

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 ChildrenStephanie 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

Nurserv Schedule

November 5—Sherry Shively and Frankie Gilbert
November 12 - Nancy Adams and Mary Mills
November 19 - Dianne Donahoe and Gayle Barts
November 26 - Bonnie McDarmont and Katie Williams

Backpack Buddies

Week of November 5—Betty Jo and David Foster
Week of November 12—Gayle Barts and Debbie Bernard
Week of November 26—Phyllis & Sammy McCormick

Ushers: Mike Gauldin, David Foster, Doug Motley

Bereavement Team

November - Larry and Ginger Collie
December - Ray and Sara McDowell

NOVEMBER 2023

THE RINGGOLD REFLECTOR

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

A NOTE FROM PASTOR DUANE

I had never really been a cat person, but many years ago Dena and I got a cat from an animal rescue mission. I was gone a lot at night and she wanted a pet so when there was a noise in the night she could blame it on the cat. We went to get a calico cat, but when we got there she fell in love with a solid black cat with green eyes by the name of Sampson. We took him home with us. I will have to admit I came to love this cat, mostly because he showed his love for me.

Dena was reading an article written by an expert on animal behavior who wrote about the signs a cat shows when it really loves someone. The signs were gently head butting a person, the twitching of the end of the tail while being petted, buzzing while being petted, and lying on or next to a person frequently. The expert says if a cat displays one or more of these signs, it is showing love to a person. Sampson exhibited all these signs toward Dena and me. I was pretty sure the cat loved us by the way he acted, but even the experts agree that our cat loved us by his behavior towards us. Sampson didn’t have to love us. He was not commanded to love us, but he did. We rescued him, loved him, made sure he had food and water, provided a home for him, and took care of his needs. In return he loved us back and showed us by his actions.

As Christians, God rescued us. We were not deserving of His love or His rescue of us. But God sent His Son Jesus Christ to shed His precious blood on an old rugged cross in order to pay the penalty for our sins, so that by faith in Him we became children of God. As God’s children, He loves us, gives us our daily bread, provides an eternal home for us, and provides for our every need. In return we are to love Him back and show that love by our actions. Certainly we cannot gently head butt God or buzz while He strokes our fur, but there are ways we can show our love to God. One way we show our love is by being obedient to His Word.

The main way Jesus says our love will be obvious to Him and others is by loving one another. Jesus says in John 13:34-35, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” He says it will be obvious to everyone we are children of God if we love one another. I wonder how obvious it is to people who visit our churches we are children of God by the way we love one another. Jesus says we are to love one another as He loved us. Romans 5:8 says, “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” That’s how He showed His love for us. So how are we to show love to those who may not love us back, or who do not seem very loveable? Peter says in 1 Peter 1:22, “love one another fervently with a pure heart.” The word fervently is an athletic word meaning “to stain every muscle.” We are to love and show love with all our might. Sometimes it is a struggle to love others, but God says we are to make the effort. If we want to show God and the world we love Him, we must love one another no matter how hard it may be.

So what are ways we can show our love? One way is by compassion. That is one way Jesus showed His love. His purpose for coming to earth was not to feed the hungry, heal the sick, make the blind to see, and the cause the lame to walk, but to seek and save that which was lost. However, when He saw the situation of the people, He had compassion on them and did something about it. Compassion means to be stirred deep within. When we are moved deep within, it moves us to action. It is one thing to see the hungry, the sick, the blind, and the lame and feel bad for them. It is another thing to do something about it. We may not be able to heal the sick, make the blind see, or cause the lame to walk, but we can pray for them, visit them, call them, and comfort them. We can feed the hungry. We can comfort the grieving. The people whom Jesus had compassion on were the very people who would later reject Him and call Him names, but yet He loved them anyway. That is the love of God. That is the love God commands us to have for one another. It is a love that says even though you don’t love me, I will love you anyway. We can show our love through not only compassion, but through forgiveness. Jesus says we are to forgive others as He has forgiven us. That is a real display of love. So I ask you, as well as myself, the question “Does the world know we are followers of Christ by our love for one another?” If we cannot answer that question with a resounding “yes,” let us strive with every muscle straining to love one another. I know our cat loved us, do others know we love them?

Pastor Duane

DEACON MOMENT

At Thanksgiving, we are reminded to be thankful every day. What does the Bible say about thankfulness/ gratitude?

Thankfulness is a prominent Bible theme. First Thessalonians 5:16-18 says, “Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” Did you catch that? Give thanks in all circumstances. Thankfulness should be a way of life for us, naturally flowing from our hearts and mouths.

Digging into the Scriptures a little more deeply, we understand why we should be thankful and also how to have gratitude in different circumstances.

Psalm 136:1 says, “Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.” Here we have two reasons to be thankful: God’s constant goodness and His steadfast love. When we recognize the nature of our depravity and understand that, apart from God, there is only death (John 10:10; Romans 7:5), our natural response is to be grateful for the life He gives.

Psalm 30 gives praise to God for His deliverance. David writes, “I will exalt you, O Lord, for you lifted me out of the depths and did not let my enemies gloat over me. O Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me. O Lord, you brought me up from the grave; you spared me from going down into the pit. . . . You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing to you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever” (Psalm 30:1-12). Here David gives thanks to God following an obviously difficult circumstance. This psalm of thanksgiving not only praises God in the moment but remembers God’s past faithfulness. It is a statement of God’s character, which is so wonderful that praise is the only appropriate response.

We also have examples of being thankful in the midst of hard circumstances. Psalm 28, for example, depicts David’s distress. It is a cry to God for mercy, protection, and justice. After David cries out to God, he writes, “Praise be to the Lord, for he has heard my cry for mercy. The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy, and I will give thanks to him in song” (Psalm 28:6-7). In the midst of hardship, David remembers who God is and, as a result of knowing and trusting God, gives thanks. Job had a similar attitude of praise, even in the face of death: “The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised” (Job 1:21).

We should be thankful because God is worthy of our thanksgiving. It is only right to credit Him for “every good and perfect gift” He gives (James 1:17). When we are thankful, our focus moves off selfish desires and off the pain of current circumstances. Expressing thankfulness helps us remember that God is in control. Thankfulness, then, is not only appropriate; it is actually healthy and beneficial to us. It reminds us of the bigger picture, that we belong to God, and that we have been blessed with every spiritual blessing (Ephesians 1:3). Truly, we have an abundant life (John 10:10), and gratefulness is fitting.

Reference: <https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-thankfulness-gratitude.html>

Submitted by Matt Riddle

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Please return your OCC shoeboxes by Sunday, November 19.
They will be dedicated during morning worship.
You may also make monetary donations!

We will be a collection site for OCC this year!
National Collection Week is November 13th - 20th.

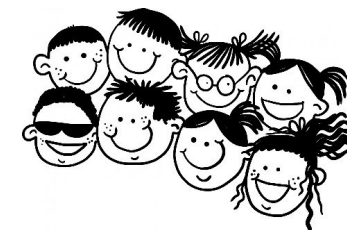
If you would like to help during this week, please see Bobra Robinson.

The date for our annual trip to the OCC Processing Center is
Saturday, December 2. If you would like to go, please sign-up on the back
hallway bulletin board. Our 25 slots have been filled but we have a waiting list
for additional slots as they open up.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHILDREN'S MINISTER

I first want to say a HUGE thank you to everyone who helped, donated, and volunteered their time for our Fall Festival. It was a great success! We had over 125 people from the community attend and around 70 children/youth attend.



As we have approached the month of November, the main topic I think about is being Thankful. That seems to always be the theme due to Thanksgiving. What does it mean to be thankful? What are you thankful for?

True thankfulness comes from knowing Jesus Christ as our Savior. We have a relationship with him and understand God’s love for us. We need to remember to choose thankfulness in difficult situations as well because we already have victory through Jesus Christ.

We continue to meet for children’s church on Sunday mornings and Sunday and Wednesday evenings at 7. We are learning more about the bible such as the many stories and people of the bible and how they relate to our lives. We will be learning about the events leading up to the birth of Jesus.

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



A MESSAGE FROM THE YOUTH MINISTER

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! 1 Chronicles 16:8

As we reach the time of year of Thanksgiving, we must remember to be Thankful of the promises made by God through Jesus Christ and the importance of sharing the Good News. During the month of October the Youth participated in outreach/missions to share the Love of Christ to other Youth and individuals they met during outreach. Life brings troubles and heartaches, but we must remember that Christ has overcome the world and through him we have eternal life and peace. Amid the storms of life in a dark and fallen world, inner peace is only possible through a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Youth meets on Wednesday and Sunday evenings at 7 with many activities and outreach as we learn more of Christ and how to spread the Good News.

~Brandon Barts
434-251-8512

Thank You

Ringgold Church Family,

Dena and I would like to say "thank you" once again for your love and generosity shown to us on Pastor Appreciation Sunday, as well as the entire year. You show your love and appreciation to us constantly throughout each year. You always go above and beyond each October and this year was no exception. Thank you for the cards, cash, gift cards, and kind words. The gift from the church this year was something I have been eyeing for some time and you made it a reality. For those of you who weren't sure what was in the brown box, it was an XTool D1 Pro 10 Watt Laser Engraving Cutting Machine which will cut wood and engrave wood, metal, and glass. I will enjoy using it and think of each of you when I do. Again, thank you for being such a loving, caring church. We love you and thank God for bringing us to Ringgold 9 years ago.

Pastor Duane and Dena

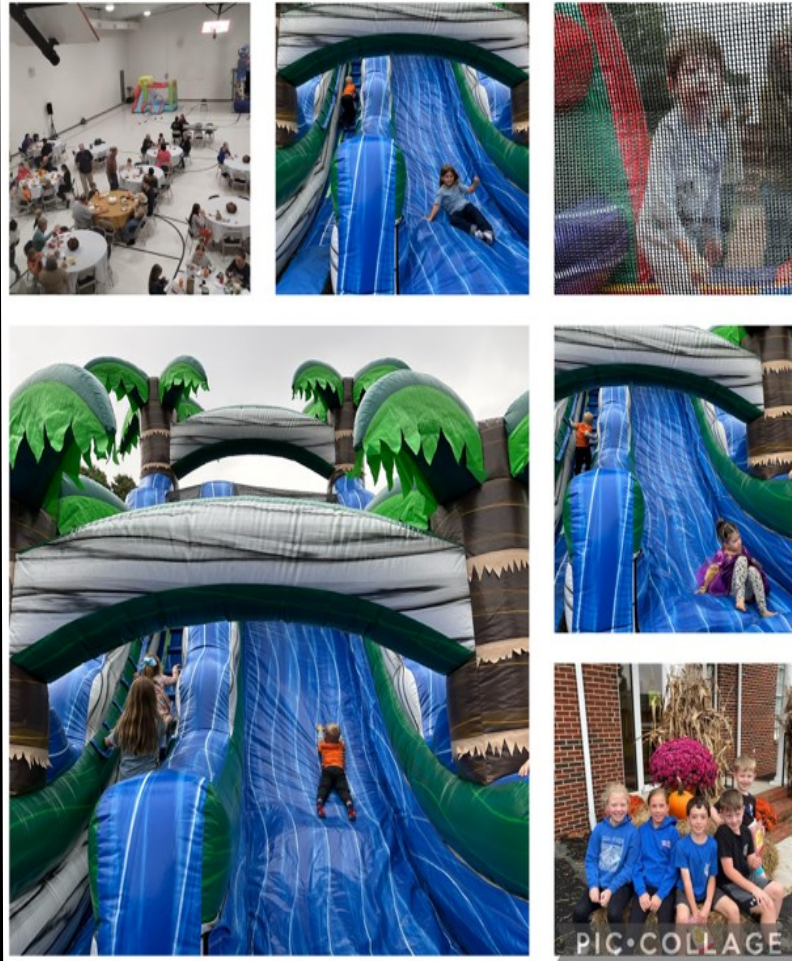


To A People Called Ringgold,

Once again you have shown your support and love! Thank you for the cards, gifts and remembrances—but most of all, thank you for making me one of your own. What a blessing to come here every day!

Cheryl

SIGHTS FROM THE FALL FESTIVAL



Our Deepest Christian Sympathy To

The family and friends of Charlotte Ann Conner in her passing.

The family and friends of Meredith Lee in her passing.

The family and friends of Robert Leigh in his passing

The family and friends of Mary Jane Wiles in her passing.



J.O.Y. Club News



Our Friend to Remember
for November is

Ruby Farlow
Roman Eagle
2526 North Main St., Apt. 230
Danville, VA 24540

You may leave cards for Ruby
in the mailbox through
November 30th.

Join us for our next meeting
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7 AT NOON
Please note this is a date change!
RINGGOLD STEW IS ON THE MENU!

Bring a dessert to share

Also, please bring canned good item/s
for God's Storehouse



SAVE THE DATE
FOR OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY



Tuesday, December 12th at Noon

**Christmas Lunch will be catered. Don't forget to
bring a \$5 gift for the exchange.**

Thanksgiving
CELEBRATE GOD'S GOODNESS

**The 32nd Annual Community Thanksgiving Service will be held at
Ringgold Baptist Church**

on

Sunday, November 19 at 6:00 pm.

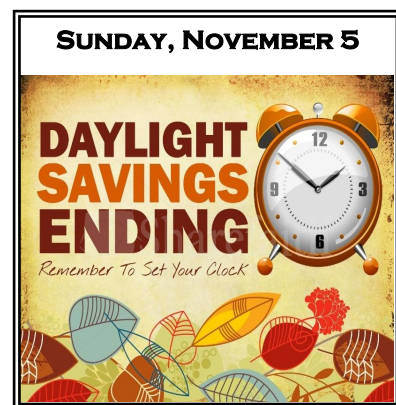
*Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors, as we join along with our
community churches for this very special worship service.*

*This year Rev. Tim Lee from Kentuck Baptist will bring the message and
Southside Celebration will provide a concert during the service.*

**A COOKIE RECEPTION WILL BE HELD IN THE FLC
FOLLOWING THE SERVICE.**

*Both canned goods and monetary donations to support
God's Storehouse will be collected. Please remember this organization
as it does so much in helping people in our community.*

Announcements, Events & Reminders



COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER

The traditional RBC Community Thanksgiving Meal will be Thursday, November 23rd at noon in the Family Life Center. The committee is asking the congregation to cook turkeys and have them at RBC by 9 o'clock on that Thursday. We will also need assorted pies and cakes. Signup sheets are located on the back hallway bulletin board.

Thank you in advance for your continued support of this ministry.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Donations gratefully appreciated



RBC STEW

**SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 4**

5:00—7:00 PM

ON NOVEMBER 19th



WE WANT YOU

November 19 has been designated as **High Attendance Sunday**. If you have been missing from Sunday School or have never attended a Sunday School class, **THIS DAY IS FOR YOU!**

On that date our goal is to have 90 attendees which will bring us back to pre-Covid numbers. If we meet this goal, the Deacons will donate \$250.00 to the Youth Mission Fund.



WMU HIGHLIGHTS

PAUSED UNTIL JANUARY 2024:

SIT (Students in Transition) the ongoing mission project of PBA (Pittsylvania Baptist Association) is paused at RBC for the remainder of the 2023 school year unless the nurse calls for unexpected needs. Each school in the community was stocked with needed items at the beginning of the school year in August.

VOLUNTEERS for TEAM RBC @ Dan River Food Distribution for God's Storehouse are the BEST!!

- ◆ There were **19** volunteers from RBC at the Kentuck Ministry Center on October 17 to pack perishable food boxes for distribution to members of the community along with nonperishable food boxes. Thanks to Toni Adkins, Kitty Anderson, Ellen and Butch Boyd, Duane Caldwell, Ginger and Larry Collie, Suzanne and Ronnie Emerson, Betty Jo and David Foster, Cheryl and Brian Horne, Doug Motley, Cathy and Michael Shelton, Sherry Shively, Linda Snead, Pam Tuck.

THANK YOU –

- ◆ For the donations of pinto beans, rice and cornbread mix for **God's Storehouse** in October.
- ◆ For the twenty-eight volunteers who signed up to participate in the community **"Blessing Our Neighbors"** mission outreach of the PBA on Saturday, October 21.
 1. There were people accepting donations of household items for House of Hope and canned food for God's Storehouse at Piggly Wiggly from 8:30-2:30.
 2. Brandon and the youth delivered all the household items to House of Hope Saturday afternoon.
 3. Some members of the WMU took a meal to the residents of House of Hope (homeless shelter) Saturday night.
 4. Sammy & Ronnie worked with the Sutherlin Barn Outreach Ministry annual fundraiser to support local missions.

NEEDED!

- ◆ **"Bless This Food" Ministry** needs dishes of food that could serve as a meal by itself. Dishes for 1 or 2 people are needed more than large ones. Please sign in your dish and date that you bring it. **Whoever takes a dish out to someone needs to sign their name and the date they delivered it to someone.**

Join a mission group – First Tuesday at 7:00 pm at RBC or Second Tuesday at 10:00 am at RBC.

Thank you for your continuing support of all mission endeavors at RBC.

Suzanne Emerson – WMU Director

MUSIC

As an effort to encourage more participation in singing with the choir, here are excerpts from an article I found at - <https://cfdiocese.org/bishopsblog/4-purposes-of-music-in-worship>



1. Music teaches us the gospel.
Hymns and other forms of music instruct us in the Good News, touching our hearts as well as our minds.
2. Music connects us to God in unique ways.
The purpose of music goes beyond mere instruction... it allows for a direct connection with God...
3. Music allows us to express our love to God with our whole being.
Scripture commands us to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might" (Deuteronomy 6:5 NRSV).
4. Music as worship fulfills God's command.
Throughout scripture, we're commanded to sing. Within the Psalms (prayers set to music, the hymnal of the Old Testament) we read, "I... go around your altar, O Lord, proclaiming thanksgiving aloud," (Psalm 26:6-7 ESV); "Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!" (Psalm 98:5 ESV); and "Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!" (Psalm 100:2 ESV).

God calls us to sing praise to the Lord and to sing in his presence. The New Testament affirms this call. Paul urged the Ephesians (and us) to "be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Eph. 5:18-20 ESV).

Dan Wolfe, Minister of Music