

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

| | | |
|--------------------|---------|-----------|
| Budget Gifts | 3/31/19 | 880.01 |
| | 4/7/19 | 5,949.16 |
| | 4/14/19 | 1,935.25 |
| | 4/21/19 | 2,872.00 |
| Lottie Moon | | 45.00 |
| Annie Armstrong | | 1,250.00 |
| Local | | 500.00 |
| Crown Construction | | 45.00 |
| Easter Candy | | 60.00 |
| Samaritan's Purse | | 100.00 |
| Building Cleaning | | 60.00 |
| Total | | 13,696.42 |
| Running Total | | 71,697.11 |

**May 2019
Newsletter**

ATTENDANCE

| | <u>S.Sch.</u> | <u>Worship</u> |
|----------|---------------|----------------|
| March 31 | 63 | 81 |
| April 7 | 67 | 84 |
| April 14 | 53 | 62 |
| April 21 | 72 | 83 (Easter) |

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Amelia Baptist Church,

Thank you for allowing the Amelia Academy to use the church facilities to hold the Association of Virginia Academies Forensics event on March 7. The event went well, and we appreciate being able to use the church facility.

Sincerely with blessings,
Karen Berry

AVA Facilities Rep
for Amelia Academy

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Thank you so much for the peace lily in memory of our dad, Johnnie Morris. It really means so much to us you thought of him.

The Family of Johnnie Morris

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



Amelia
BAPTIST CHURCH
GOD-GLORIFYING ♦ GOSPEL-DRIVEN

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FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

Amelia Baptist,

It never ceases to amaze me how joyful a time our Easter weekend is as we celebrate the resurrection of Christ together. With every year, much planning takes place to make sure our Easter celebration is a great success. So I want to thank all of our faithful volunteers who helped make the egg hunt possible along with our Easter breakfast and services. Now as we gear up for the summer months, please continue to pray that we, Amelia Baptist, would continue to live faithfully in light of the resurrection. But we must know that faithfulness is not attained through major moments in our Christian lives. Rather, faithfulness is primarily cultivated by pursuing Christ in the mundane things of our days. So to help reflect upon this life that we are called to, I have included an encouraging article from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary entitled *The Slow & Steady Pace Of Discipleship*.

"Most of the mechanisms God uses to transform us into Christlikeness aren't big; they're small. They are the series of choices we face day after day. This is how Paul described growing in Christ – not as something exciting, but as a methodical process akin to that of athletic training. *"Don't you know that the runners in a stadium all race, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way to win the prize. Now everyone who competes exercises self-control in everything. However, they do it to receive a crown that will fade away, but we a crown that will never fade away. Therefore I do not run like one who runs aimlessly or box like one beating the air. Instead, I discipline my body and bring it under strict control, so that after preaching to others, I myself will not be disqualified."* (1 Corinthians 9:24-27) Despite what the training montages in the Rocky movies might lead you to believe, being an athlete is hard work. It's not accomplished in 5 minutes and it's not usually done to the soundtrack of Survivor. Staying in top shape requires waking up at 4 A.M. every morning and going to bed early every night, having a plan for what you eat and how you spend your time, making sure that all the small choices in life point to the one goal. That's the metaphor Paul chose for growing in Christ – it's an athletic contest, not a magic show where doves come flying out of a hat.

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

One of the reasons everything has meaning for us as disciples of Christ is the fact that everything is either moving us toward Christ-likeness or away from it. Every choice isn't just about the choice – it's about whether we are embracing our sanctification or pushing against it. Paul knew the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ – that he is so valuable that anything stacked up against him looks like dung. Is it any wonder, then, that he would, just one chapter after 1 Corinthians 9, also exhort those in Corinth to consider the little things of life as an opportunity to glorify God? *"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God"* (1 Corinthians 10:31).

These common, everyday choices are the guts of discipleship. Following Christ is not just about selling everything you have for the sake of the poor, though it might indeed be that at some point. It also involves managing your time, appropriately handling your throw away thoughts, glorifying God through your eating and drinking, seeing the small things of life as things that either move you toward or away from Christlikeness. Disciples understand the true significance of these choices. When was the last time you or I thought about these things? Chances are, we haven't considered them nearly as often as God has. As much as we might long for something new and different, something more exciting and fresh, God is still vitally concerned that we make the everyday, run of the mill choices of faithfulness because we desire the same thing that He does – to more and more resemble His Son.

Many of us, in an effort to spice things up a little bit, have abandoned thinking deeply about and struggling with these choices. Similarly, we have abandoned the everyday practices of saints of the past, looking for something a little bit more modern and progressive. So we find ourselves bowing down to the idol of excitement all while claiming to be seeking after the living God. We don't need something new. We need something old. We need to do the same things that saints of old have been doing in order to deepen our understanding and apprehension of the greatness of God. We need to see that it's not some kind of secret formula or latest methodology that exposes the myth of the ordinary. Instead, it's through these means of grace that many of us have cast aside as outdated and legalistic that God has chosen to deepen our relationship and experience with Him."

(For The Church Blog, *The Slow & Steady Pace Of Discipleship*, By Michael Kelley 4/18/19)

In Christ,
Pastor Derrick



AMELIA DAY FESTIVAL

We are looking for volunteers to help with the Amelia Day Festival on May 11th. We will have three shifts: 9am-12noon, 12noon-3pm, and 3pm-6pm. Please sign up for one of our shifts. Workers are needed in a variety of locations (inside and outside) and for a variety of jobs. There will be sign-up sheets in the Sunday School rooms and on the bulletin board. ALL ages are encouraged to sign –up. If you need more information, please contact Michelle McDonald or Pastor Derrick!

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

The Love-in-Action Circle will meet for its monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 14th, at 2:00pm in the Ministry Center for a brief business session. Following this meeting, we will go to the Amelia Nursing Home to play bingo with the residents there.

The Family Mission Night Supper will be on Wednesday, May 1st, at 6:00pm in the Ministry Center. The Willing Workers Class will be our hosts and will serve breakfast foods for our meal. The Rev. Dorsey Drawhorn will be meeting with us and presenting our mission program.

UPWARD BOUND

Those lazy, hazy days of summer are just around the corner, and Upward Bound has its final meeting before our summer break on Monday, May 20th. As usual, we will start with coffee and chat time at 10:00. Lunch will be at noon. We will supply the meal, but we ask you to bring your favorite dessert to share. In addition to a brief devotional and a song or two, we will address cards to our church shut-ins and others you may know who need a cheerful word. We have a few games in mind to help us enjoy our time together as well. So mark your calendar, cancel all appointments, and be there to help us end another year of fellowship, friendship, and just plain fun!

Building, Facilities & Grounds Committee Notes

We are pleased to announce the new ice maker is now up and running. Also, the two new stoves for the Ministry Center kitchen are tentatively scheduled to arrive this Friday, April 26th. We would like to announce that we are now accepting sealed bids for each of the two existing kitchen stoves, the existing small freezer, and the existing TV which was removed from the Sanctuary. The bids are being accepted with no minimum and with the items in as is condition. We will run the bidding for several weeks, so if you are interested, please submit your bid to the Building & Grounds Committee Chairman.

Reminder: Our next Building & Grounds Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 6th, at 5:00pm.

Graduate Recognition May 26th

We will honor our high school and college graduates during the 11am worship service.



FAMILY MISSION NIGHT Wednesday, May 1st

Supper at 6:00 prepared and served by the Willing Workers Sunday School Class. This will be followed by our Mission Program presented by the Rev. Dorsey Drawhorn. He will tell us about his mission work in Africa. Mission Friends & Kids-in-Action will also meet.



May 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 Svc. | | | 1 6pm Mission Supper 6:45pm Mission Program 6:45pm Miss. Fr./KIA | 2 | 3 | 4 10am—6pm Ministry Center Reserved |
| 5 11am Communion 5-6:30pm Youth Meeting 6:30pm Deacons Meeting B-Ian McDonald, Jr. B-Kenny Wade | 6 1pm Women's Bible St. 5pm Bldg., Facilities, Grounds Committee B-Eliana Adams | 7 | 8 5:30pm Evangelism Com. 6:30pm Prayer/Packaging Good News Bags 7:30pm Choir Practice | 9 6:30pm Ruritans in Ministry Center B-Betty Jo Simmons | 10 | 11 8am-4pm Amelia Day Festival |
| 12 <i>Mother's Day</i> 11:30am Mission Friends/Kids -in-Action | 13 1pm Women's Bible Study B-Skyanna Gilbert | 14 2pm Love-in-Action Cir- cle—to Nursing Home | 15 8:30am Men's Prayer Group 6:30pm Bible St./Prayer 7:30pm Choir Practice B-Phillip Critchfield | 16 | 17 | 18 1-9pm Ministry Center Reserved—Graduation Party |
| 19 | 20 10am Upward Bound | 21 9am Art Class | 22 6:30pm Bible Study/ Prayer 7:30pm Choir Practice | 23 6:30pm Suicide Support Group—ACTS Classroom | 24 | 25 B-Paxton McDonald B-Chris Thacker A-Tim/Jessica Anders |
| 26 Graduation Sunday 5-6:30pm Youth Meeting/ home of Steven & Jody Hall B-Linda Kirkman | 27 <i>Memorial Day</i> <i>Church Office Closed</i> 1pm Women's Bible Study | 28 B-Ronald Burton | 29 6:30pm Bible Study/ Prayer 7:30pm Choir Practice | 30 | 31 | |