



MELROSE
BAPTIST CHURCH

The Messenger

August 2025

Something To Think About

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT: “FEET GOING, HANDS DOING, HEARTS BEING”

“For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many.” - 1 Corinthians 12:13-14

I went to the doctor for my annual physical not too long ago. There was the usual lab work and the check of my blood pressure, pulse and oxygen level. I stepped on the scale (never my favorite part). The doctor listened to my heart, my lungs, my abdomen. He checked joints and various body parts for range of motion and reflexes. Then he sat down with me and went over all my lab results. I didn't realize how many different things they were measuring! When he put it all together, the doctor told me I was in pretty good shape. I left feeling pretty confident in what the doctor had said. Why? Because he hadn't just taken my blood pressure and made his declaration. He hadn't just thumped my knees or just evaluated my cholesterol. I felt like he had looked at as much of the full picture as he could in order to evaluate how I am doing physically.

I have been thinking about this as I have met with our Stewardship Committee to prepare for our Fall Stewardship Campaign. Several members of the Stewardship Committee attended a Stewardship Conference late last year and we were processing through how some of that information applies to our church and our context. One of the things I know I carried home from that conference is the idea that simply looking at dollars that come in and dollars that go out is only seeing a part of the life and ministry of a church. To assess the health and life of a congregation, you have to look at the whole body. Where are the feet going? What are the hands doing? How are the hearts being?

On August 24, the theme of our worship service will be “Feet Going”. During that worship service, you will have the opportunity to hear about some of the mission work that our congregation has been directly involved with in the past year and celebrate how that work contributes to the health and vitality of Melrose Baptist Church as we seek to fulfill our calling to share the love of Christ as we serve others. A few weeks later, on September 21, we will celebrate “Hands Doing” Sunday. This time of worship will focus on the Kingdom work that our congregation does here in our Valley that reveals the presence of Christ in our midst. Finally, on October 12, we will gather for our “Hearts Being” Sunday. On this Sunday, we will focus on

how God is working in our own hearts and lives, inviting us to give of our time, our talents, and our resources as we partner with Him for His glory.

I want to invite you to plan to participate in all three of these special Sunday services so that you can not only celebrate what God is doing in our midst but also consider how you have been a part of what God has already done and what God is calling you to do next. These services will be a chance for each of us to consider: where are my feet going? What are my hands doing? How is my heart being?

Stewardship involves more than just the dollars in an offering plate. Stewardship is our participation and commitment to seeing the Kingdom of God come and the will of God done on earth as it is in Heaven. Stewardship involves our feet, our hands, and our hearts - our bodies working together in the body of Christ. Let's see the whole body!

- Pastor Mark

Being Gregarious



What day is it?

National Parent's Day was July 27th (the fourth Sunday of July).

On this date:

In 1958, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) was authorized by Congress.

Need advice?

The easiest way to clean ceramic tiles is with rubbing alcohol. Just pour it straight on, and mop until it dries.

LOL:

To impress the preacher who had stopped by for a visit, the mom told her daughter, "Honey, bring me the good book that I read all the time," The daughter brought her the Reader's Digest.

Bu-dum-dum-chhh

Spiritual Nourishment:

Philippians 2:16 "Hold firmly to the message of life. Then I can boast in the day of Christ that I didn't run or labor for nothing."

Rex Stump writes:

In the spring of 2015, many witnessed an incredible finish at the Pepsi Team

Invitational in Eugene, Oregon, as the margin of victory in the men's steeplechase was only .10 seconds!

In a close sprint finish, Oregon University's Tanguy Pepiot came down the final straight of the track with a large lead over Washington University's Meron Simon. In the last few yards, Tanguy slowed down and motioned to the crowd to start cheering, believing he was going to finish first without a problem. What Tanguy didn't know is that Meron was charging hard to the finish line. As Tanguy prematurely celebrated, Meron sprinted past him for the first-place finish.

Sometimes you win, sometimes you... learn! Tanguy lost, but he learned a great lesson that day! Anyone can start something – a job, a relationship, a season...but it takes a great deal to finish! People may not have much to strive for since their aspirations are gone and opportunities are bleak will struggle with finishing strong. Even ministries can be tempted to fade out after a time, giving way to various excuses.

It's so easy to slow down, forget about our opposition, or even become apathetic in living. Learn now how to finish strong

by running the race of life with determination and desire to finish strong!

Ask yourself, "Am I firmly grounded in God's Word to help me finish strong?"

(Information shared is borrowed from the following sources.)

- *Victory 365*
- *The Big Book of Church Humor -or- Religious Humor*
- *Who Knew? 10,001 Easy Solutions to Everyday Problems*
- *365 Trivia Twist Devotions*

Children & Youth Updates



MELROSE FAMILY POOL PARTY

Melrose families with children or youth are welcome to join us for a pool party on Sunday, August 3 from 4-8 PM at the Russlen Farms Neighborhood Pool at 1667 Millwood Dr., Salem, VA, 24153.

Pizza and paper products are being provided but please bring a side dish, dessert, and drink to share.



BLESSINGS OF THE BACKPACKS

We will be recognizing those going back to school during worship on Sunday, August 10. Students and teachers are welcome to bring their backpacks with them to worship and together we will bless all who are returning to school for a great new year.

Music Ministry Updates

HYMN HISTORY—CHILDREN OF GOD BY ANDERSON T. DAILEY

Anderson T. Dailey was born on August 9, 1927, in Louisville, KY and passed away on January 22, 1992 in Indianapolis, Indiana at the age of 64. Anderson was a high school choir director in Indianapolis. He was a mentor and composer of gospel music. In 1972, he even published his "Children of God" song in Swahili: "Wana Wa Mungu." The first line is "Safarini ninakusifu, which is "On the journey, I praise you."

As we begin our journey toward the celebration of commitment of self and resources in October with "Feet Going" as our August emphasis, let us keep on marching together through this song.

"Christians, pray that we keep on marching...step by step, all the way."

- Pastor Connie

SHALOM HANDBELL CHOIR & SANCTUARY CHOIR RESUME SOON

After a summer break the Shalom Handbell Ensemble will resume Tuesday evening practices August 19 at 6:15 PM. Pastor Connie invites anyone who is interested in learning to play the handbells or has prior experience playing to please come and join this wonderful group.

The Sanctuary Choir will resume Wednesday evening rehearsals on August 20 at 7 PM. Any adult who loves to sing and give praise to God through song is welcome to come and join this lively group of men and women!

Ministry Updates & Upcoming Events



HELP CHILDREN IN NEED GET READY FOR
BACK TO SCHOOL!

We will be collecting NEW school supplies for the children in need that participate in the programs of our local mission centers, Friendship House and Keystone Community Center. All donations are due by Sunday, August 2 and can be placed on the cart located right outside the door to the Sanctuary.

Here is a list of needed items:

- Wide ruled notebook paper
- Small and large boxes or packs of tissues
- Bottles of glue and glue sticks
- Bookbags for elementary and high school aged children
- Highlighters
- Spiral notebooks (3 and 5 subject)
- Marble notebooks (wide rule)
- Pocket and plain folders (with brads)
- Markers
- Colored pencils
- Pencil pouches or boxes
- Crayola crayons (8 color packs and large packs)
- Fiskar scissors (with covers and large size pairs for older students)
- Index cards
- Graph paper
- Pencil sharpeners
- Preschool writing tablets
- Dividers with tabs
- Pens
- 2 inch binders
- Dry erase markers
- Ticonderoga brand pencils

SINGLE SENIORS LUNCHEON

The Melrose Baptist Deacon Fellowship invites you to join them for the annual Single Seniors Luncheon. An event for single seniors that gives them the chance to break bread together and spend time in fellowship.

Entertainment for the day will be “Road Trip, A Family Adventure.” Come take a cross-country trip with the Driswold family and experience the hilarious stops they make along the way. Lunch will be served during the afternoon.

Please RSVP to the church office at 540-366-6631 by Tuesday, August 12. Please feel free to invite other single seniors to join us!



AUGUST LAAF GATHERING

Those 50 and older are invited to this month's LAAF gathering on Tuesday, August 19 starting at 10 AM. The program for the day will be a performance by the jazz band "The Brothers Young." Lunch will follow the conclusion of the meeting at Wildwood Smokehouse. The mission action for the month is a collection of new children and young adult books for WMU's Book Net.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES RESUME

After a summer break in July, Wednesday night activities (except for Bible Black Belts) will resume on August 13 beginning with dinner at 5:15 PM. Please remember that reservations for dinner are required by 12 PM the Tuesday before. Reservations can be made by using the Realm app, calling the church office at 540-366-6631, or going to melrosebaptist.org/dinner. Please find a menu for the month of August below.

Youth on Mission will meet at 6 PM with Prayer Meeting beginning at 6:15 PM. The Sanctuary Choir will also resume Wednesday night rehearsals starting at 7 PM.

Dinner Menu for August

- 8/13: Baked spaghetti, tossed salad, garlic bread, dreamsicle cake
- 8/20: Baked ham, ranch potatoes, broccoli, eclair cake
- 8/27: Chicken tetrazzini, mixed veggies, pineapple zucchini cake

MOST RECENT FINANCE REPORT- JUNE 2025

Income- \$61,796.87

Expenses - \$63,102.56

YTD Income - \$350,190.92

YTD Expenses - \$386,457.25

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Ushers

8/3: Rhonda Kessler, Missy Wickham

8/10: Robin Bennett, Linley Hackworth

8/17: Robin Bennett, Linley Hackworth

8/24: Jack Engel, Bill Caudill

8/31: Jack Engel, Bill Caudill

Courtesy Team

8/3: Butch Elmore, Donnie Daniels

8/10: Tracie Conley, Allen Journell

8/17: Steve Kennedy, Larry Hicks

8/24: Jeff Ernest, Annie Richerson

8/31: Charles James, Don Altice

Safety Team

8/3: Allen Journell, Larry Wirt

8/10: Jeff Poore, Gary Dixon

8/17: Gary Hurd, Billy Martin

8/24: Suzanne Moses, Barry Wickham

8/31: Danny Jarrett, Jeb Wallace

Youth Dinners

8/3: No dinner- Family Pool Party

8/10: Rhonda Kessler, Diana Hackworth

8/17: Katherine Pankey, Susan Matney

8/24: The Sloane's, Tracie Conley, Stephanie Cook

8/31: No dinner- Labor Day

August 2025 Church Calendar

July 28- Aug. 3

MONDAY- 7/28

10 AM Bible Study
6:45 PM Deacons Meeting

TUESDAY- 7/29

1:30 PM Staff Meeting
6:30 PM Men's Bible Study

SUNDAY- 8/3

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:45 AM Sunday Morning Worship
12 PM Fork Fellowship
4-8 PM Melrose Family Pool Party

Aug. 4-10

MONDAY- 8/4

10 AM Bible Study

TUESDAY- 8/5

10:30 AM WMU Council
1:30 PM Staff Meeting
6:30 PM Men's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY- 8/6

10 AM Beth Calloway
1:30 PM Sunday School Directors
2:30 PM Stitch & A Prayer

THURSDAY- 8/7

11 AM Stewardship Committee

SATURDAY- 8/9

12-4 PM Fellowship Hall in Use

SUNDAY- 8/10

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Ibada
10:45 AM Sunday Morning Worship
Blessings of the Backpacks
12 PM Fork Fellowship
5 PM Seeds of Youth

Aug. 11-17

MONDAY- 8/11

10 AM Bible Study

TUESDAY- 8/12

1:30 PM Staff Meeting
6:30 PM Men's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY- 8/13

2:30 PM LAAF Council
3:30 PM SAM Council
5:15 PM Wednesday Night Dinner
6 PM Youth on Mission
6 PM Finance Meeting
6:15 PM Prayer Meeting

THURSDAY- 8/14

10:30 AM Alma Hunt
7 PM LaVora Sprinkle

SATURDAY- 8/16

12 PM Single Seniors Luncheon

SUNDAY- 8/17

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Ibada
10:45 AM Sunday Morning Worship
12 PM Fork Fellowship
5 PM Seeds of Youth



Aug. 18-24

MONDAY- 8/18

10 AM Bible Study
1:30 PM RVBA Board of Directors

TUESDAY- 8/19

10 AM LAAF
6:15 PM Shalom Handbells
6:30 PM Men's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY- 8/20

10 AM Staff Meeting
5:15 PM Wednesday Night Dinner
6 PM Youth on Mission
6:15 PM Prayer Meeting
7 PM Choir

THURSDAY- 8/21

2 PM Women's Retreat Planning Meeting

SUNDAY- 8/24

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Ibada
10:45 AM Sunday Morning Worship
12 PM Fork Fellowship
5 PM Creatives Night- Tie Dye
5 PM Seeds of Youth

Aug. 25-31

MONDAY- 8/25

10 AM Bible Study
6 PM Deacons Meeting

TUESDAY- 8/26

6:15 PM Shalom Handbells
6:30 PM Personnel Committee
6:30 PM Men's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY- 8/27

10 AM Staff Meeting
5:15 PM Wednesday Night Dinner
6 PM Youth on Mission
6:15 PM Prayer Meeting
7 PM Choir

SATURDAY- 8/30

10 AM Ibada Prayer Meeting

SUNDAY- 8/31

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Ibada
10:45 AM Sunday Morning Worship
12 PM Fork Fellowship

