIST FOR YOUR SPIRIT/LOVE OF MISSIONS TO SPREAD THE LOVE OF CHRIST!!!