

# OCTOBER 2018 SCROLL

<sup>4</sup> For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup> We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.  
Romans 12:4-6 (NIV)

## Pastor's Corner

There are so many reasons why the local church body is important. It should be enough to simply say that it was God's idea and it represents the bride of Christ in the world today. Added to that is the Scriptural teaching that Jesus said He would build HIS church and the gates of hell not prevail against it (Matt. 16:18). We are also told we should not "forsake assembling together" as believers. There is no question that God's plan was to establish local churches as outposts of the Kingdom to represent Him on this planet. He gave clear instructions on how to organize the church in regard to offices and leadership as well as expectations of what the church was to do in the world as His hands and feet (the body). The point I want to make today is one that is almost completely off the radar in most churches today. One of the greatest responsibilities and needs in the church today is rediscovery of the church's role in affirming or not affirming a person's salvation.

Now wait a minute, I did not say we determine who gets saved and who doesn't. I said that the church is the body that is meant to help a person experience assurance of their salvation. Friends, you know that I believe in the doctrine of eternal security - that you can never lose your salvation once you are truly saved. After all, it was God who saved you and it is He who will keep you until the end. I wonder how many times you have wondered if you are truly saved or not. I know I went through a season where I questioned my salvation. Oh, what a wonderful day when that was finally put to rest in my mind. Like you may have been, I was told that I needed to know a particular time, place, and date that I was saved or I probably wasn't. That my friend is bologna. Now, for those of you who have that, praise the Lord. Those of you who don't - don't worry, there is still hope. Let me explain.

Identifying the evidences of true regeneration in your life can be tough to do on your own. Some of us are prone to discouragement and self-condemnation while others are too optimistic about themselves. This is where the church comes in - or should I say is supposed to come in. The local church is supposed to help us see ourselves accurately. Other believers who get to know you will be the ones who can help identify the spiritual fruit of a believer's life. Mike McKinley said, *"We are not good judges of our own hearts. Some people are entirely too easy on themselves while others with a tender conscience are far too hard on themselves. They take every weakness and failure as evidence that they are hypocrites and false Christians. Being involved in a local church is immensely helpful for both kinds of people."*

Dear folks, what is far more important than a one-time decision that you made somewhere some time ago, is nowhere near as important as your posture toward God today. I would like for you to ask yourself the question, "What is my attitude, posture, orientation towards God today?" It is insufficient to say that you prayed a prayer years ago while living with no interest in the things of God. What will indicate that you are born again is a present posture of faith and repentance toward God today. Another bit of evidence is that you persevere in the faith. Thirdly, that you have a love for God in your heart and a love for others too. These evidences will give you a powerful sense of assurance that you belong to God. Then what tops it off is the affirmation of a loving church that can confirm that we see the fruit of the Holy Spirit being produced in your life indicating that you are indeed attached by saving faith to the Vine. Without the church, who affirms your salvation? You alone?

With Love,  
**Pastor Robert**



**SMYRNA BAPTIST CHURCH**  
building community • equipping believers • serving Jesus

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**October 2018**

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### Special Points of Interest:

- ▶ Battle Ready Finances Class, Oct. 5th 6:30 - 9:30pm, Oct. 6th 8:30 - Noon
- ▶ LORD'S SUPPER OBSERVANCE - Oct. 7th
- ▶ BOP Luncheon Oct. 10th @ 11:00 am
- ▶ Manna Ministry Oct. 12th & 26th 10:00 - 2:00pm
- ▶ ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING - Oct. 17th
- ▶ Vision trip to Fitchburg, MA - 18th - 24th
- ▶ HALLOW HIM Oct. 31st 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Hello Church Family!

I've been thinking quite a bit lately about the centrality of the church body in my family's life. Our fellowship in many ways is the very backbone of our support system here in Virginia. So many of you have assisted us in discipling our children, you have welcomed us into your family's daily activities, you have become our closest friends, you have lifted us up in prayer, and you have supported us during some difficult seasons in our life. As I think about so many different examples of your influence and how you have profoundly blessed us I am reminded that this is exactly how the Church should function. We should really be a family. We ought to bear one another's burdens and we should weep with those who weep while we rejoice with those who rejoice. We ought to spend more time together and know one another in more than a superficial way. When the church is faithful to do these things it becomes an immensely valuable and irreplaceable component in each of her member's lives.

I say all of this to say that this church is something worth fighting for! We ought to be concerned that our body is healthy, growing and set up for generations to come. We should understand that this requires effort and foresight on our part, particularly in the area of developing more Godly leaders who will continue on in the body for generations to come. Our desire at Smyrna is not just to be healthy today but to continue to grow more leaders so that our church can both increase its impact in these days and secure its future for the days to come.

This goal works itself out practically in many ways but perhaps the most important component of reaching this goal lies in our desire to see more leaders raised up for future generations. I hope that you heard Pastor Robert's heart in his scroll entry last month as he talked about sharing responsibility and the load of leadership in the Church. I want you to know that this is the heart of the entire staff at Smyrna. Our goal is not to do all the work, it is to raise up Godly men and women who will work beside us to collectively pool our gifts for God's glory and the good of the body. Simply stated, the pastor is not doing his job if he is the only one shouldering the burden! Instead, our calling is to raise up more and more folks who will walk together in faithfulness.

Practically, this is the reason behind our apprenticeship program that has commenced in many of your Sunday school classes. Most of our classes at this point have a teacher and an apprentice. This apprentice is being invested in by your teacher for the purpose of developing more teachers to continue to make disciples as Sunday school grows (which it continues to do!). Your teachers are meeting with these apprentices regularly for fellowship, accountability, and instruction and they are providing regular opportunities for the apprentice to teach while offering feedback in order to develop their giftedness. Our hope is that in the years to come we will have dozens and dozens of Godly men who are able to teach for the health of the church and the glory of God!

I am writing this to you to ask you to do two things: First, support your apprentices! No one is a finished product when they begin the process. We realize that it takes time for teachers to develop their gifts and we ask that you support our folks as they are in the process. Support them by interacting, support them by attending their opportunities to teach, and most importantly, support them by praying. Second, I would like to ask you to ask yourself whether or not you might be gifted and qualified to teach. If you feel led, we would love for you to follow these guidelines. First, plug into your class! You will not be given a position of leadership if you have not proven to be a faithful follower. Second, begin to offer biblically based feedback and input into your class discussion. We want to see that you are growing before we ask you to apprentice! Third, approach your teacher about your desire to teach and ask him to pray with you along these lines.

My prayer is that God would put an earnest desire in many hearts to teach. We need men and women who love the Word and desire to lead others to love it so this place will continue to be the healthy body that all of our families need for generations to come.

**Devotedly,**

**Pastor Aaron**

Associate Pastor of Family Discipleship & Education

Email: [assocpastor@smyrna1897.org](mailto:assocpastor@smyrna1897.org)



Dear Smyrna Family,

I'd like to say that Fall is upon us, being that we are almost in October, but this heat tells me otherwise! I hate to complain about the weather, because it could always be worse, but let's just say I will be thrilled when Fall actually arrives. Speaking of Fall, *Hallow Him* is nearing with each passing day! That means our Candy Competition is in full swing, and our volunteer sign-ups are beginning. As usual, we need almost 100 volunteers to make this thing happen, so please-please-please find a way to serve that night. Our parking team (which id a phenomenal job last year) needs about 12 people, our Trunk-or-Treat area needs about 25 trunks, and our various games and attractions need, well...all they can use! I look forward to seeing how our church family responds.

And speaking of our church family, be in prayer for the few of us that are traveling to Massachusetts in late October. We (obviously) haven't promoted this trip much, but thankfully it is extremely low cost compared to an overseas trip (or really any trip involving plane travel). Also, this trip will actually be more of a teaching trip. What I mean by that is that I, as the missions pastor, am trying to lead and equip others to step up and lead out in the area of missions. Part of that means training others to lead people on mission trips. So, on this trip I will be taking a team of men and women that I anticipate will lead their own teams to Massachusetts in the coming days!

And lastly, now speaking of prayer, you will see in your Sunday School classes (starting 9/30), postcards of the missionaries we support (the Kittredges and the Robinsons). I ask that your classes keep these images in front and center and that you would all pray for them every Sunday morning. To help you stay updated on their prayer requests, I will also put a new prayer guide in your classes folder each month. Hopefully this will help the church get to know our gospel partners better and help everyone feel more involved in the mission activity. I look forward to seeing the fruit of consistent and fervent prayer!

For the King,  
**Pastor Joe**

*Associate Pastor of Administration and Missions*  
Email: [assocpastor2@smyrna1897.org](mailto:assocpastor2@smyrna1897.org)



### Monthly Missions Prayer Guide - October 2018

**Gary and Michelle Kittredge, Ashley (19), Bethany (16), and Sophia (9) - Gbanga County, Liberia**

- a. Pray for Ashley as she has begun her first year in Word of Life Bible College in Budapest, Hungary. Pray for Gary and Michele to trust the Lord to hold and sustain Ashley and pray for Bethany and Sophia as they adjust to life without their older sister.
- b. Pray for strength and perseverance for the entire family. Full-time mission work is hard and doing so in the country of Liberia is usually extra-hard. Pray that God would give them the grace of seeing fruit from their labors!
- c. Pray that more of us, the people at Smyrna, would be raised up to travel to Liberia on short mission trips...or even full-time!

**Tim and Toni Robinson, Tim Jr. (17), Julian (14), Ayla (12), Micah (8), Janessa (6), and Seriah (4) - Fitchburg, Massachusetts**

- a. Pray for wisdom and discernment for Tim and Toni as they are faced with some tough decisions in the life of The Haven Church.
- b. Pray for the small Smyrna team that is traveling to The Haven Church in late October.
- c. Pray that we would be fruitful in reaching our vision for partnership with The Haven Church -- that they would be able to do for someone else, what we are doing for them.



Smyrna Family,

As usual, I am writing to share thoughts that I have been considering and studying the last month. While I could go on and on, as you well know, there is one idea in particular that has been in the forefront of my mind.



One Sunday morning in September, we had an abnormally small crowd for youth. I think it was 18 kids present (which I know isn't terrible, but that's not the point). In word and writing, I have expressed time and time again the idea that we cannot and should not be driven by numbers. We must be biblically faithful and leave the results up to God. *But still*, if there is no tangible fruit, it is easy to get discouraged as a pastor. I think the same is true for members. Almost three years into ministry, I know that judging fruitfulness based on one week is never wise; so I'm ashamed to say, I went home a little discouraged.

The very next week we had 42 students present. More than *double* the previous week. There was no special event. No party after church. No excursion to a ball game. I must be honest, I have absolutely no idea why it dipped below average one week, and soared above average the next. So *what is the lesson in this anecdote?* Judging fruitfulness by numbers alone is not only unwise, it is unbiblical.

The prophet Isaiah was called to proclaim God's message to a people who would not listen. Their hearts would remain hard (we learned this in Isaiah 6, check out the Emmaus Road daily devotions!) "Success" for Isaiah meant obedience, faithfulness. It certainly wasn't based on how many people were lining up to follow him - that number was very low (or non-existent). While I think numbers have some level of importance - after all, they represent eternal souls - they cannot be our *only* metric for measuring the perceived success or failure of a local church.

Instead, let us look to *spiritual growth* of those involved in church. Are they healthy? Are they in community? Are they growing closer to God and one another, improving in spiritual disciplines like reading their Bibles and sharing their faith? Let us seek to equip the saints for the work of ministry (Eph. 4:11-16) and trust God with the numerical results. Instead of judging our vitality on numbers, let us judge it by health and pray fervently for more people (see, numbers do have a place) to hear the Gospel and respond in faith.

In Christ,  
**Joshua Rowland**, Next Generation Pastor  
Email: [youthpastor@smyrna1897.org](mailto:youthpastor@smyrna1897.org)

### YOUTH MINISTRY MEETING

There will be a meeting Sunday, October 7th immediately after service for parents, volunteers and students in the youth room. Lunch will be provided. We will cover big events, calendar, as well as vision and direction for the youth ministry.



As believers, we all know we were made by God (Psalm 139:13-16) and in His image (Genesis 1:27). Therefore, one aspect of our worship should be to worship God as Creator. Paul David Tripp puts it this way, "Worshipping God as Creator means recognizing that I was made for Him. If God made us, then we belong to Him as a testament to His creative glory."

One way we exhibit His creative glory is through the music use in worship. He has gifted us with various abilities, some of us musical abilities. Music comes from God. I recently attended the Richmond Symphony's opening night with a renowned guest artist playing classical music on the piano. I wondered if any of them on the stage truly realize from where their giftedness comes.

It comes from God. Music was given to man at the moment of creation when 'the morning stars sang together' (Job 38:7). The Bible alone provides an acceptable explanation for the origin of music and musical instruments. We read in Scripture that God surrounds Himself with angelic choirs and the songs of the redeemed sinners (Rev. 14:2-3). A heavenly choir of angels sang at the birth of Christ. We are told to 'sing to the Lord' and to 'praise His holy name' (Psalm 30:4). Again, we are exhorted to 'sing joyfully to the Lord' and to 'praise the Lord with the harp', 'make music to Him on the ten-stringed lyre', 'play skillfully and shout for joy' (Psalm 33:2-3). The purpose of music was, and is, to praise God.\*\*

Music provides joy because God has provided music. When we realize that God wants us to worship Him through music we see God as the Master Musician - the conductor of all life. Musical instruments are mentioned early in the Bible. We are told in Genesis 4:21 that Jubal was the father of all who play the harp and flute. Without the Bible we are unable to identify the first musician or the earliest instrument makers.\*\*

That being said, the worship ministry attempts to use all God has gifted us with to praise Him. In recent months there have been some coming to Smyrna with particular talents in music, which we incorporate into our services. This gives us the opportunity to have variety of musical styles in our worship services as offerings of praise to our Creator, God. "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, who does not change like shifting shadows," James 1:17.

Are you using your gifts in service to our Creator, God? Whether it is musical giftedness or other gifts/abilities, you only have them because God gave them to you. Are you using your abilities as a testament to His creative glory? If not, now is the time!

There is still time to get in on learning the Christmas music, so don't hesitate to join us in choir rehearsals Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8:30 pm. As always, continue to keep the worship ministry staff and volunteers in your prayers as we strive to bring excellence in worship every week as we worship our Creator, God.

Hymns for October: "There Is A Fountain", "A Mighty Fortress", "It Is Well", "God and King" (All Creatures of Our God and King)

\*\*portions from Creation.com

Singing His Praises,  
*Melodie & Brad*



# 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!



SMYRNA BAPTIST CHURCH  
building community • equipping believers • serving jesus

OCT 2018	10:30 am - 12:15 pm					CHECK-IN (9:15 - 10:30)	CHECK-IN (10:30 - 12:15)
	SS NURSERY (9:20 - 10:40)	NURSERY (10:30)	TODDLER 1's & 2's	TODDLERS 3's & 4's	CHILDREN'S CHURCH		
Oct. 7th	Anette Perkinson	Jann Etheredge	Betsy Adams	Ashley Bobo	Aimee Kennedy	Kim Davis	Kalley Saye
	Ashley Perkinson	Diana Neville	Reagan Saye	Catherine Crocker	Emma Kennedy		
Oct. 14th	Panky Clark	Stephanie Rowland	Cheryl Joyner	Mary Hunt	Floyd Crocker	Kalley Saye	Kalley Saye
	Kathy Miles	Melissa Snellings	Amelia Servis	Laura Rowland	Chena Crocker		
Oct. 21st	Cindy Bain	Marian Rowland	Brandy Barchanowicz	Michelle Ochtyun	Joe Rowland	Ashley Perkinson	Angela Walker
	Mason Wells	Angie Adkins	Angel Davis	John Ochtyun	Kristin Rowland		
Oct. 28th	Mykalah Tench	Lisa Barnhouse	Ashley Barnhouse	Ashley Jones	Johanna Rowland	Aimee Kennedy	Pam Reynolds
	David Tench	Grace Barnhouse	Rebekah Servis	Kurt Jones	Jaeda Rich		



## October Schedule

- ★ Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> - Regular Club Night
- ★ Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> - Regular Club Night
- ★ Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> - NO AWANA (Business meeting)
- ★ Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> - Pumpkin Decorating Contest
- ★ Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> - NO AWANA (Hallow Him)

Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8:00 pm  
(Unless noted above)



KIDZ CHOIR ON WEDNESDAYS  
6:00 - 6:30 PM  
AGES 3 TO 12  
3 YRS. TO PRE-K - ROOM 114  
K - 6TH GRADE - ROOM 125



# Smyrna Baptist Church Calendar of Events - 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>BOP</b> Wednesday, 10/10 @ 11am	1 Deacon's Meeting 7pm	2 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121 6:00 - 8:00 pm American Heritage Girls Finance Meeting 7pm	3 6:30pm Youth Mid-Week Worship Worship Ministry ★	4	5 Battle Ready Finances 6:30 - 9:30 pm <b>BDC</b> CAPITAL MANAGEMENT	6 Battle Ready Finances 8:30 - Noon
7 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 	8	9 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121 Board Member Mtg 7pm	10 10:00 am -Noon Ladies Bible Study 11:00 am BOP Luncheon ★	11	12 10 am - 2 pm Manna Ministry	13
14 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service	15	16 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121 6:00 - 8:00 pm American Heritage Girls	17 10:00 am -Noon Ladies Bible Study  Annual Business Meeting @ 7 pm	18	19	20 "Vision" Mission trip to Fitchburg, MA
21 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service	22	23 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121	24 10:00 am -Noon Ladies Bible Study ★	25	26 10 am - 2 pm Manna Ministry	27 ★
28 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service	29	30 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121	31 	<b>Wednesday Evening Activities (Not on Oct. 17th or 31st)</b> 5:30 pm - Dinner begins 6:00 pm - Kidz Choir Practice 6:30 pm - AWANA 6:30 pm - Mid-Week Worship Youth Worship Ministry Practice		

## October Birthdays

2 Dale Snead	10 David Tench	20 Lee Ann Dalgard	30 Caitlyn Nowak
3 Steve Perkinson	Ruth Mayer	21 Beth Johnson	Jim Peterson
4 Jennifer Burke	11 John Eubank	Gracie Saye	Angela Walker
Sheri Fraser	Carol Hege	22 Daniel Davis	31 Vickie Slayden
5 Mary Beth Howerton	Ivan Slayden	Phil Frazier	
Tyler Johnson	12 Danielle Montgomery	Brad Smith	
7 Patty Kidd	13 Jeannie Nice	24 Debbie Creech	
Heath Lane	14 Hudson Lane	Barry Fox	
8 Jimmy Barchanowicz	Judy Reighard	Pete Twisdale	
Allen Finch	15 Mykalah Tench	25 Colton Cliborne	
Kenny Miles	17 Jerry Perkinson	26 Mike R. Green	
Melodie Parsons	18 Margaret Bien	Alyssa Rider	
Kevin Shifflett	20 Brandy Barchanowicz	27 Amy Marker	
9 Wallie Blount, Sr.	Jeffrey Carr	28 Howard Thomas	



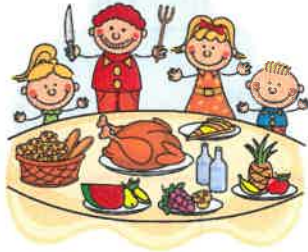
If your name does not appear on our *Birthdays Calendar* that means we do not have your birthdate in our records. Please call the church @ 469-9363 (Monday - Friday 9am - 4pm) to update the records we have on file or you can update it yourself via MY SMYRNA on our website [www.smyrna1897.org](http://www.smyrna1897.org).  
For help getting setup with MySmyrna (where you can manage your own data such as address changes, phone, email changes, view directories, view volunteer opportunities & more!!) call the church office or email [admin@smyrna1897.org](mailto:admin@smyrna1897.org).



## SMYRNA BAPTIST CHURCH

building community • equipping believers • serving Jesus

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**WOMEN of GRACE (WOG)** are collecting food supplies for the Thanksgiving Dinner Baskets they provide to many needy families in our area.

There are collection totes in the Children's welcome area and the front foyer to drop off supplies.

Items needed include: Boxed stuffing mix, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Canned Veggies, Cranberry Sauce, Cake & Pudding Mixes, Rice, Bags of Dried Beans, etc.

If you have any questions please contact Shay Tench.

### Mission Statement

Smyrna Baptist Church exists for the purpose of building up a community of fully equipped believers who give glory to God with every aspect of their lives.

## November

- 🍂 5th - Mon - Deacon's Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- 🍂 12th - 19th - OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Drop-Off - Times vary
- 🍂 14th - Wed - BOP Luncheon @ 11:00 am
- 🍂 17th - Sat - BMEN - 8 am - ? Set up for dinner
- 🍂 18th - Sun - ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DINNER @ 5:30 pm
- 🍂 22nd & 23rd - Thu & Fri - Church Office will be closed
- 🍂 30th - Sunshine Group luncheon @ 11

# Halloween Him

F A L L F E S T I V A L

## 6:00 - 8:00 pm

*There will be many fun games and activities for children of all ages!  
Food Trucks, Cake Walk, Hay Rides and more.*

*Candy collection has started for the Sunday School class contest*