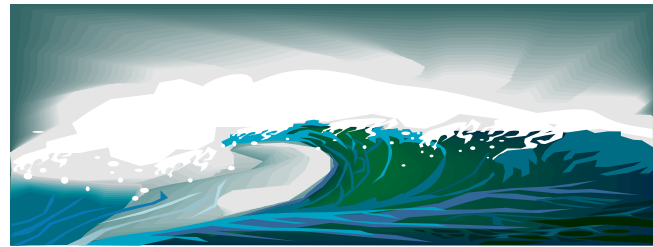




The *November 2018*  
**Anchor**

We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul...Heb.6:19a



**First Baptist Church , 215 Ann Street, Ravenswood, WV 26164 ~  
1-304-273-9910 ~ [www.fbcravenswood.org](http://www.fbcravenswood.org)**

The month of November serves as a reminder to all of us to be thankful for what we have. This premise is that we should strive daily to live our lives contently with whatever we have, and understanding we are not being punished or left out when we do not have certain things.

The Apostle Paul tells us that in his letter to the church at the Philippi that *peace that surpasses understanding comes from God due to our having contentment in our lives*. We learn to not stress about what we do not have, but take those needs to the Lord. He supplies our needs. Paul said in Philippians chapter 4, ***“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God...”*** (NKJV). He goes on to say, ***“I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content...”*** (NKJV). Even when he was in jail and miserable, he knew God was in control. Can we commit ourselves this month of celebration and thanksgiving to really focusing on what we do have, instead of what we do not have? *Can we have contentment in our heart for the holiday?*

There is nothing that I believe honors God more than unchurched persons seeing our contentment with our lives because of what God is doing in our lives. This is the exception and certainly not the norm in our society. We are constantly barraged with messages on television, radio, the Internet and so forth, telling us about the things we do not have, and how if we had those things, then our lives would be so much better. Perhaps, that is why people are so unhappy with their lives.

A published report in March 2018, shared data from Gallup that ranked the happiness of 150 nations for the period 2015-2017, based on a scale of 1-10, with 10 being the highest. America was a 7.5, which had fallen by 3/10 of a percent from 2008-2010. Overall, the U.S. ranked 18, with England just behind us at 19. Oddly enough, nations such as Germany, Finland, Australia, Israel, Canada, along with 13 others scored better than the U.S. How can the richest nation on Earth not be happy? Contentment? While there may be many factors in play, I cannot help but wonder how much of that has to do with many of us having “the wants,” and not appreciating the “I have.” We often have an expectation of needing more things or we are miserable.

During this special month where we celebrate Thanksgiving, let us at First Baptist Church do our best to remind people about how blessed we are as Christians and Americans. Sure, there are things that might make our life better and easier if we had them, but at the end of the day, we have the Lord Jesus in our lives and our needs are met. We have a home, we have health, we have food and we have friends – even if it’s just a few. If we need another reason to be thankful, look for a veteran.

(continued)

Veterans Day is also a part of this special month of giving thanks. We are a blessed nation with an abundance of everything. We live in a nation where we have the freedom to worship as we choose, and we are protected by the strongest military on the planet who will defend us when needed. So this Veterans Day, take the opportunity to thank someone who has served our nation or is serving our nation today. Above all, let's remember that God has been so good to us. Let's do what we can to share that good news with someone today. Let's show them the hope and contentment we have in our Lord. *We know that whether we live or we die, we are the Lord's* (Romans 14:8).

With that being said, I hope to see everyone at the annual church Thanksgiving dinner set for November 11. Our church has the best cooks in Jackson County. I am excited to dive in. I'm sure there will be lots of contentment going on there.

If I can be of service to you or your family, please let me know.

Love and Prayers,

*Pastor Toby*



Survey source: <https://www.fastcompany.com/40544341/america-desperate-for-happiness-is-getting-less-and-less-happy>



We have had a GREAT October! Our average attendance has been steady at about 19 kids with me.

This month we have been reaching out to our shut-ins and others by sending a little love and encouragement in cards. We mailed 11 cards out. I'm hoping this will encourage the kids to think about those we don't usually see as well as help them realize how important it is to reach out to each other. We even took food to one as a group.

Captivate has been cooking their own food every Sunday night - kids' choice. We have had spaghetti, tacos, and pizza. On two Wednesday evenings, we ate out. I believe it's important to feed the teens.

Captivate chose a college student and everyone helped box up a lot of love to send out.

For our studies, we are focusing on choosing your friends wisely - according to the Bible.

We only had one End Zone in October and it was well attended. This is a tremendous outreach for the youth in Ravenswood. I want to thank everyone who has helped in anyway - supplying food and drink, helping in the kitchen, setting up table and chairs, decorating, chaperones and cleanup. It takes a community to raise a child and we at First Baptist are trying our best! We have one more End Zone on November 2. I'm hoping it will be a great one too!

The youth participated in Treat Street. This is a first for the kids. We dressed up and gave out treats from the FBC Sycamore Street parking lot.

Upcoming activities: Our annual bonfire will be November 4 at 5:00 at my house on Flatwoods Road. All the church is invited to come. Captivate is planning a terrific Christmas play in December. We have started working on it already.

We have super kids and I'm having a really busy but great time!

Blessings,

Ann

### **Monthly Meetings & Activities**

Nov 2 End Zone  
Nov 4 Daylight Savings Time starts  
Christmas Shoes Boxes Out  
Fall Bonfire @ 5:30 pm /  
No evening services  
Nov 5 Baptist Women's Day of Prayer @11  
Trustee Meeting @ 7:00 pm  
Nov 6 Paint Class @ 6:00 pm  
Vote - Polls open  
Nov 8 Game Night 6:00-8:00 pm  
Nov 10 Pumpkin Rolls  
Nov 11 Thanksgiving Dinner/  
no evening services  
Nov 12 BOCE @ 7:00 pm  
Deacons Meeting @ 8:00 pm  
Nov 13 Paint Class @ 6:00 pm  
Men's Fellowship @ 6:30 pm  
Nov 15 CIRCLE @ 7:00 pm  
Nov 18 End Zone Honor Luncheon  
Christmas Shoe Boxes Due  
Nov 19 Anchor Articles Due  
Nov 20 Last Paint Class  
Nov 21 Community Service  
Nov 22 Thanksgiving Day - Office Closed  
Nov 23 Office Closed  
Nov 25 Play - *The Christmas Story* @ 2:30

### **Nursery Workers**

Nov 4 Connie Staats  
Nov 11 Jen Wagoner  
Nov 18 Rhonda Ritchie  
Nov 25 Jane Moore

### **Children's Church**

Nov 4 Connie Staats  
Nov 11 No Children's Church  
Nov 18 Liz Stewart  
Nov 25 Sami Wagoner

### **CommUnity Kitchen**

Nov 3 Lions Club  
Nov 10 Susan West Crew  
Nov 17  
Nov 24 No CommUnity Kitchen

### **Deaconess for Communion**

Helen Johnson

### **Focus on Sunday School:**



## ***It's Thanksgiving!***

**Ten things about Sunday School  
to be thankful for:**

1. Learning about Jesus
2. Happy teachers
3. Breakfast snacks
4. Crafts and activities
5. Learning more about Jesus
6. Interesting Bible Stories
7. Seeing friends
8. Understanding God
9. Interesting conversations
10. Learning even more about Jesus

Have an even better Thanksgiving!

***Attend Sunday School!***

Omega Class  
Adult Class  
Women of God Class  
Senior High Class  
Junior High Class  
Middler Class  
Primary Class



For all you are  
For all you do  
**Thank You**

**In remembrance of Veterans Day, I would like to honor my dad, Abe Westfall, a veteran of WWII.**

**My daughter, Jonna (Hudson) Huffman, wrote this essay about her grandfather for an English assignment in the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. This essay gave Jonna the honor of placing a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Washington, D.C.**



### **THE PAIN OF UNKNOWN SOLDIERS**

My grandfather, whom I affectionately call Papa, is very special to me. He has helped me pick up the pieces of my life when my parents got divorced. We go fishing, he comes to my softball games, and we are best buddies. Papa always gives me money if I have a good report card, he takes me out to eat on Sunday afternoons, and he helps me with my homework assignments.

My Papa is special to me for another reason. I have become aware, through bits and pieces of conversation, of some of the experiences he had in World War II. It is still very hard for him to talk about it, and he often breaks down in tears. In 1943, at the age of 20, he was drafted into the Army.

He was assigned to the Quarter Master's Detachment that was in charge of laundering items from the field hospitals that took care of the injured men. My Papa was shipped to England for training and then to France after the D-Day invasion.

I can tell from my Papa's voice that his work must have been gruesome in order to keep the field hospitals supplied with sterile linens and bandages. The men in his detachment worked 24 hours a day in shifts, meeting the needs of the hospitals in the field. My grandfather told me that if they had some free time, they would wash the long underwear of the men fighting on the front lines. Choking back tears, he described how they would find blood stains on the underwear, and under closer examination, they would find the bullet hole. Even though Papa never felt the pain of a bullet, his tears tell me that he felt the pain of the unknown soldiers that were brought to the field hospitals in France.

Just like my Papa, many young men were willing to risk their lives for our country. Some never came home. I thank God that my Papa came home, because I have needed him very much. I would like to place the wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier to honor my grandfather and all the other young men who never got the chance to be a grandfather because of their sacrifice for our country.

(Written by Jonna Hudson Huffman—  
daughter of Kathy Hudson)



# November - A Busy Month!!

## Operation Christmas Child

The shoeboxes are in the sanctuary for the Operation Christmas Child ministry.

It may seem early to think Christmas but children around the world will joyfully receive these boxes.

Be sure to take the brochure to show what you can put in it and things that should be left out.

Return your packed box back by November 18.....and remember the postage! \$9.00.



## Veteran's Day



We will be having a special recognition of our veterans on Sunday, November 11.

Special guest speaker Captain James McCormick, USA (ret.) served in Operation Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He has received numerous military and civilian awards for his service.

Capt. McCormick currently is working for the WV Department of Agriculture as the Director of the newly established WV Veterans and Warriors to Agriculture project, the first of its kind in the Nation that has grown to be a model for other states to adopt their own program that directly assists veterans to become agribusiness owners.

## Game Night!

On Thursday, November 8, we will have another **Game Night!**

**Game Night** is an interaction between adults and youth of all ages.

Some games are:

- Minute to win it
- Corner Question
- Bible Feud
- And more!



Build your own Sundae is back too!

Starting time is 6:00. Come out and have some fun!

## Pumpkin Rolls are Back!

The ladies of the church will be making 75 pumpkin rolls on November 10 to raise funds for our many mission projects.

As a change, you have a choice of with or without nuts.

Plain (without nuts) are \$12.00 each.

With nuts (pecans) are \$14.00 each.

Order now and save the rush!

Call the office or Connie Staats.

# ARISE SHINE

WHEN WE RISE UP  
HE SHINES THROUGH

This year's **Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer** program is prepared by the Baptist Women's Union of the South West Pacific. The theme is **Arise and Shine through Unity and Justice**.

Each year, FBC joins with Calvary Baptist to pray for the needs of many around the world. We will be hosting this year's gathering on Monday November 5 at 11:00.

All women of the church are invited to be a part of the prayer group. A luncheon will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

The hearts of the ladies will join in prayer for the needs of women in Southwest Pacific, North America, Latin America, Europe, Caribbean, Africa and Asia.

*When we rise up, He shines through unity and justice*

***"The Lord is a mighty rock, and He never does wrong. God can always be trusted to bring justice." Deuteronomy 32:4 (CEV)***

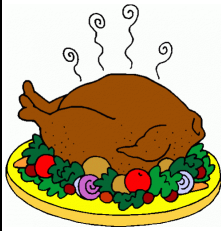
## **Annual Church Bonfire**

**Young and old will be gathering together to enjoy the outdoors and fellowship on November 4 at 5:00 at Ann Johnson's place on Flatwoods Road. Ann will be hosting a great bonfire activity complete with food, fun and vespers. Everyone is invited to come. Bring a lawn chair and an appetite!**

**(in case of inclement weather,  
we will meet at the fellowship hall)  
(No evening services at church)**



## FBC Annual Thanksgiving Dinner



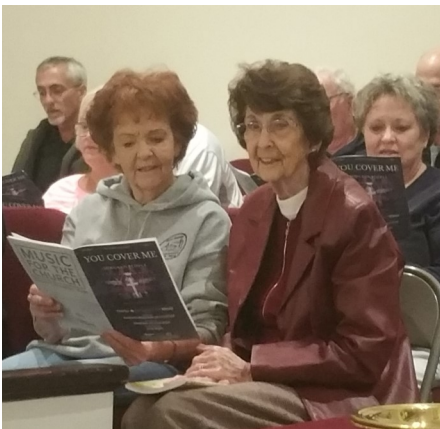
It's time to loosen the belts and get ready for the wonderful food and smells that will permeate the homes and church!

First Baptist will begin the festive season with their annual dinner on November 11 at 6:00.

The Social/Fellowship Committee will be supplying the turkey, ham, dressing, mashed potatoes, rolls and drinks. Everyone is asked to bring their favorite vegetables and desserts for pot luck.

*No evening services will be that evening.* So come enjoy an evening of fellowship with our church family!

## Look Who's Back!



After a LOOOONG time off to recuperate from her illness, Geraldine Wright is back in church ... and the choir.

We are so excited to have her back with us. Her smiling face is a real blessing to all.

***Welcome back, Geraldine!!***

## Baptism Blessing



Miss Hannah Wagoner followed the Lord in baptism during the morning worship service on October 28.

Pastor Toby was all smiles as he performed the ordinance on his daughter.

All were blessed to witness Hannah's walk with Christ.

## Count Them One by One

*Perhaps we have not counted  
All our blessings one by one;  
Perhaps we have not bothered  
To remember whence they come;  
And maybe we have taken  
Just for granted all the things  
That the good Lord has created  
And the gifts that nature brings:*

*The autumn hills in glory robed,  
A golden field of grain,  
A sunset's dazzling splendor  
Or the Milky Way's great plain,  
The starry sky's sublimity,  
The ocean's mighty power,  
The wonder of creation  
In the petal of a flower.*

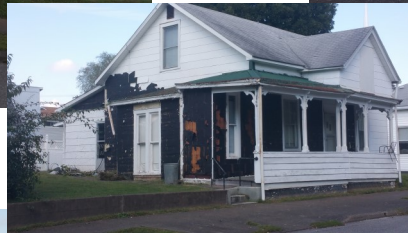
*And so if we have failed to show  
By word or act or deed  
That we are thankful unto Him  
Who fills our daily need,  
May this day show we're grateful  
When we add up all the sum  
Of the blessings we remember  
As we count them one by one.*

*- Author Unknown*



## The Ending of an Age

Both sadness and excitement were available in October as we watched the former home of Laura Roush torn down. Memories of Mabel and Virgil Kyger - Laura's parents; and Laura and her husband Olin Roush were floating in the air as we watched the progress. Such sweet people with a heart for the Lord. Pray that we can follow God's plan so the property is used for His glory.



# My Son

As I sit here on a Saturday night ... God talked to me. I so often wondered how to recognize HIS voice. I've asked many times and was always told, be still and you will feel it. Duh! I was always waiting for something more verbal. He laid on my heart my son. AND I FELT IT!

My son is the most important gift God has given me. I also realize what GOD felt about HIS Son; even though HIS Son was HIM in flesh. My son is flesh also.

I will be ever indebted to HIM for such a Wonderful gift upon such a simple man. I'm sure Abraham would truly understand. I know I don't have the same conviction he did to offer my son as a sacrifice. GOD knows I'm a work in progress.

What I'm trying to say, how gifted we all are who have children. As time of my life gains day by day, there seems to be an awareness I never felt before. I want my son to be all he can, but only if he obeys Deuteronomy 6:5 ***"You shall love the Lord with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."*** God should always be his greatest priority.

My goal has always been to allow my son to see that loving HIM is what gets you out of bed in the morning. I want him to fall in love with GOD. I want him to know that every day is an opportunity for giving your heart to Jesus...but he also must know that my heart is there for him. I believe if they don't feel it, they will walk away from the truth. As a dad, I feel if I have my son's heart, I'll have his ears. Malachi 4:6 ***"restore the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers."*** My personal endeavor has been to capture my son's heart early in life and to keep his heart and not lose it. Do whatever it takes to make sure you have his heart and he knows he has yours.

In closing, ***"Whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner"*** John 5:19. ***"For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things Himself is doing"*** John 5:20. The Father knew the heart of His Son, and the Son entrusted His heart to the Father.

How well do you have your children's hearts?  
How sure are you that your children have yours?

Submitted by Burt Lyons



American Baptist Women of WV support these ministries:

### **PROJECT GOOD SAMARITAN**

The purpose of Project Good Samaritan is to provide a helping hand to destitute family members of hospital patients by providing a limited number of hot meals, lodging, and/or initial prescriptions upon the patient's discharge from the hospital. This help is granted only as a "last resort" when all other avenues of financial help have been exhausted.

Jesus loved to tell a story to make a point, and The Good Samaritan is one of his most famous stories of all. Whenever someone asked Jesus which of the Old Testament commandments was the most important, he said these two are the most important of all:

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind," and "Love your neighbor just as much as you love yourself."

**Because of the generosity of this FBC church family at our recent Soup-to-Go, we are able to help those less fortunate.** In 2017, a total of \$13,750 was given statewide to Project Good Samaritan:

\$4,000 - Cabell Huntington Hospital  
\$1,000 - Wheeling Medical  
\$6,250 - Charleston Area Medical Center  
\$ 750 - Camden Clark Medical  
\$1,750 - St. Mary's Medical

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### **SCHOLARSHIP/LOAN PROGRAM**

Each girl selected receives \$1,500/year to help with college expenses (1/2 to be repaid with no interest). This year 16 girls were selected statewide, including 3 girls from FBC (Cari Mize, Holly Gerstell, and Sami Wagoner).

\$ 4,500 – (WVU Parkersburg – 3 girls)  
\$12,000 – (Marshall University – 8 girls)  
\$ 1,500 – (Bridge Valley Community and Technical College – 1 girl)  
\$ 1,500 – (Roane Jackson Technical Center – 1 girl)  
\$ 1,500 – (Potomac State College of WVU – 1 girl)  
\$ 1,500 – (WV Wesleyan College – 1 girl)  
\$ 1,500 – (WV State University – 1 girl)

**THANK YOU, FBC Family for making a difference  
in the lives of others through your donations to these ministries.**



# Mission Work never ends!!

## Teddy Bears and SOUP TO GO



Teddy bears were dedicated in the morning worship service by Pastor Toby. The bears were made with hearts of love by the women of the church. They will go to foster kids to let them know they are loved by the Lord.



Pam Balser and Jennifer Wagoner are ready to serve!



Patty Calvert serves up some veggie soup



Debbie Bashaw & Kathy Hudson are on board with Corn Chowder & Beans w/ Corn Pone



Abbi's yummy Pepperoni rolls



Connie hands out some great broccoli cheese soup



John Stephenson dishes out Rose's chili

# Family Fun Science Night!



## WVBC Convention Highlights



Pastor Toby is recognized as a new pastor at FBC



Pastor Toby and Jennifer enjoy the day together



Pastor Bill Stewart is also recognized as the new pastor for Reedy Baptist Church.



Liz and Bill are all smiles with Denise Aragon



Denise Aragon was on short leave to attend the convention. She was all smiles and happy to share her reports of her family's mission experience.



New WVBC president Mike Sisson

## *WVBC Women's Day Highlights* *"Living Loved"*



**Denise Aragon**, our missionary to Chiapas, was the lovely mission speaker for Women's Day.



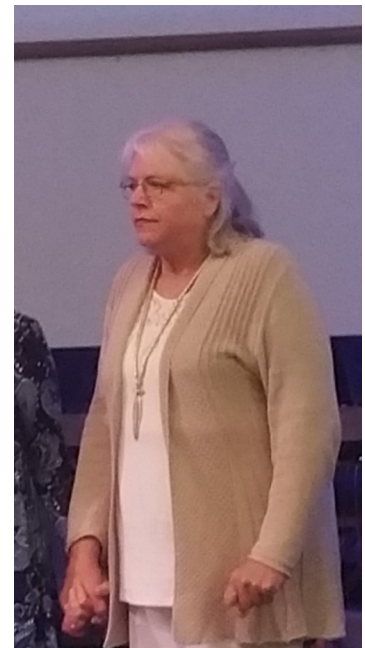
A familiar face, **Debbie Mulneix**, was the guest speaker for Women's Day - A message of love.



**Debbie Higginbotham**, WV ABWM president, presided lovingly over the day's events.



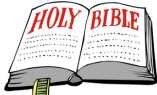
WV ABWM officers were graciously installed by **Sherry Goldsburg**



Our own **Kathy Hudson** was installed as President-elect for WV ABWM. She will shadow current state president of ABW, Debbie Higginbotham, for a year before taking the reins at Women's Day 2019. Be in prayer for Kathy as she begins this new journey of love for the Lord.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Bible Book of the  
Month  
November 2018  
2 Corinthians**



Do you know where  
this  
is in the church?

### November Birthdays



Nikki Nicholson 11-6  
Quinter Vought 11-8  
Tim Staats 11-10  
Eugene Morgan 11-10  
Margaret Johns 11-15  
Tim Rupert 11-18  
Logan Kerns 11-20  
Tara Hicks 11-21  
Dan Williams 11-25  
Marie DeLong 11-28  
Bob Johnson 11-28  
Rose Stephenson 11-29  
Burt Lyons 11-29

Is your birthday name missing?  
Tell Susan

### November Meetings 11/5

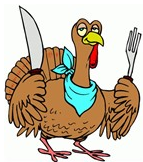
Trustees—7:00

11/12

BOCE—7:00

Deacons—8:00

**Last  
END ZONE  
November 2**



**FBC Thanksgiving  
Dinner  
Sunday  
November 11  
6:00**



**Church wide  
Bonfire  
At Ann's  
5:30—7:30**

November 8



**Game Night  
6-8**

**Order Your Pumpkin Rolls today!**



See Connie Staats  
or  
Contact the office



**Men's Fellowship  
November 13  
@ 6:30  
At Tom Stephenson's**



Women's CIRCLE  
November 15 @ 7:00  
Jennifer Wagoner - host

**Parkersburg Actors Guild  
A Christmas Story**

November 25 @ 2:30



Have you checked out the prayer calendar today?

## CHURCH PRAYER CALENDAR

Prayer for our fellow members is an important part of our relationship with the Lord and helps us to grow closer as a church family. Each day during this month there is a different individual or family that you are asked to include in your prayers.



# November 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Kindsey Torris	2 Dale & Anna Vanderlaan	3 Dorothy Varney
4 Quinter Bought	5 Toby & Jen Wagoner John, Aaron, Hannah	6 Sami Wagoner	7 Janyce Watkins	8 Megan Watkins	9 Susan West	10 Dan & Amy Williams, Cody, Kenley Hickman
11 Nick Williams	12 Sierra Williams	13 Dave & Dena Williams	14 Jordan Williams	15 Josh Williams, Sarah Lycans	16 Mike & Cara Williams, Deshone, Marcus	17 Jennie Wise
18 Tina Wolfe	19 Beth Wood	20 Kevin & Abbi Woods	21 Taylor Woods	22 Geraldine Wright	23 Brandon & Ashlee, Connor, Beckett	24 Anne Adkins
25 Sharon Adkins	26 Alan & Gusta Arrington	27 Micah Arrington	28 Jack & Anna Bailes	29 Larry & Jackie Bailes	30 Pam & Gary Balser	

*No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.*

*1 Thessalonians 5:18*

