

BLUE RIDGE

Inside this Newsletter

Harvest with Your Heart	
Fellowship Lunch	Feb 10
Valentine Banquet	Feb 17

From My Heart

It is the love month of February which is the scariest time of year for husbands. I read an old story about a husband who was stopped by his wife as he headed out the door with these words, "You know what today is don't you?" In a defensive tone he said, "Of course I do!" Once he got to the office he frantically went to work. By 10 AM he had roses delivered to the house, by 2 PM he had sent her favorite chocolates, and at 4 PM he had her favorite dress shop deliver the dress she had been looking at for weeks. When he arrived at home, his wife greeted him at the door with a kiss and these words, "**Best Groundhog Day Ever!**"

Yes, it is important not to miss those Big Days and men, Valentines Day is just around the corner, but EVERY DAY is an important day to express your love to the people in your life. In reality if you are not expressing your love in small and simple ways everyday then no matter how big a production you make on Valentine's Day, it won't matter.

It is **Fabulous February** and we are going to be *Harvesting with Your Heart* all month long. In John chapter four Jesus had just completed a long and transformative conversation with the woman at the well just outside of Sychar. As His disciples walked up they were stunned to see him talking to a Samaritan woman. Not knowing what to say, the disciples urged him to eat some of the food that they had brought, but Jesus refused. His response was amazing, "*My food, said Jesus, is to do the will of Him who sent me and to finish His work. Do you not say, four months more and then the harvest? I tell you, open your eyes and look to the fields! They are ripe for harvest.*" Jesus shares three life changing truths in this passage. **First, if you really love God then you will do the will of God.** In other words you will work with all

your heart to try to accomplish what God really cares about. **Second, what is it that God really cares about? The answer is..... the lost!** Luke 19:10 says, "*For the Son of Man came to seek and save what was lost.*" Want to see and feel the heart of God, then read Luke 15 as Jesus tells us about a lost sheep, a lost coin, and a lost son. God loves the lost so much that he sent His one and only Son to redeem them. If you love God then you will love what God loves. **Third, the lost are ready to be reached now!** Jesus says, "Look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest." Often we look at our cold hearted world and think, no one is open to God, and no one wants to hear the Good News. When we think that way we are wrong. **There is always someone "ripe for harvest" and often they are people in your little world.** Our problem is that our eyes are not open.

My prayer is that you will open your eyes and begin to pray for the people God has put around you and that you will invite them to Blue Ridge. Jesus says in verse 36 that those who participate in the harvest are "*glad together*". I am praying that we will be glad together in February as we reach out in love to those who our Savior loves. When we do the will of God, exciting things happen and people smile!

In His Love,

Bro. John

This Sunday, February 3rd Catarina and Cody will get baptized and Reborn Harmony will sing!

Invite someone to our Fellowship Lunch on Sunday, February 10th.

Join us for grilled chicken on Sunday, February 17th at 5:00PM at our Valentine Banquet.

Who will **YOU** pray for this month? Big things happen when we pray.



In God's Love,

Bro. John

Fabulous February at Blue Ridge



Harvest With Your Heart



♥ *"The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few."* Jesus in Matthew 9:37

♥ *"He that sleeps in harvest is a son that causes shame."* Proverbs 10:5

- ♥ Week of February 3: Pray for those the Lord places on your heart. Many people have suffered loss, are lonely, lost, and in need of someone to care. Invite them to the Fellowship Lunch next week.
- ♥ Week of February 10: Send a card or text those on your heart. Invite them to come and share the fellowship of our wonderful Blue Ridge family. Invite them to our Valentine Banquet and Talent Show.
- ♥ Week of February 17: Bring someone to the Valentine Banquet. Invite your friend or relative to church next week.
- ♥ Week of February 24: Bring your friend to church and take them out to lunch with you. Thank God for putting people on your heart. Keep praying and inviting!

Blue Ridge February Fellowship Lunch



Everyone is invited to join us for lunch on Sunday, February 10 right after Morning Worship. Bring a favorite Sunday dinner dish and/or dessert to share with everybody. Susan Bass and Shirley Davis are our hosts.

Valentine Banquet and Talent Show is Coming!



Our Youth and Family are sponsoring a Valentine Banquet and Talent Show on Sunday, February 17 at 5:00 pm. They will prepare a grilled chicken dinner with delicious sides and desserts. You may make a donation to help them and the chaperones go on a Spring trip to Shocco Springs and a Summer Bible Conference trip.



Welcome New Members

By Letter and Baptism:

Catarina Elliott
440 Price Road
Wetumpka, Alabama 36093

By Baptism:

Cody Griffin
4308 Martin Lane
Montgomery, Alabama 36110

The Roof Repair Has Begun!



The old roof has been scraped and now we are looking for several days of temperatures in the 50-degree level to take the next steps. We are so thankful for the tremendous response to our plea for financial support to make this repair happen. We thank God and we thank you from the depths of our heart.

Wetumpka Tornado Repairs



Destruction came to downtown Wetumpka on January 19 and we were blessed to have suffered no damage. We have asked officials how we can help be a part of repairs and service to those who labor to repair two churches, the police station, the Fain Senior Center, and 25 homes just over the bridge. Their reply was to help feed the workers. We will take a hot breakfast to the workers on Wednesday, February 6 at 8:00 am. If you would like to make a donation, please see Terry Graydon or Jim Harris. Please mark your giving envelope in the upper right-hand corner "Wetumpka Recovery Breakfast". The cost will be over \$300.00. Pray about your part as we help our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Welcome to Sunday School



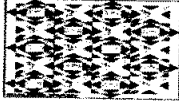
Cody Griffin

Sr. High Youth



Pick up your 2019 offering envelopes
in the back of the Sanctuary.

Ladies Crafting Class



We thank our neighbor, Olive Parsons for giving her time and sharing her sewing machine, quilting squares, and especially her testimony of what has happened when her Methodist Ladies Group decided to make children's quilts for the hurricane victims in Panama City, Florida. A member had been awakened by a voice telling her that their church should make quilts for the children. One member shared what they were doing on a blog on the internet and quilts, materials, and prayers poured in from all around the country. So far, they have delivered 190 quilts and are making and receiving more quilts and supplies for a 2nd delivery at the end of this month. They said the hurricane destruction goes as far as you can see. So sad.

Jesus said in Matthew 19:26, "With God all things are possible". Never give up! Never doubt!

Do you or a friend have a craft to share? If so, let Susan Hansen or Jackie Carney know.



Remember the Least of These

Let's all remember the Homeless at Friendship Mission, the Renascence House, and the Elmore Food Pantry as we clean out our closets, pantries, and think about these people when out shopping. Simply place your gifts in the Missions Box in the office hallway. Remember the Friendship Mission Homes always need paper products.



Thank You

We thank our special friends, Dr. Don and Joyce Cheatham and James and Jody Mallonee for continuing to share their tithes and offerings with us at their other church home, Blue Ridge. We miss them so much and pray God's continued blessings on them in their daily lives in Kentucky and Virginia. We never forget you in our prayers.



Sympathy

Our Christian love and sympathy are expressed to Linda Hines and family in the loss of her husband, Bill Hines. Linda is the daughter of Ina and Howard Bayerle.



February Birthdays



- 3 Kenneth Owen
- 5 Avery Roney
- 7 Rocky Aldridge
- 12 Morgan Brown
- 19 Marilyn McGrady
- 25 Susan Hansen
- 29 Susan Bass

February Children's Ministry



- 3: Nursery & Toddlers: Bennett & Carney; CC: Wendy Aldridge
- 10: Nursery & Toddlers: Shirley Davis and Susan Bass; Children's Choir with Susan Hansen and Renee' Miller
- 17: Nursery & Toddlers: Barbara Harris CC: Christena Aldridge
- 24: Nursery and Preschool: Lorrie Sereneck; Children's Choir: Susan Hansen and Renee' Miller



Youth Ministry News and Views

Thank you, church family for supporting our Youth Fundraisers! We just returned from the Scott Dawson Smoky Mountain Bible Conference where there were 3 hours of Morning Worship and 3 hours of Evening Worship each day and night! The Youth preachers were wonderful and the bands were so worship-filled. We passed by the tornado damaged churches 4 hours before they were hit. Our phones rang with that unbelievable news. We were thankful for the low rate of injuries, but sad that the churches were hit so hard. We had met to leave at the Russell Do-It- Center which received damage as well. We appreciated your prayers and we thank God for keeping us all safe.

Bro. John's February Sermon Series

♥ Harvest With Your Heart

- ♥ Love Your Family
- ♥ Love Your Mate
- ♥ Love Your Family of Faith
- ♥ Love the Lost

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Happy Valentines Day

Harvest with Your Heart in February

Fellowship Lunch February 10th

Valentine Banquet February 17th

FEBRUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Counting and Lock Up David Funchess	<i>Harvest with Your Heart</i>			1	2 <i>Who will you pray for this month?</i>
3 Come Hear Reborn Harmony Baptism of Cody Griffin and Catarina Elliott	4 Visitation 7:00 PM	5	6 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	7	8	9 <i>Who will you invite to our Valentine Banquet?</i>
10 <i>Fellowship Lunch</i> Beatitudes Bible Study 5:00 PM	11 Visitation 7:00 PM	12	13 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	14	15	16
17 Valentine Banquet 5:00 PM	18	19	20 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	21	22	23
24 Beatitudes Bible Study 5:00 PM	25 Visitation 7:00 PM	26	27 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	28 Visit us on the web at blueridgebaptistchurch.net		
		January 2019 S M T W Th F Sa 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		March 2019 S M T W Th F Sa 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! Valentine Banquet February 17th 7 Letters March