

# Millfield News

Events and Activities at Millfield Baptist Church

*Millfield Baptist Church is a welcoming, loving and accepting church, working to meet the physical and spiritual needs of our church family, our community, our state, our country and the world in the name of Jesus Christ.*

## AS WE JOURNEY... IN THE INTERIM

Loyal Jones tells the story of a man who had a habit of going to sleep in church, which irritated the preacher. One Sunday, he decided to embarrass the man. At the end of his sermon, when the offending parishioner was sleeping soundly, he asked everyone who thought they were going to heaven to stand. Everyone stood up except the sleeping man.

The preacher smiled slyly and then in a low voice said, "*Now everyone who thinks he's going to hell*"—he paused, and then shouted, "**STAND UP!**"

The sleeping man awoke and jumped to his feet. He looked around and saw that everyone else was seated, looked at the pastor and said, "*I don't know what we're voting on, preacher, but it looks as if you and I lost!*"

The mixture of excitement and cautious optimism in the rooms and hallways at Millfield was palpable. It is also understandable. The church *seemed* to be nearing the end of an extended interim period where, despite best efforts to avoid it, members have been in a bit of a holding pattern, awaiting the calling of a pastor who will be God's choice as their new *undershepherd* who will lead the church into an exciting future. But, alas, the holding pattern will continue for awhile.

During the intentional interim time and since, we have tried to focus on what it takes to be healthy as a congregation. The church is the Body of Christ and as such, attention must be given to what it means to keep that body healthy. We lose spiritual perspective when our focus is on *church growth* rather than *church health*. And congregational health is not a democratic process. . .it does not require a vote. But growth is a natural by-product of health—or to put it another way, when the body is healthy, growth *will* occur.

What I have discovered is that optimal health is not a destination, but a journey, a journey of health and wholeness. The Pastor Search Com-

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Youth Sunday September 30

Jason Witt made an impression on Millfield in the summer of 2003 when he was employed to work with our youth. He was a young man *on fire* for God. Already he knew he had been called to be an International missionary.

It was our honor to welcome Jason, his wife, Bekah, and their daughter, Righteous, as our guests for Youth Sunday. Jason delivered a powerful message entitled "Giving God Your Best." He and Bekah showed a presentation of their work with the people in Africa. They ask for prayer and support as they follow God's calling to fulfill the Great Commission. A love offering of \$883.72 was collected to aid them financially to further the kingdom of God. The couple is available to speak with other churches about their work before they return to Kenya in December where they will be working alongside an organization called *Life Ministry*. You may contact the Witt's at [bekahmena@yahoo.com](mailto:bekahmena@yahoo.com).

Caleb Wolman led our praise and worship songs on piano. He sang *I Can Only Imagine* and was accompanied by Kelly Stallard, member of the signing team. Members of our Youth participated in the service by leading prayer, giving out bulletins, taking up offerings and performing skits.



**Jason, Bekah and Righteous Witt**

(Continued from page 1)

mittee has worked diligently and professionally in their work. They deserve our support and prayers as they continue to search for the person whom God has already chosen.

We already know that stress and overload saps our energy— emotional, physical and spiritual. The result is that your faithfulness as a Christ-follower will be affected in a negative way. Therefore, when you get a chance, express your gratitude to the PSC for their time and energy as they continue their careful search.

Oh, yes. . .Happy Anniversary (October 21, 1517) of Martin Luther’s action of nailing his Ninety-Five Theses on the Wittenberg Church door. This declaration of his intolerance for the Roman Church’s corruption inspired the Protestant Reformation and deeply influenced our lives and church. (Old historians never die; they just bore *others* to death!)

Happy All Hallows Eve,

Tad

## Thanksgiving Ministry



For the past few years, several churches in the Wakefield area have begun a Thanksgiving ministry. Led by Evelyn Birdsong, meals are prepared and delivered on Thanksgiving Day to people in our area who may not have a Thanksgiving dinner any other way. Volunteers meet at Mrs. Birdsong’s home the night before Thanksgiving to prepare the desserts and the next day finish preparations and portion out the food in carry-out containers.

Last year, the Women of Faith helped by donating some items needed for baking. This year we’d like to expand the ministry to include others in the church who’d like to participate. If you would like to donate money to help buy food, help with the food preparation or the meal delivery, please call Sharon Patterson in the church office. Donations need to be received by Friday, Nov. 9 and mark them for “Thanksgiving meal”.

## Book Review from the Library

**Come Thirsty**  
by Max Lucado



Bestselling author Max Lucado lays out for us the benefits of drinking often from God's cup, and the bounty of blessings that come with constant spiritual watering.

## November Birthdays

- 2 Tammy Warner
- 9 George Carr  
Traci Ratliff
- 13 Hunter Britt  
Wellford Tiller
- 15 Blanche Akers
- 20 Jeremy Gibbs
- 25 Maxton Hassell
- 27 Susan Stone
- 28 Vicky Goodrich  
Darren Owen



## Nursery Workers Schedules

- 4 Samantha & Jack Hubbs
- 11 Becky & Daniel Felts
- 18 Theresa, Kayla & Montana Engel
- 25 Tom & Dana Britt

## Sunday School Fellowship Breakfast



On the first Sunday of each month, everyone is invited to bring a covered dish. All other Sundays, there will be coffee & juice provided. Please join us!

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John Tadlock, Interim Pastor

# November 2007

Every Sunday  
 9:30 AM— Fellowship Time  
 10:00 AM— Sunday School  
 11:00 AM— Worship

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Women's Get- A- Way Weekend at Eagle Eyrie	3 Women's Get -A -Way
4	5 7:00 Deacons Meeting	6	7 6:00 Family Night Supper  7:30 Choir Practice	8	9	10
11 Veterans Day  9:45 Puppet Show	12	13	14 7:30 Choir Practice	15	16	17
18 6:00 Church wide Covered Dish Thanksgiving Dinner	19	20	21 7:30 Community Thanksgiving Service here	22 Thanksgiving Day	23	24
25 7:00 Casual Evening Service	26 7:00 Women of Faith	27	28 7:30 Choir Practice	29	30	



## Sunday School Notes

The **Median Adult Class** has completed a study of Facing Your Giants by Max Lucado and is now beginning several weeks of more traditional Bible study. Each lesson includes a scripture reference, a central question, and how it can apply to life. This class also has a new format in which lessons are led by different volunteers, which will encourage active participation and discussion. If you would like a student book and/or have questions, please see Franklin Dowless.

The **Senior Adult Class** is halfway through their series, The Purpose Driven Life. Don't be misled by names, this class is open to anyone and the book is designed for anyone to jump in at any point and not be behind. Come see what kept this book on the bestseller list for 3 years in a row.

### Eleanor Booth WMU Circle Fall Missions Project Winter Coat/Jacket Collection

Please help us collect warm coats/jackets (all sizes) for the needy in our area. Bring all donations to the fellowship hall during the month of November. We thank you for your support.

### Children's Missions

Do you have some spare change? The CIA's are collecting money to help missionaries Jason and Bekah Witt. In order for the Witt family to return to Kenya, they must raise the funds necessary and our kids want to help! So, empty your pockets and purses of pennies, dimes, nickels and quarters into the jar located in the front of the sanctuary. Together we can meet the goal of \$200.00!

Children in Action leaders for this church year are Frankie and Randy Carr, Carol Jean Felts, Pam Smith and Martha Holdsworth. Our leaders for Mission Friends are Traci and Haley Ratliff. These groups meet monthly on the fourth Sundays during worship service. Thanks to these volunteers!

## Casual Evening Service

On October 21, our monthly casual evening service was led by Freefall Youth Ministries from Pine Grove Assembly of God. From the moment the students arrived to begin setting up their equipment, there was a distinctive "spirit" in the air. Youth Pastor, Joe Smedley, opened the service with prayer and introduced the Human Video team who performed to uplifting music. Their band then played several praise and worship selections, with the congregation standing and singing along. Pastor Joe brought the message which focused on ten reasons why people don't come to church.

- ◆ Life is too busy/don't have time
- ◆ Church people are cliquish
- ◆ It's boring or irrelevant
- ◆ Wasn't raised in church
- ◆ Bad experience with church in past
- ◆ "I'm too bad of a person"
- ◆ Church people are hypocrites
- ◆ Spouse/partner is not interested in going
- ◆ Have never been asked
- ◆ Church people are unfriendly

Pine Grove brought a number of their members with them, and with Millfield, we packed the sanctuary with about 100 folks! It was a wonderful evening, joining with a neighboring church in worship. Next month, our service is scheduled for November 25 at 7 PM. We welcome Drew Dunn and Vicki Shiver, known as *Heaven Bound*, who will be leading our music.

## Community Thanksgiving Service

Our annual Thanksgiving service will be hosted at Millfield on Wednesday, November 21 at 7:30 PM, with Ivor Methodist Church's pastor bringing the message. Area churches are invited to attend this joint service.

### Puppet Show Coming Up



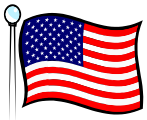
To honor our Veterans on November 11, the H.I.S. Puppet Team will perform in the fellowship hall beginning at 9:45. Please plan to come early, get settled with some breakfast, and enjoy this wonderful tribute! Adults and children will love to see the puppets dressed in military outfits as they perform to patriotic music!

Millfield Baptist Church  
31389 Millfield Road  
Wakefield, VA 23888

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## From our Youth



Each year on September 26, millions of people around the world gather at school flagpoles to pray— for friends, teachers, families, the nation, and the world. Our students are enrolled in various schools and each was encouraged to attend. Even though some had to arise early and meet at their flagpole before school started, it was inspiring to see teachers, adults and students join together beneath the American flag. The short program is totally student led and includes scripture reading and at some schools, music. SYATP next year!

In October, we had another special event take place. Following up from a study held that focused on abstinence, dating and purity, students were invited to attend our first *True Love Waits* Commitment Service which was held in the sanctuary on Sunday, October 7. John Tadlock spoke to the young people and challenged them to remain both spiritually and physically pure throughout their lives. Students and parents participated in responsive readings and in prayer. Each student was presented a symbol, either a ring or wrist band, by their parent showing their vow to the covenant made between them and God. Susan Stone played piano as we sang *Sanctuary* and *More Love, More Power*. A reception, hosted by Frankie and Randy Carr, was held in the fellowship hall.



Front row, kneeling from left –Josh Epperson, Jeremy Sculthorpe  
Second row, from left– Jessica Atkins, Ashley Massey, Kelly Stallard, Chandler Williams  
Third row, from left- Shannon Regula, Hayes Holdsworth, Taylor Warner, Falon Williams, Anika Pach

### November Youth Calendar

- 4 Puppets 5 PM  
Youth meet @ the Holdsworths 5:30 PM until 8 PM
- 10 Fall Beautification Day @ Lake Prince Woods  
Leave here 8:30 AM, return after lunch
- 11 Lighthouse 6:30
- 18 Puppets 5 PM  
Church wide Thanksgiving covered dish dinner 6 PM
- 24 Millfield Road clean up project 12:30-5:00
- 25 Casual evening service @ 7 PM