



*“In the heart of the community;
with a heart for your family”*

**A Pastor’s Ponderings
October 9, 2016**

There once was a man who found a butterfly cocoon. One day a small opening appeared. The man sat and watched the butterfly as it struggled for several hours to force its body through the little hole. Then it seemed to stop making any progress. It appeared as if it had gotten as far as it could and could go no farther. So the man decided to help the butterfly. He took a pair of scissors and snipped away the remaining bit of the cocoon. Though the butterfly was able to emerge easily, something was just not right. The butterfly had a swollen body and shriveled little wings. The man continued to watch the butterfly, expecting that at any moment, the wings would enlarge and expand to be able to support the body. But sadly it never happened. The butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and deformed wings. It was never able to fly.

What the man did not understand, was that the restriction of the cocoon and the struggle required to get through the small opening was God’s way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its developing wings. This alone made the butterfly ready to fly.

If the story of Elijah has taught us anything it is this: Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need in our life. If God allowed us to go through all our life without any obstacles, that would cripple us. We would never become as strong or reach our full spiritual potential. We would never fly and reach the spiritual heights He has destined for us.

Weekly Schedule for October 9 to October 16

Today Sunday School10:00 am
Morning Worship11:00 am
Evening Worship6:00 pm
Choir PracticeFollowing evening worship

Tuesday Men’s Breakfast9:00 am
Ladies’ Prayer Group9:30 am
(at Tammy Ponder’s home)
Fellowship of Truth Bible Study.....6:00 pm

Wednesday Fellowship Supper5:30 pm

<i>Group activities begin at 7:00 pm</i>	Kids In Action
	The Experience*
	Junior High Small Group* (* meets at <u>The Spot</u>)
	Adult Prayer & Bible Study Groups

Next Sunday Morning Worship10:30 am
(Special Guest: Shannon Bunch)
Harvest Dinner12:00 noon
Hay Ride5:00 pm
Movie: “Facing the Giants”6:00 pm

KIDS IN ACTION

Wednesday, October 12th, rehearsals will include **scene 3** and the songs: ***Somebody’s Counting*** and ***Listen to the Oldies***.

Please remember to be prepared for our next Sunday morning, **October 16th**, performance of ***Trading My Sorrows***. Be in basement by **10:20 a.m.**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY	HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
Dustin ShawWednesday Rocky PayneThursday Patsy GreeneSaturday Wendell HodgeSaturday	None this week...

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY
AM - Bo & Noel Shell and Lilly	AM - Janice Cunningham & Linda King

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP SUPPER

Come join us for supper (**sloppy joes, baked beans, slaw, chips, dessert & drink!**)! Meals are **\$4.00** each or **\$12.00** for families. A **sign up sheet** is in the foyer. *If you don’t get a chance to sign up or need more information, call **Lavon Jones @ 426-8105**. Supper starts promptly at **5:30 p.m.** If we can serve the last meals no later than 6:25 p.m., that will give us time to prepare for KIA and study groups at **7:00 p.m.***

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm: Kingdom Man, Kingdom Woman. In addition to these small groups, our **pastor** has a Bible study in the sanctuary on **“The Gifts of the Holy Spirit”**.

FELLOWSHIP OF TRUTH (Alternate Tuesdays)

The next meeting for this ladies’ Bible study, *Fellowship Of Truth*, will be **Tuesday, October 11th** in the fellowship hall at **6:00 p.m.** Contact **Marlene Simpson** at **753-8783** for more information.

“THE BATTLE PLAN FOR PRAYER”

The next small group Bible study @ Gary & Linda King’s home will be **October 20** at **7:00 p.m.** You are welcome to come, be a part of this group.

2016 HARVEST CELEBRATION

Join us next **Sunday, Oct. 16th**, for our annual **Harvest Celebration**. It is also our 3rd annual **“Drive-Your-Tractor-To-Church Sunday”**. Our worship service will begin early (**10:30 a.m.**) with special guest vocalist, **Shannon Bunch**. At **5:00 p.m.** we’ll enjoy a **hayride**. Then, at **6:00 p.m.** there will be a **bonfire** with s’mores and hot chocolate and an outside movie, **“Facing the Giants”**. *(If it turns out to be too cold for the outdoor events, we’ll still be showing the movie inside.)* Come and spend the day with us as we celebrate God’s bountiful blessings on New Salem Church.

WMU MISSIONS GET-TOGETHER

Ladies, mark your calendar for the **March 31-April 2, 2017** event in Gatlinburg. The theme will be **‘By All Means’**.

Keep in Your Prayers

...the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

(James 5:16)

Sickness & Hospital



Salvation

Bernice Bailey
Tommy Bailey
B.F. Barker
Lorene Barr
Lois Broyles
Tony Broyles
Judy Burgner
Rita Burleson
Sid Burleson
Wade Cole
Tina Coleman
T.J. Crawford
Rena Cutshall
Steve Cutshall
Mary Davidson
Charles Ellis
Barbara Fazio
Richard Fleenor
Fawn Gale
Charles Garland
Regina Gauntt
Kenneth Gray
Sonja Green
David Greer
Jimmy Grubbs
Lynn Hampton
Janice Hardix
Linda Hensley
Pauline Hensley
Cash Hicks
Joann Holley
Ray Holtsinger
Becky Hooks
Joe Huffman
Glenna Hughes
Johnny Jandor
David Long
Nancy Malone
Paul Masters
Katrina Mausolf
Jim McNamara
Sharon McQueen
Matthew Millsaps
Teresa Monteon
Becky Mooks
Pastor Kevin Morris
Debbie Page
Glenda Perdue
Jordan St.John
Art Simpson

Larry & Judy Smith
Mildred Snapp
Pastor Sneed
Robert Story
Jule Susong
Ed Tanner
Betty & Elmer Taylor
Bob Tibble
Doris Townsend
Judy Vanlandingham
Cameron Whitaker
Gene Wilcox
Flo Wilmouts
Denise Young

Other Requests

American Military
Radio Ministry
The Spot
The families of our
community
Local churches
without pastors
Washington County
Jail Ministry
Issac Cutshall
Traveling safety
Unspoken requests
New Small Groups
FISH Ministry
Amanda English
The young couples of
our church
Jerrell Elwell
Donald Wood
Doug & Barb
Weberg's travels
Paige Snapp

Shut-in & Nursing Home

Joanne Goode
Rena Hensley
Peggy Roberts
Lou Shelton
Eric Starnier
Christine Kyker
Brownlow Yarbor
Millie Yarbor

K. Adamson
Kevin Ayers
Michelle Ayers
Jo Bartlet
Robin Booth
Charles Bowers
S. Branstractor
Kathy Brooks
Karen Burgin
Rick Burgin
Mary S. Carter
Heather Crumb
Jessica Curtis
John Dowdy
Ben Franklin
Karen Ingram
Patton Jervis
Donna Laws
Gerald Laws
Betty Lewis
Scott Lewis
Diane Miller
John Nichols
Jim Norris
Becky Norton
Kenzie Nunley
Jennie Reasor
Larry Richardson
Amy Roberts
Dustin Roberts
Sue Roberts
Bill Shelton
Rita Shelton
Kelly Shoun
Tammy Waterhouse
Kevin Whistine

Praise the Lord!

196 backpacks for
homeless vets
Tommy Bailey's
progress

Note: If a name needs
to remain on the prayer
list for longer than one
month, just let Pastor
Craig know.



Men, mark your calendars! We will be restarting our **New Salem Men's Ministry** on Saturday morning, **October 22nd**. This group will be led by **Joe Barker** and **Jay Curtis**. It will include breakfast at **8:30 a.m.** followed immediately by Bible Study led by **Pastor Randy Hensley** from *The Rock Fellowship*. Plan now to come out for an exciting time of food, fellowship, and spiritual growth. Future meeting dates will be announced later.

Dr. Craig Ponder, Pastor

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Tim Jaynes

Associate Pastor of Youth

Home: 257-2651 ♦ Cell Phone: 483-8401

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Joe Barker

Associate Pastor of Family Ministry

Home: 257-2779 ♦ Cell Phone: 426-1604

Your Deacon of the Week

Jim Ward

Home: **257-2708** Cell: **741-3186**

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