

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Budget Gifts	1/3/21	7,181.96
	1/10/21	4,554.00
	1/17/21	2,142.00
	1/24/21	1,348.00
Local		500.00
Lottie Moon		50.00
Annie Armstrong		50.00
WMU Mosaic		91.96
Bene.—Ferrell		265.00
Bene.-Hutchins		3,000.00
Memorial		25.00
Total		19,207.92

ATTENDANCE

	<u>S.Sch.</u>	<u>Worship</u>
Jan. 3	31	34
Jan. 10	33	31
Jan. 17	39	43
Jan. 24	35	42

GIVE ONLINE!

Not able to give your tithe or missions offering in person? As a reminder, Amelia Baptist Church now has online giving. Go to www.ameliabaptistchurchva.com/online-giving to send your gifts electronically through our safe and secure Tithely account. Please know that your gracious gifts will help make Christ known in a world that is in need of hope.

Amelia Baptist Church
9101 Amelia St.
P.O. Box 452
Amelia, VA. 23002

**February 2021
Newsletter**



Amelia
BAPTIST CHURCH
GOD-GLORIFYING ♦ GOSPEL-DRIVEN

9101 Amelia St. PO Box 452
Amelia, VA 23002
804-561-4512

Pastor Derrick Adams
ameliabaptistchurchva.com
ameliabaptistchurch@tds.net

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

Amelia Baptist,

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul...” (Psalm 23:1-3)

The words of King David in Psalm 23 have a familiar ring in our ears as God’s people. Most often, these words are spoken by myself or others at funerals to offer comfort to those who are grieving. David encourages us to take shelter under the shadow of our Good Shepherd when we find ourselves in the valleys of life. But this Psalm cannot be restricted to the theme of grief. It is also for those whose hearts are restless, anxious, weary, or needing strength, and a renewed focus. These words remind God’s people of His continual presence and voice—even when He feels distant and silent. Ultimately, this is a Psalm that calls us to find our rest in Him in the midst of the chaos of life. And when we rest, we find something much greater that God has promised: the restoration of our souls.

Beloved, it is hard to believe but this church calendar year marks the sixth year of my ministry here at ABC. I realize that these years are but a drop in the bucket compared to the 106 years God has providentially sustained this church body. But nonetheless, the years have flown by and God has graciously allowed me to see so many blessings within this congregation. Blessings of salvation, baptism, new members, visitors, giving to and going on mission, community engagement with the gospel, financial stability, flexibly with transitions, and the raising up of new leaders and teachers. But the one blessing that stands out is your love for one another, and more specifically, your love for me and my family. My family has benefited so much through your prayers, words of encouragement, care for our kids, gifts, etc. It is hard to name them all, but I am eternally thankful to God for you.

But there is one more blessing that you have graciously allowed me; a sabbatical given during the pastor’s sixth year of ministry. For those that are unaware of what a sabbatical is, it is taken from the biblical root word “sabbath” which means “rest.” We see God resting on the seventh day in Genesis 2 after creating all things in Genesis 1. And in Leviticus 25, God commanded a year of solemn

[continued next page]

From the Pastor's Pen (continued from front page)

rest for the land in Israel every seventh year for the sake of not overworking the land. In an agricultural society, this would mean that the people would rest as well. It was part of their worship of God and a way for them to cultivate dependence upon Him during this season.

Now, both of these examples are not exactly the same as a sabbatical. However, these texts show that the general principle of regular, extended times of rest is a good thing designed by God to rejuvenate His people. So, if you were to sum it up, a sabbatical is an extended time of rest, away from the regular demands of ministry (work), for the purpose of personal rejuvenation with the Lord. In fact, the ABC statement regarding a pastor's sabbatical reads that this time is for "rest, rejuvenation, and deeper study."

This is what I plan to do for two weeks, Lord willing, from February 15th-28th. My plan is to spend the first week out of town to cultivate my personal relationship with the Lord while spending the second week with my family. In these weeks, the Lord is leading me to study the book of Acts as well as the lives of the early church fathers in order to see how they endured persecution within the first three centuries. During this time away from my regular pastoral duties, I humbly ask that you remain in prayer for me and my family. Pray for God to grant me true rest and rejuvenation as I seek the Good Shepherd's face. Pray for God to provide a renewed pastoral focus as I head into this next season of ministry. Pray for God to bless this intentional time with my family. Finally, pray for God to help me to endure as a Christian and as a pastor despite whatever may come in the years ahead. During this time of leave, you will be blessed to have Jerry King preach the Word in my stead on Sunday the 21st & 28th. If any issue should arise, please make sure to contact your family deacon or our deacon chairman, Marvin James.

Again, I want you to know how thankful I am for you, your love, and for this gracious gift of a sabbatical. It means more than you know. May God continue to bless you ABC.

In Christ,
Pastor Derrick

WOULD YOU LIKE A VISIT?

If you would like a socially distant visit from the Pastor, please contact the church office.



**February is
World Hunger
Emphasis Month**

Amelia Baptist Church will help fight hunger by giving donations anytime during February for the Southern Baptist Convention's SEND RELIEF ministry. Our offering goal is \$2,000.

LOVE-IN-ACTION, WMU GROUP...IN ACTION!

The Love-in-Action Circle is scheduled to have their next regular meeting on Tuesday, February 9th, at 2:00pm in the Church Ministry Center. Colean Norman will be our hostess and Dale Johnson is scheduled to present the program. Everyone is asked to wear a mask.

**FROM THE BUILDING &
GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

Here is the latest news concerning our efforts for the upgrades of the church internet and A/V system. The internet upgrade by TDS is currently scheduled for Tuesday, February 9th. However, due to unforeseen circumstances, Don Grubb with Live Productions will not be able to install the new A/V system until May-June time frame. Such a delay is not consistent with our current efforts in moving forward with the new system. So, in order to alleviate this unforeseen timing, we have been in discussions with other A/V companies, are meeting with them and are soliciting new quotes. The quotes are expected to remain within previously approved funding constraints as details are worked out. We will keep you updated on this as the process moves forward.

Just as a reminder for those on the Building & Grounds Committee, the next meeting of our committee is scheduled for Monday, March 1st, at 5:30pm.



I am so grateful for all my church family! Thank you most of all for your many prayers. I appreciate your calls, food, flowers, cards, and encouragement.

Thanks to the Joy/Lydia Sunday School Class for your support and love!

God's grace and your prayers surely helped me through a difficult time.

God bless you all,
Claudine Rudd

* * * *

I thank God for you, my church family. You have been faithful in remembering me with your many cards and prayers. I am so thankful I am able to get the Sunday morning service on facebook. May God bless you as you continue serving God in Amelia and throughout the world.

Sincerely,
Julia Easter



**Bi-monthly
Business Meeting**

**Wednesday
February 10th
6:30pm**



February 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 6:30pm Adult Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Group <i>B-Janet Mitchell</i> <i>B-Joseph Jones</i>	4 <i>B-Nola Johnson</i>	5 <i>B-Taylor Sutphin</i>	6
7 9am Prayer Circle 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship/Communion 4pm Deacons Meeting	8 <i>B-Barry Layman</i>	9 2pm Love-in-Action Circle	10 6:30pm Business Meeting	11 <i>A-Robert & Jean Morris</i>	12 <i>B-Louise Boyles</i> <i>B-Warren Anderson</i>	13
14 9am Prayer Circle 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship Service	15 <i>(Pastor on Sabbatical Feb. 15th-28th)</i>	16	17 6:30pm Adult Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Group	18 <i>B-Ian McDonald, Sr.</i>	19	20
21 9am Prayer Circle 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship Service	22 <i>B-Jackie Easter</i>	23	24 6:30pm Adult Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Group	25 <i>B-Walker Ramsey</i>	26 <i>B-Jeanne Hall</i>	27
28 9am Prayer Circle 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship Service <i>Samaritan's Purse Trip</i>						