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Planted. Reaching. Growing.

**NOVEMBER
2017**

Missio Dei

True Religion

Over the last decade, Evangelicalism has voiced a slogan, “Christianity is not about religion, but relationship”—you may have heard this at some point? I fell into this trap for a while, but upon studying great men, such as Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Wesley, Calvin, and Spurgeon, one thing I noticed—they had religion.

While Christianity pertains to the collective and individual relationship with Jesus Christ; the Greek word translated for *religion* denotes worshipping, disciplines, and an outward belief praxis of holiness (according to God).

One of my favorite friends, Patrick Hubbard, founded Living Bread Ministries. One of the reasons I admire Patrick so much is because of his courage and fortitude, to go where people do not want to go—to the poorest of the poor. He goes because Christ said to go. He goes because he loves Christ. He goes because Jesus said to love—but it’s also in Patrick’s heart, to worship, to have discipline, and to express a belief in a holy God.

The Apostle James wrote, “*Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you*” (James 1.27, NLT). Imagine if we refused to let the world corrupt our thinking, our motivation, and our love for Christ. What if we were “religious” people and had discipline, worshiped God with our heart, and truly believed the words in red?

What’s wrong with being religious? Being honest, we would probably say that the error is in ritualistic prayer or in trying to gain merit with God—this is works based righteousness. This was exactly what Jesus said the Pharisees were committing. But, we have always been called to love people, take care of the poor, and look after the misfortunate. The understanding of grace is that we deserve death but received life. In reality, we need to worship God, we need to have disciplines, and we need to act out our faith in real ways.

True religion is to worship God with our heart by showing that He is in our heart. Do you want to know what’s in your heart? Hit your hand with a hammer—it’ll come out! In the same way, what you do, what you say, how you worship (what you worship)—that is true religion. True religion towards God cultivates an intimate relationship—and who doesn’t want that?

Missio Dei (the sending of God) ~ Pastor Matt

His servant and yours!

MINISTRY UPDATES/REPORTS

DEACON OF THE MONTH

Lonnie Loyall 737- 4368

COMMUNITY DINNER

Monday: November 13, 2017, 6:30pm

Menu: Thanksgiving Meal

Can you help? If so, please contact Brenda Bass and Cindy Massengale.



NOVEMBER 7-VOTING DAY!!

Pray about and then get out and vote for your candidate.

The church is a voting precinct, so between the evening of Monday, Nov. 6, through the end of voting on November 7, the church is closed to any other activity.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance 10/24//2017

General	\$59,356.45
Church Planting	587.78
Missions	7,230.48

Notes from Agnes

MUSIC Coming in DECEMBER!!!!

No, I haven't forgotten November, but I want you to be sure and get these two dates on your calendar and not only plan to attend, but to participate too.

DECEMBER 10—4:30—6:30pm

Our children will participate in a cute play. You will not want to miss them!

We will then have some Christmas Cookies and punch.

To close out the program, we will have folks participating with singing, playing instruments, etc.

We can even have a time of Christmas carol requests from the audience.

If you would like to participate in any way, please let me know.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

DECEMBER 17-2:00pm

Come join us in bringing a little bit of cheer to some of our homebound church friends and family. It is a lot of fun and quite a blessing to see the smiles on their faces.



WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION NEWS

The **Carolyn Grubbs Circle Group** will be meeting on Tuesday, **November 14th** in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00. Joyce has the program and Kym will be providing the refreshments. Bring your lunch and join us, learn more about missions and help us plan future mission projects.

A big thank you goes to everyone involved in our recent *Operation Christmas Child Shoebox* event. It was such a huge success due to the **TEAMWORK** from groups and individuals inside and outside of our Church. It all started with the ladies of the Carolyn Grubbs Circle group being very supportive with a different idea for the event. Thank you to the Chef and his staff for a wonderful meal, to the Auctioneer and his 3 wonderful assistances, to all the talented bakers. In total there were 37 desserts up for auction, bringing in \$1,002. Thanks to all who helped pack 102 shoeboxes and to the ladies of the OAK sewing group for making handmade items for the shoeboxes. Also, a big thank you to all the children who helped stuff the handmade pencil

cases with school supplies that were donated through VBS. The children were also a big help in moving the shoeboxes as the auction was taking place. The **FELLOWSHIP** was outstanding, again THANK YOU to all.

There are shoeboxes in the vestibule for those of you who would like to pack your own shoebox and since there was an average of \$514 from the Dessert Auction, we will take care of the \$9 shipping fee for up to 57 boxes.

On October 18th the Area V Samuel Clompton Fall meeting was held at Antioch Baptist Church where we had 3 ladies to attend. The speaker was Lubos Dzuriak from Slovakia and a delicious lunch was served.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the mission project for the **Women's Get-Away** where we had **12** ladies to attend. *Collected were 20 pairs of tennis shoes, 11 backpacks and over 40 pounds of individual food items.* These items will benefit the Wade Center which is a non-profit in Bluefield WVA, where they provide a fun and safe afterschool program for elementary and middle school children. Weekend bags are packed with easy to make food to send home with the children.

We will continue collecting Christmas, all occasion greeting cards, stationery items such as writing paper and envelopes, unsharpened pencils and Forever stamps for **Fluvanna Correctional Center** through mid-November.

World Day of Prayer will be held Monday, November 6th @ 10:30am
at Mechanicsville Baptist Church.

A Christmas Tea will be held Sunday, December 3rd @ 2:00pm
at Mount Olivet Baptist Church.

In all things,
give

thanks

1 Thessalonians 5:18

MINISTRY UPDATES AND NEWS

LIBRARY REPORT



The library has lots of inspirational books for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

While you check out a book, also look through the DVDs for great Christmas movies. Hope to see you!

OAK SEWING GROUP

Our next meeting will be Tuesday **November 21st**, 9:30 – 2:00 in the Fellowship Hall. We will continue working on throw size blankets (crochet and quilted) to be delivered to an ICU unit at VCU.

We will also be packing items such as stocking hats, scarves, baby items, crochet purses etc. for the Christmas gathering for Standing Rock Indian Reservation.

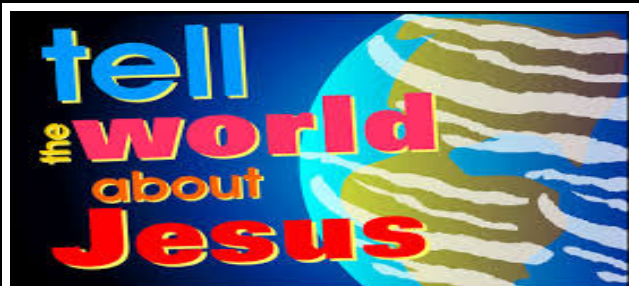
Or ladies are able to sew or crochet the hats, scarves, purses, and baby sweaters, blankets, etc. However, if you would like to send some toiletry items or small items for babies, (shampoo, bottles, pacifiers, etc.), we would gladly accept and send them on to Standing Rock.

LOOKING AHEAD DECEMBER

**December 9: SANTA Breakfast—
kids and adults
Food, crafts,
games,
Christmas Story**

**December 10: 4:30-6:30pm
Children's Program
Talent show &
Christmas Carol sing**

**December 17: 2:00—3:30 pm
Christmas Caroling
for our shut-ins.**



Give a Christmas Gift to the World

Make a donation this month to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions

Mission Opportunities



VETERAN'S DAY
November 11, 2017

F. I. S. H.
Item for donation for month of
November:

SHAMPOO

November 8 and 9
F.I.S.H. Spirit Day
At
Roberto's
Enjoy the food and help the F.I.SH.
organization.

LOVING **LIBERIA**

*Prayer Request
for November:*



Pray this month
for those who are living in poverty and see
no way out.

Father, they do not know You are the Bread
of Life and the Living Water. There are
women who carry their one day's supply of
water balanced on their head for miles just
to get it and return home. Others use the
muddy, insect infested water for their fami-
lies.

Please guide mission organizations from the
USA and other nations to work with the gov-
ernment and people to dig clear water wells
to prevent diseases and deaths. We want to
care for their bodies, but also, help it to be a
way of sharing Your love with them.

NOVEMBER 4, 2017



CHILDREN'S Ministries



NURSERY

November 5	Julia Fretwell and Sue Deane
November 12	Charles Powell and Hannah Seal
November 19	Kathy Bangs and Brenda Horton
November 26	Joy Nguyen and Elizabeth Batkins



Chad Haire	1
Joyce Taylor	4
Aubree Haire	9
C.J. Zeller	9
Amy Hardman	16
Ann Fortune	17
Granville Rogers	19
Agnes Minter	29
Hannah Seal	29
Morgan Miles	30



November 5	Kym Loyall
November 12	Holli and David Perez
November 19	Holli and David Perez
November 26	Holli and David Perez



Children's Mission Sunday November

During the month of October, the children packed 44 school supply bags for the Trunk or Treat event at All Days Hotel, this Sunday, October 29 at 4:00.

The first Sunday in November, the mission project will be packing tic-tac-toe games for the children of Standing Rock Indian Reservation for their Christmas gathering.

**Give thanks to the Lord,
for he is good; his love
endures forever.**

-1 Chronicles 16:34



November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Praise Team 6:30	4 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME
5	6 Deacons Mtg. 7:00pm	7 CHURCH CLOSED except to voters	8	9	10 Ladies Retreat Praise Team 6:30	11 Ladies Retreat Veteran's Day
12 Ladies Retreat	13 Thanksgiving Reflec- tion and Dinner 6:30pm	14 WMU 11:00am	15	16	17 Praise Team 6:30	18
19	20	21 OAK 9:30am	22	23 HAPPY THANKSGIVING	24 NO Praise Team	25
26 Lottie Moon Post Office Opens	27	28	29	30		