

October Newsletter

As the seasons shift and the leaves turn, I'm reminded of Paul's encouragement in Galatians 6:9: "**Let us not get tired of doing good, for we will reap at the proper time if we don't give up.**"

Fall is a season of harvest, and it's a good time to reflect on how God produces fruit in our lives. Just as a farmer patiently waits for the crop to mature, so we are called to walk in the Spirit and trust that God is at work. Even when we feel weary or unnoticed, the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control is growing in us for His glory.

So, don't give up! God is faithful, and He is shaping us daily into the likeness of His Son.

Our Midweek has been a true blessing! Each Wednesday, we're seeing families share a meal together, children and youth learning about Christ, and adults digging deeper into God's Word. The fellowship is sweet, the laughter is loud, and the Spirit is at work.

Thank you to everyone who has helped prepare meals, teach classes, and simply show up with a heart ready to grow. Midweek has quickly become one of the highlights of our church family's life together. There are still ways you can be a part of it, from volunteering to participating in a class. It is not too late!

We are finishing up our Cultivated series on the Fruit of the Spirit, and I pray these weeks have helped each of us examine the character God wants to grow in us.

Looking ahead, I am excited to begin a new series entitled: "What's in Your Hand?" This series will explore how God uses what we already have with our gifts, resources, time, and abilities to serve Him. Too often, we feel like we don't have enough to make a difference. But the truth is, when God calls us, He equips us. What's in your hand is enough, because God will use it for His purposes. This series will help us see that we are left with no excuses to serve Him faithfully.

Later this month, our Association's Annual Meeting will take place. This will be a special time of worship together as churches in our area. It will also be a time of important decisions, as our association considers some significant bylaw changes to reflect a renewed focus on missional values.

I currently serve as the Vice Moderator of our association, and I am thankful to be part of what God is doing on a larger scale in our community. Please be praying for wisdom and unity as we seek to move forward together.

October is a month of change, cooler weather, shorter days, and bright colors on the trees. Yet one thing remains constant: God is at work. Let's be faithful to grow in Him, to serve with what He has placed in our hands, and to trust Him with the harvest.

Pastor Jon



Anniversaries:

Roger & Selma Ware - 10/06
Tommy & Jane Willis - 10/23
Dan & Nancy Jolly JR - 10/24
Joel & Maryann McSwain - 10/29



Birthdays:

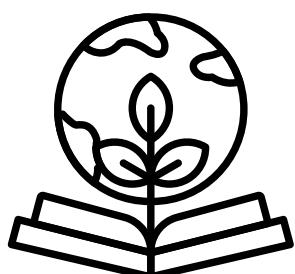


Jill Kegerreis - 10/5
Sharon Cantrell - 10/09
Steve Carrol - 10/10
Josh Soloman - 10/10
Levi Hamrick - 10/16
Karaleigh Hamrick - 10/22
Karen Hester - 10/26
Woody Whisnant JR - 10/26
Hershel Allison - 10/29
Rachel Crowe - 10/29



Nursery Volunteer Schedule

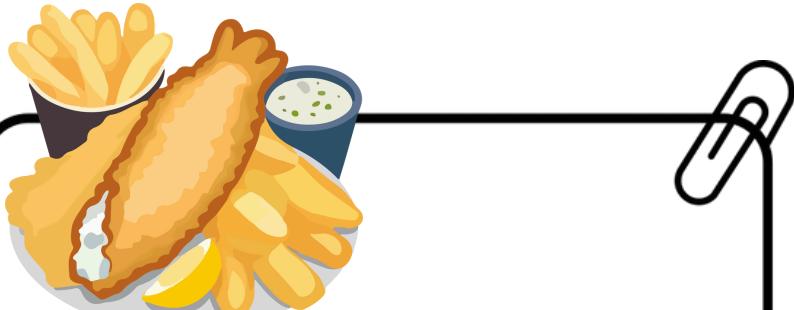
10/5 - Allison Jenkins
10/12 - Lorraine West
10/19 - Glenda Allen
10/26 - Sherry Blanton



Children's Volunteer Schedule

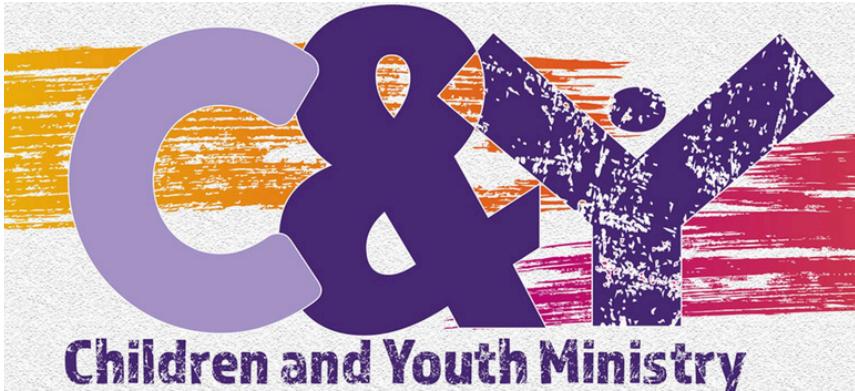
10/5 - Sherry Blanton
10/12 - Adriene Jones
10/19 - Doris Swafford
10/26 - Family Worship

EVENTS:



J.O.Y. Group outing to Captain's Cap for Dinner Sunday, Oct. 19th
the bus is leaving the church @ 5:30pm A sign up sheet will be put up on the trophy case.

Family Worship Service :
Sunday - 10/26



- October 19th - GCCBA Meeting with Youth
- November 7-9 - Caswell Fall Retreat



REMINDER

- Care meeting 10/5 @ 5pm
- Church Council 10/12 @ 11am
- Deacon Meeting Tuesday 10/13



If you have lost a loved one and are struggling, please take advantage of this wonderful program!

- **Every Sunday from 2:00-4:00 till November 16.**

Please email Amelia

(Amelia0161@gmail.com) to sign up or call 704-913-1905 for more info.

10/26 4-6pm



Upper Room will now be collecting Halloween Candy for the Greatest Treat Festival. There will be bins posted in the FLC and in the sanctuary; you can also bring them to the office. Last day to bring candy is Sunday, Oct 19.

MID-WEEK ACTIVITIES

Every Wednesday 5:45-7:30 pm

> MEAL 5:45 PM

> ADULT SERIES 5-WEEK STUDY 6:30 PM

> YOUTH, KIDS & NURSERY 6:30 PM

*Something for everyone!
Come & plug in!*





Mission Action Committee Report:

In September the mission committee resumed the backpack ministry and partnership with SMS. We are serving twelve students with a variety of goods and snacks that help them with hunger. Pastor Jon was called to minister to the school teachers, staff and administrators with a grief need after the unexpected passing of a member there. Pastor Jon did a great job quickly responding to that need. We do have a need for someone to sign up for providing Ramen noodles, please let Mickey know if you can help. We distribute 24 packs of Ramen noodles weekly to these students for this ministry or 96 each month.

The food closet fed over 44 in the month of August and demand for food has risen. The Dover grant will continue to help us with restocking the food closet and with the SMS backpack needs on occasion.

Pastor Jon submitted the Dover Foundation required report. Those funds have impacted roughly 2264 people, which we project to reach 3000 as that was our proposed goal. The funds have been used to provide a community meal, furnish essentials for our backpack ministry, support our food pantry, and help us encourage the staff of Shelby Middle School. 206 have utilized our food pantry YTD.

The North Carolina Missions Offering (NCMO) in September is \$1500 and 100% of your donations will go to support the relief efforts in WNC with meals, provisions, transportation, shelter and needed home repairs along with other ministries. Many lost everything. Please pray for and support this important effort and for all those who continue to struggle. The weekly bulletins and summary will update us on total donations for NCMO. Let's make a difference!

Donations are always needed for the NC Baptist on Missions for WNC residents who are in desperate need. Link to donate:

<https://baptistsonmission.org/Mission-Projects/By-Mission-Type/Disaster-Relief/Hurricane-Helene>

Feature Missions

Greatest Treat – October outreach event in partnership with our association, a great opportunity to share the love of Christ with our community. The Upper Room will take the lead and we need plenty of candy or cash donations to support this mission event. Volunteers are needed to help staff the block party trailer and candy give away on September 26, 2-6:30pm at Shelby Park. Please drop off any candy donations using the tubs already in place for the Backpack Ministry and we are asking each SS class to make a contribution to our class treasurer, see Nina.

Shelby Mission Camp Free Thanksgiving Meal - We need volunteers to help in meal preparation and delivering meals on Thanksgiving Day, November 27, starting about 10 am. Let Mickey know if you can help. If you are interested in a free meal that day, please contact the Shelby Mission Camp at 704-472-0104 to sign up.

Food Drive - Julia Humes leads a local scout group and they have a community food drive each November that supports our Food Closet. Please consider donating to our Food Closet during November using the tubs provided in the FLC and Sanctuary hallway.

Sock Ministry/Operation Christmas Child - The Barnabas class is taking sock contributions anytime that will be distributed in November/December, please consider making a donation to this important ministry. They are also preparing now for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes and need donations along with help with the cost of shipping of \$10 per box. See Lyn if you have any questions about needed items for the shoeboxes and please consider cash donations as well.

Angel Tree - Coming to the church, Thanksgiving Day church meal on November 23 Sunday meal. We expect up to twelve angels. We invite individuals, families or classrooms to consider making a big difference in a teenager's life over the Christmas Holidays.

Please consider signing up to help with Mid-week meals either as individuals, families or SS classes. This is a new ministry that Pastor Jon put together for Wednesday evenings where a low cost meal is provided starting at 5:45pm. We are feeding 35-40 each Wednesday night, the food is provided and easy to prepare and clean up after, and we have two great Bible study classes following the meal. It's a great way to have a meal for a very small donation, enjoy some great fellowship and learn more details about God's Word. We are studying the book of Jonah and developing great parenting skills. See Jon or Eddie for more details about the meal preparation, it's so easy. Where can you go out and eat for \$5? And bring a friend! If you think the book of Jonah is just another fish story, you would be surprised to hear there is a whole lot more to learn about God's message in addition to a BIG FISH.

Thank you all for your prayers, support, volunteer time, and generous donations! PRAY FOR OUR COUNTRY, OUR LEADERS AT EVERY LEVEL, OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS, IT'S ALL ABOUT JESUS.

Your Mission Team, Jon Jones, Martha Ledford, Nina Willis, Billy and Sherry Blanton, Eddie Winecoff, Mickey and Paulette Bradley

