

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 7—Bonnie McDarmont and Katie Williams  
January 14—Brooke and Carl Davis  
January 21—Ashlee and Aidan Hudgins  
January 28—Sherry Shively and Frankie Gilbert

Backpack Buddies

Week of January 7—Sara and Ray McDowell  
Week of January 14—Terri Motley and Debbie Carter  
Week of January 21—Suzanne and Ronnie Emerson  
Week of January 28—Cheryl Hogg and Pam Tuck

Ushers - Chris Bass, John Foster, Chester Sneed

Bereavement Team

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

The Ringgold Reflector

WHAT WOULD IT LOOK LIKE IF THE DISCIPLES VALUED WORSHIP AND COMMUNITY LIKE MANY BELIEVERS DO THEIR CHURCH GATHERINGS?



- Peter - "My mother-in-law came in for the weekend."
- Andrew - "I was up kinda late last night."
- James (the son of Zebedee) - "Really needed some 'me' time."
- John - "I was there last week. Besides, I'm not really being fed."
- Philip - "Finally had a sunny day to hit the lake."
- Bartholomew - "Had brunch scheduled with my Uncle Zed."
- Thomas - "I doubt it would have been any good today."
- Matthew - "I had to get my taxes done."
- James (the son of Alphaeus) - "My dad (Alphaeus) wanted to fish today."
- Thaddaeus - "The kids needed a rest day."
- Simon - "I didn't hear my alarm. Because I didn't set it. Because I don't have one."
- Judas - "Getting tired of hearing the same old message."

Going to church is not about checking a religious box off your "make God happy" list. It's about being invested in the lives of others. Participating in the mission of the gospel. Loving and being loved.

Following Jesus was never meant to be a solo experience. Pull up a seat at the table. It is a level table and there is room for all of us.

# Deacon Team Moment

## DO YOU MAKE NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS?

"I never make New Year's Resolutions, anymore," the man told me, "I never keep them, anyway." I can remember all too many resolutions I've made and let slip away, too. But I believe New Year's resolutions are worth making. Let me tell you why.

First, we all need changes. Some we find very hard to admit to ourselves. I've heard people who say, "I have no regrets about my life. If I had it to do over, I'd do it the same way again." But that attitude is way too blind and self-serving so far as I'm concerned. There is great power in confession--to ourselves, to God, to others. Owning up to our failures is the first, painful step on the road to something better.

Second, when we change calendars is a good time for reassessment. How did last year go? What do I want to do differently this year? This time of year always reminds me of a passage of scripture, better understood by farmers than suburbanites: "Break up your unplowed ground, and do not sow among thorns" (Jer 4:3). It makes sense. The more land you put into production, the more prosperous you'll be. But some of us are stupid enough to try to sow seeds in land overrun by star thistle without breaking up the soil and taking care to root out the thorns as they come up. Call it laziness. Call it stupidity.

Let me ask you a serious question. What percentage of your life is producing something of value to God? How much "unplowed ground" do you have that ought to be broken up in this coming year and made useful? Reassessment. The brink of a new year is a good time for reassessment.

Third, New Year's is an excellent time for mid-course corrections. Sure, we might fail in what we set out to do, but if we fail to plan, the old saw goes, then we plan to fail. If you're so fearful of failure that you never set up your row of tin cans to shoot at, you're not very likely to hit any at all. Failure is not the end. For the person who determines to learn from it, failure is a friend. One of my heroes in the Bible is the Apostle Paul. Talk about failure! Throughout his life he was opposed, persecuted, shipwrecked, stoned and left for dead, deserted by trusted co-workers, slandered, and scorned. Sometimes it seemed that projects to which he had devoted years were turning to dust before his eyes. But from one of his stints in prison, we can see from one of his letters an unwillingness to quit. "Forgetting what is behind," he wrote, "and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" (Phil 3:13-14, NIV) No wonder he made a mark on his world. He stopped looking back and looked forward instead. He didn't let the fear of failure keep him from trying again.

Fourth, New Year's is a time to learn to rely more heavily on the grace of God. Now I've met a few self-made men and women and so have you, but so often these people seem proud and driven. There is another way: beginning to trust in God's help. One more secret from the Apostle Paul: "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength," he said (Phil 4:13, NIV). And God's strength saw him through a lot--through pain, through joy, and through accomplishment.

If this last year, you didn't practice relying on the Lord as much as you should have, there is no time like the present to make a New Year's resolution. In fact, why don't you say a short prayer right now --use these words if you like: "Dear God, I want the new year to be different for me." Now spell out in prayer some of the changes you'd like to see. And close this way: "Lord Jesus, I know that I'm going to need a lot of help for this. So right now, I place myself in your hands. Help me to receive Your strength. Amen." Good. Now you've got a much better chance of a Happy New Year.

Ralph F Wilson Copyright 2023

My hope is that all of God’s blessings can pour down among us all in 2024.

Submitted by Art Johnson



**UPCOMING EVENTS:**  
\*Christian Skate Night Occurs Monthly at Skatetown  
\*Going snow tubing (Date TBA)

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 and Wednesday evenings at 7:00. This has been a wonderful time of learning and fellowship with the children. We are also starting to play Pickleball now and would love for families to join us!

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

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**  
\*Youth Summer Mission trip money is due by the END of December. The cost is \$75 per person.  
\* Snow tubing is coming up once dates are open to pick from @ Wintergreen.  
\*WinterJam - Feb. 24th

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 God. 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 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*

# Blessings

COUNT THEM ONE BY ONE

*Thank you all for remembering Brian and me during this time with meals, prayers, offers to help, and visits from special friends who had their own busy schedules and situations. We count it a blessing to be part of "A People called Ringgold".*

*Cheryl Horne*

*Church Staff, Members, and Volunteers,  
Thank you for the delivery of Thanksgiving meals to our disabled and senior residents at the Danville House apartments this past Thanksgiving Day. We so appreciate the effort that Matt Foster and the other volunteers put into this program each year.  
We wish you a blessed and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*  
*Leah Pierce, RSC  
HallKeen Management*

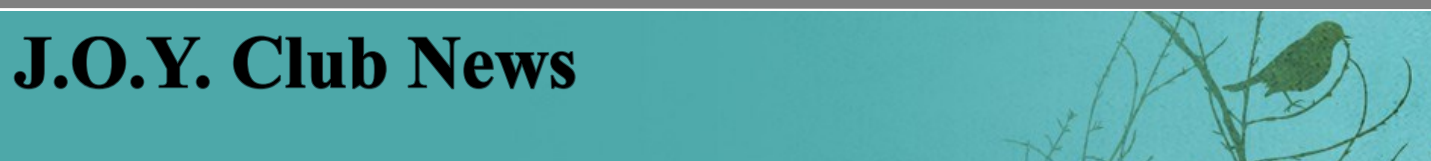
*Dear Church Family,  
We are so thankful for the loving family we have here at Ringgold Baptist. You are so kind and caring all year long, but you always go above and beyond during Christmas. Thank you for all the cards, gifts, and encouraging words you have shared with us. We love you and continue to thank God for so graciously bringing us here to be among A People called Ringgold.*

*Pastor Duane and Dena*

***Our deepest Christian sympathy to:***

- The family & friends of Claudia Somers in her passing.*
- The family & friends of Frances Rogers in her passing.*
- The family & friends of Aaron Adams in his passing.*
- The family and friends of Carolyn Holcombe in her passing.*
- The family and friends of Vickie Searce in her passing.*
- The family and friends of Rosa Mae Tate in her passing.*
- The family and friends of Billy DeMott in his passing.*

# with Sympathy



# J.O.Y. Club News

***JOIN US IN JANUARY***

*Our first meeting of the New Year will be held  
Tuesday, January 23rd 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*

*Don Poole  
1265 Ringgold Road  
Ringgold, VA 24586  
You may leave your cards  
for Don in the  
mailbox through  
January 31.*



PIC•COLLAGE



## Announcements, Events & Reminders

### 2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

2023 Contribution Statements will be available  
**BY REQUEST AND FOR PICK-UP ONLY.** Please notify Cheryl at  
 822-5959 or [office@ringgoldbaptist.org](mailto:office@ringgoldbaptist.org) if you wish  
 to have a copy of your statement.

From the fullness of His grace, we have all received one blessing  
 after another. - John 1:16



### COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14  
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 2024.

### BAPTIST MEN'S DAY

January 28 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 16  
4:30-6:30 pm

Kentuck Ministry Center

### SAVE THE DATE!



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18 at 6:00 pm  
 If you are the chair of a committee, you are on the  
 Church Council and should attend this meeting.

### SPECIAL THANKS TO JUST A FEW OF THOSE WHO MADE OUR WORSHIP SPACE BEAUTIFUL FOR CHRISTMAS



### FAMILY NIGHT DINNER AND DEVOTIONS

WEDNESDAY,  
JANUARY 10  
6:30 pm

Hosts: RBC Staff

## W.M.U. Highlights—Review of 2023

### SPECIAL OFFERINGS:

- ♦ Annie Armstrong Offering for North American Missions – \$2,076.00
- ♦ Alma Hunt State Mission Offering – \$2,123.00
- ♦ Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions – December 31, 2022 offering was \$4,496.50.  
To date in 2023 \$ 3,151.86 has been donated towards the goal of \$4,000.
- ♦ God's Pit Crew Blessing Buckets – \$2,511.00
- ♦ Backpack Buddy Ministry – \$2,714.00
- ♦ Baby Bottle Boomerang – \$1,396.65

### SPECIAL EVENTS & PROJECTS:

- ♦ People donated items to Habitat for Humanity in February.
- ♦ The WMU provided the monthly birthday cake in March for the residents having birthdays at Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute.
- ♦ Gloves, stocking caps and socks were donated churchwide and given to House of Hope (local homeless shelter).
- ♦ Thirty (30) volunteers are helping pack the Backpack Bags for KES and DRMS this year.
- ♦ The WMU provided the monthly birthday cake in May for the residents of WW Moore Detention Home.
- ♦ The Eva Walton Circle and the Morning Mission Circle provided lunch for students and leaders on two days in July at the Impact Virginia worksite in Danville.
- ♦ School supplies were donated to KES, DRMS and DRHS in August.
- ♦ The first donated items for the SIT Ministry were delivered to the school nurses at KES, DRMS and DRHS. The items were what the nurses had indicated a need for emergency situations at the schools.
- ♦ The WMU sponsored a Spaghetti Dinner 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.
- ♦ Two ladies in the church, Cheryl Horne and Ruth Searce, have been sewing pillowcases for the Claire Parker Foundation to give to children who are first hospitalized with a cancer diagnosis.
- ♦ Bless Our Food Ministry (replaced the casserole ministry) in May with volunteers making a one dish meal to freezer for the deacons, pastor and members of the church to take to someone who has a need.
- ♦ Baptist Women's Day was sponsored by the WMU on May 7. Rena DeAndrea, Executive Director, and Tammy Bonar, Nurse Manager, were the guest speakers from Transition Pregnancy Solutions.
- ♦ CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST was a new mission project in 2023. Four North American missionaries were selected from Boston, Mass., Porcupine, South Dakota, Zanesville, Ohio and Flint, Michigan for people to buy supplies that were needed by each missionary for their particular mission initiative. The response from the church was terrific and all items were shipped to each locality in September.
- ♦ A bountiful supply of beans, rice and cornbread was donated to God's Storehouse in October to help with global hunger.
- ♦ Approximately twenty (20) people volunteered in "Blessing Our Neighbors" on Saturday, October 21 at Piggly Wiggly collecting food and money from shoppers to support the House of Hope. There was a tremendous response from the local community. The youth with Brandon and Stephanie and Pastor Duane delivered a pickup truck and van of supplies.
- ♦ RBC provided dinner to House of Hope on October 21, November 8 and Thanksgiving Day.
- ♦ Eva Walton Circle, Morning Mission Circle and WMU provided funds for purchasing 150 Women's Devotional Books to Transition Pregnancy Center for gift bags at Christmas to the women who chose LIFE instead of an abortion in 2023.

Suzanne Emerson—WMU Director