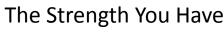
## Lampi<u>l</u>ghter

Reaching Up, Reaching Out, Reaching In

Exalting the Savior by evangelizing the lost and equipping the saints



"Go in this strength of yours and save Israel from the hand of Midian. Have I not

sent you?" (Judges 6:14, NASB)

Gideon was a young Hebrew soldier whose people had been battered into poverty by the Midianites. They would wait until a crop was harvested and raid the area. Then they would cross back over their border and wait until the Hebrews completed another harvest. Gideon was so demoralized that he tried to hide in a winepress as he threshed enough grain to keep his family alive.

Suddenly the Lord appeared to him, commissioning him to lead his people against the Midianites. The Lord told him to "Go in the strength you have." But let's remember that at that moment Gideon was hiding from the Midianites. Gideon did not feel like he had much strength. But he had enough to do God's will, if he would only trust and obey God.

Weakness comes and goes depending upon age, illness, injury, and the demands of life. But we are stronger than we realize, because the Lord is our strength and salvation. He will always provide enough strength to do what He calls us to do. If we will trust the Lord, we like Paul, can say that, "When I am weak, then I am strong" (2 Cor. 12:10). In his own strength Gideon was powerless to help his people. But once he realized his weakness and depended on God's divine strengthening, Gideon had more than enough strength. As we faithfully serve the Lord, He gives us the strength we need for the tasks He has placed before us. So go in the strength you have. God will make up the difference and you will succeed. Blessings in Christ.

Pastor Larry

## **VBS NEWS**



## Kickoff for VBS May 21 4-6:00pm

We will have family game night. Come enjoy a fun time with games, snacks, and pizza. It will be a blast for all ages.

> VBS June 11-15 6:00-8:30pm

We still need volunteers to make this happen. See the sign up sheet at the VBS table. If you have questions see Rebecca Vernon or Suzanne Terry.

## BASSETT HIGH SCHOOL GOSPEL CHOIR

The Bassett High School Gospel Choir will perform selected songs for our Worship Service on

> Sunday, May 7 10:30am

Please make plans now to attend this special service to support these wonderful young people

You are giving them an opportunity to SHINE



## **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** with Pastor Larry 10:00am

SonShine Classroom

Everyone is invited to attend



## The Ladies Card Ministry Monday, May 08 12:00 Noon SonShine Classroom

Making Birthday and Anniversary Cards

#### Mark Your Calendar

May 04, 11, 18, 25: Loving Hands Ministry

May 06: Community Impact Day May 08: Ladies Card Ministry

May 13: Youth Humble Hands Ministry

May 14: Mother's Day May 21: Graduate Sunday

May 21: VBS Kick-Off Family Game Night

May 28: Memorial Sunday June 4: Baby Dedication Sunday June 04: Community Movie Night



Grace Network

As a church family, we have committed to helping Grace Network with stocking their food pantry for those in need. Please remember to pick up our assigned item the next time you visit the grocery store.

#### May Grace Network Food Item

Peanut Butter

#### **May Featured Items**

Toilet Paper, Feminine Products, Deodorant

## **March Report**

Monthly Offering needed	44,456	
(4 Sundays)		
Monthly Offering Received	45,862	
Rental Income	1,913	
Other Income (undesig. memorials, use of building, etc.)		
Monthly Operating Expenses	56,437	
Operating Account Balance	366,737	
Weekday Education Acct. Balance	5,824	
Benevolence Designated Fund	1,800	
Project Hope	1,461	
Bereavement Meal Ministry	2,974	
Van Fund	13,398	
Capital Campaign Fund	48,904	

Detailed finance reports are available at the information stands located in the vestibule areas of the sanctuary, or you may call the church office if you would like a copy mailed to

#### In Sympathy:

Bobby Merriman, brother-in-law of Ellin Cobler Ruth Franklin, sister-in-law of Dot Turner Robert "Bob" Walker, brother of Gary Walker Robert "Robbie" Divers, III, grandson of Robert Divers, Sr. Celeste McPhilamy, sister of Neil Ramsey



## **Pregnancy Care Center Baby Bottle Campaign**

Pick up your Baby bottle in the church lobby. Fill the bottle with change, paper currency or checks to go toward supporting this organization. The pregnancy Care Center is involved in helping mothers and protecting the unborn in our community. So, let's fill up some bottles! Return the bottles to the church by May 28, 2023 for this most worthy cause. They are grateful for your support and prayer support to help reaching women and saving babies lives.

"Life is a precious gift"

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

# Spring is In the Hir

## Spring is in the Air By Jane Orcutt

Spring comes to Acorn Hill and brings with it birds, budding flowers and a whole new set of challenges for the Howard sisters. While Louise becomes involved in the creation of the town's official website, Jane helps coach the local Little League team and Alice befriends an Amish girl who's about to make the biggest decision of her life. Meanwhile,

the sisters host a family who are building something very interesting in the backyard. When spring is in the air, excitement is just around the corner.

### **Capital Campaign Fund Summary**

(March 01, 2022-March 31, 2023)

Received thru Building Improvement Fund \$36,830.00 March-Dec. donations to Capital Campaign \$76,124.91 Jan.—Feb. 2023 donations to Capital Campaign \$ 8,453.50 March 2023 donations to Capital Campaign \$ 3,655.41 **Total Received** \$125,063.82 Less Total spent on Roof \$76,160.00

Capital Campaign Fund Balance 02/28/23 \$48,903.82

### Women on Mission,

Hello Women on Mission!

The mission action for May is missions for life God's Pit Crew, any amount I am sure would be helpful! The Betty Westover group is making two blessing buckets to deliver to them. We need to turn the money into Sandy by the end of May

The Harmony Hall Birthday was a success, as always, they had a good time and so did we! As write this we are preparing to deliver the goodies to Martinsville Middle School to show our appreciation for all they do for the children!

i am humbled by the responce of you all and pray that as we minister in our community it will make a difference in the lives of many.

May god bless each and everyone of you as we continue to share the love of Jesus.

Blessings, Lana and Hope P.S Please pray for our VBS in June!



Baby Dedication Sunday June 4

If anyone is interested in having your baby dedicated on Sunday, June 4, please contact Pastor Larry or the Church Office (276-647-3774) by Sunday, May 21.

## **Evangelism/Mission Development**

The multi-church 'Community Impact Day' is Saturday, May 6 (with the 13<sup>th</sup> as a rain-day). If you have NOT signed up to help, we could still use your help. Please contact Rocky Rockwell for details.

Please put June 4 on your calendar for our next quarterly movie 'Courageous Remastered", focusing on the commitment of fatherhood. Whether you have not seen the original 'Courageous' movie, or not, the remastered version it's a must-see. They added a few new scenes and gave the whole movie a crisper feel. We will follow that up with a viewing of 'Show Me the Father' (a documentary on godly fatherhood) and a Bible study. More information to come!

We are considering calling for a regular time on Sunday mornings before Sunday School (8:30 or 9:00 a.m.) for the men of the church to come together and pray for the church as a whole. Rocky Rockwell would really appreciate any feedback you might have on that opportunity.

#### **YOUTH CORNER**

Greetings from the Youth Department,

I pray that you all have enjoyed God's blessings over the course of the last month. I know that we in the youth department are so blessed to have the opportunity to reach out to kids of all backgrounds. As most of you know the youth had the opportunity to partake in a youth lock-in on April 21st. I was so impressed with the number of students that showed up that I allowed them to wax my legs. I know many of you may think this man is crazy and I can't believe we call him Youth Pastor. I know I know that you likely don't feel that way, at least I hope but our leaders will do whatever it takes to get the Gospel message of Jesus Christ into the hearts and minds of the teens in Henry County.

Two things that really tugged at my heart was the sheer diversity of students we had that night and one of the youth opening of the Bible with another student while everyone else was enjoying free time. The first item being the diversity of students amongst us was phenomenal. I thought to myself this is the church. This is what it's all about. People of African American background, Hispanic background, Caucasian background, young, old, male and female all coming together to have fun but also to worship and hear the Gospel in a safe and exciting environment. The second item was from one of our youths. This student had their Bible out and was sharing with another student. It's like God was showing us leaders that what we have been teaching on is being listened to. That our teens love and care about each other so much that they are willing to give up their free time to show the love of Christ. This is the kind of youth group I want to lead.

Is this the kind of church we desire? A church that preaches the truth in love to people of all backgrounds. Ones that are hurting and ones that are growing. My prayer is that in our hearts and minds that we would not allow our prejudices (and we all have them) to get in the way of God doing amazing things to save people from their sins. I hope you will join me in this prayer. That we would be doers of the Word and not just listeners.

Until the whole world hears

Pastor Christian Lund

#### Youth Events

#### Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup> Humble Hands, Humble Hands

The youth will begin their monthly service projects in the community. For the month of May, the youth will travel to the trash site off Kings Mountain Rd. We will show the love of Christ by assisting residents of Henry County offload their trash and recyclables. It's such a blessing to so many to see our young people represent Jesus in the community. In the future we will help the food pantry and assist the widows and shut-ins of our church. If you ever get the opportunity, pull one of our teens aside and tell them thank you, encourage them, and just show them love.

#### Sunday May 21st Graduate Sunday

It is with great pleasure to honor the graduating class of 2023. I feel like we just got done honoring the graduates of 2022 but it's that time of year again. To honor our graduates this year we will host the graduates, parents, and grandparents to a catered meal on Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup>. We will also have a table set up in the foyer of the church with boxes for each student to have church members place cards, gift cards, etc to celebrate this special time. During our worship service on May 21<sup>st</sup>, we will present them with the cards as well as a congratulatory gift. The service will be dedicated to our graduates as they will be present in their graduation attire. Let's make sure to send off our graduates with huge blessings as we honor them and all they have accomplished.



Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Permit No. 5

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## Birthdays & Anniversaries

Youth

Adult Bible Studies

Fellowship Meal

Mission Friends

Adult Choir Practice

RA's & GA's

Wednesday Evening Activities: Children's Choir Practice

Youth (Middle & High School)

Prayer Service & Bible Study

<u>May 2023 Birthday</u>	21 Hank Joyce
01 Bailey France	22 Tina Maxey
02 Carrie Williams	24 Phyllis Geramita
02 Agnes VanHulzen	26 Joan Collins
03 Ann Thomason	26 Scott Spencer
04 Tim Atwood	26 Sammy Shelton
04 Sidney Lavinder	29 Douglas Huff
04Wendy Gilbert	29 Rick Love
04 Tami Olalya	29 Blake Minter
05 Hope Johnson	30 Sammy Eanes
	31 Judah Beachy
05 Allison Prato	<u>June 2023 Birthday</u>
05 Michael Walker	01 Styles Geramita
06 Keith Eggleston	01 Mike Kennett
06 Dee Webb	01 Tim Knight
07 Sarah France	01 Gideon Huddle
07 Shelly Gibson	01 Lisa West
07 Savannah Lund	01 Ezrah Manns
11 Pamela Jones	02 David Kinney
11 Sylvia McKinney	02 Nicholas Alley
13 Parker Tuck	03 Chris Roetken
14 Everett Lawson	03 Rocky Rockwell
17 Temple Mays	04 Ricky Anderson
18 Wanda Watkins	04 Bob Hall
18 Katrell Ramsey	05 Bruce Adkins
19 Marci Emberson	05 Tommy Houston
20 Shirley Hodges	05 Faye Haynes
21 Jessica Shelton	06 Steve Edwards
21 jessica sileitoli	06 Becky Fontaine

06 Sarah Lester

4:00pm

4:00pm

5:15pm

6:00pm

6:30pm

6:30pm 6:30pm

6:45pm

7:30pm

#### May 2023 Anniversaries

01 Roger & Judy Dodson 05 Sidney & Betty Lavinder 07 Steve & Leslie Houston 09 Jeff & Wendy Watkins 16 Brad & Sue Ella Ferguson 16 Tom & Ellen Prato 20 Jimmy & Pam Joyce 23 Alan & Elizabeth Teal

29 Scott & Suzanne Terry

30 Wayne & Becky Johnson

#### **June Anniversaries**

02 Chas & Phyllis Geramita 05 Scott & Toni Patterson 09 Chris & Martha Newman 12 Keith & Paige Scott 13 H. D. & Debbie Linkous 21 Mackenzie & Melanie Eggleston

**AWANA Sundays** 4:00pm 2 Years to 12th Grade

**Loving Hands** Ministry Meet **Every Thursdays** of each month 10:00am-12:00 noon 2nd Floor **Loving Hands Ministry Rm.** 

> We welcome anyone who would like to join us. Any questions call Bobbi Frazer @ 276-252-8106.

## **Please Take Note:**

If you have not been receiving the email notices the church has been sending out or the One Calls the Pastor has been making and you would like to be included, please call the church office at 647-3774 and we will be glad to add you to the list.