Blue Ridge

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Join us in person at Blue Ridge or On YouTube every Sunday!

From My Heart

Welcome to November and a time of Giving Thanks at Blue Ridge! Giving Thanks and being grateful are important if you want to be happy and useful in God's Kingdom. To put it another way, being ungrateful leads to bitterness, anger, and uselessness in God's Kingdom, but we are tempted to be ungrateful and to focus on the negative.

Thinking about an attitude of thankfulness reminds me of how God brought me to Alabama. I had graduated from seminary and was searching for where God wanted me to plant my life and ministry for His Kingdom. Several churches had talked with me, but none felt like God's will for my life.

I decided to take a road trip to visit several cities that would be great opportunities for God's Kingdom. I wrote letters, made phone calls and lined up appointments in four different cities in the Southwest to talk with spiritual leaders to talk about what God was doing there. The trip took about 1,000 miles and wound through scenic desert country. Along the way I got to visit an old friend named Ed Huffman, toured his church, and even played a round of golf.

The appointments I had lined up were memorable. I met three Men of God who took time to share how God was working among them. They listened to me and let me share about God's call on my life. One man got on the phone and talked to three churches about me, and another asked me to consider becoming bi-vocational and come back and plant a church in his city. All three prayed with me. They were three great men and I left feeling inspired.

I also had an appointment with one of the coldest human beings on the planet. You didn't leave his presence inspired, but with a bad taste in your mouth.

As I remember that trip what was I tempted to focus on? Was it getting to see my buddy Ed, a picturesque trip that gave me time to think and pray, three fantastic Men of God I got to meet, or one cold fish? You got it, the one cold fish.

Instead of being grateful for a trip in which I certainly felt the hand of God, I focused on the one person who didn't want to talk to me. We do that all the time. We are not grateful for what God has done. Why, because we think we are entitled, surely every day in every way our life should be perfect, easy, uplifting, and absent from struggles. If that is you, you just might be ungrateful and headed for misery.

We just finished preaching through the book of Colossians. Paul is writing from prison, but the letter is filled with thanksgiving. Chapter 2 verse 7 tells us that if Christ is our Lord we ought to be ***"overflowing with thanksgiving."*** Take a few moments to count your blessings and you will be amazed what God has done for you, and you will be on the path to happiness.

One more word of thanks for that trip, God did not open any doors in the southwest which gave me time for something better. You see God knew that something was missing in my life, more specifically someone. God led me to Jackie who is the love of my life, my best friend, and my partner in ministry. I would not be able to be or to do what God has called me to do without her. I wanted to live in the southwest, but God wanted more for me. I am so grateful for us to be here at Blue Ridge serving with you with great joy and blessings. I am thankful to be your pastor and thrilled to see what God is going to do next.

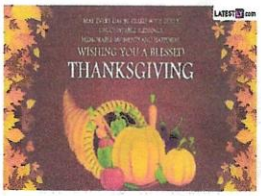
Jackie and I love you all and are praying for you. Hope to see you on Sunday!

In His Love,
Bro. John

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD
A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE







Nourish Your Heart and Soul at Blue Ridge in November

November 1	Pack Your Operation Christmas Child Boxes
November 1	Youth/Kids' Trip to Lunch and Fun City
November 8	Veteran's Day Service
November 15	Churchwide Thanksgiving Dinner
November 15	Winter Youth Bible Conference Information Due
November 18	Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Due
November 19	Lunch Bunch



You and Your Family are invited to
Our Annual Church Thanksgiving Dinner
On Sunday, November 15, 2026
At 5:00 in the afternoon
In the Fellowship Hall
The church will provide the turkey,
dressing, bread, and tea.
Please bring your favorite Thanksgiving
side dishes, salads, and desserts.



Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes
November 18 is the day to turn all shoeboxes in to the church. See the table near the front door for information, ideas, and boxes there to help you pack one or more boxes.

Our Veteran's Day Service is November 8



Sunday, November 8. 2026
Bring your military memorabilia to the display tables in front of the Sanctuary. We will have special music and a sermon from Bro. John. Bring your military friends and family to celebrate with us.



Remember to vote on November 3rd either here or where you are registered!



Missions at Blue Ridge

November is here and it's time to clean out your closets and storage. Donate any coats, warm clothing, socks, hats, pajamas, undergarments, etc. to the homeless through our Missions boxes in the office hallway. Socks and gloves are the number one requests we receive upon delivery. Men's, Women and Children's items are needed.

Youth News and Views

We are going to make our commitments to attend the Winter Youth Bible Conference in Gatlinburg/Pigeon Forge this coming January by the 15th of November. This is a great time of praise and worship with the best Youth Pastors and Christian bands you will find anywhere, Thousands of Youth from around the South attend with their church. We are divided into 2 groups and go to dinner theaters and the LeConte' Conference Center in Pigeon Forge. We stay in motels associated with the Scott Dawson Evangelistic Association. We worship 2 hours in the morning and 2 hours in the evening each day. Please pray we draw closer to our Lord as we attend January 16-18. Thank you church for your prayers and financial donations you give. We also have a wonderful donation from a nearby neighbor that supports our youth/children activities. We will go to Fun City and Lunch Sunday, November 1.

Kids' Korner

Get ready for our November Fellowship for kids and parents on Sunday, November 1. We will go for lunch and then to Fun City in Montgomery for an afternoon of indoor fun. Rain or shine, we will enjoy this time of fellowship. You need gripper socks, children and all adults, even though you may just be observing. They have them for $3.50 at the desk if you don't have any.

We thank our Sunday School/Children's Church volunteers for faithfully serving every Sunday. Mary Ryals, Renee' Miller, Jackie Carney, Tammi Stevenson, and Susan Bass. We teach The Gospel Project which takes us through the Bible every year. We give a trophy to any young person who can recite the Books of the Bible- either the New Testament or Old Testament and both.

November Children's Ministry

1: Tammi Stevenson
8: Susan Bass
15: Jackie Carney
22: Tammi/Jackie

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

5 Emily Roney
6 Donna Parker
15 Scott Stevenson
23 Tim Pemberton
Jerome Cannon

Musser's Invitation to Us All

Fall Fellowship at the Musser Farm!

Date: 11/7/2026

Time: 2:00 pm

285 Louis Priester Road
Montgomery, Al 36110

Serving Jim's smoked pulled pork sandwiches and all the fixins! Entertainment provided by horses bobbing for apples and our barn kitten!

RSVP: Joni 334-398-2898

Pastor Appreciation from Bro. John

We are touched by the wonderful cards, affirming words, and generous gifts given to Jackie and me during Pastor Appreciation Month. We love you all and are so happy to be serving among you. God is doing great things! We can't wait to see what is next. We have a dynamic family of faith at Blue Ridge, and we are so glad that each of you are a part of this wonderful church family.

In Christ's Love,
Bro. John and Jackie

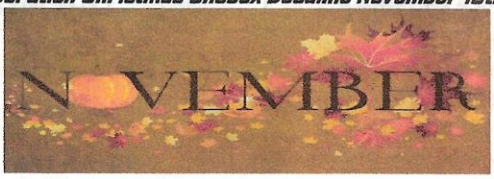
With Deepest Sympathy

Our Christian love and sympathy are expressed to Janet and Joel Johnson in the passing of Louis Johnson, their father. Louis and his wife, Ann, were long time members of Blue Ridge before taking over their family farm in Lightwood.

Blue Ridge Baptist Church
3991 Jasmine Hill Road
Wetumpka, Alabama 36093
www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net

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U.S. Postage Pd.
Permit No. 85
Wetumpka, AL 36093

Thanksgiving Dinner November 15th 5:00 PM
Operation Christmas Shebox Deadline November 18th



Join us every Sunday for Worship at 11: AM at Blue Ridge or on YouTube!
Go to our Website wwwblueridgebaptistchurch.net and click on the link`.

How to Give Online

Unleash your generosity by giving through our safe and secure GiveThree65 digital platform.
Visit www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net and click on the Secure Donations Page to begin the process.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Counting and Lock Up Jim Harris	3 Pray and Vote! TOPS 5:30 pm	4 Prayer & Share 5:00 pm	5	6	7
8 **Veterans Day Service**	9 Visitation 7:00 pm	10 TOPS 5:30 pm **Ladies Crafts 6:30**	11 Prayer & Share 5:00 pm	12 **OCC Shoeboxes Due Nov. 18**	13	14 ***Invite family and friends to Thanksgiving Dinner***
15 **Thanksgiving Dinner 5:00**	16 Visitation 7:00 pm	17 TOPS 5:30 pm	18 Prayer & Share 5:00 pm	19 **Lunch Bunch 10:00**	20 	21
22	23 Visitation 7:00 pm	24 TOPS 5:30 pm	25	26 ***Happy Thanksgiving***	27	28
29	30 Visitation 7:00 pm					31 *Coming Up* Christmas Play Christmas Dinner December 13



Visit us at www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net to see events, pictures, sermons, and a private, secure giving site, all done by our Webmaster, Jim Harris. There are so many pictures to see and information to gather. Thank you, Jim, for an excellent website. It is always up to date!