

BLUE RIDGE

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From My Heart

Happy November everybody! Let me share three thoughts about the coming election and a word of thank you.

First, when I was in seminary, Ronald Reagan won the Presidency. On that night one student came running down the hallway yelling, "God won. God won!". A quick look in God's word tells you that God doesn't win because of any political party, God just wins period.

Psalms 33:12 says, "***Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.***" What that means is if we choose to love and honor God we will be blessed, otherwise we are headed for failure. The good news is that whoever wins, God will still win and all who stay faithful to Him will be blessed. **There is always hope!**

Second, I remember the first election I voted in, I had two friends who convinced me to vote for a particular candidate. As the day's passed, I regreted that decision and concluded that I had a different political view from them. From that day on I decided I would make up my own mind prayerfully.

After that, did I reject those friends? Our current worldview says you must reject people with different opinions because everyone must have the same mindset and opinion, or they are our enemies. If I had rejected them I would have missed out on some of the most positive influences and role models in my life. Praise God we have a country where we can have a different opinion and we have the power to express it. **I challenge everyone to reject group think and treat everyone with kindness.**

Third, we have all heard the phrase, "This is the most important election of our lifetime!" The truth is every

election is the most important election of our lifetime. I think Reagan said something to the effect that we are always one generation away from losing our democracy. He was right and it is true that we are always one election from losing our freedoms.

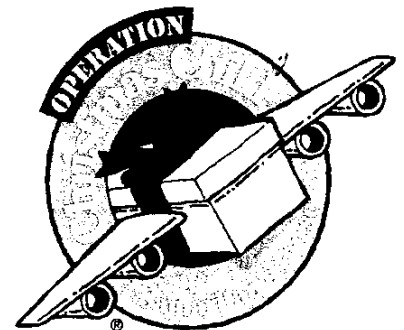
This election and all elections are important. Our Founding Fathers based our republic, and all its documents on principles in God's Word. No, they were not all believing Christians, but they all believed in the principles of the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness and those principles were first found in God's Word. If you don't believe that check out **Psalms 19:1, Genesis 1:27, Leviticus 24:22, Romans 2:11, Ecclesiastes 3:13.** Those scriptures and many others are where our founders found the freedoms we enjoy. We can lose those freedoms if we elect politicians who do not embrace those truths. **Pray, listen to God's Word, make up your mind, vote, and have hope!**

Finally, let me say a word of thank you. Paul called the folks in Philippi his partners in the Gospel. He said that every time he thought of them he gave thanks. I praise God that you are my partners in the Gospel. I appreciate every one of you and honestly believe great days are ahead.

Let me close with 1 Corinthians 15:58, "***Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know your labor in the Lord is not in vain.***"

In His Love,

Bro. John





A November of Note in 2020

*"Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!" Psalm 100:4*

November Notes

November 3

Election Day

November 8

Celebration Service

November 15

Church Thanksgiving Dinner

November 26

Thanksgiving Day



PRESIDENTIAL
ELECTION
2020



Pray about your vote and come to Blue Ridge
or your polling place to cast your very
important vote. Every vote counts!

Celebration Time

*Service of Celebration
Sunday, November 8, 2020*




*You and Your Family
are invited to join us
on Sunday, November 15, 2020
at 5:00 in the evening
For a safely served Thanksgiving Dinner
As we celebrate and give thanks to our
Lord in this season of joy together.*

Mark your calendar and don't miss this time of rejoicing as we celebrate our renovation and renewal work being finalized after the Spring storm we experienced. We want to thank and recognize Terry Graydon, Jim Harris, Marilyn McGrady, Linda Graydon, and Jim Beck, along with Bro. John and Jackie, for giving countless hours working unrecognized at church. Their love for their church is obvious and admirable and we will enjoy the fruits of their labor for generations to come. Thank you, church family, for your patience and love for our church. Thank you to Reborn Harmony for blessing us on this day! Take a look at the Children's Wing, the new floors around the church, the restrooms the clean windows in the Fellowship Hall, and the walls and windows in the Glass and Sanctuary hallways, along with painting around the entrances. We praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes are Due!



We all need to receive the blessing in our hearts that comes with bringing joy at Christmas to little ones who would have nothing otherwise. Spread the love of Jesus that is in your heart with others. You may send a picture of your family and/or a note so they know you care about them if you like. Fill box or boxes with toys, stuffed animals, dolls, sports balls, t-shirts, flip-flops, socks, school supplies, hygiene items, safe mirrors, bandanas, hats, books, and puzzles. Pack plastic boxes or shoeboxes and include \$9.00 for shipping around the world, if you can. Thank you to Doris Brown and Jim Beck for their generous donations to allow us to fill many shoeboxes for children all around the world. Some postage has been given, so don't let paying shipping stop you from participating. During this sad time of Covid-19 and loss in this world, putting smiles on little faces is such a good thing! Boxes are in the hallway, along with boy/girl and age labels.

Thank You From Your Pastor's Heart 

Dear Church Family,

What a blessing it is to serve these past 27 years with such a loving, caring, sweet family of God who fills our hearts with joy as we anticipate each meeting with you at Sunday School, Worship, Evening Bible Study, and Mid-week Prayer and Share. We love each and every one of you and thank God for bringing us together. You are our life's blessing. You serve the Lord and each other through Him, you give your labor and finance to keep our house of worship in repair and renewal, you visit the sick and those in need of a new or re-committed spiritual life through in-person, cards, letters, and calls, you pray for and minister to us daily, and we lift you up to our Lord in our many times of daily prayer, Thank you for the wonderful Pastor Appreciation time we shared in October. Your kind words, generous gifts, and encouragement will be treasured in our hearts forever. Let's keep worshipping our Lord and Savior, living our lives for Him, and thanking Him daily for the gift of having this sweet fellowship as our mainstay. See you Sunday!

We love you with all our hearts,

Bro. John and Jackie



Fall Festival Was Fun!



It was great to have our church family take part in this annual event. We had to make changes to ensure safety for our visitors and our own families. Thank you to Don Roney for getting the tractor and safely spaced hayride trailer to allow for that fun to take place. Thank you to Emily Roney for printing our BRBC Staff shirts to identify our working adults and Youth. Thank you to those who parked cars, greeted visitors, provided trunk or treats, candy, made 500 bags of candy, and for all of the servanthood that made up our Fall Festival.

Thank you to Buddy Davis and Jim Beck for mowing the lawns and to Bro. John for trimming all the hedges in front and back of the church. Terry edged the sidewalks and helped Bro. John with the hedge clippings. Jackie is busy putting the Sunday School classes, nursery, and library back in place again.

Children's Ministry in November



1: Renee' Miller and Tammi Stevenson
8: Jackie Carney
15: Christena Aldridge
22: Lorrie Sereneck
29: Volunteers Needed
Thank you for working together and sharing in this ministry to our children.



November Birthdays



Oops! We left out James Roney's birthday on October 8!
Happy 2nd Birthday, sweet little man!

5: Emily Roney
6: Donna Parker
10: Madeline Pendley Cannon
15: Scott Stevenson
16: Jackie Carney
23: Tim Pemberton
Jerome Cannon

 Happy Thanksgiving to the Cheathams, the Mallonees, the Stanleys, and Brenda Chambliss!

We are so thankful for you and your sharing your tithes and offerings from across the miles! Your remembrance and very generous gifts have kept our church ministries alive and well. We remember your church life here at Blue Ridge and the profound ministries you had while we were blessed with your presence. Our Blue Ridge family thanks you today and every day for your blessings you give to us now. We are eternally grateful for you. May God bless you and your families.

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Celebration Sunday, November 8

Thanksgiving Dinner and Operation Christmas Child Boxes Due, Nov 15

Join us every Sunday for Worship at 11:00 AM at Blue Ridge or on YouTube!

Go to our Website 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 and click on the Secure Donations Page to begin the process.

NOVEMBER 2020

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| 1 Remember Daylight Saving Time Ends. Set your clocks ahead Saturday night | 2 Counting and Lock up David Funchess | 3 Pray for our Nation and Vote! | 4 The Mid-Week Picker Upper 4:00 PM | 5 | 6 Remember to turn in your OCC Shoeboxes by Nov. 15. | 7 | |
| 8 Celebration Sunday Bible Study 5:00 PM | 9 | 10 | 11 The Mid-Week Picker Upper 4:00 PM | 12 | 13 | 14 Watch us on the Blue Ridge Baptist Church YouTube Channel | |
| 15 Thanksgiving Dinner 5:00 PM Operation Christmas Child Deadline | 16 | 17 | 18 The Mid-Week Picker Upper 4:00 PM | 19 Remember you can give online at blueridgebaptistchurch.net | 20 | 21 | |
| 22 Bible Study 5:00 PM | 23 | 24 | 25 No Wednesday Activities | 26 Happy Thanksgiving | 27 | 28 | |
| 29 Bible Study 5:00 PM | 30 | | | Visit us on the web at blueridgebaptistchurch.net | | | |
| | | October 2020 S M T W Th F Sa 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 31 | | December 2020 S M T W Th F Sa 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 31 | | Notes: Coming Up! Celebration Sunday Nov. 8 Thanksgiving Dinner Nov. 15 OCC Boxes Due Nov. 15 | |