

The BETHLEHEM CHALLENGE

6103 Appomattox Road, P.O. Box 56, Climax, NC 27233

Office 336 674-0155, Fax 336 674-0157

"A PASTOR'S VIEW"

"Well done! You are a good and faithful servant. You've been faithful over a little. I'll put in charge of much. Come, celebrate with me." Matt. 25:23

These are words spoken by Jesus at the end of the parable of the valuable coins in Matthew 25. In this story three different servants are given three different amounts to care for. The first two double what they were given and are rewarded by the master, while the third, afraid to do anything with the coins, is punished.

It sounds somewhat harsh. In our world today, we can imagine what the third servant thought. Inflation is up, I haven't had a raise in several years and the stock market is struggling. I would be better off if I just held on to this for a rainy day. We want to keep as much as we can so that we aren't caught off guard for the unexpected, the rainy day.

I can certainly understand that idea. As a church and individuals, we do need to watch what we do with what we have. But even as I think about that, I can't help but think about John Wesley's view of money. Wesley said, "Earn all you can, save all you can, give all you can."

Wesley thought that as Christians, we should earn as much money as possible with honest hard work. While there were certain enterprises that Wesley thought inappropriate for a Christian to be involved in, he was never opposed to making money.

Second, Wesley though one should save all they can. However, this wasn't by stocking away a large savings account. Wesley believed that one should live sensibly. A Christian should be careful, frugal in their spending and not allow their senses to dictate where their money goes. One should live a simplistic life.

The third idea in Wesley's understanding of money is give all you can. For Wesley, we were to gain and save in order to give. At the heart of what Wesley believed, one should provide for their basic needs, care for their family, give to the faith community for the work of God and then give to all men and women in need, whether they are believers or not.

These weren't just words for John Wesley. In his lifetime, he lived on 2% of his income and gave away 98%. When he died, he died with a few coins and a couple of silver spoons.

This year has been difficult for many of you as you have taken pay cuts, not been given a raise or perhaps even lost your job. I thank you for your faithfulness in so many ways to the ministries of Bethlehem.

My prayer is that in the coming year, you take Wesley's idea of stewardship to heart. That you continue to be or become wise and faithful servants of what God has given. By being faithful servants, God can do many wondrous acts for this community and the world.

Peace,
A.C.

November 2011

Editor: Kathy Mitchell



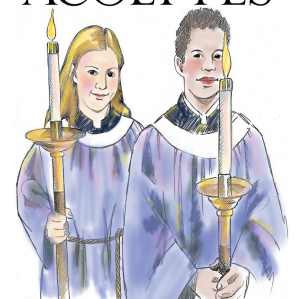
November Ushers

**Earl Fields
Bob Norris
Tim Fields
Leo Kirkman**

Acolytes

- | | |
|-------|---------------------------------|
| 11/6 | Joy Massarelli
Ally Fields |
| 11/13 | Clark Hinshaw
Leah Fields |
| 11/20 | Will Rivers
Mario Massarelli |
| 11/27 | Ashley Neelley
Ally Fields |

ACOLYTES



Celebrate novemBER Birthdays



- 1st Matthew Garrett, Wally Hockett, Richard Kearns
3rd Chris Cranfill, Michael Jones, Amanda Parks, Denny Spencer
4th Jamie Davis, John Allen Grubbs
5th Kaila Hill
6th Sharon Hill
7th Edna Coble, Karen Marsh
9th Pat Weatherly
10th Justin Windsor
11th Pat Coble, Sarah Hinshaw, Annie Mae Jones, Jean Greeson, Gregory Osborn
12th Jesse Bowman, Brad Carter, Brian Coble, Vickie Flinchum, Karen Lauder, Madison Nance, Melissa Staley, Kathy Wilkinson
13th Fred Cook
14th Ronda Faggart, Phil Smith, Ricky Turner, Carol Williams
15th Donna Canter, Larry Coble
16th Derrick Kirkman, Deborah Norris
17th Craig Alexander, Jonathan King, Emily Lauder, Nathan Pipe
18th Gail Welker, Mario Massarelli
19th Morgan Aydelette, Sue Cockman, Will Rivers
20th Korey Brown, Jonathan Toler
21st Megan Frye, Wes Taylor
22nd Nancy Kivett, Terry Owens
23rd Chris Evans, Doug Garrett, Monica Berry, Frank Stevens
24th Frances Fields, Kaye Fry, Patricia Hale
25th J.J. Riddle
26th Betsy Hockett, Frank Willis
27th Ginny Fields
28th Tim Fields, Charles McClintock, Bobby Tew
29th Chelsea Brock, Ethan Hill, Wayne Moser, Josephine Becker
30th Mark Allen, Beverly Culbertson, Doug Shelley, Seth Toler



Stewardship Report

Budget Results for September 2011

\$ 80,759.48	Total Money Available September 1, 2011
+ 29,767.45	Money Received in September
+ 14,958.46	Money Received From an Estate
+ 60.62	Interest Earned
- <u>24,067.07</u>	Money Spent in September
\$101,478.94	Total Money Available Sept 30, 2011

During the month of September we received \$20,719.46 more money than we spent.

Major Maintenance & Repair Fund Results September 2011

\$13,383.30	Total Money Available September 1, 2011
+ 400.00	Money Received in September
+ 1.67	Interest Earned
- <u>10.00</u>	Service Fee
\$13,774.97	Total Money Available September 30, 2011

Frank Willis, Stewardship Ministry Chair

Upcoming Meeting/Event Reminders

November 1 **Backyard Grille Breakfast Club 8:00 am**
Women in Christ 7:00 pm
Boy Scouts 7:00 pm

November 2 **Bible Study 10:00 am**
Hot Dog Wednesday 5:30-7:00 pm
Women of Faith 6:45 pm
Zumba 7:30 pm

November 3 **Missions Team 6:30 pm**
Trustees 7:30 pm
Cub Scouts 7:00 pm

November 6 **K-5 Kids Choir Plus 4:30 pm**
Church Council 7:00 pm

November 7 **Wesley UMW 6:00 pm**
Child Care Board 6:30 pm
Zumba 7:00 pm

November 8 **Friendly Club 10:30am**
Girl Scouts 6:00 pm
Evangelism 6:30 pm
Women in Christ 7:00 pm
Boy Scouts 7:00 pm

November 9 **Bible Study 10:00 am**
Hot Dog Wednesday 5:00-7:00 pm
Women of Faith 6:45 pm
Grief Support Group 7:00 pm

November 10 **Cub Scouts 7:00 pm**

Upcoming Meeting/Event Reminders

- November 13** Charge Conference 2:00 pm (Bethlehem is hosting)
K-5 Kids Choir Plus 4:30 pm
Youth 6:00 pm
- November 14** Records & History 6:30 pm
Zumba 7:00 pm
- November 15** Women in Christ 7:00 pm
Boy Scouts 7:00 pm
- November 16** Bible Study 10:00 am
Hot Dog Wednesday 5:00-7:00 pm
Women of Faith 6:45 pm
- November 17** Cub Scouts 7:00 pm
- November 20** K-5 Kids Youth 4:30 pm
Thanksgiving Service 7:00 pm (Bethlehem is hosting)
- November 21** Building Fundraising 7:00 pm
Zumba 7:00 pm
- November 22** Girl Scouts 6:00 pm
Women in Christ 7:00 pm
Boy Scouts 7:00 pm
- November 27** Youth 6:00 pm
- November 28** Arlene Stokes 7:30 pm
Zumba 7:00 pm
- November 29** Boy Scouts 7:00 pm
Women in Christ 7:00 pm
- November 30** Bible Study 10:00 am
Women of Faith 6:45 pm
Grief Support Group 7:00 pm

Thanksgiving is just around the corner and fast approaching on its heels is Christmas! Yikes!

But for now, let's hit the pause button on life for just a moment and allow ourselves some time to focus on Thanksgiving and what this holiday means for us as Christians.

Consider the following selection of verses that speak of thanks:

Psalm 69:30: "I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving." (NIV)

Psalm 107:1, 106:1 and Psalm 136:1: "Give thanks to the lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

1 Corinthians 15:57a: "But thanks be to God!"

2 Corinthians 9:15: "Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"

Philippians 1:3: "I thank my God every time I remember you."

Philippians 4:6: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God."

1 Thessalonians 5:18: "give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Thanksgiving is an opportunity to turn our attention toward the blessings in our lives. Granted, as Christians, we should thank God everyday but so often we feel like the blessings in our lives are overshadowed by the drama and chaos of life. We are so busy living and getting through each day that we sometimes forget to be thankful in all circumstances.

During this month of November, the season of thankfulness, I want to encourage you to make a list of those things for which you are thankful. Each day set aside a few minutes to reflect on the events of the day and write down at least one thing for which you would like to thank God. On Thanksgiving Day, pull out your list and celebrate all the good things from the first 24 days of November. Maybe when you go over your list you will see the hand of God working in and through your life. Who knows; you may be so overwhelmed with thanksgiving that this Thanksgiving Day will truly be a holy-day for you!

I thank God for each of you and pray God's blessings on you and your family; especially during this season of thankfulness!

Peace,

Kaye

**Tuesday Night
Women's Bible Study**
Tuesday
Evenings
@ 7:00 pm
PLEASE JOIN US!



The Evangelism Committee meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. We invite any member of this church who is interested in promoting church growth to come join us. All ages are encouraged to come and participate. Any questions, please contact the church office at 674-0155.

**Church Schedule For
Opening & Closing**

8:30

10:55

Pat Snyder



Opening/Closing Schedule

Library—Book Review

CHECK IT OUT - Martha Oakes has donated a book to our library entitled *Beyond DNA - Inheriting Spiritual Strength from the Women in Your Family Tree* by Selena Post. The book tells about the lives of Selena Post's mother, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, and great-great-grandmothers - 15 women in all! Selena and Martha are cousins, so one of the women that Ms. Post writes about is Martha's grandmother. Most of these women were from our area, and Bethlehem, Pleasant Garden Methodist, Tabernacle, and Centre are mentioned often!

An interesting and inspiring book!

Youth Group

The Youth group kickoff was a lot of fun!! Youth is well underway and we look forward to an exciting year serving others and learning more about Christ. For the fall, we will be doing a study about Courage. Youth will usually meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month unless we have service projects. If you did not get a calendar at the kickoff, notify a counselor or another youth.

The following is what we have planned for November:

November 13 - 6:00—7:30 pm

November 27—6:00—7:30 pm

**Breakfast Club – Meet at
Backyard Grille @8:00 a.m. the first
Tuesday of every month!
See you there!**



Adult Fellowship Class

Our Plate of Goodness By Deborah Ann Belka

I love this time of year,
with Thanksgiving just ahead
it reminds me of some considerations
that in the Bible I have read . . .

In everything, be grateful,
let joy and praise flow out of you
in all things, be thankful
give God, the glory He is due.

Make peacefulness your habitation,
let your gentleness be made known
be kind, tenderhearted and forgiving
never be the first - to cast a stone.

Extend a hand to the poor and needy,
let hospitality be your perfect gift
help all those who have not
bring back to God, those who are adrift.

Show others your appreciation,
let them see your heartfelt gratitude
bless them for their helpfulness
be not selfish in your works or attitude.

Reach out to the sick and hurting,
let them see Jesus' true compassion
show all an act of grace and mercy
let not the sun go down on your passion.

Be content with all that you have,
rejoice and abound in whatever is your state
be satisfied with all of the goodness
God has placed on your Thanksgiving plate.

In everything, be thankful,
let your praise be heard by all
in everything, be grateful
let your joy be seen by one and all!

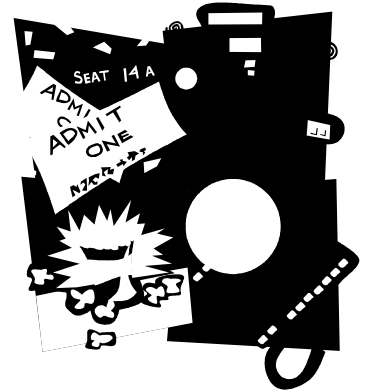
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Deborah Ann Belka
Article Source: <http://www.faithwriters.com>

Fundraising Announcements by Martha Oakes

Current Fundraising:

The cut-out of the current church facility is still available. Get yours before they are gone. See Becky Windsor or Betsy Hockett to purchase one for \$20.

We are looking for more members to join the Birthday Club. A big birthday celebration will be held in early 2012. Donate \$1.00 for each year of your age during the month of your birthday. Special envelopes are available throughout the church building.



News:

The Attractions Books are all gone, and we made a profit of \$350. Thanks to Preston Elliott for his hard work on this project.

The breakfast items and general store on brunswick stew day made a profit of \$1,461.35. Thanks to everyone who contributed baked goods and canned goods to help us.

The balance on the Building Fund mortgage is \$216,016.07 after the October payment.

The Fundraising Committee needs help. Please consider joining us on the 3rd Monday night of each month at 7:00.



Joint Community Thanksgiving Service

We will join with Pleasant Garden UMC on Sunday Nov. 20th at 7:00pm for a service of Thanksgiving. This year Bethlehem will host the service and the Rev. Phil DeBerry from Pleasant Garden will bring our message. The choirs will join together in the anthem. As always a time of fellowship will follow. We look forward to seeing you on the 20th for this special service as we celebrate all that we have to be thankful for.

Operation Christmas Child: In November the Missions Team is coordinating a church wide effort to participate in Operation Christmas Child, sponsored by Samaritan's Purse. There are many ways to help in this global mission project. Bethlehem Church will again be a collection center for the Greensboro District, so plenty of volunteers will be needed to pack boxes November 14-21. We need men to help with the packing and stacking of boxes during these dates, as they become very heavy! Please be sure to sign up for a time slot to help with packing the boxes when the schedule circulates.

There are several options for filling a box. It is possible to pick up a box with instructions from the Assistant Pastor's office, or you may purchase a plastic storage container the size of a shoebox. You may purchase items to fill a box yourself, or buy items to put into containers in the narthex or in the church office. Others will use these donated items to create full shoeboxes. We will also accept monetary contributions to make boxes and cover shipping costs. Please help us to share the love of Christ through this ministry that reaches millions of children around the world.

Veterans' Day Outreach Mission: November with Veterans' Day is the time when we traditionally honor veterans. This year, the Missions Team would like to participate in an outreach ministry to our active troops by sending them **Rapid Deployment Kits**. A donation of just \$3.25 will purchase a New Testament Bible that includes Psalms and Proverbs, a daily devotional booklet, and an evangelistic booklet that explains the love of God through Christ, and how to build a personal relationship with God. Please donate to this mission during the month of November! All checks should be written to the church with a note "Rapid Deployment Kits" on the memo line.

Project AGAPE: Thanks to all who donated canned goods or clothing for Project AGAPE. The Missions Team packed seven boxes of clothes and two boxes of canned goods that will be shipped to **Armenia** by the Mission Response Center of the Western North Carolina Conference.

Prison Ministry Bake Sale: This year's sale of baked goods and crafts, sponsored by the CRC (Community Resource Counsel), was highly successful raising a total of \$2110.05 for the prison ministry at **Randolph Correctional**. Thanks to all who put in time and effort to contribute items to this sale!

Greensboro Urban Ministry: Please remember to leave your contributions of oatmeal and peanut butter in the bins next to the staircase in the new addition. Donations were up last month with 57 pounds of food provided by Bethlehem Church.

Red Bird Mission: We continue to collect barcode labels from Campbell soup cans and other eligible products that participate in the "Labels for Education" program. Our labels are sent to the Redbird United Methodist Mission in one of the most impoverished areas of Kentucky. These labels are used to purchase greatly needed items for their school.

Please remember to leave your labels in the bin on the table outside Fellowship Hall.

Festival of Tables

The Festival of Tables will be held on January 21st. The cost is \$12 a table. Viewing tables will begin at 5:30 pm with dinner at 6:30 pm. If you have any questions, contact Tracy Alley at 339-0443, Jackie Smith at 685-4323, or the church office at 674-0155.

Charge Conference

Our Charge Conference is scheduled for November 13th at 2:00 here at Bethlehem. We will be having a joint conference with Pleasant Garden, Tabernacle, Julian, Shiloh, Moriah, and Bethel. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend to support our church.

The Child Care Board Meeting is December 7th at 6:30 pm. For more information about Bethlehem Child Care contact Jackie Smith, Director @674-9879.



Bethlehem Childcare

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

On Sunday November 20th the Finance Committee will ask you to make an estimate of giving for the coming year. This is strictly an estimate of what you expect and hope to give in 2012. While some of you choose not to fill out a card, we hope that most of you will. This will give the Finance Committee more complete information as they prepare the budget for 2012. Please prayerfully consider your contribution for the coming year.

Friendly Club - Joyce King

**The Friendly Club will meet
Tuesday, December 13th at
10:30.**

**Program: Dirty Santa—Bring
\$2.00 gifts**

**Program followed by covered
dish. Please come & join us for
fun & fellowship!**

Facilities Usage

If any group or person(s), not supported or sponsored by the church, uses the Fellowship Hall or Church for financial benefit/profit, make a donation to defray the additional cost of utilities.

Thank you!

Trustees



Poinsettias for Christmas!

We invite you to provide Poinsettias to adorn our sanctuary on December 18th! Flowers can be ordered through the Church office and the cost is \$13.50.

If ordering Poinsettias through the Church office:

- *Please complete this form
- *Enclose check (payable to Bethlehem UMC or cash in offering envelope & write your name & Poinsettia on the outside
- *Place in offering plate, church secretary box, or bring to the Church office
- ***Deadline for ordering is Tuesday, December 6th.**

If you have any questions, please call Kathy at the Church office 674-0155.

Donor _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Church office order _____

Pastor Appreciation

Thank you for your generous gifts and donations of love for Pastor's Appreciation. Tammy, Chelsea and I feel fortunate to be in ministry with each of you. Your love and support has meant more to us than you will ever know. May God continue to bless you and hold you in His hands as you share the love of Christ with each other and this community. Peace, A.C., Tammy and Chelsea

Frank and I would like to thank you for the love offering, cards, gifts and donations in our honor, for Pastor Appreciation. Your recognition of our ministry with you is a reflection of your support and an encouragement which is greatly appreciated by us. Love, Frank and Kaye

Expression of Thanks

To all the members
of Bethlehem UMC,

Thank you all so much
for all the prayers, visits, ^{phone} calls
& food during my recent
surgeries. It has really
meant a lot to Liana & I
to have such a wonderful
Church family.
Love in Christ,
David Gonzalez

In Memory of Harmon Moser

given by:

Gene & Vickie Flinchum

In Honor of A.C. Brock & family

given by:

David & Laura Cranfill

Nelson & Jerri Smith

Adult Fellowship Class

In Memory of Lawrence Flinchum

given by:

Gene & Vickie Flinchum

In Honor of Kaye Fry & family

given by:

David & Laura Cranfill

Nelson & Jerri Smith

Adult Fellowship Class

In Honor of Courtney Ingold

given by:

Arnold & Joyce Ingold

In Honor of Bob & Judy Norris

given by:

Nancy Golden

In Memory of Wanda Rose

given by:

David & Laura Cranfill

In Memory of Foy McClintock

given by:

Jan Toler

In Memory of Bill Hockett

given by:

Frank & Frances Fields

In Memory of Joe Reynolds

given by:

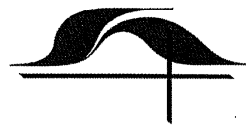
Frank & Frances Fields



BETHLEHEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CALENDAR

November 2011

6103 Appomattox Road, P.O. Box 56, Climax, NC 27233 www.bethlehemumc.org
 Phone: 336-674-0155 Fax: 336-674-0157 E-mail: beth2@bellsouth.net



		1 Backyard Grille 8 am Women in Christ 7 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm	2 Bible Study 10 am Hot Dog Wednesday 5:30—7:00 pm Women of Faith 6:45 pm	3 Missions 6:30 pm Trustees 7:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm	4	5
6 All Saints Day Church Council 7 pm K-5 Kids Plus Choir 4:30 pm	7 Wesley UMW 6:00 pm Child Care 6:30 pm Zumba 7:00 pm	8 Friendly Club 10:30 am Girl Scouts 6:00 pm Evangelism 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm Women in Christ 7 pm	9 Bible Study 10 am Hot Dog Wednesday 5:30—7:00 pm Grief Support Group 7 pm Women of Faith 6:45 pm	10 Cub Scouts 7 pm	11	12
13 Charge Conference 2:00 pm K-5 Choir Plus 4:30 pm	14 Records & History 6:30 pm Zumba 7:00 pm	15 Women in Christ 7 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm	16 Bible Study 10 am Hot Dog Wednesday 5:30—7:00 pm Women of Faith 6:45 pm	17 Cub Scouts 7:00 pm	18	19
20 K-5 Youth 4:30 pm Thanksgiving Service 7:00 pm	21 Building Fundraising 7 pm Zumba 7:00 pm	22 Girl Scouts 6 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm Women in Christ 7 pm	23 Bible Study 10 am	24 Thanksgiving	25	26
27	28 Arlene Stokes 7:30 pm Zumba 7:00 pm	29 Boy Scouts 7 pm Women in Christ 7 pm	30 Bible Study 10 am Grief Support Group 7:00 pm			

BETHLEHEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
P.O. BOX 56
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Web Site: www.bethlehemumc.org



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

GREETERS

	8:50 Worship	10:55 Worship	8:50 Worship	10:55 Worship
Nov 6	Communion	Communion	Dale & Gloria Austin	David & Laura Cranfill
Nov 13	Abbey Windsor	Barbara Thomas	Stacy & Lucille McClintock	Pat Waugh
Nov 20	Tracey Adams	Lorrie Roth	Susan Coward	Lorrie Roth, Mario, & Joy
Nov 27	Michelle Hinshaw	Alison Thompson	Jamie & Paden O'Daniel	Doug & Pat Shelley



Don't forget to fall back on November 6th for Daylight Savings Time!

If you need information updated, something put in the bulletin, or to inform us about someone in the hospital or upcoming surgeries, or a newsletter, contact the church office at 674-0155.