The Levy Update

Pastors are Off on Fridays

Wednesday, October 22nd

Library Hours 5:15 p.m.—5:45 p.m.

Call to Dinner at 5:30 PM—Cost: \$10 for Adults; \$5 for kids 4-12 & kids 3 & under are free. (R.S.V.P. by noon Tuesday).

Menu: Cheeseburgers, Baked Beans, Pasta Salad & Lemon Cake

Bible Drills 6:15 to 7:00 p.m. in Children's Library Midweek Prayer & Praise at 6:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir rehearsal at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 26th

Biscuits & Gravy at 8:00 a.m. in Waymack Hall Library Hours 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. Kids Worship/Kingdom Kids at 10:15 a.m. Morning Worship at 10:15 a.m.

Torchlighters for Kids at 6:00 p.m. Levy at Nite at 6:00 p.m. Birthday Celebration

Wednesday, October 29th

Library Hours 5:15 p.m.—5:45 p.m.

Call to Dinner at 5:30 PM—Cost: \$10.00 for Adults; \$5.00 for kids 4-12 & kids 3 & under are free (R.S.V.P. by noon Tuesday)

Menu: Lasagna, Green Beans, Caesar Salad, Garlic Bread & Red Velvet Cake

Bible Drills 6:15 to 7:00 p.m. in Children's Library Midweek Prayer & Praise at 6:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 p.m.

"Consider the lilies..." (Matthew 6:28)

This fall, we have a wonderful opportunity to prepare for spring beauty on our church grounds. Deanna Jones, our church groundskeeper, has suggested that we collect **donations of flower bulbs**—tulips, daffodils, and other spring favorites—to plant before winter arrives.

When the flowers bloom next spring, they'll remind us that God brings new life in every season. Donations may be left at the church office. Thank you for helping our campus reflect the beauty of His creation.

"Trick or Treat—or Truth?"



Every October, as little ones dressed in masks and capes knock on doors and shout, "Trick or treat!". I can't help but think of the ultimate "trick or treat" that awaits every soul when this life is over. In the split second after death, we'll find out whether we've been *tricked* by Satan's lies or *treated* by God's grace.

Those who have trusted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior will be treated to the glories of heaven forever. While every Christian will make it to heaven, not every Christian will receive the same reward once they get there.

The Apostle Paul said, "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad" (2 Corinthians 5:10). Now, the word "judgment seat" comes from the Greek word bema. In Paul's day, it was the platform where the judge of the Greek games sat. When the contest was over, the winner stood before the judge—not to be condemned, but to be commended. The judge awarded a crown, a symbol of honor and privilege.

One day, every blood-bought child of God, you, me, and every saint from every age—will stand before *our* Judge, not to determine *if* we're saved, but to reveal *how* we served. It won't be a judgment of condemnation, but of *commendation*.

Paul said in 1 Corinthians 3 that every believer builds on the same foundation—Jesus Christ. The question is, *what are you building with?* He spoke of two kinds of materials:

- Gold, silver, and precious stones—these represent a life lived for eternal values: loving God, winning souls, serving faithfully, giving generously.
- Wood, hay, and stubble—these represent a life spent chasing the temporary: wealth, pleasure, self-promotion.

And friend, the fire of God's judgment will test every work—not to destroy you, but to reveal what your life was really made of. Some will see their works endure and receive reward. Others will be saved "yet so as by fire"—with nothing to show but a redeemed soul.

God not only sees what you *do*—He sees *why* you do it. The Lord will "make manifest the counsels of the hearts" (1 Corinthians 4:5). The motive matters as much as the motion.

Now, you might ask, "Pastor, is it right to serve God for reward?" It's not only right—it's righteous! The Bible says, "He that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6). When you live for eternal reward, you're declaring, "I believe my God keeps His Word!"

And what will those rewards be? Scripture hints at *crowns of glory, positions of honor, and privileges of service.* Some will reign with Christ; others will simply rejoice that they're there. But oh, how tragic to meet Jesus empty-handed!

When the fire has done its work and the smoke clears, what will remain of your life? Will it be gold—or ashes?

Friend, it's not too late to start building right. Lay up treasure in heaven, serve Christ with a pure heart, and live for that day when the Lord Jesus looks into your eyes and says, "Well done, good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:23).

Now that's a "treat" worth living for!



New In The Library



After losing her parents and her sister, Christy Reed has been mired in grief. Now, life is finally starting to feel normal again--until an envelope addressed in her sister's handwriting arrives in the mail. And the note inside claims she is still alive.

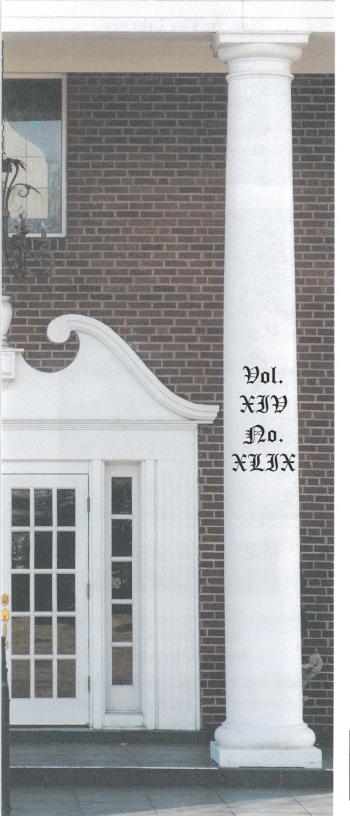




A memorial gift has been received in memory of Robert Jackson by: Bo & Shirley Gateley

A memorial gift has been received in memory of Robert Jackson, Bernard Singleton, Johnny & Frances Robinson by: Dalrene Gilbert





& Church Bus Trip – Festival of Christmas 🕏

Join us Friday, December 5, for a beautiful evening at Ouachita Baptist University's Festival of Christmas!

① Leave church: 5:45 p.m.

✔ Program: 7:30 p.m. ① Return: about 11:30 p.m.

© Cost: \$15 total (\$12 ticket + \$3 gas)

Come enjoy the sights and sounds of the season with your church family! Seats are limited—sign up soon!



www.lgvybaptist.com

"The Open Door of Levy Baptist Church is published at irregular intervals."

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