



MELROSE
BAPTIST CHURCH

The Messenger

October 2025

Something To Think About



“FEET GOING, HANDS DOING, HEARTS BEING”

How do you decide which way your feet will travel?
How do you determine what activity your hands will pick up?

Modern medicine and science have taught us that the brain is the organ in the body where thoughts are formed, memories are stored, and directions are sent to every other part of the body. Before these modern discoveries, many ancient civilizations believed that much of these functions were centered in the heart. Consider these passages of Scripture:

- Exodus 4:21 – “... but I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go.”
- Deuteronomy 30:14 – “No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.”
- Romans 10:9 – “...because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

In our world today, we distinguish between “head” and “heart”, between thought and emotion. But much of the Bible does not necessarily make such a distinction. Instead, thought and knowledge and memory and emotion are tied together in one organ, the heart, that guides each person.

As we began this fall season, we spent one Sunday talking

about where our feet have gone. We heard about mission work in various parts of Virginia as well as Peru that our congregation has participated in. A few weeks later, we focused on some of the local work that our hands have done in local schools, truck stops, and throughout our community. All of this work requires gifts of time and talents and resources from our entire congregation in order to take place. But Scripture would remind us that it takes something more than hands and feet, dollars and hours. It requires heart - thoughts and attitudes and emotions that have been shaped by the love and grace of Jesus Christ so that everywhere our feet go and everything our hands do is an opportunity to honor Him and share Him with the world that He loves.

I want to invite you to our “Hearts Being” Consecration Sunday worship service on October 12 at 10:45 AM. During this worship service, we will consider the invitation that our Lord is giving to us to participate in the work of helping His Kingdom to come and His will to be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Each of us will have an opportunity to consider our response to this invitation and prayerfully set apart our feet, our hands, and our hearts as gifts to honor our Savior. I want to strongly encourage every individual and family connected to Melrose to be here for this special time of worship as we prepare our hearts to set the direction of our feet and the purposes of our hands!

- Pastor Mark

Being Gregarious



What day is it?

Today is National Love People Day.

On this date:

In 1787, the ship Columbia left Boston and began the trip that would make it the first American vessel to sail around the world. Also, in 1902, rayon was patented.

Need advice?

To remove the gummy remains of a label or sticker on glass or a mirror, cover it in mayonnaise and let it sit for 5-10 minutes, then gently scrape off with a putty knife.

LOL:

A pastor one Sunday morning: "Sister Smith, you don't need to take that cryin' baby out. He ain't botherin' me none." She replied, "maybe He ain't, pastor, but you sure are bothering him!" Bu-dum-dum-chhh

Spiritual Nourishment:

Proverbs 10:5 "The son who gathers during summer is prudent; the son who sleeps during harvest is disgraceful."

Jere Johnson writes:

When I was a coach, one of my biggest challenges was helping my athletes

understand that improvement happened in the off-season. Each year, I got the same song and dance about how they needed time off in the summer. Yet I knew that a strong work ethic was crucial to my athletes' success.

In Proverbs 10, Solomon teaches us about a wise person who worked hard all summer and did not waste time. Apparently, the young people in Solomon's day also needed to make the most of their opportunities, though they didn't have as many of today's distractions, like video games and cable TV (and streaming shows). It's not easy helping young athletes understand the year-round effort required to improve their game.

Whatever our work is, we need to take it seriously. This also applies to our relationship with Christ. It takes disciplined time to get to know Him and grow closer to Him. Yet the more we do, the more we want to be with Him. Why? Because we discover in Jesus not only the standard for our work ethic, but also the trustworthy God who loves us enough to sacrifice His son's life on the cross to bring us to Him. Through His Holy Spirit,

He delights in working in us that which pleases Him (Hebrews 13:21), shaping our character, directing our steps, and using our gifts – professional or spiritual – for His purposes.

How can you start today to work for Christ's glory?

(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



SEEDS OF YOUTH GOING TO FIELDS OF FAITH

On Sunday, October 12 the Seeds of Youth group will be going to Northside High School to attend the Fellowship of Christian Athletes' Fields of Faith event. Please meet at the church at 5 PM and everyone will then travel to the high school together.



PLEASE BE IN PRAYER- YOUTH RETREATS

Please be in prayer for our youth as they travel with Pastor Greg to Eagle Eyrie to attend the BGAV Youth Retreat from Oct. 10-12 and the CBF Youth Retreat in November. Please pray for their safe travels and that these two weekends help deepen their relationship with God.

FALL FOR JESUS
FALL CHILDREN'S MISSION EVENT
Keystone Mission Center
OCTOBER 18TH, 2025 1:00 – 3:00 PM

MISSIONS FOCUS!!
AIR APPLE BOBBING
GAMES!!! SNACKS!!!
CRAFTS!!! FUN!!!!!!
PHOTO OP!!!!
MISSIONARY SPEAKER

Hosted at
Keystone Mission
Center 101
17th Street, SE
Roanoke, VA
24013

Sponsored by
Roanoke Valley
WMU

Come and bring your
family!!!!!!

PIN THE STEM ON THE
PUMPKIN

PUMPKIN PAINTING

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
DIANE SHEPHERD 540-798-9165

FALL CELEBRATION AT KEYSTONE COMMUNITY CENTER

You and your family are invited to drop by the Keystone Community Center on Saturday, October 18 from 1-3 PM for their Fall Celebration. This event is sponsored by the Roanoke Valley WMU and is a fun, fall themed fellowship event for families with children.



COME AND JOIN US FOR THE VILLAGE

This new parenting group meets Sunday nights from 5-7 PM. Facilitated by Amanda Bailey, this time is an opportunity for parents/guardians of children and youth to gather in fellowship and share stories: successes, frustrations, parenting ideas, resources, etc. Let Pastor Greg or Amanda know if you are interested. The group will meet in room 712.

Music Ministry Updates

HYMN OF THE MONTH- “ALL THINGS ARE YOURS”

Bryan Jeffery Leach wrote many hymns that we sing often including “We Are God’s People” and “Let Your Heart Be Broken” and “Come, Share the Lord.” Born in Middlesex, England on May 14, 1931, he was a member of the Evangelical Covenant Church. Interestingly, he spent more than half of his life in the United States since 1955. He was also known for his preaching in the Pacific Southwest. Only in his thirties did he gain acclaim as a hymn writer, composing more than 500 songs, hymns, anthems, and cantatas.

He once wrote of his “We Are God’s People” text: “We had at that time (1970s) very few popular hymns relating to the church. So on a gray, smoggy morning at a friend’s office in Southern California, I decided to work toward remedying this lack by writing one of my own. The day was the 4th of July, 1975. I sat at a typewriter in his office and I did not get up until I had written all 4 verses. The result was ‘We Are God’s People’. It turned out to be the favorite of all my hymn texts. I love singing it and I like especially the mixture of the metaphors in it, some biblical and some my own, which illustrate the true nature of the church. We are a temple, in great weakness, a cup to hold God’s grace; we die alone, for on its own each ember loses fire: yet joined in one the flame burns on to give warmth and light, and to inspire.”

“Joined in one” is the theme of our first Sunday in October: World Communion Sunday. I have set his text “All Things Are Yours”, a stewardship hymn, to the tune “All Creatures of Our God and King” for our month of October because it deals both with the tithes and offerings that are truly God’s treasures in our care, and also with the lives of those we treasure on All Saints’ Day.

The “alleluias” I added for the hymn tune are in many languages at the same time to celebrate our World Communion Sunday, Oct. 5. “Aleluya” is both the Spanish and the Swahili spelling; “Alleluia” is both the English and the Latin spelling, and “Hallelujah” is the transliteration of the Hebrew phrase “Let us praise God!”

*All Things are Yours! We make that true
When we return our gifts to You. Aleluya! Alleluia!
And so we give, and so we share
In Christ’s strong Name, expressing care.
Aleluya! Alleluia! Aleluya! Alleluia! Hallelujah!*

*O what a joy to give and then,
out of compassion, give again! Aleluya! Alleluia!
You have no needs.
Though that be true,
These gifts we share are given to You.
Aleluya! Alleluia! Aleluya! Alleluia! Hallelujah!*

*“Give out of love” Your Word commands.
We are Your feet, your heart, your hands. Aleluya! Alleluia!
Your Word You underscore with deeds
By using us to answer needs.
Aleluya! Alleluia! Aleluya! Alleluia! Hallelujah!*

Text: Bryan Jeffery Leech, alt. C. Cruze

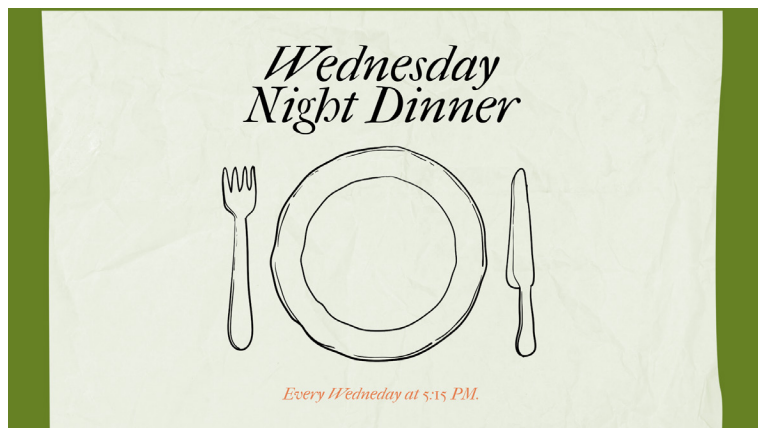
Blessings over you, to you, and through you,
Pastor Connie

Ministry Updates



NEW- FAITHFUL FITNESS

Pastor Connie invites all to join her for a chair exercise class on Friday mornings at 11 AM. This class is low impact and utilizes chair yoga and Pilates techniques.



PRICE INCREASE- WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER

Due to rising costs, the price for Wednesday Night Dinner is now \$9.00/person and \$20 for a family of up to 4 people. Reservations can be made on the church website [HERE](#) or by calling the church office at 540-366-6631 by Tuesday at 12 PM.



FAMILY PROMISE HOSTING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We will be hosting Family Promise the week of October 12-18. We are still in need of volunteers for set-up, clean-up, evening hosts and overnight hosts. You can sign-up to volunteer by

utilizing the paper sign-up sheets located in the Fellowship Hall or sign-up online [HERE](#).

UPCOMING- EVERBLESS PRESENTATION

On Wednesday, October 22, representatives from Everbless, a ministry partner through the Baptist General Association of Virginia, will be in the Fellowship Hall at 4 PM to provide a presentation about estate planning and giving. This presentation will focus on the benefits provided to you and your family through good preparation and how your estate can also be an instrument of blessing to your church and other ministries and missions that you are passionate about. Everbless exists to serve the congregations and congregants of the BGAV like Melrose, and this is a great opportunity to find out what they can offer for you and your family. Anybody can attend this presentation, so feel free to invite any family and friends that you think would be interested in coming. You can even make a reservation to have dinner at the church right after the presentation is over! If you have any questions, please talk to Pastor Mark or a member of our Stewardship Committee.



PLEASE JOIN US- CELEBRATION SUNDAY

Everyone is invited to join us for our Celebration Sunday worship service on October 19! During our worship service, we will rejoice and be glad! We will express our thanks to God for His goodness and love, and we will express our thanks to our "family of God" for the blessing of joining together to share the love of Christ through worship, fellowship, discipleship, and missions. The morning will conclude with an ice cream social provided by our Stewardship Committee! Don't miss this special day!

Upcoming Events

- 23-count packs of crayons
- Glue sticks



ALL ARE INVITED- MELROSE YOUTH GROUP REUNION

Those who were members of the Melrose Youth group are invited to a reunion on Saturday, October 4 from 11 AM- 5 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch is planned to be served at 1 PM with a group picture planned at 3 PM.



REGISTER NOW- CREATIVES NIGHT

October's Creatives Night will be on Sunday, October 19 at 5 PM and it will be a Halloween paint night. Together we will paint a stacked pumpkin wood cutout that can be used as a door hanger or decorative piece. Templates will be provided as well as step by step instruction. The deadline for registering is Sunday, October 5 by letting Blair know via e-mail (communications@melrosebaptist.org) or online [HERE](#).

THIS MONTH'S LAAF GATHERING

Those 50 and older are invited to this month's LAAF gathering on Tuesday, October 21 at 10 AM. This month's program is on internet safety and will be provided by Jeff Poore. Lunch is a pot luck so please plan to bring a dish to share. The mission action project is a collection of the following items for Round Hill Elementary. Please bring a donation of the following:

- Boys and girls underwear (Sizes 4-6, 6-8, and 2-4)
- Gender neutral children's sweat pants (Sizes 4-6 and 6-8)
- Dry erase markers



MARK YOUR CALENDAR: FALL FESTIVAL

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for this year's Fall Festival on Sunday, October 26 from 4-6 PM. We will have trick-or-treating, games, face painting, BINGO, bouncy house obstacle course, hot dog lunch, and more!

Want to participate or help?

We need Sunday School classes to volunteer to decorate their classrooms and hand out candy for the children during trick-or-treating. If your class is willing, please let Pastor Greg know!

We are collecting donations of Halloween candy! Donations can be placed in container located in the Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER

We welcome all to join us for dinner on Wednesday evenings at 5:15 PM. The cost is \$9.00 per person or \$20 for a family up to 4 people. Reservations are required and can be made by calling the church office at 540-366-6631 or by going to the church website [HERE](#).

October Menu

- 10/8: roast pork, twice baked apples, greens beans, hot fudge cake with ice cream
- 10/15: ranch beans, lettuce and tomato salad, cornbread, pineapple orange fluff
- 10/22: grilled chicken, squash saute, scalloped potatoes, pumpkin caramel poke cake
- 10/29: barbecue, coleslaw, macaroni and cheese, pina colada pound cake

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Ushers

10/5: Jack Engel & Bill Caudill
10/12: Don Slone & Debby Hill
10/19: Don Slone & Debby Hill
10/26: Rhonda Kessler & Missy Wickham

Courtesy Team

10/5: Tracie Conley & Allen Journell
10/12: Larry Wirt & Gerald Willis
10/19: Larry Hicks & Don Altice
10/26: Barry Wickham & Larry Wirt

Safety Team

10/5: Danny Jarrett & Larry Wirt
10/12: Gary Hurd & Steve Kennedy
10/19: Gary Dixon & Jeff Poore
10/26: Larry Hicks & Allen Journell

Youth Dinners

10/5: Amy Crawford & Jan Heath
10/12: Connie Crowder & Karen Mullins
10/19: Norma Engel & Becky Tobey
10/26: No Dinner- Fall Festival

MOST RECENT FINANCE REPORT- AUG. 2025

Income- \$81,420.15

Expenses - \$58,490.50

YTD Income - \$497,786.38

YTD Expenses - \$496,703.59

September Church Calendar

Sept. 29-Oct. 5

MONDAY- 09/29

10 AM Bible Study
6:45 PM Deacons Meeting

TUESDAY- 9/30

6:15 PM Shalom Handbell Choir
6:30 PM Men's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY- 10/1

10 AM Staff Meeting
10 AM Beth Calloway
2:30 PM Stitch & A Prayer
3:30 PM 5th Block
5:15 PM Wednesday Night Dinner
6 PM Youth on Mission
6:15 PM Bible Black Belts
6:15 PM Prayer Meeting
7 PM Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY- 10/3

11 AM Faithful Fitness
2 PM Creative Fellowship
Chrismons

SATURDAY- 10/4

11 AM- 5 PM Melrose Youth
Group Reunion

SUNDAY- 10/5

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:45 AM Sunday Morning Worship
Communion
12 PM Fork Fellowship
5 PM Village
5 PM Children in Action &
Worship Arts
5 PM Seeds of Youth

October Church Calendar

Oct. 6-12

MONDAY- 10/6

6:30 PM Dartball Fellowship

TUESDAY- 10/7

1:30 PM Staff Meeting
6:15 PM Shalom Handbell Choir
6:30 PM Men's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY- 10/8

1:30 PM Fellowship Hall in Use
3:30 PM 5th Block
5:15 PM Wednesday Night Dinner
6 PM Finance Committee
6 PM Youth on Mission
6:15 PM Bible Black Belts
6:15 PM Prayer Meeting
7 PM Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY- 10/9

10:30 AM Alma Hunt
6:45 PM Marketplace in Use
7 PM LaVora Sprinkle

FRIDAY- 10/10

BGAV Youth Retreat
11 AM Faithful Fitness

SATURDAY- 10/11

BGAV Youth Retreat
Parking Lot in Use
10 AM WMU Leadership Meeting

SUNDAY- 10/12

BGAV Youth Retreat
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Ibada
10:45 AM Sunday Morning Worship
12 PM Fork Fellowship
5 PM Village
5 PM Children in Action & Worship Arts
5 PM Seeds of Youth- Fields of Faith

Oct. 13-19

FAMILY PROMISE HOSTING 10/12-10/18

MONDAY- 10/13

10 AM Bible Study
6:30 PM Dartball Fellowship

TUESDAY- 10/14

1:30 PM Staff Meeting
6:15 PM Shalom Handbell Choir
6:30 PM Men's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY- 10/15

3:30 PM 5th Block
5:15 PM Wednesday Night Dinner
6 PM Youth on Mission
6:15 PM Bible Black Belts
6:15 PM Business Meeting
7 PM Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY- 10/17

11 AM Faithful Fitness

SATURDAY- 10/18

9 AM- 4 PM Fellowship Hall in Use
1-3 PM Children's Fall Event at
Keystone Community Center

SUNDAY- 10/19

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Ibada
10:45 AM Sunday Morning Worship
Celebration Sunday
5 PM Creatives Night
5 PM Village
5 PM Children in Action & Worship Arts
5 PM Seeds of Youth

Oct. 20-26

MONDAY- 10/20

10 AM Bible Study

TUESDAY- 10/21

10 AM LAAF
1:30 PM Staff Meeting
6:15 PM Shalom Handbell Choir
6:30 PM Men's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY- 10/22

3:30 PM 5th Block
4 PM Everless Presentation
5:15 PM Wednesday Night Dinner
6 PM Youth on Mission
6:15 PM Bible Black Belts
6:15 PM Prayer Meeting
7 PM Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY- 10/23

SAM Trip to Barter Theater
6:45 PM Marketplace in Use

SATURDAY- 10/25

10 AM Ibada Prayer Meeting
10 AM Bible Journaling Fellowship

SUNDAY- 10/26

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Ibada
10:45 AM Sunday Morning Worship
All Saints Sunday
12 PM Fork Fellowship
4-6 PM Fall Festival

Oct. 27- Nov. 2

MONDAY- 10/27

10 AM Bible Study
6:45 PM Deacons Meeting

TUESDAY- 10/28

1:30 PM Staff Meeting
5:30 PM RVBA Fall Meeting

WEDNESDAY- 10/29

3:30 PM 5th Block
5:15 PM Wednesday Night Dinner
6 PM Youth on Mission
6:15 PM Bible Black Belts
6:15 PM Prayer Meeting
7 PM Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY- 10/30

1 PM Sonshine Choir at Friendship
6:45 PM Marketplace in Use

FRIDAY- 10/31

11 AM Faithful Fitness

SUNDAY- 11/2

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Ibada
10:45 AM Sunday Morning Worship
Communion
12 PM Fork Fellowship
5 PM Village
5 PM Children in Action &
Worship Arts
5 PM Seeds of Youth



Melrose Baptist Church

Available in App Stores

