

From the Pastor.....

The story is told of a mother and her 4 year old daughter who were strolling through an open-air market. As the little girl stared at a large pile of oranges, a generous vendor took one from the table and gave it to her. "What do you say to the nice man?" the mother asked her daughter. The little girl looked at the orange, then thrust it toward the man and said, "peel it!"

Thankfulness is something we learn and grow into. What might be excusable in a 4 year old would be rude and ungrateful from an older child or adult. Yet, how easy it is to fall into the trap of responding to God's gracious gifts by thinking. "This is nice, but I'd like a little more."

An attitude of gratitude toward God is a mark of a developing spiritual maturity. In Paul's letter to the church in Ephesus, his challenge to follow Christ included, "giving thanks always for all things to God the Father" (Eph 5:20).

Today, let's practice thankfulness to God, instead of complaining about what we do not have, instead of fussing about the unfairness of life, instead of asking for more for ourselves. Instead of saying, "peel it," let's say, "thank you Lord."

In His Grip,
Pastor Frank

NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED

One of the things I have often said is, "Life begets life." A healthy, vibrant church is one that is helping people **BELIEVE** in Jesus Christ, **BELONG** to a group of people or a church and **BECOME** disciples of Jesus Christ. I call this the three "Bs." There are several ways to "measure" when a church is doing this effectively. One is by the enthusiasm, commitment and competency of volunteers in support of church ministries and events. This was truly evident last Saturday at the Harvest Festival and is seen every week in the support for our reoccurring ministries and programs.

Another metric is if we, as a church, are attracting seekers looking to know more about God, His son Jesus, and the spiritual principles found in their Holy Word. I think we are and this is also evident in those who have decided to join our band of brothers and sisters known as **Bowling Green Baptist Church**. Some of these fine folks have been attending BGBC for a while and some are brand new. Here is a list of those we have recently affirmed and how they have come to be part of our church family:

1. The Swanton Family: Stephen and Sharon (Statement of Faith)
Cody and Adam (Baptism)
Jesslyn (statement of faith)
2. Michael Call and Rachel Somers Call Family: (Statement of Faith)
Children: Valerie Call, Chole Call, Kinsley Call, Ethan Call
3. Ben Sadler (Baptism)
4. Channing Gustard (Baptism)

We rejoice in their decision to partner with us here at BGBC and look forward to growing together in Christ.

Pastor Frank



Welcome
Our New
Members



Everyone has been busy working on their part to make the Harvest Festival on Oct. 21 a success. Our church gave out “cookies for Christ” with a special Bible verse on each bag from 1 John 2:25—“And this is the promise that he himself made to us: eternal life.” Our mission group placed 1100 of these labels on bags of cookies brought in by our church to be given out, as well as bottled water given by our church members. In addition, a special lady from Oxford Mount Zion Baptist Church baked 14 pound cakes, and along with some of her helpers, bagged slices to be given out also. Wow! The praise band played outside the church, as well as other music groups. Many children’s activities took place around the church as well as the fun “bounce” houses, loaned by Salem Baptist Church. The men’s group had a “disaster relief” bucket set up for donations to purchase needed items suggested for cleaning in the recent flooded areas. A special thanks also to the deacons who helped set-up and clean up after a great day of fun and community involvement.

Our Operation Christmas Child shoebox campaign will end on Sunday, October 29 with a special blessing by Pastor Frank given in the early service with the children participating. Our church goal this year will be 100 boxes. We will not be able to take our boxes to the local collection center until Nov.13, so late arrivals to our table, will be gladly accepted and delivered at that time.

Sunday Nov.5 through Nov. 19 we will be collecting food for needy families. Look for collection baskets on the table in the family ministry center, and under the bench in the missions area in the back hall. If you know of someone who needs a helping hand for this holiday, please let Susie Hicks or Paulette Britt know.

Blessings to all this holiday season.

Growing and Learning in Grace

This is a new monthly blurb about loving and growing our kids. No one does it perfectly and is rarely as you expected, but is an amazing journey! And at BGBC, we love kids!!!

by Paige Carter

In this inaugural note, I would like to take the opportunity to emphasize how amazing it is to be a part of the children's ministry at BGBC! Our kids are incredible! Our volunteers are amazing and our congregation knows that children are the future of our church!!! Being able to be a small part of growing their knowledge about Jesus is a gift that defies description!

Because we love our kids, we want them to be safe! The topic for this article is safety around the church building and grounds. As I am sure you have heard, recently we have had a couple of incidents that remind us how important it is to be diligent.

First, a potential threat to the safety of our kids was identified during our missions movie night. We were reminded that there are potential dangers, even in our beautiful little town. Second, our beloved Mrs. Bonnie's car was broken into just across the county, leaving her feeling vulnerable and again, bringing awareness to the need for safety.

Pastor Frank noted recently that BGBC is committed to the safety of our congregation, especially our littlest members. With that comes a responsibility that we all share. Yes, it is the parents' responsibility to safeguard their kids when they are not in formal activities, and it is the volunteers' responsibility to care for our kids during formal events. Truly, though, it is a responsibility we share as members of the body of Christ.

Of course, having fun and experiencing fellowship at church is an important part of learning what it means to be a part of the body of Christ. We want our kids to be comfortable but not so comfortable that safety becomes a concern.

It is our responsibility as adults to remind children of the privilege it is to be at church and be allowed to worship. We also need to model worship and that this worship is one way that we show God that we love him. During our worship service we may whisper to a friend, check our phone or even leave to go to the bathroom. If we can't devote our time to worship, how can we expect our children to do so? They watch us and they learn from what we say and do. Most learning is caught, not taught!

Children also rise to the expectations we put on them. If we expect them to sit in church, let them know how much that means to us and make that clear, they will do just that!

As our population of children continues to grow (Praise God!!!), we are investigating new ways to serve them, such as adding Children's Church to at least one service, or adding an AWANA program to Wednesday night. We will also be exploring our policies and procedures for all activities to make sure we are doing our best!!!

Here are a few safety tips for everyone to remember:

- Children, elementary age and below, should be supervised at all times during church events.
- Under the supervision of an adult, a buddy system may be appropriate for specific, short errands or tasks, such as taking something to another classroom or getting a drink of water during Sunday school.
- If you see a little one unattended, help them find where they are supposed to be or alert a nearby familiar adult.
- Remind your children of the importance of safety. Regularly let them know that while church is a wonderful and safe place to be, it is important that children stay with leaders and that someone should know where they are at all times.
- Take bathroom breaks before events, especially worship, to reduce the need to leave during the service. (This goes for adults, too!) This helps to ensure safety, but also to minimize distraction.

Thank you, all, for your support of our children's ministry. There is nothing we could do to invest more in the future.

Proverbs 22:6 Point your kids in the right direction – when they're old they won't be lost. (The Message)



CHILDREN'S
Ministry
REMINDERS

Here are some important dates for kiddos, too:

November 17 - Kidz Nite

December 16 - Dress rehearsal for Christmas pageant

December 20 - Christmas Pageant

More information about trying out for the pageant and rehearsal schedules will be forthcoming!

Musical Connections



The Adult Choir would like to express our thanks for the church's recent approval of a new audio visual system for the sanctuary. The affirmative vote at the Special Business Meeting on October 8 has initiated an exciting new chapter in our traditional worship experience, with additional benefits to other ministries within the church that use the sanctuary.

UPCOMING

November 26: First Sunday of Advent:

7PM Hanging of the Greens Celebration with musical support from the Adult Choir and Praise Team.

In Memory



The Adult Choir remembers with gratitude the life of devoted choir member

Emily Barlow Chilton who added her beautiful voice to the Heavenly Choir on October 14, 2017. The Adult Choir was honored to participate in her homegoing service on October 18, 2017 at the church.



Teresa Hudson	1
Ben Sadler	2
Steven Carter	5
Richard Covington	5
Kay Rice	5
Larry Hudson	6
Dennis Taylor	8
Bo-Bo Taylor	15
Ben Crawford	19
Heather Smith	19
Lillian Jones	20
Chantal Toombs	20
Laura Ferguson	23
Ruth Judd	24
Buddy Thomas	26
Troy Smith	27
C.W. Ponton	28
Rachel Richardson	29
Stephen Richardson	29

Deacon of the Week:

November 5	Charles Cushing
12	Sherry Brillhart
19	John Markham
26	Brad Thomas

Deacons' Meeting Devotions- Ed Britt

Building Security: – Deacon of the week

Counters– Terry Bullock and Dianne Webb

Flowers:

November 5	Barbara Lanford
12	Olivia Perry
19	Sallie Tidman
26	Beverly & Glenn McDearmon

Coffee & Snack Schedule

November 5	Cathy Gray
12	Ella Divelbliss
19	Olivia Perry
26	Sallie Tidman

Nursery Workers: *

Nov.5	<u>Brooke Satterwhite</u> , Cathy Gray, Laney Thomas
12	<u>Stephanie Sadler</u> , Jake Phelix, Christianna Gray
19	<u>Sallie Tidman</u> , Sabrina Farris, Kamryn Gray
26	<u>Tracey Mallory</u> , Kristen Bissoon, Chandler Gustard

* Both individuals are responsible for the 8:45 service; the underlined individual is also responsible for the 11:00 service.