

... Where a warm welcome is just the Beginning...

Volume XLVIII, No. 4

The Banner

January 23, 2024





JANUARY 28 11:00am In Person & Live Stream

"Who Am I? More Than a Label" Acts 11:19-26

> Listen to <u>sermon recordings</u> at www.abingdonbaptist.org





Growing Together – This past Sunday, we continued our consideration of the first question on our journey of growing together: "Who am I?" We explored the source of our true identity as ones made in the "image and likeness" of God (cf., Genesis 1:26-31).

God formed the first human beings like a potter at the wheel. He imprinted His "image and likeness" upon us as "male and female."

The word image means "cut out" or "comparable." It is similar to our word icon. An icon is something that stands for but is not something else. We have icons on our phones and computers to access apps and programs. An icon is not the program but represents it and gives us access to the program. The word "likeness" is used to further describe the image of God in us. It means "similar but not the same."

As ones made in God's image, we are not God but are shadows of God. We are not exact copies but are similar to God. We are not God, but we are like God in the form our bodies (i.e., male and female). God took on a human body when He came as Jesus—fully human and fully divine (cf., John 1:14). After His resurrection Jesus appeared in a glorified body (cf., I Corinthians 15). We are like God in that God has breathed His own breathe into us and given us souls and spirits (cf., Genesis 2:7). From this image and likeness of God in us come our best expressions of physical strength, presence, rational thinking, communication, fellowship, freedom to choose, creativity, love, the desire for harmony with creation, and much more. God is perfect in His expression of all of these attributes, but we are not. Our knowledge, strength, and presence are limited while God's knowledge, strength, and presence are unlimited.

Every human being attempts to grasp for equality with God through selfish choices using the God-given ability to choose. That is the definition of sin (cf., Genesis 3). When we sin, we distort the image and likeness of God in us. We distort it and no longer reflect the true image God placed in us. The New Testament reveals God's remedy for this distorted image. That remedy came in the sacrificial and atoning death of Jesus Christ for our sins. The image of God in us can only be restored as we call on God for forgiveness of our sins by placing personal faith in Christ Jesus as Savior and Lord. When we do that, we become Christians, literally "little Christs" (cf., Acts 11:26). We can then be reflections and representatives of Christ in the world. The Apostle Paul says that "...if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" (2 Corinthians 5:17). Our true identity is not found in our successes and failures but in our relationship with Christ, who makes us content and gives us strength to be who He has created us to be in His image and likeness. When the world looks at us, they should see the image of God reflected back by Christ Jesus alive and active within us.

How does the image and likeness of God in you look as you gaze into the mirror of scripture? Is that image true and clear or tarnished and distorted? Jesus can restore the true image and likeness of God in you so that you can represent Him to the world. He can help you find and fulfill your purpose as you live in a love relationship with Him every day. Your true identity has already been given to you by God as one created in His image and likeness. Reflect well the image of God in you to a world who needs to see God's love at work in you!



Deacon of the Month - January Shane Lawson 276-698-4003

SUNDAY SCHOOL & WORSHIP

Attendance for Sunday, January 21 Sunday School & Bible Study - N/A Worship Service - N/A Wednesday Adult Bible Study - N/A

Extended Session Workers January 28, 2024

Carrie Trivett & Charlene Phelps

Worship Technicians:

Jerry Culberson
Laura Harris
Sid Lanier
Ray Minor
Amanda Perry
Tony Roberts
Cathy Shelton
Mel Shelton

Car Ministry January 28 ny Roberts 276-698-631

Tony Roberts 276-698-6319

Financial Update January 21, 2023

Weekly Budget Needs \$9,306.00
Received 01/21/24 Not Available
YTD Total Expenses Not Available
YTD Total Receipts Not Available

Building Fund

To-date \$100,860.99

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CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY January 28 9:45am Sunday School

11:00am Worship In-person or Livestream Sanctuary, Facebook, YouTube, Vimeo

In-Person/Zoom

Room

WEDNESDAY January 31

4:30pm Ladies Bible Study Conference Rm 5:00pm Fellowship Meal Fellowship Hall Hotdogs, Homemade Chili, Baked Beans, Chips, Assorted Desserts

5:30pm New Horizons Class Eagle Wings
Childrens Missions 1-3rd Classroom
Youth Missions Youth Room
6:00pm Adult Bible Study
Young Adult Circle
Youth Group
Childrens Music 1-3rd Classroom
7:00pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Choir

We start streaming at 10:45am

Tune in to check your connection and to prepare for Worship. Service will begin at 11:00am







Full in-person or Livestream Worship.

Doors open at 10:45am



Hospital:

Bristol Rehab Hospital John Blake

Recuperating:

Treatments Continuing/Pending:

Nick Abel, Terry Christian, Nadine Culberson, Lendy Dunaway, Tristan Duncan, Denise Gobble, Wayne Hayter, Bill Hedrick, Harold Jackson, Hunter Land, Karen Lane, Scyrethia Mullins, Joel Piazza, Rita Reynolds, Bill Roark, Press Stanley, Joyce Vanover.

Long Term:

Barbara Back, Easton Ball, Ainsley Berry, Curtis Burkett, Barbara Compton, Barbara Dunn, Chris Dye, Richard and Sue Foil, Lee Garrett, Bruce Hicks, Bob Jerrell, Wayne McCall, Karen McMurray, Kevin Mullins, George Owens, Linda Pugh, John Seymour, Park Shropshire, Earl Sleeper, Rachel Stout, Shirley Turner, Stephanie Wyvill.

Independent Living/Retirement/Assisted Care & Rehab Facilities:

Joe Campbell, Mary Davis, Orville Davis, Jan Derting, Harold Dunaway, Masel Dunaway, Renva Gunter, Trula Harris, Christine Kohr, Virginia Moore, Sue Munsey, Joanna Owens, Margaret Roe, Bill Roark, Howard Smith, Gladys Snead, Collette Taylor.

Homebound:

Jim Jones, Grace Kiser, Dale Orfield, Shirley Turner.

Homebound of the Week Margaret Roe



This week we want to lift up
Patrol Officer K. Richardson
Abingdon Police Department
Matthew Turner
Jared Walls
Washington County Sherriff's Dept



Wednesday, January 31

• Tony Roberts

Thursday, February 1

Masel Dunaway

Sunday, February 4

Lois Lavery

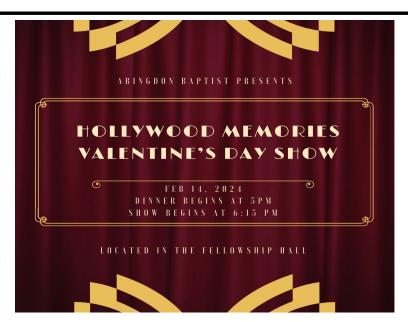
Continued from Pastor Bill...



Lenten Ecumenical Service Plans – The Abingdon Main Street Churches have completed planning of our annual ecumenical services/luncheons for each Wednesday at noon throughout the Lenten season. Here us the 2024 schedule. Please add as many of these dates to your calendar as possible. We look forward to another season of worship and fellowship with other believers in our community during the season of Lent.

Date	Location	Worship Leader
14 Feb	St. Thomas Episcopal	Rev. Kevin Campbell
21 Feb	Christ the King Catholic	Rev. Boyd Evans
28 Feb	Abingdon Baptist	Rev. Paul Seay
6 Mar	Sinking Spring Presbyterian	Fr. Chris Masla
13 Mar	St. John Lutheran	Rev. Bill Bryan
20 Mar	Abingdon United Methodist	Rev. Glenn Patterson





Come join us on Wednesday, February 14th, in the Fellowship Hall for an evening of food, music, and laughter. There will be a spaghetti dinner at 5:00pm, followed by a variety show that will feature some of the most nostalgic, and hilarious, moments of Classic Hollywood.

Please contact Trina in the church office to make a reservation for this event so that we can obtain an accurate headcount for planning purposes. The cost of the meal will be our standard Wednesday night meal rate of \$5 per adult; \$3 per child; and \$15 maximum per family.

You may pay for your ticket(s) the night of the event, but please call in your reservation no later than Sunday, February 11

Ministers **Entire Congregation** Pastor bbryan@abingdonbaptist.org ext. 32 Rev. Dr. Bill Bryan Mr. Shawn Howell Minister of Music/Worship & showell@abingdonbaptist.org Young/Median Adults Minister To Students lwolfe@abingdonbaptist.org Rev. Lisa Wolfe Mrs. Trina Vickers Administrative Assistant tvickers@abingdonbaptist.org ext. 21 Children's Ministry Assistant ctrivett@abingdonbaptist.org Miss Carrie Trivett Church Organist Mrs. Carol Clifton Church Pianist Mrs. Rose Payne

A church with a world mission and a world program in association with the Lebanon Baptist Association, Baptist General Association of Virginia, Southern Baptist Convention, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, and Baptist World Alliance.

Church office hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 5:00pm, Friday 9:00-12:00pm

Phone: 276/628-8126
PRAYER LINE: extension 42, FAX: 276/628-5743
Website: www.abingonbaptist.org