

Happy Thanksgiving

Pastor's Corner

Today I want to encourage you to continue your journey into the Word of God. There is no doubt in my heart and mind that the Word changes us. This is precisely why Paul told Timothy in his parting instructions, "Preach the Word; be ready in season and out of season" (2 Tim. 4:2). The pastoral staff here at Smyrna is convinced that the growth and spiritual maturity that we are witnessing here is in direct proportion to your (and our) reading and studying of the Bible. It is through reading His Word and the application of it in our lives by the Holy Spirit that Christ makes us wise to consider and weigh things. Christ is the victor and the conqueror but He trains us that we might carry out His will and advance His causes here on earth. We can't do that without godly wisdom that is imparted to us through Bible reading. How do you know what is the right choices to make in this crazy world? How do you know how to prioritize and order things in your life? It is the Lord who makes us "wise unto salvation" (1 Tim. 3:15).

Beloved, we must learn to judge if "things" in this world help or hinder our main purposes; if they help or hinder our judgment; whether they make us more or less spiritual (like Christ); do they bring us nearer to God or push us away? You

must continue to work at storing up truth in your hearts so when you are called to exercise wisdom, there is wisdom and truth to be found within you from which to draw. I love this often overlooked and seldom used Proverb. In 1:17 it says, "Indeed, it is useless to spread the baited net in the sight of any bird." What that means is if a trap is set in plain view of one approaching, he will surely avoid the trap and remain safe. The point for us as believers is that when we are in tune with the Lord, when we are spiritually keen, and are walking in His light ("Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path" Ps.119:105), when He is directing our steps we will notice the trappings of the Evil One and the snares of this world and will be able to avoid them and remain free. Isn't that awesome? This is one of the many reasons you need to be a student of the Word of God and it is why we are adamantly trying to lead Smyrna in this way. No gimmicks and none of the latest fads – just the Word of God in your hands and heart with the Spirit's illumination is enough.

This is a great quote from a book I have just finished reading called The Bruised Reed, by Richard Sibbes a Puritan who lived during the 1600's. "While the soul is kept aloft, there is little danger of snares below." This means that when our souls are daily captured by

Christ and His beauty and when our minds are filled with His Truths and the wonder of His salvation, we are far more likely to be obedient and far less likely to slip into the muck and mire of sin. So my friends, I exhort you today to read your Bible and meditate on its teachings. Yes, it is work! It is not always easy. We are here to help you. Remember "it is not sleepy habits, but grace in exercise that preserves us." If you are like me, "your heart is very loose and unsettled." We must keep our eyes on Jesus or we will fall away. May the prayer of your heart and mine be like the Psalmist who wrote, "Teach me Your way, O Lord; I will walk in Your truth; Unite my heart to fear Your name" (86:11). Pursue Him church family. He is worth it and you can't make it without Him.

Devotedly,
Pastor Robert



Volume 13, Issue 11

November 2017

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Special Points of Interest:

- * Sunday School starts at 9:30am.
- * Emmaus Road Devotions are now available!
- * Community Clothes Closet open Mondays 10-12!
- * Wednesday Night Dinners are at 5:30pm.
- * BOP Monthly Luncheon is Wednesday, Nov. 8th at 11am.
- * 52nd Annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be Sunday, Nov. 19th at 5:00 pm
- * The church office will be CLOSED Thu. & Fri., Nov 23rd & 24th for the Thanksgiving Holiday

A Message from. . . Aaron Bobo, Assoc. Pastor

November and December are very special months for most of us! Many of my best memories took place during the holiday season. Thanksgiving and Christmas were two of the only times of the year that my entire family would gather in one place. These were, and are, wonderful times of fellowship and intimacy. I love to catch up with folks that I haven't seen for a good while and renew a special bond that only family has with one another.

My guess is that most of you feel the same way. There is something special about being with family with no agenda other than to enjoy each other's company and make more memories. This should seem natural to us as this is how God designed the world in which we live. He made us to live in community with one another, but not just in our biological families. God's design is for us to find deep and abiding relationships chiefly with our brothers and sisters in Christ in the local church.

We are to truly be "the Family of God", and as we interact and love one another, the world is given great evidence for the validity of our faith (John 13:35). I say all of this to build my case to motivate you to not only prioritize your family fellowships but also to go ahead and mark your calendars for the church fellowships that are coming in these next two months.

One of our goals as pastors at Smyrna is to continue to lead the congregation to a deeper level of community. We believe that church is a family you belong to instead of a building you attend once a week. We believe that the New Testament instructs us over and over again to love, serve, encourage, and exhort one another and these commands are not just given to those on staff but to all members of the Church.

If we are to be faithful to these commands we must first know one another, and the best way to know one another is to spend time with one another! Of course, the Caregroup structure in our Sunday school classes is our weekly attempt at developing deep relationships. We certainly believe that you should be a part of these times together but we also understand that fellowship should happen on a large scale!

So, mark your calendars now to be a part of our Thanksgiving meal on Sunday November 19th and be on the lookout for your Sunday school class' Christmas fellowship! In short, press into God's family! We believe that our church will continue to grow as grow in intimacy with one another and in our knowledge and love of God.

Devotedly,

Pastor Aaron

Email: assocpastor@smyrna1897.org

A Message from. . . Joe Rowland, Assoc. Pastor

Greetings Smyrna Family,

First things first, thank you so much for participating so intensely in our annual candy competition! Once again, we've raised over a thousand pounds of candy and we most certainly couldn't do it without you. Isn't it beautiful to see how God uses His church? You know, He doesn't need us at all. He can accomplish whatever He wills without our help. But how blessed we should feel that in His great mercy He allows us to take part in His divine plan. What grace! As I sit at my in-laws kitchen table, listening to Elvis, Ben E. King and Bill Withers, and writing this scroll entry, I am feeling so honored to be able to take part in what God is doing at Smyrna Baptist Church in Dinwiddie, Virginia. Thank you for serving alongside your pastors—your brothers in Christ—so joyfully and sacrificially.

In the way of Missions, please keep the mission opportunity to Liberia in your prayers! International mission trips are not simple to plan or execute and just because we want to go down this road doesn't mean we automatically will! It takes a lot of money, time, and most importantly prayer.

In the way of Administration, please consider signing up for online giving if you find yourself forgetting to bring cash/check on a Sunday morning. We recently switched online giving platforms and we now have better rates and so online giving is even more beneficial to the church than it already was! Also, it takes a smidge more time, but if you want to give online regularly please consider hooking up your bank account directly instead of hooking up a debit card. The rates are minimal for direct bank transactions (ACH) as opposed to card transactions. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to give me a call! Visit smyrna1897.org/donate to set your account.

For the King,

Pastor Joe

Email: assocpastor2@smyrna1897.org

YOUTH HAPPENINGS

SBC Youth
Wednesday Nights
@ 630 pm

Smyrna Family,

This has been a really busy month. Perhaps I am my father's son, but I loved the craziness. We had a youth bonfire with over 40 people, the youth baked 200 potatoes and fed the church on Wednesday night, we have a big group heading to Scaremare, and Hallow Him is right around the corner. What a blessing to exhaust ourselves for the sake of the Gospel. If that sounds foreign to you, I implore you: get involved! There is nothing like going to bed at night knowing you have given all your energy to be obedient to the call of God that day. No, we will never do that perfectly this side of Heaven, but it certainly brings contentment to give it your best shot!

I have a few short thoughts to share with you on the topic of mentorship. I am sure this isn't the first time I've written on the topic, nor will it be the last. This is the heartbeat of our youth ministry. We use the word "discipleship" a lot—really, that's a Christian mentoring another Christian in the Christian walk. Brother Chuck Johnson said to me a few nights ago, in regards to the youth ministry, "we're teaching them how to walk." Obviously, they can walk on their own two feet. We're talking about the *Christian life*. Walking that way is not quite as simple! We are created to do that in community, helping one another along. The youth are really buying into this vision (a Biblical one). The high schoolers pour into the middle schoolers. The young adults pour into the high schoolers. The young parents pour into the singles. The senior adults pour into the young families (and so on and so forth). The local church is a big family. In families, we have a duty to help guide the younger siblings. That is what the church should do as well. Along the way, you never know what you may learn from the younger one!

I pray that you will take that seriously. I challenge you to spend your time and energy purposefully and intentionally investing in someone younger, or simply less experienced, than you. They will be thankful and Christ will be honored.

In Christ,
Pastor Josh
Next Generation Pastor
youthpastor@smyrna1897.org



WINTERFEST 2017

Dec. 30 & 31st

at Liberty University

Ring in the New Year with Crowder, Lecrae, Skillet, Switchfoot and more awesome bands, as well as break-out sessions.

You will be required to pay \$20 to cover all of your meals for the trip. Please contact Pastor Josh with any questions (804) 929-7164

A Message from...the Worship Ministry. . . .



The worship ministry is deep in preparation for our Christmas worship experience, "Wonder and Glory" We covet your prayers for good health, good attendance, and good memory as we have November and part of

December to prepare in our rehearsals. We will lead in worship through this music on Sunday, December 17, at the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Please help us make this an outreach event! Invite your lost friends, neighbors and co-workers. Many people are more

open to coming to church at Christmas and this is an entire service of Christmas music for all ages! We will provide flyers for you to use to invite others at the Welcome Center by December 1.

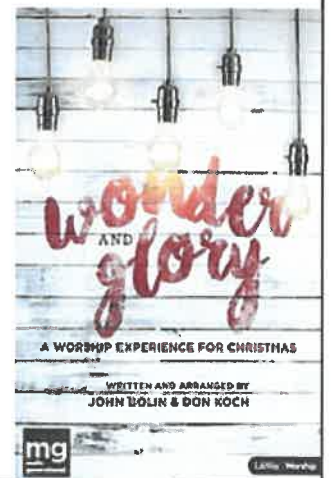
As a continuation from last months article, here are some quotes regarding congregational singing, taken from The Gospel Coalition, Arts & Culture, "In A Divided Culture, Church Singing can Unite and Invite":

"Singing in worship is countercultural, but that's precisely why it's important. In a fragmented and weary culture, exhausted by shrill division, the church has an opportunity to model something better, something rare, strange, and wonderful: People who are different from each other, joining together to sing, in unison, in praise of the living God. When we sing, it is a battle cry of hope for the wounded, for the weary, for the lost. . . . Our songs are the public manifesto of what we believe. We live in a culture where marriages and families are breaking down, where people can barely be civil to their neighbors. Into this culture walks Christianity, where people from every background get together and sing to one another about the Creator of the universe, the One who has redeemed them, the One who is their hope. When we sing, it is a battle cry of hope for the wounded, for the weary, for the lost. . . . When we sing, we witness to the people in our church who are yet to believe—to the unsaved spouse, the cynical teen, the intrigued friend. We witness to the outsider stepping through the door of a church and even, through the sound we make, to the outsider walking past the door of a church. The sight and sound of a congregation singing praise to God together is a radical witness in a culture that rejects God and embraces individualism. It may be countercultural and at times uncomfortable, but singing in worship is essential to the church's identity and mission. Keith Getty says, 'Singing can never save anyone, but it certainly draws people in a unique way to the One who can.' Before Cliff Barrows died, Getty asked him why Billy Graham continued to have congregational singing at his evangelistic events until the end. Barrows simply said, 'Because there's something irresistibly attractive about congregational singing.'"

We hope to see you singing your praises together with us each Sunday as a witness of your hope in Christ Jesus, your Redeemer and King. There is nothing this side of heaven that we should be more excited about than coming together each Sunday for corporate worship! We as a nation celebrate a time for thanksgiving this month. We as children of God celebrate thanksgiving every day of our lives and together on Sunday mornings. As the Psalmist writes, may we do the same,

"Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise, give thanks to Him and praise His name." Psalm 100:4

*Singing His Praise,
Melodie & Brad*





Our Clothes Closet is Open on the following days:

- ✓ Monday's from 10-12N
- ✓ Last Saturday of every month from 9-11am

PLEASE CONTACT
KATHY MILES @ 399-2243 OR
AMY MIZZELL @ 720-5889

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Smyrna's Shoebox Drive KICKOFF Smyrna OCC Shoebox Drive



10/22-11/12/17



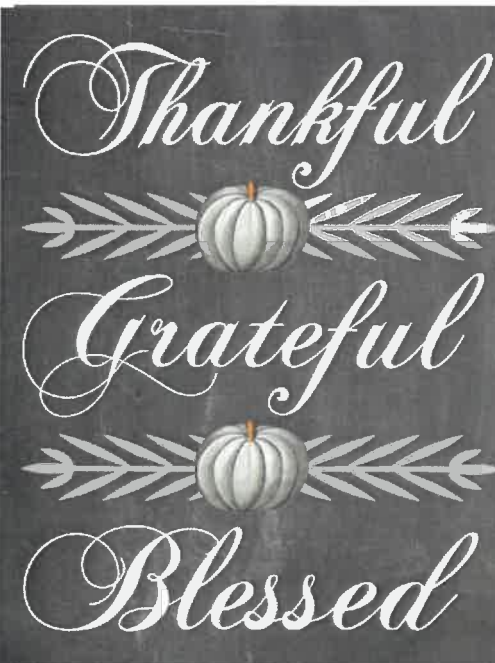
Shoebox Item Donation

Suggestions: *Toothbrush, bar soap, wash cloths, small toys, brushes & combs, socks, puzzles & small games are greatly appreciated, but please, NO toothpaste, candy or liquids of any kind.*

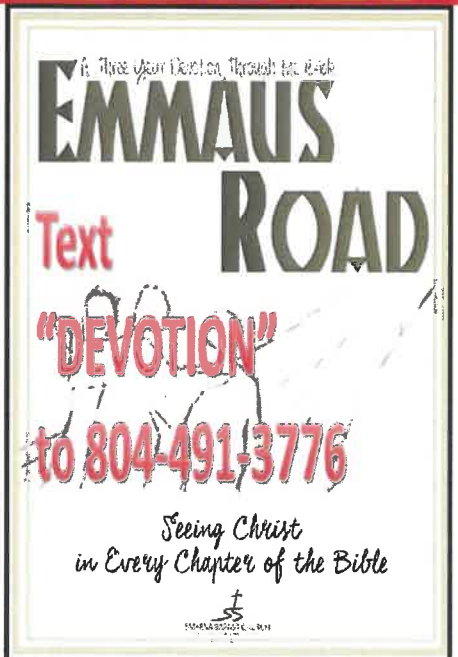
- Boxes will be available in the Foyer or you can use a regular shoebox or plastic box from dollar store.
- Items & monetary donations are welcomed and may be dropped off at the Missions Center (Any money donated will be used to "fill" and "ship" boxes).
- **Smyrna Shoeboxes are due by Sunday, 11/12**

Our Goal: 500

For more information regarding Operation Christmas Child and the shoe boxes please visit www.Samaritanspurse.org



Thanksgiving
 Praise &
 Prayer Service
 Wednesday
 Nov. 22nd
 At 6:30 pm
 No other evening
 activities



Kidz News



If you are unable to volunteer on your specified date/time, please find your own replacement and notify the Children's Dept. Coordinator with your replacements name - THANK YOU for serving the children of Smyrna Baptist Church!

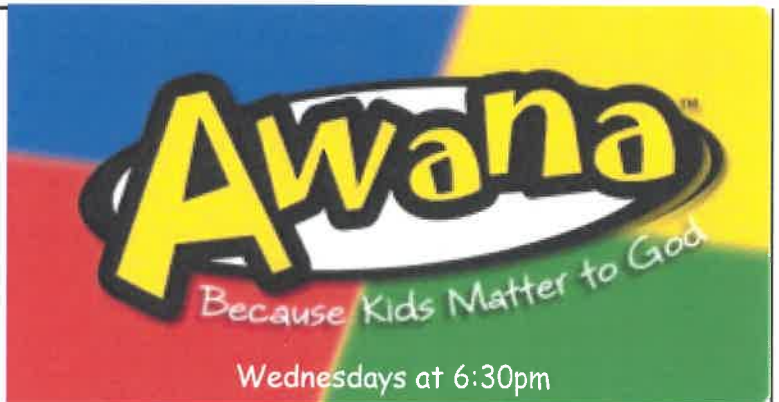


NOV 2017	<u>SS Nursery (9:15—10:40)</u>	<u>Nursery (10:30)</u>	<u>Toddler 1's & 2's</u>	<u>Toddlers 3's</u>	<u>Children's Church</u>	<u>Check In (9:20 - 10:45)</u>	<u>Check In (10:30 - 12:15)</u>
Nov 5th	Panky Clark	Marian Rowland	Renee Silvestro	Janna Cobb	John Clay	Kim Davis	Terri Driskill
	Cindy Bain	Angie Adkins	Angel Davis	Emily Cobb	Kristin Clay		
Nov. 12th	Brandy Turner	Lisa Barnhouse	Ashley Branhouse	Nicki Stephenson	April Green	Kalley Saye	Kalley Saye
	Peggy Turner	Grace Barnhouse	Reagan Saye	Samantha Dalton	Rebekah Servis		
Nov. 19th	Annette Perkinson	Diana Neville	Aimee Kennedy	Mary Hunt	Cheryl Joyner	Kalley Saye	Angela Walker
	Ashley Perkinson	Gracie Saye	Emma Kennedy	Laura Rowland	Sierra Servis		
Nov. 26th	Amelia Servis	Stephanie Rowland	Tia Wilson	Melissa Taylor	Stacy Dyson	Kalley Saye	Pam Reynolds
	Holly McCaffity	Melissa Snellings	McKenzie Wilson	Reagan Saye	Angel Davis		

A Message from our Children's Coordinator...



Volunteers - Thank you for your dedication and service! We are thankful for you every day.



KIDZ CHOIR
Wednesdays at 6:00pm
 (NO CHOIR Nov. 22nd)
Ages 3 to 12

3 yrs. to Pre-K Room 114
 K to 6th Grade Room 125

- ◆ November 1st - Flyers for Food Drive
- ◆ November 8th - Regular Club Meeting
- ◆ November 15th - Theme Night - 'Being Thankful'
Take food to food bank
- ◆ November 22nd - NO AWANA
- ◆ November 29th - Regular Club Meeting



Smyrna Baptist Church Calendar of Events 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		BOP Wednesday Nov. 8th at 11am	1 5:30pm Wed. Night Dinner 6:00pm Kidz Choir Practice 6:30pm AWANA/ Youth Mid-Week Worship Worship Ministry Practice	2 6:00 - 8:00 pm Grief Share	3	4
5 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 6:00pm Sharing Jesus Without Freaking Out	6 Deacon's Meeting 7pm	7 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121	8 5:30pm Wed. Night Dinner 6:00pm Kidz Choir Practice 6:30pm AWANA/ Youth Mid-Week Worship Worship Ministry Practice	9 6:00 - 8:00 pm Grief Share	10	11
12 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 6:00pm Sharing Jesus Bldg. & Grounds Meeting 5PM	13	14 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121 6:00—8:00pm American Heritage Girls	15 5:30pm Wed. Night Dinner 6:00pm Kidz Choir Practice 6:30pm AWANA/ Youth Mid-Week Worship Worship Ministry Practice	16 6:00 - 8:00 pm Grief Share Smyrna Scroll Submissions Due	17	18 B MEN ON MISSION Breakfast & Workday - 8am
19 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 	20	21 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121 Worship Ministry Practice 6:30—8:30 pm	22 Thanksgiving Praise & Prayer Service 6:30 pm (No other activities)	23 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED HAPPY THANKSGIVING	24	25
26 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am - Worship Service with Avery Road 	27	28 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121 6:00—8:00pm American Heritage Girls	29 5:30pm Wed. Night Dinner 6:00pm Kidz Choir Practice 6:30pm AWANA/ Youth Mid-Week Worship Worship Ministry Practice	30 6:00 - 8:00 pm Grief Share		



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



- | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1 - Della Harrison | 8 - Edith McAlpine | Linda Wingrove | Lindsey Marks |
| Bonnie Moore | 9 - Jim Erdmann | 24 - Emily Cobb | Waylon Sims |
| Noah Perkinson | 11 - Kalley Saye | Butch Howard | 29 - Richard Lane |
| Pastor Joe Rowland | 13 - Patrick Hege | 25 - Eric Blaha | Katelyn Phillingane |
| 2 - Debbie Cates | John Means | 26 - Riley Farris | Marty Wells |
| Mike Shell | 14 - Ashley Eubank | Noah Kester | |
| Cole Westmoreland | Marjie Kaufman | 28 - Lyndzi Kelly | |
| 4 - Catherine Crocker | 15 - Bobby Rowland, Jr. | | |
| 5 - Roselyn Stell | 17 - Carla Temple | | |
| Stephanie Failing | 19 - Jannette Daniels | | |
| 6 - Julie Temple | Jimilee Lindell | | |
| Starr Overby | 22 - Cindy Bain | | |
| 7 - G.C. Edmonds | Jesse Severt | | |
| John Tucker | 23 - Jerry Perkinson, Jr. | | |



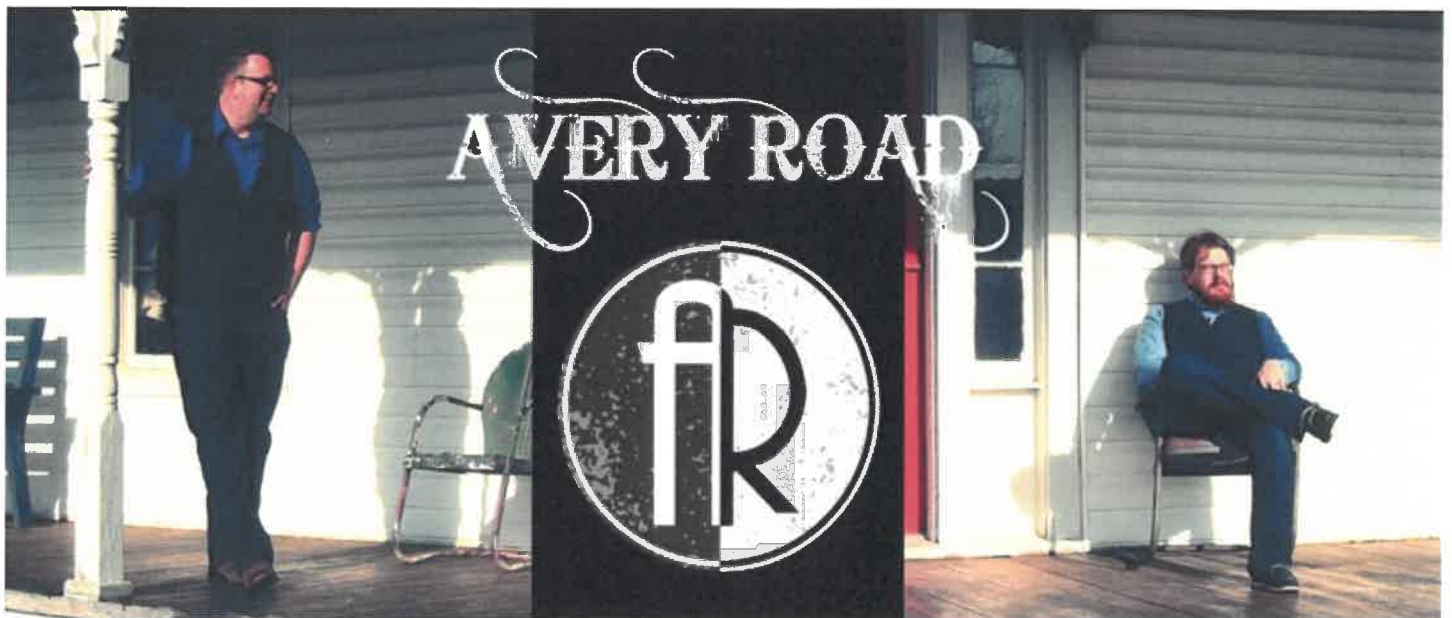
52nd Annual Thanksgiving Dinner
Sunday, Nov. 19th
at 5:00 pm
in the sanctuary

The ham, turkey, dressing, gravy, bread and beverages will be provided. Please bring side dishes of vegetables and desserts (enough for your family +1) in disposable containers.

In an attempt to get the serving lines moving faster, we will be having duplicate tables set up so that there will be 4 serving lines.



Thank you in advance for your assistance.



#GOSPEL #SOUTHERN #COUNTRY

AVERY ROAD IS A CHRISTIAN MUSIC DUO MADE UP OF TIM WADE AND JASON BURTON THAT BLENDS COUNTRY, SOUTHERN GOSPEL, AND CONTEMPORARY TO CREATE A SOUND THAT'S ALL THEIR OWN.

JOIN US AT 10⁴⁵ AM WORSHIP SERVICE ON NOVEMBER 26TH.

THERE WILL BE A 'LOVE' OFFERING TAKEN UP FOR THIS POWERFUL DUO.

COME ENJOY SOME INSPIRATIONAL MUSIC!