

# BLUE RIDGE

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## From My Heart

October is a time of harvest. Our Peanuts banner that we hang out says, **"Fall is a time to Harvest Friends."** I have never been a farmer, but I know the simple formula for reaping a harvest: plant the seed, water the seed, weed around the seed, and wait for it to grow and ripen, then harvest your crop. It sounds easy, but is it?

My Dad loved to garden, but he did not always have great success. He planted fruit trees, but never saw a harvest. I never told my dad that my dog Pal used dig up those trees while he was at work and I would replant them before Dad got home. My dad also tried his hand at vegetables. I remember his crop of carrots that he labored over for months. He got a harvest alright, a grand total of 5 carrots the longest was one and a half inches long. That didn't go too far in feeding a family of five.

One crop which my dad stumbled across was Leaf Lettuce. Leaf Lettuce is the less glamorous member of the lettuce family, but it is nutritious. Dad planted the seed, he watered, he weeded, and he harvested. The amazing thing was that it kept growing and growing. Dad had a continual harvest all summer and fall. Every meal dad was pushing a leaf lettuce salad. At that time I was not a big salad guy, but even I started to eat leaf lettuce.

My Dad was not the only one who is interested in a harvest. Our Savior Jesus had a lot to say about the harvest. In Matthew 9:37, 38 he said, **"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."** Jesus was concerned because there were not many workers out there sowing seed, watering, weeding, and harvesting. The question is why are not more people working out in the field for the Lord?

I think I know at least one answer to

that question. They think it is going to be hard labor with little return. They think it is going to be like my Dad's ventures into growing fruit and carrots. But I think they are mistaken, it's much more like my Dad and leaf lettuce, a little effort goes a loooooong way. Listen to Jesus in John 4:35, **"Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest?' I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest."** Consider what Paul said in Galatians 6:9 **"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."** We need to open our eyes, big things can happen when we sow seeds of the Gospel, water it with a little love, and a few invitations to experience the warmth and fellowship at Blue Ridge.

Have I ever seen the Gospel rejected? Yes and I have had the door closed in my face a few times, BUT many more times I have seen the Gospel received and lives changed forever!

We have seen a small, but wonderful harvest this summer: three have declared their faith in baptism and six more have joined our fellowship. I praise God for those decisions, but I also know that God wants to do even more. Let's all start sowing the Good News with the people God has placed in our world and let's see what miracles God will do!

**In His Love,**

**Bro. John**

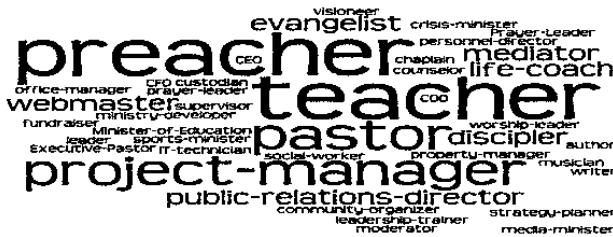
October means our **Wetumpka High School Football Breakfast** on October 6<sup>th</sup> and **Fall Festival** on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Let's be in prayer for both of these events.

The Football Breakfast is a ministry to the team and who knows how many hearts have been won to Christ through biscuits and gravy. Jackie and I have run into players years later who still remember your kindness and sausage. Fall Festival is a great way to introduce your friends to the warmest fellowship in town. Start inviting now!



† *The Southern Baptist Convention Proclaims October as  
Pastor Appreciation Month*

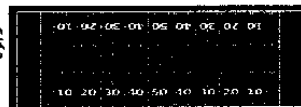
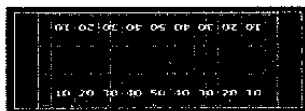
*We Appreciate You,  
Rev. John Carney,  
Our Pastor at Blue Ridge for 24 Years!*



*Please let Bro. John know of your appreciation for his service and dedication as he shares his love for our Lord and for our church family and community.*



Fall Festival is Coming to BRBC on Sunday, October 29 from 3:00 - 5:00 pm  
Fall Festival is a good old-fashioned celebration of the beautiful Autumn days the Lord has given to us. We, as a church family, come together to share fun with our church family and our neighbors. Please sign up to help where you can. You may dress like the 1950's and have a cool-daddy time! Hayrides, Trunk or Treat with Candy and Prizes, Fishing Pond, Ping-Pong, Bowling, Putt-Putt, Ring Toss, Corn Hole, Ducks on the Pond, Arts and Crafts, and more fun at each trunk. We will have a Hotdog and Chili Supper with cookies, etc. and drinks. See the sign-up sheet in the office hallway.



Our church will host the Wetumpka High School football team and staff for a Game Day Breakfast on Friday, October 6 at 7:00 a.m. We have our cooking team in place, but we can use help in setting up the tables for 100, greeting them, serving breakfast, clean-up and taking down tables after Breakfast that day. See our Brotherhood Director, Terry Graydon or Bro. John if you would like to help.



Remember our Missions Box with clothing & food.- Cheerios, Oatmeal, Beans, and Peanut Butter for the poor.

**Welcome to Our New Members**



**By Letter:**

Owen Sereneck  
688 Jasmine Hollow Road  
Wetumpka, Alabama 36093

**By Letter:**

James and Renee' Miller  
1556 Jug Factory Road  
Wetumpka, Alabama 36093

**By Baptism:**

Benjamin Lowry  
1191 Owens Road  
Wetumpka, Alabama 36093



**Youth News and Views**



Our Youth family thanks our members who support us through your prayers and through your support of our fundraisers. We will head to the Smoky Mountain Bible Conference in January, along with 10,000 other teenagers seeking a deeper relationship with our Lord and Savior.

This month we go to the River Region Judgment House!



**Kid's Korner**



Fall is here at last and we have two great events for you and your family. On Sunday, October 8 we will head to the Pumpkin Patch for an afternoon of fun.

We love the Sunflower Maze, the Corn Pit, the Slides, the big swings, a hayride, pick-a pumpkin, and all they have to offer. We will have lunch at church and then head to the Willow Springs entrance. Next, we have our own fun at church with the Fall Festival where you may wear friendly costumes, play lots of games and take a hayride around the neighborhood.



**Musical Notes**



Music is such an integral part of worshipping our Lord and we want to thank our talented Clarence Mann and Reborn Harmony for gracing us with their presence and their musical talents. They are invaluable to our Worship Services.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RONEY FAMILY!**

WE ARE SO PROUD OF CAPTAIN DON RONEY AND HIS SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY AS HE HEADS FOR A TOUR OF DUTY IN THE MIDDLE EAST. WE SEND OUR DAILY PRAYERS AND LOVE WITH HIM AS HE GOES AND WITH EMILY, AVERY, EVELYN, AND CAROLINE AS THEY GO TO BE WITH FAMILY WHILE DON IS AWAY.



Isaiah Hudson Bonasera was born on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. He weighed 7 lbs. and 15 oz. and was 21 inches long. The proud parents are Ashley and Peyton Bonasera, the proud grandparents are James and Renee' Miller, and the proud uncle is Thomas Miller.



**GOD BLESS YOU, CHEATHAMS AND MALLONEES**

Once again, we thank our precious friends, James and Jody Mallonee and Dr. Don and Joyce Cheatham as they always remember their home church with their tithes and offerings.



**Happy Birthday in October**



- 2 Margaret Cone
- 5 Emily Riddle
- 14 Jim Harris
- 21 Dan Bass
- 24 Joel Johnson
- 26 JJ Cannon
- 28 Bailey Shaw
- 29 Ray Royster
- 30 Wendy Aldridge



- 1: Nursery & Toddlers: Bennett & Carney; CC: Aldridge
  - 8: Nursery & Toddlers: Amy Brown & Carney; CC: Hansen
  - 15: Nursery & Toddlers: Janet Johnson & Carney CC: Christena & Tyler Aldridge
  - 22: Nursery: Bennett; Toddlers: Carney; CC: Hansen
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Volunteers Needed on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

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

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**Football Breakfast October 6th**  
**Fellowship Lunch October 8th**  
**Youth Fundraiser Lunch October 15th**  
**Fall Festival October 29th**

# OCTOBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1 Discipleship 5:00 PM	2 Counting and Lock Up Terry Graydon	3	4 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	5	6 Wetumpka Football Breakfast 7:00 AM	7	
8 Fellowship Lunch Carneys, Hosts Discipleship 5:00 PM	9 Visitation 7:00 PM	10	11 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	12	13	14	
15 Youth Fundraiser Lunch Discipleship 5:00 PM	16 Visitation 7:00 PM	17	18 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	19	20	21	
22 Discipleship 5:00 PM	23 Visitation 7:00 PM	24	25 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	26	27	28	
29 <b>Fall Festival 3:00-5:00 PM</b>	30 Visitation 7:00 PM	31 <b>Happy Halloween</b>		Visit us on the web at <a href="http://blueridgebaptistchurch.net">blueridgebaptistchurch.net</a>			
		September 2017 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		November 2017 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		<b>Notes:</b>  <b>Coming Up!</b> <b>Fall Festival</b> <b>Time Change</b>	
						29-Oct 5-Nov	
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