

CEDAR GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER — NOVEMBER 2013



We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the verbally and plerarily inspired Word of God. The Scriptures are inerrant, infallible, and God-breathed and, therefore, are the final authority for faith and life.

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

As we enter into the end of the year, there are a lot of things that are vying for our time and money. Most people will be shopping for Christmas and preparing meals for family get-togethers. But, as Southern Baptist, this is also the time to give to missions, as well as to give to missionaries that we know, and meet the needs of others locally. Paul writes to the church at Philippi to acknowledge their giving (to missions) and to encourage them to give.

Philippians 4:10-19 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity. Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction. Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. Not be-

cause I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account. But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God. But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Three things that stand out that I would like to note: first, Paul was rejoicing at their giving heart but he says he is able to live in any condition. I have found that a lot of people who we consider missionaries minister with very little and sacrifice greatly in their personal lives and get big results. Second, these people were looking for ways to minister to Paul and his team. We too should seek ways to enter into ministry with missionaries, as well as look for our own opportunities to be missionaries. Third, Paul seems to say that this is well pleasing to God and He will meet the needs that the church at Philippi may have. God will give us the means; financial, man power or supplies if He is in what we are doing.

Here is my challenge to Cedar Grove Baptist Church: this time of year is our greatest opportunity to reach our families with the love of Christ, and at the same time we have many opportunities to minister to others and to support missionaries. I am challenging our church to ask God in faith for opportunities, and then to act in faith as He gives you opportunities to meet the needs of others, and let's see what God will do with us.

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SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY

With the Holiday Season upon us, some families in our fellowship may need extra assistance. For such needs, Cedar Grove Baptist Church has established a Benevolence Fund. Monies from this fund are dispersed discreetly to families within the church who have special needs. At this time of the year—when some families have special needs—please prayerfully consider your contribution to the Benevolence Fund. While we should take a special offering at the end of the Morning Service each second Sunday, we sometimes forget. However, you can make a contribution at any time by designating “Benevolence Fund” on your offering envelope.

Remember the principle declared by our Lord Jesus Christ—*Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.* Luke 6:38.



ANNIVERSARIES

David & Ann Coble November 29

SCHEDULED EVENTS

- November 02 Ordination Council for Montagnard Pastors
- November 03 Daylight Savings Time ends. *Fall Back.*
- November 10 Lynn Garner (NC Children’s Home)
- November 10 Soup Sunday following the Morning Service
- November 11 Veterans’ Day
- November 11 Planning Committee @ 6:30
- November 17 Youth Sunday
- November 28 Thanksgiving Day
- December 07 Christmas Dinner, 6:00PM
- December 15 Christmas Play
- December 20 Christmas Caroling



BIRTHDAYS

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|--------------------------|-------------|
| Abigail Grainger | November 02 |
| Ethan Bell | November 05 |
| Xzandria (C
hey) Bell | November 07 |
| Hunter Owens | November 08 |
| Mike Bell | November 12 |
| Will Owens | November 27 |
| Abril Reyes | November 27 |

Visit the Cedar Grove Baptist Church website
<http://www.cedargrovebaptistchurch.net>

BAPTISM

A declaration of faith in Christ Jesus

September 1



September 29



Fellowship is a Baptist word meaning food



COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME

Henry Alford, 1810–1871

*It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord,
and to sing praises unto Thy name, O most high.*

(Psalm 92:1 KJV)

Our early American leaders wisely realized the importance of having a special day each year in which people could recount their blessings and express gratitude to God for all of His goodness.

The first thanksgiving was decreed by Governor Bradford in 1621 to commemorate the Pilgrims' harvest. Later George Washington proclaimed November 26, 1789, as a national day of thanksgiving, but the holiday was not repeated on a national basis until Abraham Lincoln named it a national Harvest Festival on November 26, 1861. After that time, the holiday was proclaimed annually by the President and the governors of each state. Finally in 1941, Congress passed a bill naming the fourth Thursday of each November as Thanksgiving Day.

The first stanza of this harvest hymn is an invitation and an exhortation to give thanks to God in His earthly temple—our local church—for the heavenly care and provision of our earthly need. The following two stanzas are an interesting commentary on the Parable of the Wheat and the Tares as recorded in Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43. The final stanza is a prayer for the Lord's return—"the final harvest home."

*Come, ye thankful people, come—raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin.
God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied:
Come to God's own temple, come—raise the song of harvest home.*

*All the world is God's own field, fruit unto His praise to yield:
Wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear:
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.*

*For the Lord our God shall come and shall take His harvest home:
From His field shall in that day all offenses purge away—
give His angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store in His garner evermore.*

*Even so, Lord, quickly come to Thy final harvest-home:
gather Thou Thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin;
there, forever purified, in Thy presence to abide:
come, with all Thine angels, come—
raise the glorious harvest-home.¹*

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While November 28, 2013 is the official Thanksgiving Day this year, we who have been redeemed by the blood of Christ Jesus should hasten to give thanks every day.

¹ Kenneth W. Osbeck, *Amazing Grace: 366 Inspiring Hymn Stories for Daily Devotions* (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 1996), 349.