



The Witness

September Highlights

Sunday September 11: Deacon Ordination at 10:15 A.M.

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**Sept. 11-18: Week of Prayer for State Missions
(Alma Hunt Offering will be received)
\$2,500 Goal**

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Wednesday, September 14 Family Night Ministry Begins

- 5:30—6:30 Supper is Served
- 6:30—7:30 Age Graded Missions for Children
Youth Fellowship
Adult Bible Study
Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30—9:00 Choir Rehearsal



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Regular Worship Schedule Resumes

- 8:30 & 11:00 A.M. Worship Services
- 9:30 Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 Sunday School

Please Note!

- ♦ From John Axelle, Chair of Church Council: A minimum of one month's notice to the Church Council is needed to make reservations for the church facilities or for the use of a key.
- ♦ Baptist General Association of Virginia meeting on November 14-16 in Roanoke, VA.

"Body & Soul" Begins September 12

We hope you have enjoyed your summer and found opportunities to walk, hike, swim or just enjoy the blessings of each day.

We invite you to join us for the "Body and Soul" Exercise Class which will begin on Monday, September 12. Classes will

officially start at 6:15 p.m. Devotions will begin shortly after 6:00, and time will be allowed for everyone to get their equipment before classes begin.

Carol Draper and Lisa McCrea have information.



Worship Continues Despite ...

Last Sunday, August 14, presented a surprise to all of us, even the pastor.

Having arrived in good physical health at 6:00 on that Sunday morning, I proceeded to focus my mind on the many things that were on the day's agenda from the praise worship before Sunday School to the Water Fun Day following the worship service and everything in between.

About an hour before Sunday School began, I noticed a little lightheadedness. Fifteen minutes before

the worship service was to begin, my sense of balance was terribly distorted (to say the least.) There was no way that I could stay for the service. The deacons were kind enough to let me lean on them as I sort of staggered out of the church to get into a deacon's car to drive me home. Dr. Micky Campbell was so wonderful to drive Judy and me to the medical clinic where he works and treated me for positional vertigo.

The thing that I am most appreciate is the way that the church proceeded on with a worship service filled

with music. With just a few minutes, there was a plan of action and the church led the worship. Volunteers provided music. The congregation had opportunity to sing some of their favorite hymns. As I understand it, the service dismissed no earlier than the allotted one hour of time.

Deacons, Claudia, Musicians, Congregation — thank you for your ministry, leading the congregation in worship, with or without the pastor. God be praised!

— Pastor Dale

Highlights from Quarterly Business Meeting

The church family has been quite busy during this summer time enlisting leaders and volunteers for the coming 2016-2017 church year, collecting ideas and developing plans for developing the remaining 10 acres of the church property, as well as doing mission work in West Virginia and Bland, VA and planning for international mission trip to Toronto, Canada in 2017.

The Sunday School slate of officers and teachers were elected as presented.

The church adopted the Nominating Committee's report of all the committee members and officers that are needed to provide the services and ministries of the church.

We are thankful for the successful Vacation Bible School and the upcoming missions adventure — providing clothing and school supplies free of charge to those who come on August 27.

The deacon chairman reported that Walter Smith and Everett Williamson are slated to be ordained as deacons on Sunday, September 11, at 10:15. They will join four others who were reelected to serve as deacons for 3 years — John Axelle,

Damon Igou, Bootise Stanley, and _____.

The Building and Property Committee reintroduced its "Consider the Lilies" Campaign that is designed to beautify the church grounds. The general plan is to divide the grounds into quadrants and assign the development and care of each quadrant to a willing Sunday School class, group, and/or individual. Be watching bulletins, upcoming newsletters, etc. for further details that have yet to be fleshed out.

The Cemetery Committee presented a proposal to provide space to inter cremains — a columbarium. It is proposed to be built on the front side of the sanctuary near the current cemetery. The church asked the cemetery committee to bring to the November Business Meeting a cost estimate of providing 128 niches for cremains. Watch for upcoming details.

The church heard of the Girl Scouts' gift of 2 picnic tables to be added to the children's playground area. The Girl Scout Troops wanted to express their deepest appreciation for the opportunity of using our church's facilities for their meetings and events.

The church adopted the "Conceptual Site Plan" as it requested of the Trustees at the May, 2016 Business Meeting. After multiple meetings with church leaders and membership, the trustees identified 4 priorities for the use of the property.

1. Worship & Education Space
2. Recreation & Fellowship
3. Infrastructure (parking, water, & sewer)
4. Ancillary (i.e., building for WHEAT, additional cemetery space if the church were to decide upon expanding the area for casket burials.

A schematic is available at the church for anyone to see the "Conceptual Site Plan."

The church adopted the report from the Recreation Team who moved that the church proceed with building the pavilion, hard-surface game area for youth & children, and fire pit when the church has raised 75% of the actual cost of the project up to \$100,000. More specific details of this proposal are available in the church minutes.

These are just of the few things that we did at the August Business Mtg.

Prayer Concerns

Dale Ashley
Jessie Bayne
Don Beazley
Lois Chenault
Andrea Dill
Gwen Eck
Brandon Germon
Joe Gray
Linda & David Hall
Johnny Jones
Krystal Knuckles

Luke Morrison
Rachel Mothena
Linda Olson & family
Andy Parrish
Jack Rusher
Dottie Sharpe
Kenneth Taylor
Wayne Watson
Ron Williams
Barbara Willis
Gayle Wingfield
Velma Wingfield

Assisted Living/Convalescent/ Homebound

Dean Carter
Barbara Cosby
Peggy Gravely
Richey Jewell
Martha Loving
Anne Puryear
Evelyn Seay
Elsa Stanley
Neesie Stearns
Betty Wallace



In the Military

Austin Cook
Bernie Sipple
Michael Thurston

Operation Christmas Child

Because of the steadfast and wonderful efforts of the Carrie Rose Ellen Circle, along with other helpers, 131 shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse/Operation Christmas Child were packed in July!

The Circle ladies have been hard at work putting together hand-made items for the shoeboxes.

We are still planning to pack more shoeboxes in the fall. Stay tuned

for opportunities and ways you can take part in this ministry!



Sympathy is extended to...

...the family of Brenda Samuels.
She is the grand-daughter of Sarah Brown.

...Bob Crummette in the loss of his brother, Hugh David.

Decision America Tour 2016

Mt. Olivet has a unique opportunity to come together alongside other churches and pray for our state and nation during the Decision America Tour 2016 rally.

We will go as a group from church and pray on the capital grounds from Noon to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 12, 2016.

If you are interested in coordinating

rally participation, please contact Janice Igou at 804-647-1601.

Everyone is encouraged to join the state prayer team by signing up on the website. A prayer journal will be sent to everyone who signs up.

Decisionamericatour.com



Mt. Olivet Baptist Church

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Church Staff

Dale F. Ashley, Pastor
Felicia G. Taylor, Children's Minister
Claudia M. Phillips, Music Minister
Cindy C. Weston, Youth Minister
Shirley S. Mills, Secretary

New Sunday School year begins September 4. Children who will be moving up to another grade will move on that day.




Every Member A
Minister

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2016 Leadership Development Conference

This Conference (for every church leader) will be held Monday, September 26 at Derbyshire Baptist Church in Richmond. 5:15-6:00 p.m. dinner & fellowship; 6:00-6:20 Nancy McDaniel, Keynote Speaker and BGAV President; 6:30-7:20 Conference Session I, 7:25-8:15 Conference Session II. Early Bird registration ends September 15 (\$10.00). Pay at door \$15.00. Details are available from the church office.

Youth News!

Our Wednesday night Bible study returns September 14th! We will begin a new study called "The Whiteboard Bible Study" which is a survey of the entire Bible, Genesis through Revelation. Through "whiteboard" cartoon style drawings in our study guide, we will get a complete picture of the Bible and how all the events and people they have learned about over the years fit together to tell us of God and His great love of us. We will create a 12 point timeline of the Bible and begin to help youth "unpack" the scope and sequence of events within the Bible. My hope is that once youth see the big story, they can better understand God's

plan. All youth grades 6-12 are welcome to join us at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday night beginning September 14th!

The Youth Committee will be discussing the topics listed below during the month of September. Please feel free to contact anyone of the Youth Committee or myself for more information. Parent letters will also be sent to the homes of youth during the month of September to give more information on the following youth related events:

Adult/Youth Mission Trip

To Toronto,
in July 2017

Ark Encounter Trip
in August 2017

Friday night "Tailgate Socials"
held before some of our home
Patrick Henry football games

Cindy Weston, Youth Minister
cindy@mtolivetbaptist.org

