

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Budget Gifts	6/2/19	4,725.00
	6/9/19	2,450.13
	6/16/19	2,065.05
	6/23/19	1,540.00
Lottie Moon		45.00
Annie Armstrong		45.00
Local		500.00
Crown Construction		45.00
Vacation Bible School		300.00
Vacation Bible School Snacks		400.00
Stove Reimbursement		96.14
Hall Mission Trip/Hungary		1,500.00
Mission Fund		500.00
Total		14,211.32
Running Total		102,016.78

ATTENDANCE

	<u>S.Sch.</u>	<u>Worship</u>
June 2	56	57
June 9	59	69
June 16	56	64
June 23	57	70

Please Note!

Nominating Committee Meeting
4:00pm—Monday, July 1st

Building, Facilities & Grounds
Committee Meeting
5:00pm—Monday, July 1st

Church Council Meeting
6:00pm—Monday, July 15th

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

July 2019
Newsletter



Amelia
BAPTIST CHURCH
GOD-GLORIFYING ♦ GOSPEL-DRIVEN

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FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

Amelia Baptist,

As I write this month's Pastor's Pen for the July newsletter, it is Monday of VBS week and the first day has officially come to an end. Now you're probably reading this newsletter either on the final day of VBS or shortly after the wild week of fun has ended. But no matter when you see this, I want to express my sincere thanks to all of our hard working volunteers, adults and teenagers alike, who gave up this one week in June to serve the kids in our community. It is not an easy endeavor putting a week long VBS together. But with everyone helping out from snacks, to recreation, music, class leaders, crafts, registration, bible study, directors, etc. we are able to successfully pour into these kids that have been entrusted to us. So thank you for loving on the community in this gospel-centered way and continue to pray for the Spirit of God to work in the hearts of those kids that God brought us. Now go get some rest! In light of this one week that completely impacted our church, our schedules, and you can even go so far as to say our lives, I want to encourage you to read this article that I recently came across. It is hard-hitting, engaging, and very insightful as we think about how the mission of Christ affects how we think about the body of Christ and our involvement with one another. Enjoy....

"By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers." (1 John 3:16)

"I once read about a revival which took place among some of Scotland's rural churches in the 1800s. Many of the believers who belonged to these churches lived in the middle of nowhere and would travel long distances for gathered worship. Bear in mind, this was before the emergence of automotive technology! What's more, the revival came during winter months, which made the commute treacherous due to weather conditions—especially since the mountainous terrain was not ideal for travel. Needless to say, meaningful participation in the life of the local church wasn't easy for these believers. Nevertheless, they were faithful and God visited them in a powerful way as one minister from that time noted: 'It was often a stirring sight to witness the multitudes assembling during the dark winter evenings—to trace their progress as they came in all directions across moors and mountains by the blazing torches which they carried to light their way to the places of

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

meeting. The Word of the Lord was precious in those days; and personal inconvenience was little thought of when the hungry soul sought to be satisfied.'

As we look to the example of these believers, let's make one crucial observation: those who are hungry for Christ consider it their joy to be inconvenienced for the sake of His church. Unfortunately, this is in stark contrast to the way many people treat the church today. Countless multitudes attend church regularly, but view it as a commodity—a conveniently located provider of spiritual goods and services for which they make no real sacrifice.

Of course, such a perspective can be manifested in different forms. In some cases, it assumes the form of total avoidance of any sort of participation beyond semi-regular attendance on Sundays. However, in many other cases, it is far less obvious than that. Most of us don't mind some level of participation. We have no qualms about signing up to serve for an hour on Sundays, or joining a small group. In such cases, the problem isn't one of whether we're participating in the mission of the church; it is one of how we're participating. As advantageous, over-scheduled Americans, our participation is often subject to our convenience. Far too seldom is it something for which we readily adjust our schedules or re-envision how we live.

Instead, we settle for being involved enough to feel like we've done our due diligence before God, but without any disruption of our everyday lives. Or, to put it more plainly, we've resorted to negotiating our participation in the church's mission when we should be completely surrendering it. God isn't after the win-win; He's after our full devotion. Let's boil this down so we can see what's really at stake. Our aversion to being inconvenienced for the local church reveals our lack of hunger for Jesus. For those who hunger for Him above all else will joyfully love what He loves and value what He values no matter the cost. Or as the Apostle John put it, those whose hearts have been apprehended by the love of Jesus lay down their lives for the brethren (see 1 John 3:16, quoted above). Therefore, when it comes to life in the local church, we have two choices before us—we can have convenience or we can have more of Jesus. We must decide. We can't have both. So for you, which will it be? As you consider that question, read this insight from Ray Ortlund:

'If your relationship with your church is ambiguous and sporadic and subject to convenience, the problem is not your relationship with your church. The problem is your relationship with Christ. He has made his loyalty clear. He even delights in his church. He is committed to the revival of the world through the revival of the church. To God, the most important thing in all of created reality is his church, a crown of beauty in his hand. Your own greatest happiness is the revival of your church.'

Want to experience true happiness in Christ? If so, your local church must feel like an inconvenience; its mission must cost you something. God is calling us to make adjustments in the areas of our lives that are hindering us from costly participation in the mission of the church—not because He wants to take anything away from us, but because He wants to give us more joy in Christ. For the sake of greater satisfaction in Jesus, let's stop orienting His church to our lives, and begin orienting our lives to His church. When that happens, we'll no longer be treating the church like a commodity that is subject to our convenience. Instead we'll be delighting in it as the precious bride for which Christ laid down his life."

(You Need to Be Inconvenienced for Your Church by Tyler Greene, For The Church Blog,)

In Christ,
Pastor Derrick

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

The Love-in-Action Circle will meet on Tuesday, July 9th, at 2:00pm in the home of our hostess, Colean Norman. Vivian James will present our program.

We wish to thank everyone who contributed or donated to our Yard Sale, to all those who worked, and especially to those who came and purchased items that made our sale a big success. We raised \$550, which will be used to benefit the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child.

A contribution was made to Vacation Bible School.

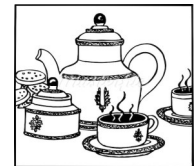


***Back-to-School Block Party
Saturday, July 27th***

In partnership with the Back-to-School Jamboree at the local Rec Center, we will host our 3rd Annual Back-to-School Block Party on Saturday, July 27th, from 11am-2pm. Bring out the whole family as there will be free inflatable bounce houses, field games, face painting, a barrel train, cake walks, raffles, music, and food.

Volunteers are needed, so if you can help serve, please let Pastor Derrick or Michelle McDonald know.

***Ladies Tea
JOIN US
July 20th, 11am-1pm
Church Ministry Center
Food—Fun—Fellowship!***



Back to School Backpacks

Help us to stuff backpacks full of school supplies during the month of July to be distributed to needy families. There is a list of supplies to bring and a collection bin outside the church office. Please turn in your donations by the end of July—and don't forget the backpacks!



Happy 4th of July!

July 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> 9:00am Praise Time 9:30am Prayer Circle 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	1 1pm Women's Bible Study 4pm Nominating Com. 5:00pm Building, Facilities, Grounds Committee	2 <i>A-Wes/Dana Eary</i>	3 6:15pm Bible Study/Prayer 7:30pm Choir Practice	4 <i>Independence Day Holiday</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	5 <i>B-Jessica Phillips</i>	6
7 <i>Samaritan's Purse Trip</i> 11am Communion 5-6:30pm Youth Meeting 6:30pm Deacons Meeting B-Charles Nearhood	8 <i>Samaritan's Purse Trip</i> 1pm Women's Bible Study	9 <i>Samaritan's Purse Trip</i> 2pm Love-in-Action Circle B-Janice Johnson	10 <i>Samaritan's Purse Trip</i> 6:15pm Bible Study/Prayer 7:30pm Choir Practice	11 <i>Samaritan's Purse Trip</i> 6:30pm Ministry Center reserved for Ruritan meeting	12 <i>Samaritan's Purse Trip</i>	13 <i>Samaritan's Purse Trip</i>
14 11:30am Mission Friends/ Kids-in-Action	15 1pm Women's Bible Study 6pm Church Council	16 9:00am Art Class	17 8:30am Men's Prayer Grp. 6:15pm Bible Study/Prayer 7:30pm Choir Practice B-Michael Easter B-Bernadine Eary	18 B-Della Nearhood	19 B-Cecil Davis B-Connor Geraghty	20 11am Ladies Tea
21 5-6:30pm Youth Meeting B-Ainsley Crowder	22 1pm Women's Bible Study	23	24 6:15pm Bible Study/Prayer 7:30pm Choir Practice B-Jerry Morris A-Michael/Kristina Easter	25 26 B-Colean Norman A-Derrick/Amanda Adams	26 B-Christine Robertson	27 11am-2pm Back-to-School Block Party
28	29 1pm Women's Bible Study B-Vivian James	30 B-Wes Eary	31 6:15pm Bible Study/Prayer 7:30pm Choir Practice B-Kristina Easter			