

# BLUE RIDGE

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Join us in person at Blue Ridge or On YouTube every Sunday!	

## From My Heart

**B**ack in 1965, Louis Rogers and a lot of other wonderful folks were getting ready to set up an outdoor worship service on the Cranford's front yard. What they started we have carried on 56 years later.

This past year has been like no other, it has brought us great joy, accomplishment, and some sadness. We had to say goodbye for now to Terry Graydon, Deetsie Rogers, Gordon Brown, and Bob Wingenfield, but we will see them again in Heaven.

We could not meet in person and then our buildings got hit by a big tree and we had an indoor waterfall. It all was a little overwhelming. We had one of the last in-person worship services in the area then suddenly we got the word that there would be no more in-person worship until further notice. We scrambled to find out what to do next. I attended a zoom conference with preachers across the country, it was like a science fiction movie or the end of the world, it was depressing. How could we keep moving forward for God if we were not meeting together?

Sunday was only days away and we had no ability to get our services online, it all seemed hopeless, but God is good. A couple of zoom conferences, a kind fellow associational church, and some tech advice from Dave Brown and hours before Sunday Morning we were up and running. There was never a Sunday when Blue Ridge didn't have a worship service. There was also a lot of texting, phone calls, and visiting from a distance. We went forward. We celebrated our graduates online, we welcomed back Janet Mann outside and safely distanced. We came back together safely and even had our Adult VBS together, we started our weekly devotionals "The Bentley Chronicles", we started having Bible

studies in person and online. We even safely had lunch together, and we had the best *Fall Festival* in the county (it was safe, drew a crowd, and was fun). we had our Christmas play, Candlelight and Carols. took care of our Christmas Families, and sent out a ton of Operation Christmas Shoeboxes. We made new friends, had visitors, got to see baptisms and dedicated babies. We celebrated Easter, had our community outdoor service, and had breakfast. On top of that through the hard work of Terry Graydon and a whole bunch of faithful members at Blue Ridge we put new roofs on all the buildings, put down new floors, put new paint on everything, put up new walls, remodeled bathrooms, refreshed the sanctuary, and more and more. I was cleaning up the other day and every room I passed through I came across things we had repaired, replaced, or refreshed, a lot of which I had forgotten.

*The bottom line is that when the world falls apart what do you do? If you are a member of Blue Ridge Baptist Church then you just keep marching forward for the Kingdom of God.* Terry Graydon's favorite verse was Romans 8:28, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." The Old Testament counterpart of that verse is Genesis 50:20 "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." For those who faithfully serve Christ in the good times and the bad times God will be glorified, and Great days are coming!

Thank you all for your faithfulness, your friendship, and your love for Christ! God has great plans for Blue Ridge. We are prepared more than ever before for God to do mighty things among us including a real VBS in June. Nothing can stop the mighty hand of God and I am so glad to be a member of Blue Ridge Baptist Church!

*Hope to see you Sunday at Blue Ridge or online! We love you!*

*Bro. John*

**Anniversary Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Bennett Wedding Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Graduate Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Blood Drive Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>**



**Blue Ridge Baptist Church  
56th Year Anniversary of Love and Service for Our Lord  
On Jasmine Hill Road**

**Come Celebrate a Great Day of Worship and Praise on  
Sunday, May 2, 2021**

**Our worship at 11:00 am will bring *Reborn Harmony* in concert,  
Special hymns, a History Reading, and a special message from  
Bro. John Carney.**

*We will enjoy a catered Sunday lunch after Morning Worship. The catered boxed lunch will be a complete lunch.*

*If you would like to share a favorite Sunday Dinner side dish or dessert, please do so for those who feel they can enjoy them.*

*We celebrate our Mothers at Blue Ridge*



Happy  
*Mother's*  
Day

*"Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised."*

*Proverbs 31: 30*

*Bring your Mothers, Grandmothers, and special ladies in your lives to Blue Ridge on Sunday, May 9 for Morning Worship. Bro. John will have a special message from God's Word, and we will have a nice gift for each Mother present. Please share a note of memory or present day about your Mother or Grandmother and we will include it in a tribute insert on Mother's Day.*

*Please let us know if you have a child or grandchild who would like to participate in Parent/Child Dedication on Mother's Day.*

**A Special Thank You to two ladies special to our church. Susan Hansen gives us the gift of our office copying needs and Lucy Carlisle gives the gift of preparing our quarterly taxes for our church, keeping us in step with the IRS.**

**May God Bless Our 2021 Graduates**



**Our church is blessed with our church family whose children have accomplished great passages in their lives.**

**We will celebrate these young people on Sunday, May 16 during Morning Worship.**

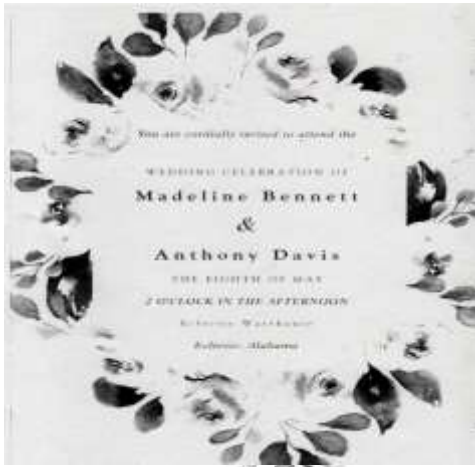
**Emily Riddle  
Jones School of Law**

**Morgan Elizabeth Brown  
Troy University**

**Katie Bennett  
Churchill Academy**

**Tyler Graydon  
Helena High School**

**Katelyn Brown  
Wetumpka High School**



**Joyce Carolyn Cheatham**

Our church family sends our love to Dr. Don Cheatham and family in his wife, Joyce Carolyn's homegoing to be with Jesus, Joyce passed away in London, Kentucky last week. Don and Joyce were very active church members here at Blue Ridge until they moved back home to London. They loved our church and have continued to send their tithes and offerings for the last 13 years since their move. They had continued to come back to church once a year when they went to Auburn University to give a Veterinary School Scholarship to a deserving young lady. This was in memory of their daughter, Debbie. Remember Don in your prayers as he also recovers from knee surgery. Joyce was a great Christian lady who will be missed.



**A Note from Don Cheatham**

Dear Bro. John, Mrs. Jackie, Morgan, and the Blue Ridge Church Family,

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers and especially for your prayers, love, and support during this difficult time, we are blessed by knowing that Joyce was a strong Christian and has always been close to our Lord and Savior.

During a time like this we realize how much our friends and relatives really mean to us. Your expression of sympathy will always be remembered.  
Don Cheatham

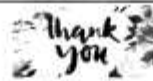
**Our Christian Love and Sympathy**



**Terry Phillip Graydon**

Our church family is sending our love and prayers to Terry's wife, Linda Graydon, to his children, Phillip and Staci Graydon and children, Amy and Ryan Casey and children, and Summer and Chase Simpson in the passing of Terry Phillip Graydon. He loved his grandchildren, Jacob, Tyler, Allie, Gray, Sidney, and Chase. Terry was a friend to everyone, a ceaseless church worker, good and faithful church member, and good and faithful servant. He was a solid student of the Bible and enhanced all classes he attended and in our worship services, an example for all of us.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, contributions may be given to Blue Ridge Baptist Church in Terry's memory. There is a link to give on our website, [www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net](http://www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net) We will miss Terry daily and know that he is with his Lord and Savior.



To Our Church Family,

All our children, grandchildren and I thank you for your calls, texts, visits, all the food, and the love you shared with our family at this sad and difficult time. We appreciate your donations given to the church in Terry's memory. Terry loved the Lord and each one of you and our church at Blue Ridge Baptist. Your words and presence are a great comfort.

Love,  
Linda Graydon  
Phillip and Staci Graydon and Family  
Amy and Ryan Casey and Family  
Summer and Chase Simpson

**Children's Ministry in May**

Please Volunteer to Take a Sunday!!!

- 2: Preschool: Carney; CC: Renee' Miller
- 9: Preschool: Shirley Davis and Susan Bass; CC: Tammi Stevenson
- 16: Preschool: Carney; CC: Volunteer Needed
- 21: Preschool: Lorrie Sereneck; CC: Carney
- 28: Volunteers Needed

**Blue Ridge Baptist Church**  
 4471 Jasmine Hill Road  
 Wetumpka, Alabama 36093  
[www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net](http://www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net)

# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Join us every Sunday for Worship at 11:00 AM at Blue Ridge or on YouTube!  
 Go to our Website [www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net](http://www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net) and click on the link'.  
**How to Give Online**

Unleash your generosity by giving through our safe and secure GiveThree65 digital platform.  
 Visit [www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net](http://www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net) and click on the Secure Donations Page to begin the process.

## MAY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Counting and Lock up David Funchess		Check out <i>The Bentley Chronicles</i> on our Youtube Channel			1 <i>Invite Someone you love to our Anniversary!</i> 11:00 AM
2 <i>56th Anniversary Service Celebration and Lunch</i> 11:00 AM	3	4	5 <i>The Mid-Week Picker Upper</i> 5:00 PM	6	7	8 <i>Madeline Bennett Wedding</i> 2:00 PM <i>Eclectic Warehouse</i>
9 <i>Mother's Day Service</i> 11:00 AM <i>A Gift for every Mother</i>	10	11	12 <i>The Mid-Week Picker Upper</i> 5:00 PM	13 <i>Remember you can give online at</i> <a href="http://blueridgebaptistchurch.net">blueridgebaptistchurch.net</a>	14	15
16 <i>Graduate Recognition Service</i> 11:00 AM <i>Biblical Justice</i> 5:00 PM	17	18	19 <i>The Mid-Week Picker Upper</i> 5:00 PM	20	21 <i>VBS is Coming! Destination Dig</i> June 6-10 6:30-8:30 <i>Nightly</i>	22
23 <i>Blood Drive</i> 12:00-4:00 PM <i>in Fellowship Hall</i>  <i>Biblical Justice</i> 5:00 PM	24	25	26 <i>The Mid-Week Picker Upper</i> 5:00 PM	27 <i>Visit us on the web at</i> <a href="http://blueridgebaptistchurch.net">blueridgebaptistchurch.net</a>	28	29
30 <i>Biblical Justice</i> 5:00 PM	31 <i>Memorial Day</i>	April 2021 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		June 2021 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		Notes: Coming Up! VBS 8-Jun VBS Family Night 13-Jun Father's Day 20-Jun <small>© 2017 Verso42 LLC <a href="http://www.verso42.com">www.verso42.com</a></small>

**Insert Page Follows:**



### In Memory of Terry Graydon

Linda Graydon and the Graydon family have asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to his church, Blue Ridge Baptist Church. The following have given gifts in Terry's memory as of the date of this printing:

- Scott and Tammi Stevenson
- Amy C. Walker
- Mary Rhyne
- Jim and Barbara Harris
- Lisa Pendley
- Janet Johnson
- William H. and Susan W. Simpson
- Ed Jungwirth
- Buddy and Shirley Davis
- Lee and Ginny Haddock
- Jim Beck
- Rev. John and Jackie Carney
- Spencer and Morgan Carney Lott

LET US LOVE LIFE AND FEEL THE VALUE OF IT, THAT WE MAY FILL IT WITH CHRIST. -ANNE  
 TO OBEY GOD, IS PERFECT LIBERTY. 1689  
 IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO ENSLAVE A BIBLE-READING PEOPLE... THE PRINCIPLES OF THE BIBLE ARE THE FOUNDATION OF HUMAN FREEDOM. -HOSAKE GREELEY  
 CHRISTIANITY IS THE COMMISSION OF LIBERTY IN ALL ITS CONFLICTS THE CRADLE OF ITS INFANCY AND THE DIVINE SOURCE OF ITS CLAIMS. -DETOUCHEVILLE  
 ONE NATION, UNDER ONE... FOR ALL!

### Happy Birthday in May

- 3 Tim Parker
- 7 Owen Sereneck
- 8 Nathan Bennett
- Kelley Manni
- Evelyn Roney
- 11 Jeff Singleton
- 16 Katie Bennett
- 26 Don Patrick Roney

### Congratulations to Major Don Roney!



We are proud of you!

Don applied last summer to Air Command and Staff College (ACSC). He found out he was accepted in December and the Lord was faithful as always, he says, and he received an assignment to attend at Maxwell AFB, so he didn't have to move which was a possibility. In March, he applied for a focus inside of ACSC called Joint All Domain Strategist (JADOS) which is a selective program that picks 48 students from several hundred. Don found out recently that he was also accepted to be a part of JADOS. By the end of the course in May of 2022 he will receive a Master's Degree along with completing the prerequisites for the rank of Lt Colonel. The family is all pretty excited and so are we, his Blue Ridge family!

We are thankful for Don, Emily, Avery, Evelyn, Caroline, and James and we are so thankful to God that you received this local assignment. We love you!

### Community Event at Blue Ridge



The LifeSouth Blood Drive Bus will be at Blue Ridge Baptist Church on Sunday, May 23 from 12:00 noon-4:00 pm. There is currently a blood shortage, so they ask for all volunteers who will come.

### Thank You to Our Faithful Friends



Our church family wants to thank our good and faithful friends James and Jody Mallonee, Dr. Don Cheatham, Drs. Corey and Marcia Stanley (congratulations on your new home in Idaho!), and Brenda Chambliss for your continued blessings. Each one of these dear families send their tithes and offerings to Blue Ridge Baptist Church each month in support of our church ministries. They love our Lord and His church at Blue Ridge. We always thank God for you as we pray for you and your family.