

# The Dove

Newsletter of the Mill Creek Baptist Church, 11475 Lee Highway, Fincastle, VA 24090, (540) 992-3474, [office@millcreekbc.com](mailto:office@millcreekbc.com)

## Godly Touches

Here we go! As we begin this month of “Thanksgiving”, I want to pause and express my personal gratitude to our Mill Creek family for the many ways in which you celebrated Debbie and me during “Pastor Appreciation” last month. From the personal well wishes, notes and cards to the various goodies and gifts and even a shout out in the Fincastle Herald, we felt very loved, appreciated, affirmed and encouraged! Thank you!

All of that made me think about the power of a **“godly touch.”** Have you known it? Maybe it was a loved one who wiped away the tears and gave you a much-needed hug during a time of disappointment. Perhaps it was a hand holding yours in a time of grief or a note you received at just the right time. Even if you aren’t physically touching others, maybe you’re folding your hands to pray for those on our prayer list. You’re using your hands to write notes, to make calls, send texts, to bake bread, cook a meal, or blessing others in some way. When we have experienced the power of a **“godly touch,”** it typically causes us to want to do the same.

I recently had a phone conversation with a couple from Houston, TX who were doing a “fall foliage” camping trip and coming through our area. They called because they saw we are a collection site for “Flood Buckets”, and they wanted to purchase items to drop off on their way past Mill Creek. They were the recipients of **“godly touches”** when Hurricane Harvey flooded their home in 2017, and now they want to offer the same **“godly touches”** to those who have experienced the devastation of recent flooding in our area.

Unlike our friends from Texas, sometimes we forget the touches we have received. Life gets busy and we forget how significant one touch can be. We fear saying the wrong thing or doing the wrong thing, and rather than make a mistake, we do nothing at all. Aren’t you glad Jesus didn’t forget? He touched the “untouchables” and the downcast of the world and He calls you and me to do the same by whatever means we are capable of.

November offers us a variety of ways in which we can give a **“godly touch”** to others. You can **fill a bag** with the needed items **for the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women** and **return them by Sunday, November 3.** Judy Deel recently shared a testimony with me in which a woman who had been incarcerated in Fluvanna said, she was issued a bar of soap a week for bathing. When these bags came from strangers, it was like Christmas morning. Stamps and cards allowed her to reach out to family with a birthday note or Christmas card. Because of **“godly touches”** from others, she was able to offer **“godly touches”**. We will continue to collect **“Flood Buckets” through Sunday, November 10.** Many of these will be a **“godly touch”** to flood victims in Damascus, VA. We have folks making **Ditty Bags** that will be filled with toiletry items and become a **“godly touch”** to school children in SWVA in March. We will have a **church-wide packing party for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes on Sunday, November 10,** which will allow you to extend some **“godly touches”** to other parts of the world. Our **Outdoor Ministry** is providing a **“godly touch”** to disabled sportsmen with the 20th anniversary of our deer hunt. You can offer **“godly touches”** to women and children in need by purchasing **Christmas gifts for the shelter in Philadelphia** that a group from Mill Creek will be delivering on December 7.

And with a major election happening this month let’s not forget that **“godly touches”** can also happen by how we respond before and after “Election Tuesday”. Sadly, it seems that each election year has only become more volatile, ugly and divisive. I have allowed my worry and angst surrounding this election to lead me to the throne of grace in prayer and I hope you will as well. Scripture reminds me that God can and will use whomever He chooses, however He chooses, whenever He chooses, to accomplish His perfect will in our lives and in this world He created. Whether your candidate wins or not, remember that God is still Sovereign and seated on His throne and He is calling us to share **“godly touches”** with others.

Have a blessed and happy Thanksgiving as you celebrate the **“godly touches”** in your life!

Danny

## Our Stewardship

November 3	<b><u>8:30 Service Nursery Workers</u></b>
November 10	Debbie Rago & Mary Bowser
November 17	Anne Simmons & Nancy Epperly
November 24	Debbie Rago & Heather Gilliland
	Debbie Rago & Teresa Witt
	<b><u>9:45 Sunday School Nursery</u></b>
November 3	Don Epperly & Sandra Kidd
November 10	Kim Lawrence & Annette Shaw
November 17	Rene & Ned Jeter
November 24	Kelly & Erik Olson
	<b><u>11:00 Service Nursery Workers</u></b>
November 3	Laura Epperly & Jess Hayden
November 10	Don Epperly & Lara Lee Strickler
November 17	Sharon Ernest & Sue Lee
November 24	Kelly Denison & Kayla Anhold
	<b><u>8:30/11:00 Service Toddler Workers</u></b>
November 3	Sarah Ryder/Danielle Tolley
November 10	Jill Ferguson/Mary Bowser
November 17	Melissa Peery/Jess Hayden
November 24	Marybeth Rush/Maribeth Martin
	<b><u>8:30/11:00 Service Preschool Workers</u></b>
November 3	Sharon Ernest/Luke Winand
November 10	Jennifer Simmons/Rachel Witt
November 17	Cindy Holland/Melanie Thacker
November 24	Chelsea King/Nikki Cook
	<b><u>8:30 Service Greeters</u></b>
November 3	Mark Painter, Pat Shotwell, Teresa Simmons, Nancy Epperly
November 10	Judy Prease, Jimmy Brugh, John Plenge, Melissa Peery
November 17	Jerry & Sue Sweet, Pam Gibson, Sandy Moore
November 24	Vickie Martin, Mike & Mary Clement, Pat Shotwell
	<b><u>11:00 Service Greeters</u></b>
November 3	Debbie McAllister, Don Epperly, Patricia Lightner, Klayton Akers
November 10	Bruce Lightner, Wayne & Sandy Myers, Kelly Denison
November 17	John Murphy, Elaine Bays-Murphy, Sidra White, Lewis Sifford
November 24	Donna Mack, Klayton Akers, Ferguson Family, Vickie Martin
	<b><u>8:30/11:00 Service Ushers</u></b>
November 3	Mark Painter & Phillip Simmons/Melissa Peery & Bill Wagner
November 10	Judy Prease & Jeff Gibson/Wayne Myers & Bill Wagner
November 17	Jerry & Sue Sweet/John Murphy & Elaine Bays-Murphy
November 24	Nancy Epperly & Pat Shotwell/Donna Mack & Klayton Akers

### Our Kingdom Giving

	SS	8:30am Worship	10:45am Worship	Regular Offering	Building Fund
October 6	195	185	131	\$18,557.00	\$1,330.00
October 13	200	145	150	\$9,720.00	\$2,140.00
October 20	207	162	153	\$9,188.00	\$696.00
October 27	192	190	129	\$15,820.00	\$647.00

Remember that we need a combined \$13,327/week in regular offering and building gifts to meet our budget needs.

## *Happy November*

### *Birthday!*

- 1 Carolyn Basham  
Eric Anhold
- 2 Barbara Campbell
- 3 Bobby Simpson
- 4 Roman Clark  
Sherry Simpkins
- 5 Marshal Phillips  
Macon Humphries  
Weston Bryan
- 6 Lee Ann Fix Wright  
Don Caldwell
- 7 Mike Lee  
Tom Moore
- 8 Avery Focht  
Kaleb Ferguson
- 9 Muriel Short
- 12 Robin Sink  
John Powell
- 13 Nathan Russell
- 14 Jean Minter
- 15 Bonnie Henderson
- 19 J D Robinson  
Darrick Gust  
David Kinsey
- 20 Ronnie Wolfe  
Kim Crist
- 21 Chris Tolley
- 23 Barry Holland
- 24 Melina Marshall
- 26 Janice Wright  
Alice Firebaugh
- 27 Brenda Fowler  
Pat Huffman  
Sherry Sink  
Betty Swanson
- 28 Eden O'Bryant  
Andi Batsakis
- 29 Brandon Hamilton  
Mark Painter
- 30 Gene Simmons



## Welcome New Members

Erik Swortzel joins by profession of faith & baptism. His address is 5410 Orchard Hill Dr., Roanoke, 24019.

Addison Jones joins by transfer of letter. Her address is 250 Old Hollow Rd., Buchanan, 24066.

Our church family rejoices in their decisions.



## Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed Thursday, November 28 & Friday, November 29 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

## MUSIC NOTES.....



I can't believe I'm writing a November newsletter article! Where has this year gone?? We are heading into two of my favorite times of the year....Thanksgiving and Christmas! I love the beautiful leaves, the cooler temperatures, family gatherings, music for the holidays. We are told in **Psalm 100:2 "Serve the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs."** I want to challenge you to lift your praise to God with joyful songs this fall as we worship God together!

Our Whole-Notes choir is having so much fun learning Christmas music to present at Hanging of the Green, Sunday services and the adult Christmas Cantata. The children are learning music on Desk Bells, Hand Chimes and the 5th graders get to play the real Handbells. We are also learning songs to sing for Christmas.

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 15th at 3:00pm and 6:00pm** for the presentation of **"The Arrival"**. This cantata will encourage you and fill you with hope, joy and the blessing of Christmas. You don't want to miss it!

For His Glory,  
Cindie

### Quarterly Business Meeting

Wednesday, November 20

6:30pm

In the Sanctuary

Important  
DATE!

Important  
DATE!

All children's activities will go on as scheduled. The adult choir will practice at 7:35.

### Church-Wide Prayer Meeting

Wednesday, November 6

5:45-6:20pm

In Room M-1



### Mission Meal

Sunday, November 17

Hosted by the Youth

Menu: Spaghetti, Salad,

Dessert & Drink



Lunches will be available after Sunday School and the 11:00 worship service.

Eat in or take out.

Proceeds will be used to support youth activities.

### We can all help others....

#### Collect Stamps for Wounded Military

(Used, new, or stamp collections.)

#### Collect Pop-Tops for Ronald McDonald House

Collection boxes for both of these items are in the fellowship hall lobby.

**Congratulations! We collected 14 pounds of pop-tops for Ronald McDonald House!**





It looks like we're about to head full steam into the Holiday Season! November is going to be a BUSY month in the youth ministry. Our youth will be assisting our children in the annual Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Packing Party on November 13. Then, on November 15 we will be taking a group of 30+ youth and adults to Reverb. This is an evangelistic event hosted by an organization called Word of Life. We will join around 1,000 other people for a night of Railyard Dawgs hockey, followed by a post game worship service on the ice, then a LOOOONNNGGGG night of games and activities including trips to The Launching Pad and bowling. Reverb is an EXCELLENT event for our students to invite their friends to. Please reach out to me if you would like a ticket!

After staying up all night at Reverb, I hope our students can get some rest on Saturday, because we will be hosing the 3rd Sunday Missions lunch on Sunday, November 17. This spaghetti lunch will serve as a fundraiser to support our youth ministry. Parents, be on the lookout for information regarding donations that will be needed to make this lunch a success!

**November Events:**

- 13- Operation Christmas Child Packing Party
- 15- Reverb
- 17- Youth Fundraiser Lunch
- 27- No Wednesday Night Activities

Josh Witt  
540-521-9266  
josh@millcreekbc.com

**November Teaching Series:**

- 11/6- Masks
- 11/13- Masks
- 11/20- Thanksgiving Reflection Stations

## Disaster Response Flood Bucket List

**Essential Components:**

- 5 gallon bucket - 1
- 5 gallon bucket lid - 1
- All purpose sponges - 3
- Heavy Duty Kitchen gloves - 1 pair
- Leather Palm Gloves - 2 pairs
- Handle Scrub Brush - 1
- Retractable utility knife - 1
- All Purpose wide mouth spray bottle - 1
- Liquid Dish detergent (21-25 oz) - 1
- All Purpose Liquid Cleaner (40 oz) - 1
- Bleach (32 oz) - 1
- 33 gal drawstring trash bag - 50 bags
- N95 valved respirator - 3 masks
- Reuseable Cotton Towels (Terry Towels) - 4
- Eye protection (glasses or goggles) - 1 pair



Can't put together a bucket? Buy a bucket here:



**Additional Items to Consider:**

- Mold control spray (32 oz) - 1
- Sharpie Permanent marker - (black - 2 pk)
- Cotton Clothesline / Clothespins - 50

**We will collect filled buckets until November 10.**



**Blood Drive**  
**Saturday, November 9**  
**9:00am-1:00pm**  
**Buchanan Baptist Church**

We are sponsoring another blood drive in cooperation with Buchanan Baptist Church. Please visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter BuchananBaptist to schedule an appointment. Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment. If you have any questions, please contact Don or Susan Ditzler at 540-797-8430.



## *From the Deacons' Desk* *I Am Thankful*

**Psalm 9:1** *"I will give thanks to You, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds."*

November is the month that we draw attention for all the things we are thankful for. I work hard daily to maintain an attitude of thankfulness.

Each morning when I wake, I am thankful for good health and the ability to go to work to provide for my family. As I go about my day I am thankful for the opportunity to come in contact with people and perhaps make a difference in their day. I am thankful every afternoon when I pull into the driveway and am reminded of all our home means to us. I am most thankful for my family and strive to show them.

I am so thankful for Mill Creek Church and the friends here that are more like family. I am thankful for the leadership that continues to guide us through the opportunities we face. I am thankful to be serving again as your deacon chair after a year off. I am especially thankful for Pastor Danny and Debbie. Danny is a constant source of encouragement to me. I am so grateful for his guidance, knowledge, and friendship.

Above all I am thankful to our heavenly Father for supplying all our needs before we even know what those needs are. I am thankful for His love for us. So much that He sent Jesus to give a gift that we could never earn...our salvation. This month as we reflect, I pray that each of us are reminded to be thankful not only for the big things in life, but also the little things we take for granted.

Dear Lord, I come to You to thank You for all the blessings You have given me and my family. Thank You for this church and our church family. Thank You for Your love for us and sending Your Son to die in our place. I pray these things in Your name.

In His Service,  
Tony Holdren  
Deacon Chair

## *Bertha Marie White Brugh*

Bertha Marie White Brugh, 73, of Buchanan, passed away on Tuesday, October 1st, 2024. She was preceded in death by her parents, Ray Fringer White and Lois White Keith, and her step-father, Dewey Keith. She married her sweetheart, James "Jimmy" Brugh, and together they shared 54 wonderful years of marriage, having been sweethearts for 58 years. Their love story was one for the ages, filled with mutual respect, unwavering support, and countless cherished memories.

Bertha's children and grandchildren were her pride and joy, each bringing their unique flair and accomplishments to the family. Bertha's passions were many, but her greatest loves were her family, faith, food, friends, the outdoors, archery, and her community. She was a State Triple Crown Archery Champion and proudly held the title of the best Brugh with a bow. A masterful keeper of traditions, Bertha preserved not just fruits and veggies but also memories through canning and cooking for those she loved.

Bertha is survived by her beloved husband, Jimmy Brugh; children, Jamey and Jaime Brugh, and Stacey Brugh; grandchildren, Wesley and Jordan Brugh, and Austin Brugh and fiancée, Jillian; great-grandchildren, Callie, Parker, Cabella, and Beckett; and siblings, Marvin and Ellen White, Kenneth and Bessie White, and Jane and Wayne Rapp; several wonderful sibling-in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins, and step-siblings.

Bertha's legacy is one of love, strength, and community. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her, but her spirit will live on in the hearts of her family and friends. Funeral services were held at 2 pm on Sunday, October 6 at Mill Creek Baptist Church with Pastor JR Graybill and Pastor Danny Quirin officiating. Interment followed in Mill Creek Cemetery. Memorials can be made to Solomon's Mission in Buchanan, VA in her honor.



## Caught in a Pickle

In the classic episode of "The Andy Griffith Show" called "The Pickle Story," we see a funny but important lesson about telling the truth. Aunt Bee is really proud of her homemade pickles and wants to share them with everyone. But when Andy and Barney taste the pickles, they don't like them at all. Instead of being honest with Aunt Bee, they tell little lies to avoid hurting her feelings. This leads to a lot of funny misunderstandings, but it also ends up hurting Aunt Bee when she finds out the truth.

This episode teaches us that being honest is very important. Even if it seems easier to tell a small lie to avoid hurting someone, lying can cause more problems later on.

The Bible tells us that telling the truth is very important. Proverbs 12:22 reminds us that God loves people who are honest. When we are truthful, we show others what God is like, because He is the ultimate source of truth (John 14:6). Jesus wants us to be honest in what we say and do because honesty helps us build trust and strong relationships.

Think about your recent conversations. Have you ever told a little lie to avoid hurting someone's feelings? Consider how being honest could have changed those situations. Just like Andy and Barney learned, lies can lead to more problems and hurt feelings. Remember, if you need to give someone feedback or share your thoughts, do it respectfully.

Dear God, thank You for being the source of all truth. Help us to be honest in our words and actions. Give us the courage to tell the truth, even when it's hard. May we be trustworthy in everything we do, and may our honesty bring glory to You. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Brad Hamilton  
Deacon

## Lesley "Les" Charles Mabe

Lesley "Les" Charles Mabe, 59, of Buchanan, passed away Sunday, September 22, 2024. He was preceded in death by his father, Charles R. Mabe.

Les was an avid hunter and fisherman. He also enjoyed spending time at his "happy place" the beaches of the Outer Banks and at home with family cooking and grilling. He was a 1983 graduate of Fort Chiswell High School and later from Davidson College in 1987. Les was employed at YRC Freight for 36 years.

He is survived by his wife of 26 years, Lesa Bayless Mabe; son, Wyatt Mabe; mother, Mary Friend Mabe; brother, Wesley S. Mabe; numerous nieces and nephews; cat, Frito; and many lifelong friends.

Graveside memorial services were held at 2pm Saturday, September 28, 2024 at Mabe Family Cemetery on Archer Road in Fort Chiswell (Max Meadows).

Dear Mill Creek Family,

Thank you so much for holding us up in prayer during this injury and for the visits, meals, and calls and texts. This was one of the most difficult things we've faced, but God answered our prayers and comforted us so much with your love and support. Know the impact that every card, text, and visit has. We thank God for you!



Blessings,  
Jonathan and Megan Thorne

## Hurricane Helene Rug Makers

During Hurricane Helene, Beth and Steven Jewell welcomed six Appalachian Trail hikers to BeeCh Hill B&B/Hostel located on Valley Road. They were tired of hiking in the rain. For two hikers, this delay in their hiking plans became an introduction to crocheting rag rugs. Beth tells their story.

*During this unexpected delay caused by Helene, our hikers quickly made connections with each other and enjoyed the camaraderie of hanging out in the dining room sharing stories about their adventures on the Appalachian Trail. As I had additional days off from work with schools being closed, I decided that I would tear the new sheet I had found at Goodwill into strips for a rug. I headed to the screen porch with my supplies. Rose was there using her phone so I just quietly ripped the sheet. When she hung up she shared that her "job in the real world" is that of an artist who creates with repurposed glass making stained glass*

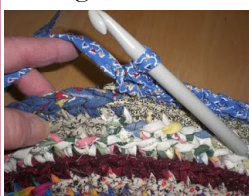


*windows. She wanted to learn what I was doing and to try her hand at rag rugs. We sat on the porch and started a rug with no aspirations of her finishing said rug. Because it was damp and a bit cold she decided to take the rug into the dining room after all the strips were ripped. There Jesse watched for a while then Rose showed her how to make rugs. Jesse would use the crochet hook and Rose would hook on new strips. They spent all afternoon working on the rug. That evening when they all got back from dinner they decided they needed to work on the rug more as Rose was going to continue traveling south to complete her thru hike of the AT and Jesse was headed back on trail with her dad for another day of hiking. They stayed up late laughing and working on*

*the rug. The next morning Rose headed out and Jesse told her that she would get the rug finished before she and her dad headed back to Texas. And sure enough, they met their goal. Rose has finished her hike just outside of Pearisburg at Woods Hole Hostel and Jesse headed home by car after purchasing supplies to start making Christmas gifts for her family - rugs!*



Rag rugs have been crocheted by our church family and friends for nearly 20 years. Hundreds of rugs have been made and have brought joy to many. Rag rugs have been given to family and friends and have been given as gifts on mission trips. The rug made by these AT hikers during Hurricane Helene will be taken to SW Virginia during our



"BookNet/Ditty Bag" mission trip in March and given to someone as a special gift. Our Rugging Ministry brings joy to both givers and receivers!

The ruggers will gather at the home of **Judy Deel** (2136 Blue Ridge Tpk Fincastle) on **November 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00pm**. Come and join the fun! Contact Judy at 540.759.1914 for more information.

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Psalm 107:1*

## Missions “Two-fer” at Solomon’s Mission on November 5th

Do you want to know more about missions in our own county? Then you will want to join the Daytime Mission Group on Election Day at Solomon’s Mission (592 Lowe Street Buchanan) for a time of learning about two local ministries --- Solomon’s Mission and the Botetourt Resource Center. The meeting begins at 10 am and all are welcome. Teresa Rothwell will be sharing updates about Solomon’s and Melissa Lucas will tell about the most recent happenings at the Botetourt Resource Center. We will be collecting tissues, toilet paper, paper towels, white trash bags (13 gal size) and body lotions that will be shared with both ministries. Lunch will be provided and we will be able to do a little thrift shopping and visiting of the Resource Center! Need more information? Contact Judy Deel (540.759.1914)



## Mill Creek on Mission Missions Sunday November 17

Join us on Missions Sunday, November 17th, as we celebrate the many ways that God is leading and using our church to share the Gospel in our community and around the world. Representatives from a variety of our mission teams will share about work that has been done and opportunities for the future. Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes will be dedicated.

Please join us on this special Sunday and prayerfully consider where God may be leading you to serve one another in love.



2024 BAPTIST WOMEN'S WORLD  
DAY of PRAYER  
*Purposeful Life*

Troutville Baptist Church  
November 4<sup>th</sup>

Program and Prayer time begin at  
10:00am

Coffee and Muffins at 9:30am

## Ditty Bag Workday Saturday, November 9 9:00am-1:00pm



We are having a Ditty Bag workday on Saturday, November 9 from 9am until 1pm in the fellowship hall. A light lunch will be provided.

Bring your sewing machines and enjoy the day with us! Please also bring any bags you have sewn at home. We need a count for our ladies who are keeping this total. If you have questions, please contact Donna Crawford at (540) 798-3600.

NOTE: Even if you do not sew, there are things you can do, so please come join us!



## Fluvanna Donations

Fluvanna Correctional Center Donations need to be brought to the church by **Sunday, November 3rd**. Thank you for your concern for the “least of these”.



Dear Mill Creek Church Family,  
 We want to thank everyone for all the prayers and support throughout this scary time with our grandson. We are so blessed to be members of this wonderful church family.  
 Sincerely,  
 Larry & Vickie Vines



The Brugh family wishes to express thanks and appreciation for the many acts of kindness shown to us after Bertha's passing. The food, cards, visits, prayers and love have been a blessing and a testimony to Bertha's life in our community. We are forever grateful for our church family.



**Santa's Workshop**  
 What is Santa's Workshop you may ask? While the children are waiting for pictures with Santa at the Christmas Bazaar on December 7, they will learn the joy of giving by coming to pick out a gift for their parents (items \$1 each) and wrap them so it's a surprise Christmas morning. The Mill Creek Child Care kids also "shop" the following week. We have already been blessed with donations of many items for women. **Items for men, gift bags and tissue paper** are especially needed this year. Contact Laura Epperly at 540-520-5768 if you have questions or items you'd like to donate. Please place your donations in the collection box at the fellowship hall entrance.



**Operation Christmas Child Dates to Remember**  
**Saturday, November 9th**

Setting up for the packing party in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 1pm  
 We will need volunteers to help unpack the donations and take off any tags & wrappings. Then sort the donations into gender and age group. We will also need to construct the boxes. Come join in the fun!

**Sunday, November 10th**

Church Wide Packing Party—Drop by and pack a box or two!  
 Beginning at 9:30am until all boxes are packed  
 We will need several volunteers to help make sure boxes are properly packed and ready to go.

**Wednesday, November 13th**

Minis, Mighties & Youth Packing Party  
 6:30pm



**Sunday, November 17th**

Shoebox Dedication Sunday

**Collection During the Month of November**

**Donations for shipping**

If you have questions or would like to volunteer to help, please contact Don Ditzler at 540-797-8417 or Susan Ditzler at 540-797-8430.



## Operation Christmas Child

**Mark 16:15** *And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation."*



You are encouraged to start collecting items for your box. Also, consider writing a letter and have a photo to include in your packed box. This adds a personal family connection with the recipient of your box. Boxes are available at the front of the sanctuary and at the front of the fellowship hall starting in October.

### Instructions for Packing a Shoebox

Make the decision of boy/girl, age of the child, purchase your items and pack your box. Each box needs a "wow" item such as a doll, soccer ball with a pump, or a stuffed animal. Other items can be toys, hygiene items, and school supplies.

**DO NOT INCLUDE:** candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items; seeds; food; liquids or lotions; medications; vitamins; breakable items or glass containers; aerosol cans.

There is literature available at the entrance of the fellowship hall on "How to Pack a Shoebox." You can also go to the [samaritanaspurse.org/occ](http://samaritanaspurse.org/occ) website for additional information.

Also consider adding the \$10.00 donation to cover shipping cost. You can place the money in the envelope provided with the "How to Pack a Shoebox." This goes inside your packed box and then place a rubber band around the box. Your box is not opened until it gets to the processing center.

Also, you can pack a shoebox online for \$25 (this includes shipping). Just go to: <https://build-a-shoobox.samaritanaspurse.org>

We will **dedicate shoeboxes on Sunday, November 17th**. You can also **bring your boxes to Mill Creek Church during drop off week, November 18th thru November 25th**.

### Drop-Off Week Hours:

Please consider volunteering at one of the following drop-off times. We have a great time fellowshiping, praying, and working during the week of drop-off. We would love to have you join us!

Monday, November 18th 4 pm to 6 pm

Tuesday, November 19th 10 am to 12 noon

Wednesday, November 20th 4 pm to 6pm

Thursday, November 21st 4 pm to 6 pm

Friday, November 22nd 10 am to 12 noon

Saturday, November 23rd 9 am to 11 am

Sunday, November 24th 12 noon to 2:00pm

Monday, November 25th 8:30 am to 10:30 am

If you have any questions about packing a shoebox or volunteering for drop-off week please contact Donna Lucas at 614-530-2899.



## Philly Christmas Trip/Presents



On December 6-8, a group from Mill Creek will be making the annual trip to Philadelphia to carry presents to the children at the ACTS Shelter at the Acts of the Apostles Church. The children to be ministered to are between the ages of newborn to 12 years old. Please pick up a present (or presents) to be sent to Philly when you are shopping and mark them for the

appropriate age and gender. "Philly Presents" need to be brought to the church by Sunday, December 1! Thanks to each of you for all you do and may God bless you, and you, and .....you!!!

# Christmas Bazaar

## Saturday, December 7



**Breakfast**  
Fellowship Hall  
8 am

**Bazaar**  
Fellowship Hall  
8 am - 1 pm

**White Elephant Sale**  
Fellowship Hall  
8 am - 1 pm

**Visit with Santa Claus**  
Sanctuary  
10 am - 12 noon

**Santa's Workshop**  
(No parents allowed!!)  
10 am - 12 noon

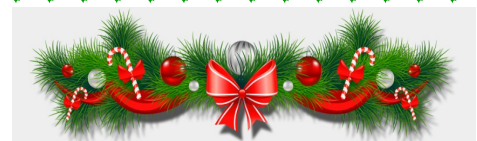
Santa's Workshop is a place that kids can shop for their parents. All items are \$1.



**Lunch**  
Fellowship Hall  
11 am - 1 pm

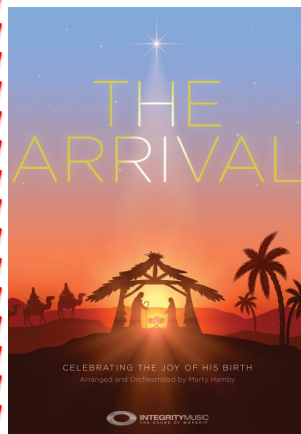


All proceeds will benefit the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and the Building Fund. We need your help! If you want to donate baked goods or crafts, contact Nancy Epperly; items for Santa's Workshop, contact Laura Epperly; or items for the White Elephant sale, contact Judy Deel.

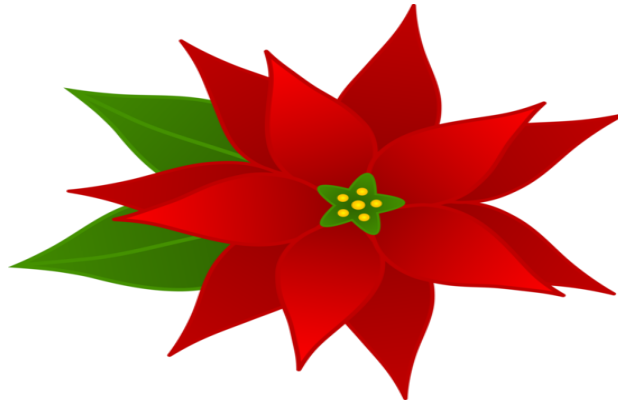


**Hanging of the Green**  
Sunday, December 1  
6:00pm

Come enjoy Christmas music and participate in decorating the Sanctuary in preparation for the Advent Season. This is a casual family event for everyone.



**Mark your calendars!**  
**Christmas Cantata**  
**"The Arrival"**  
**December 15**  
**3:00 & 6:00pm**  
with reception following



**Mill Creek Baptist  
Missions Development Team  
Offering Poinsettias for \$10.00 each  
Choose from Red or White**

**In Memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**In Honor of:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Given by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number Red Poinsettias** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number White Poinsettias** \_\_\_\_\_

**Last Date to order: December 1**

## Mini & Mighty Mill Creek Explorers

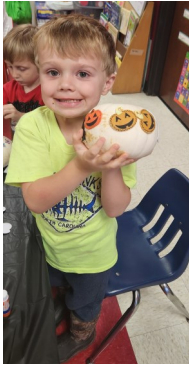
Our Wednesday nights are hopping and it is the fastest hour of the day, maybe even the week!

Both Mini and Mighties went on a mission trip to the apartments and visited with many residents there. The children were able to share Jesus through prayer, song and a gift bag filled with goodies. Prior to making our journey over to the apartments, the adult Bible study prayed for us and then we reported back to them upon our return. See page 14 for more details about our mission trip!

We were also able to decorate pumpkins for the season, thanks to Pastor Chuck Miller and KW Mowles who donated 70 pumpkins from the Garden of Grace at Wheatland Lutheran Church!

We continue to learn the books of the Bible in the Old Testament during Bible Study time and during Mission time we are not only learning about missions; but we are putting what we learn into action. It won't be long till we will be packing Shoeboxes too!

If you would like to join us, please do. We meet for supper at 6 p.m. and then our activities start at 6:30 p.m.! Children are picked up at 7:30 p.m. For more information contact Peggy Arbogast at 540-520-0107.



## Child Care News

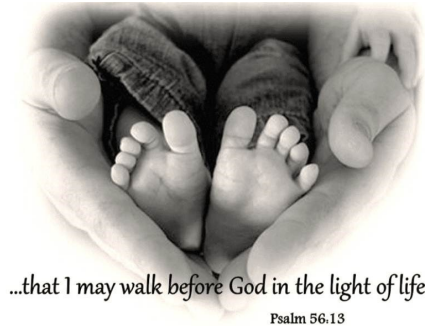
Happy November, everyone! The month of October flew by! We enjoyed the wonderful fall weather and played outside as much as possible. We know that winter is coming soon, so we're hoping to get a lot of outdoor playtime until then. Our preschoolers went

to the Buchanan Library on October 15th, and Jeter Farm on October 23rd.

During their visit to Jeter Farm, the children loved the tractor ride! We got lost in the corn maze several times, but finally found our way to the end of it where all the amazing activities were! The children rode the pumpkin train,

bounced on the huge trampoline, slid down the slides, and rode on a zipline! Each child picked out a pumpkin to bring back with us. We are so thankful for the sunny and warm weather. It was a great trip!

I have included a few pictures for you all to enjoy. See you next month! Cherry



...that I may walk before God in the light of life.

Psalm 56:13

## Parent & Child Dedication November 24

We will have a Parent & Child Dedication service on Sunday, November 24 during both worship services. If your family would like to participate, please contact the church office at 540-992-3474 or [office@millcreekbc.com](mailto:office@millcreekbc.com) by Tuesday, November 19.



## Mini and Mighty Fall Mission Trip Report

The book of Matthew tells us the greatest commandment is to ***“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”*** The second is this: ***“Love your neighbor as yourself.”*** There is no commandment greater than these.” Our neighbors can be the people right beside us physically, someone we have yet to meet, and even our friends down the street at the Royal Apartments and Senior Residences. On September 25th, that’s just what the Mighty and Mini Mill Creek Explorers (along with their adult helpers) did. We strolled over to the apartments, in-between rain showers, to love on our neighbors by bringing them goodie bags, bracelets,



cards, saying prayers, and inviting them to visit us for church at Mill Creek.



The Mini Mill Creek Explorers (ages 2-5) went to the first group of apartments. Four out of the six residents were home and three out of the four let us pray for them. The Minis were very excited to hand out goodie bags and informational papers. The kids were nervous at first, but after singing the B-I-B-L-E song, they could



not stop talking and sharing the good news of Jesus with our friends at the apartments. Those who were not home didn’t miss out on the love either, as we left goodie bags on their doorstep.

The Mighty Mill Creek Explorers went to the remainder of the apartments. The K-2nd graders ventured out to the farthest apartments and were able to fellowship and pray with 4 out of 6 the tenants living there. Service times were shared, prayer requests were taken and our sweet kindergartners volunteered to pray aloud at every apartment. The children were so excited to knock on the doors, hand out our goodies and get to know the residents better. The 3rd – 5th graders got to meet with 5 out of the 7 residents and had the opportunity to pray with one of them. This group was also able to hand out goodies and had wonderful prayer warriors who were not hesitant to speak life and hope into our neighbors. Although this group didn’t get to pray with all our neighbors, we had a group prayer at the end of our visit to include everyone. The Mighties are so excited to share the good news and love that our community at Mill Creek provides.



Upon returning to church, our young missionaries shared the stories of our adventure with the adult Bible study class. The students were so eager to share their experience and things they had learned on their mission trip with the adults! Every mission trip to the apartments presents another opportunity to love our neighbors, embrace the Great Commission and kindle the spark of selflessness in the next generation. We are making great progress and are welcomed back by more residents each time we venture out! This special ministry outreach by our youngest church members is proof that the Spirit is alive and well within Mill Creek and our Mini’s and Mighty’s ministry!



# November 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Don't forget to set your clock back 1 hour!
3 <b>Fluvanna Donations Due</b> 8:30am Worship 9:20am - 9:55am Holy Grounds Coffee Shop 9:45am - 10:45am Sunday School & New Discoveries class 11:00am Worship	4 9:30am The Chosen Season 4 Bible Study 10:00am Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer @ Troutville Baptist Church 6:30pm The Chosen Season 4 Bible Study	5 <b>Election Day</b> 8:30am Men's Breakfast @ Greenwood Restaurant 10:00am Daytime Mission Group at Solomon's Mission	6 5:30pm Whole Notes Choir Practice (K-5) 5:45pm Prayer Meeting in Room M-1 6:00pm Supper for Mini & Mighty Mill Creek Explorers 6:30pm Mini & Mighty Mill Creek Explorers, Youth Activities/Bible Study, Adult Bible Study, Adult Handbells 7:35pm Adult Choir Practice	7	8	9 9:00am - 1:00pm Ditty Bag Workday in the Fellowship Hall 9:00am - 1:00pm Blood Drive @ Buchanan Baptist 1:00pm Setup for Packing Shoeboxes in Fellowship Hall
10 <b>Flood Buckets Due</b> 8:30am Worship 9:20am - 9:55am Holy Grounds Coffee Shop 9:30am OCC Packing Party 9:45am - 10:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Deacons Meeting	11 6:00pm BWNG Potluck in Fellowship Hall	12 9:30am The Chosen Season 4 Bible Study 6:30pm The Chosen Season 4 Bible Study	13 5:30pm Whole Notes Choir Practice (K-5) 6:00pm Supper for Mini & Mighty Mill Creek Explorers 6:30pm Mini & Mighty Mill Creek Explorers & Youth Shoebox Packing Party, Adult Bible Study, Adult Handbells 7:35pm Adult Choir Practice	14	15 <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b> Youth at Reverb 6:30pm Disabled Sportsmen Deer Hunt Potluck Dinner	16 5:00am Disabled Sportsmen Deer Hunt Breakfast followed by the Hunt
17 <b>Missions Sunday &amp; Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Dedication</b> 8:30am Worship 9:20am - 9:55am Holy Grounds Coffee Shop 9:45am - 10:45am Sunday School 10:45am Mission Luncheon for the Youth 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Mission Luncheon for the Youth	18 4:00pm - 6:00pm Operation Christmas Child Drop-off	19 9:30am The Chosen Season 4 Bible Study 10:00am - 12:00pm Operation Christmas Child Drop-off 6:30pm The Chosen Season 4 Bible Study	20 4:00pm - 6:00pm Operation Christmas Child Drop-off 5:30pm Whole Notes Choir Practice (K-5) 6:00pm Supper for Mini & Mighty Mill Creek Explorers 6:30pm Quarterly Business Meeting, Mini & Mighty Mill Creek Explorers, Youth Activities/Bible Study 7:35pm Adult Choir Practice	21 1:00pm Rugging at Judy Deel's House 4:00pm - 6:00pm Operation Christmas Child Drop-off	22 10:00am - 12:00pm Operation Christmas Child Drop-off	23 9:00am - 11:00am Operation Christmas Child Drop-off
24 8:30am Worship & Parent/Child Dedication 9:20am - 9:55am Holy Grounds Coffee Shop 9:45am - 10:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship & Parent/Child Dedication 12:00pm - 2:00pm Operation Christmas Child Drop-off	25 8:30am - 10:30am Operation Christmas Child Drop-off	26	27 No Wednesday Night Activities	28 <b>Thanksgiving Day</b> Church Office Closed	29 Church Office Closed	30

Mill Creek Baptist Church  
11475 Lee Highway  
Fincastle, Virginia 24090-4481  
(540) 992-3474

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Return Service Requested


**Mill Creek Baptist Church**  
Pastor.....Danny Quirin  
Minister of Music..... Cindie Hayden  
Minister of Youth.....Josh Witt  
Director of Children's Ministry.....Peggy Arbogast  
Pianist.....Marcia Neighbors  
Administrative Assistant.....Sandra Kidd



**Greater Outdoor Ministries  
20th Anniversary  
Disabled Sportsmen Deer Hunt  
Potluck Dinner  
Friday, November 15  
6:30pm @ Mill Creek  
Breakfast  
Saturday, November 16  
5:00am @ Mill Creek  
Followed by the Hunt**



**Save the Date!**  
**VBS 2025**  
**July 13-17**  
As you are planning your 2025 vacations, please remember to keep this week open! It will be an amazing week of trusting Jesus in a wild world!



Daylight Savings Time ends at 2am November 3. Be sure to set your clocks back 1 hour before you go to bed on Saturday, November 2.