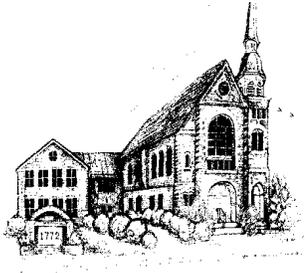


Baptist Connection



Newsletter of Berryville Baptist Church
114 Academy Street Berryville VA 22611
540-955-1423



2018

2019 CHURCH THEME

“YOU COUNT, TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE”

You count and together we can make a difference. Sometimes we may feel like we don't and our church doesn't. The reality is everybody can make a difference. And life takes on more meaning as you take your eyes off you own problems and reach out to those around you.

If asked to take a position of ministry in our church, please say yes. You are needed.

Never underestimate the significance of what may seem insignificant. Little things make a big difference: phone call, cards, short visits, shared meals.

We have a great church. We do make a difference. Let's pull together this year and focus on those things that count.

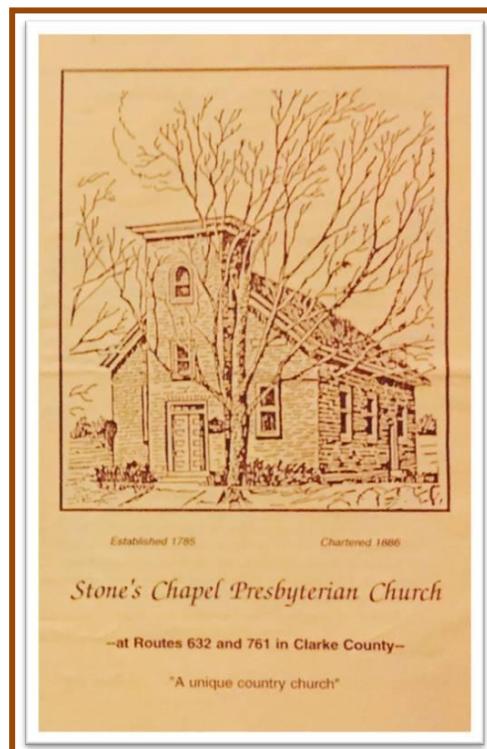
Pastor Dan



STONE'S CHAPEL MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

Once again, Stone's Chapel Memorial Association will sponsor a Community Choir Sing. The event will be held here, at the Berryville Baptist Church, on Sunday, October 14, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. Each participating church choir will sing one or two selections. The entire ensemble will join together for a closing hymn. Refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the hymn sing. An offering will be collected to benefit the ongoing restoration of this historic chapel.

Come join in a night of good singing and fellowship with other Christians in our community.





Nurses's Corner

So I made a home visit, which did not go well.

My client first asked me to review their current medication list, recently

updated from the doctor's office. Then I was asked to retrieve the medication bottles which I did. One of the bottles, containing a medication necessary for the client's recovery, was almost full. So we had a conversation.

Are you taking this prescription medication as ordered? "No." Why not? "It makes me feel funny. I don't like the way it makes me feel." Have you told the doctor this? "No." It would help your health to improve faster if you would let the doctor know about this. "I'll tell him next time I see him." Oh, boy.

Patient non-compliance is one of those things that makes professional healthcare workers want to drink alcohol. I could tell you multiple tragic stories, but I will fall back on the most common episodes. A patient comes into the E.R. with a blood sugar of 500-600. (Normal blood sugar is supposed to be only 70-99). After the patient gets weaned off the insulin drip and comes out of our ICU and onto a regular medical floor our staff has the same tired conversation. Why aren't you taking your blood sugar medicine? "I ran out." If you have financial issues, I can give you the number for the Free Medical Clinic, also for the \$4 for 30-day supply that Walmart offers. "I take too many pills as it is." You don't want to end up on dialysis, do you? "No." I really want you to get your blood sugar under control, for your own good. Would you please take advantage of these resources? "I'll think about it." Oh, me.

If I could, I would literally get on my knees in front of every one of you and beg you to please, PLEASE fight for your health! There are so many

things that could go wrong with your body that are completely preventable. If it helps any, I have a medical condition for which I have failed FIVE different drugs to treat it, because I couldn't tolerate them. Do you think I'm going to give up?

God wants us to pray without ceasing, especially when we see the doctor about a medical issue. Then when we get home, what happens? Many of us don't adhere to the diet, don't do the exercises, don't take the medication, don't follow up with the specialist. I'm sorry to say that this is a minor form of rebellion. And we all know how God feels about that. (1 Samuel 15:23).

Recently a church member came to me looking very fit, and I complimented him. He said, "I've lost x number of pounds, and I feel great! And you know what? I don't have to take my blood pressure pills anymore!" Praise the Lord, from this time forth and forevermore.

Judy Melton, R.N., F.C.N.
540-955-4089



Sunday, November 4th



BAPTIST RASCALS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7 THE TEAM WILL TRAVEL TO FIRST BAPTIST IN WINCHESTER AND SHARE AN EVENING PROGRAM. WE ARE ESPECIALLY GRATEFUL FOR OUR MEMBERS FROM FIRST BAPTIST FOR THEIR LOVING SUPPORT OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS.

REGRETTABLY OUR YEARLY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AT ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED. AFTER 30 YEARS, THEY SAID THAT THE SUPPORT NEEDED WAS DIFFICULT TO MAINTAIN. WITH HUGS AND FOND MEMORIES OF YEARS OF WORKING TOGETHER, WE HAVE CLOSED THAT PROGRAM.

THE TEAM WILL GO TO WINCHESTER ON DECEMBER 7 FOR OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM WITH THE WOMAN'S AND CHILDREN'S SHELTER AND WILL BE PART OF OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM.

MISSION 2019

AFTER CHRISTMAS WE WILL BEGIN SERIOUS WORK ON THE MISSION PROGRAM. AT THIS TIME WE ARE PLANNING SOME FUND RAISERS TO HELP WITH EXPENSES. THEY INCLUDE: PREMIER JEWELRY WITH RHONDA BROOKS ON OCTOBER 27, SOUP AND SANDWICH SALES AT THE CHRISTMAS CRAFT BAZAAR AT THE PARK ON NOVEMBER 3 AND 4, "SOUPER BOWL" LUNCH IN FEBRUARY AND A CARIBBEAN DINNER AT THE FIRE HALL IN MARCH. WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY AND THE CONTINUED LOVE AND PRAYERS FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE.

PREMIER JEWELRY WITH RHONDA BROOKS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OCT 27!!! AS PART OF OUR FUNDRAISING EFFORTS FOR THE MISSION TRIP 2019, THE BAPTIST RASCALS WILL BE HOLDING A PREMIER JEWELRY FUNDRAISER ON OCT 27 FROM 10AM TILL NOON IN THE CHURCH SOCIAL HALL. PREMIER IS KNOWN FOR THEIR QUALITY HIGH FASHION JEWELRY AT AFFORDABLE PRICES. THIS IS A GREAT WAY TO ELEVATE YOUR STYLE AND SUPPORT OUR YOUTH AT THE SAME TIME. YOU COULD EVEN GET A JUMP START ON YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING.

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND BE SURE TO CONTACT ONE OF THE YOUTH SPONSORS TO PLACE YOUR ORDER.

THERE WILL BE DOOR PRIZES AND RAFFLES AND LOADS OF FUN!! YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

THE PROGRAM WILL BE SUNDAY EVENING DECEMBER 16 OR 23 AT 6 PM WITH A RECEPTION FOLLOWING THE SERVICE. WE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH ALL THE CHILDREN SOON AND PLAN A SCHEDULE FOR PRACTICE.



CHILDREN'S HARVEST FUN PARTY will be held Sunday afternoon, October 28th, from 12-1:30 pm at the church. This is for all children. Come join us for an afternoon of fall fun, including crafts, games, and pumpkin painting. Hot dogs, chips, and drinks will be provided by the recreation committee. Bring a side dish to share. Costumes are optional. See Lynn Stanley for additional information.



Scholarships Applications

Florence Allen Huff Scholarship applications for the spring semester are available on the library table and on the events tab of the Berryville Baptist Church website:

<http://berryvillebaptist.org/events.htm>

All church members may apply.

Applications must be submitted by the end of November to the attention of the Scholarship Committee. They may be dropped off at the church office or e-mailed to marysue@berryvillebaptist.org.

All applications must be received by Nov 30.



It's that time of year again! On Sunday, October 14th, we will kick off Operation Christmas Child for 2018. We have pre-wrapped boxes available for you to pick up at church and take them home to fill with wonderful surprises for a lucky boy or girl somewhere around the world. Make sure to pick up a box and a brochure. The steps to get a box ready are easy:

- ❖ Pick up a box and brochure
- ❖ Read the brochure and decide if your gift will be for a boy or girl and what age category
- ❖ Read the gift suggestion list, as well as the DO NOT INCLUDE notice
- ❖ Fill your box with new items
- ❖ Cut out the boy or girl label from the brochure and tape or glue it to the top of your box
- ❖ Fill out the donation information and put a check for \$9 in the envelope attached to the brochure to help pay for the shipping and put that inside the box
- ❖ You can add a personal note, card, or photo if you would like
- ❖ Return the box to church by Sunday, November 11th
- ❖ NO TOOTHPASTE OR CANDY

UPCOMING MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Mission work at Berryville Baptist continues to move forward. At this time of the year, we turn our attention to projects for October/November:

Operation Christmas Child

Shoe boxes will be made available in October to be filled with toys, school supplies, and other items for children. This project is coordinated through Samaritans Purse Ministries and Lynn Stanley is our leader. These boxes will be sent all over the world to let children know the story of Jesus and that He loves them unconditionally.

Bread Banks for World Hunger

On Nov. 4, bread banks will be available for pick-up by the congregation during church services to be placed on your dining tables. Fill them with pocket change each day and **return them to the church on Nov. 18.** Money is to be counted and sent to the Baptist General Association of Virginia who designates it for World Hunger. It's a good opportunity for children and family to experience the spirit of missions.

Thanksgiving Dinner Baskets

From Nov. 4 – Nov. 18, Holiday Food Baskets will be placed in the Fellowship Hall to collect canned food such as green beans, corn, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, Lima beans, fruit, etc. Families in need will be chosen from Social Services. Turkey or ham, along with the trimmings, will be delivered to these families on Nov. 19. Your help is appreciated. Thanksgiving is about sharing and caring; giving thanks for all the Lord's blessings.



BEING NORMAL—SOMETIMES BEST NOT TO BE

Each day begins as the last and the next. The obituary section of the paper is examined and marked up. His schedule mapped out. Some days there is only one, but others, there may be as many as four. Perfect strangers, people he never met; it doesn't matter. He attends their funerals. Sometimes the family refers to these as a celebration, others as a memorial service.

Why would anyone attend a funeral for a complete stranger, several times a week, doing so now for many years? It is weird, strange, not normal. But if pressed, his reply might be: why would anyone pay money to hit a small white ball into a round hole in ninety degree weather?

Each day he wears the same navy suit, white shirt, red striped tie, and black dress shoes. He lives alone. No spouse, no children, no siblings, parents deceased. Never worked a real job or needed to a day in his life. Every year he trades in his Cadillac for a new one. Always black.

He arrives for each service precisely fifteen minutes prior to start, and sits, if all possible, halfway back on the left hand side. With pride he signs his name on the register. He maintains meticulous records: who, the date, time of service, the speaker, music played, how long the service lasted, and the name and address of next of kin.

He's the kind of person that blends in. Polite, hardly noticed. One can hear his quietness. Living in a metropolitan area of close to a half-million people with numerous funeral homes and hundreds of churches in a four county area, he manages to remain anonymous, not known. There, but not noticed. You might ask if this is normal for someone to spend their day, ride out their life, sitting in sadness, isolation, and loneliness.

Gifts can be wrapped differently with various bows and paper. Words seem inadequate to describe his gift. When each service starts, he possesses the total and complete ability to enter in and sympathize with those present. He has the skill to enter into another person's pain and or joy. To be completely present yet totally on the outside, a complete stranger. He moves from not knowing to knowing, feeling, and caring. He listens with respect to the story of the deceased, and mourns with the survivors, the family, those present. It is a rare, unusual ability.

Each day begins the same, and every evening concludes with a set pattern. He goes to his bedroom, a large expansive room. A bay window faces west, the bed is to one side, a fireplace in the center, and a writer's desk is on the other side. He is alone now. He prefers this. No cats, dogs, music, television, or computer. It is completely quiet except for the hum of the refrigerator. He lives far enough away not to be bothered, and yet close enough, and for long enough, to know every street, business, and church.

Each evening at precisely seven o'clock he sits at his desk and takes out of the right hand drawer expensive stationary and his gold plated fountain pen. Then, he proceeds to write the letters: one to the closest kin from each service attended that day. He writes a letter, never a card. His letters always begin and end precisely the same way. But in between, the letters are never alike. Each word is carefully crafted to convey words of comfort, encouragement, kindness, and sympathy, always being genuine in expression.

He uses phrases like, "sixty-seven years of marriage, your life will never be the same, he's waiting for you, and one day you'll be back together." Or, "to lose a son at such a young age, I hurt to my very core imagining your pain." And he writes, "you were blessed to have your mother for many years, if she were here she would say how blessed she was to have a daughter just like you."

He writes by hand and his letters themselves are a piece of art. His penmanship is impeccable. He is a master at calligraphy. Each letter of every word is perfectly formed and precisely placed the same distance from top to bottom and from side-to-side. One single page is perfectly folded and placed in a matching envelope sealed on the outside.

How many letters, no one knows. The one that matters, at least for me, is the one I hold in my hands. It was received four days after my mother died two years ago at the age of ninety. A stranger, yet somehow he knew what I needed to read. It is a letter, but also a piece of art. The penmanship is so exquisite that the letter could be matted, framed, and hung on a wall.

Dan Stanley

"YOU COUNT, TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE"

