Fall Blessings

“May the Lord bless you and protect you, may the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you his favor and give you his peace.”

Numbers 6:24:26
Stories: Best of Past Preps the Soul for God’s Preferred Vision
“Tell me your images of the future and I will tell you where you are heading.”

Jesus taught in metaphors, similes, and images. He was master of stories and word pictures. Everything was fair game: foxes, wolves, gardens, dogs, children, farmers, sparrows, lilies, soldiers, the red sky, palm branches, the wind, water, and “going down to Jericho.” All these word pictures and stories open our “eyes and ears of understanding.” They invite God’s truths to our reality.

Over the past several weeks you’ve been churning up images and stories of “Abingdon Baptist Church at her best.” These “best” stories have been wonderfully filled with important details. You’ve shared specific names like Ray, Frances, Jake, HC, Wanda and dozens more. Keep remembering. Keep sharing. Keep turning sacred memories over and over in your minds. Re-live them again and again till you smell the bacon, taste the buttermilk in the biscuits, feel the soft texture of someone’s hands, and hear again the unique pitch of someone’s voice. (Ludell Bailey could write a book on story telling.)

In the mid 90’s, the first African American ever to join Webber Memorial in 80 years whispered in my ear during the invitation song: “Pastor, I can just see myself passing the offering plates each Sunday.” He was living into a “Future Story.” God had given him a future story (vision) of how he might participate in the future story of Webber church. Within weeks, we handed him the offering plates. What a joy to see him each week serving God’s people.

Someone has rightly said, “Tell me your images of the future and I will tell you where you are heading.” What pictures and dreams do you have of the future? That’s your future story. Together, that’s the future story of Abingdon Baptist Church. You need Spirit guided images consistent with what the Lord desires for ABC. Scripture is filled with such pictures. We are “body of Christ” and “the bride of Christ.” In Rev. 21, Heaven comes to earth. Imagine that! Pictures inspire, motivate, and shape us as we live into them.

Friends, begin praying for the Spirit’s vision of God’s preferred future for ABC.

Pastor Mike, IIM
**Deacon of the Month - October**  
Mike Overstreet  
356-3129(c)

**Sunday School**  
Attendance for Sunday, September 25: 120

**Greeters**  
Upstairs entrance  
Charles Grogan  
Jim Hughes  
Downstairs entrance  
Peggy Hughes  
Patricia Hensley

**Extended Session Workers**  
October 9  
Charlene Phelps

**Ushers & Greeters**  
11:00am  
Co Chairs:  
Kevin Abel, Larry Payne, Mike Overstreet  
October  
Greeters  
John Crigger  
Floyd Sutherland  
Noel Sutherland

**Ushers:**  
Ronnie Webb  
Jerry Culberson  
Gabe Hoyle  
Tony Roberts  
Roy Morelock

**Worship Technicians:**  
Bill Klose  
Tony Roberts & Thomas Roberts

**Van Driver:**  
October 9–Johnny Crigger (c)356-2424

**Financial Update**  
October 2, 2016  
**Budget Funds**  
Weekly Requirement: $7,501.17  
Received: $10,894.00  
Year-to-Date Receipts 2015: $250,655.06  
Year-to-Date Receipts 2016: $282,019.88

**Alma Hunt State Mission Offering**  
To-date (goal $5,000): $2,963.00  
**Roof Project**  
To-date: $8,190.00  
**Building Fund**  
To-date: $100,760.99

**Gifts . . .**

The following people have given in memory of Ray Duncan to  
**General Fund:**  
Nancy Maiden  
Smyth Washington Regional Ind.  
Tammy Ensley  
Ruth Pillow  
Virginia Moore  
Mavis Sutherland  
Wayne & Jane Fuller  
Ruth Pillow  
Carol Reed  
Abingdon Professional Care  
Hammond Hunt  
Hunt & Associates Elder Housing Coop  
**Memorial Fund:**  
Henry & Dorothy McNew  
Claribel Hochett  
Charles Byrd  
Bert & Marjorie Mullins  
Cindy Sutherland  
William Byrd

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**Church Calendar**

**Friday, October 7**  
10:00am  
Aerobics/Walking

**Sunday, October 9**  
9:45am  
Sunday School  
YAK Fellowship Hall  
11:00am  
Worship  
6:00pm  
“3F” Mike Overstreet  
Fellowship Hall

**Monday, October 10**  
10:00am  
Hearts of Gold  
Aerobics/Walking  
Stone Soup Pantry  
Team 1

**Tuesday, October 11**  
5:00pm  
Stone Soup Pantry  
Team 2

**Wednesday, October 12**  
10:00am  
Aerobics/Walking  
Fellowship Hall  
5:00pm  
Wednesday Fellowship Supper  
Menu:  
Brown Beans w/onions, hot sauce/chow chow  
Mixed Greens, cornbread  
Mashed Potatoes, Green beans, Roll  
Assorted Deserts  
Kids Menu:  
5:30pm  
M&M (Missions & Music)  
6:00pm  
Worship Chapel  
7:00pm  
Sanctuary Choir

**Thursday, October 13**  
6:30pm  
Finance Meeting  
Library  
7:00pm  
Council of Deacons Meeting

**Friday, October 14**  
10:00am  
Aerobics/Walking  
5:00pm  
Stone Soup Food Pantry  
Team 3

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With the approval by the Congregation,  
the replacement of the roof on the  
Education & Fellowship Hall will begin soon. The replacement will require 161 squares of roofing ($350/each), anyone wishing to donate to the project please notify the church office.
Prayer Concerns

Hospital:

Recuperating:

Treatments Continuing/Pending:
Linda Belisle, Anna Bell Callahan, Anna Canonico, Judy Ferrell, Sue Foil, Denise Gobble, Jimmy Gobble, Dennis Greene, Charles Grogan, Mary Holbrook, Raymond Johnson, Jim Jones, Bert Parsons, Eleanor Rainey, Sue Ray, Diane Roark, Sylvia Simmons, Doris Southerlin, Tom Tailey, Candy Tignor, Martha Tignor, Manuel Townsend.

Long Term:
Curtis Burkett, Roger Clifton, Vivian Kite, Bill Munsey

Independent Living/Retirement/Assisted Care & Rehab Facilities:
John Blankenship, Lydia Collins, Doris Fleenor, Dot Kelly, Christine Kohr, Janet Lambet, Genevive McCall, Jean Moore, Virginia Moore, Bill Munsey, Joanna Owens, Mary Pace, Martha Patton, Rosa Lee Phelps, Vera Rivera, Anne Smith, Howard Smith, Sally Stevens, Doris Umberger, Joyce Wright.

Homebound:
Sammy Campbell, Patricia Hensley, Mary Hunicutt, Marie James, Jeanette Millsap, Jake Turner, Shirley Turner, Jimmy Repass.

Sympathy:
Expressions of Love & Christian Sympathy go out to Leona Willis in the passing of her mother, Mae Ledford (10/4)

Homebound of the Week
Mary Hunicutt
15411 Briarwood Lane
Abingdon, VA 24210

If you have prayer requests or know of needs in our church family, or have an update or correction to any of our prayer requests, please contact the church office prayer & share line at ext. 42.

This week we want to lift up
Jason Austin
Patrol Officer
Abingdon Police Department
Darrell Dickenson
Thomas Dula
Washington County Sherriff's Dept.

Monday, October 10
- Judy Robinette
- Chase Cullop
- Bert Parsons

Tuesday, October 11
- Patsy Henry
- Ronald Hicks
- Morgan Russell

Thursday, October 13
- Doris Fleenor
- Lisa Mullins

Friday, October 14
- Janet Lambert

Saturday, October 15
- John Atwell

Pray for:
Steve Lowe, Mary Russell, Margaret Klose, Kevin Abel, Irene Meade, John Crigger, Dana Duncan, Roger Garrett, Sheila Willis, Mike Overstreet and Jennifer Blankenship
**Kids Corner...**

**Williams Farm Pumpkin Patch**
Sunday, October 16

Pizza will be provided immediately after church in the Fellowship Hall. We will depart the church at 1:15pm for the pumpkin patch.

Parents & Grandparents are invited to join us

For more information call Mary Garrett 628-4134

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**It's shoebox time!**
Grab a box or boxes, decide if you will pack for a boy or a girl; fill with gifts making it especially for them.

(remember there are some restrictions on items, pick up a brochure for more details in the church office, church vestibule or where the shoeboxes are located)

Begin praying for these boxes and the children and families that will be touched by the simple contents and the amazing story of God’s love for humankind.

**Collection Week - November 14-21**

If you would like to volunteer please let the church office know!

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**Women's Get away...**

“**Connect the Dots**”

Between Life and Faith

**Women's Get Away**

November 5-6, 2016

Eagle Eye Conference Center
Lynchburg, VA

Cost per person: $43.50
Includes lodging and 3 meals

Click for more information
### Ministers
- **Intentional Interim Minister**
  - mpoole@abingdonbaptist.org
  - ext. 23
  - Rev. Mike Poole
- **Minister of Music and Worship**
  - pdeans@abingdonbaptist.org
  - ext. 24
  - Rev. Parke Deans
- **Church Organist**
  - Mr. Edward Eller
- **Church Pianist**
  - Mrs. Rose Payne
- **Church Secretary**
  - tvickers@abingdonbaptist.org
  - ext. 32
  - Mrs. Trina Vickers

### Entire Congregation

A church with a world mission and a world program in association with the Lebanon Baptist Association, Baptist General Association of Virginia, Southern Baptist Convention, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, and Baptist World Alliance.

**Church office hours:** Monday - Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm

**Phone:** 276/628-8126

**PRAYER LINE:** extension 42, **FAX:** 276/628-5743

**WEB Site:** [WWW.ABINGDONBAPTIST.ORG](http://WWW.ABINGDONBAPTIST.ORG)