

# Bethany Highlights

## November 2015



### Ben's Pen

*Why are you thankful? Is it because your parents and other life influencers taught you that we are supposed to express thanksgiving in November? Is it because you have a national holiday, to get ready for a full day of shopping, to stop and say thanks? Or is it because a preacher guilts you into stopping to say thanks? The psalmist, David reminds us all why we should be thankful, twelve months a year. In Psalm 103 he covers many of the items we take for granted. ...forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. (vv. 2b-5.) Do I come with a thankful heart, because of a God whose love for me endures forever or is it just because it is what is expected of me? Read the Psalms to be reminded of why we need to be thankful every month.*

*Serving with you,  
Ben*

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Our annual Fall Festival is Saturday, November 7 at 3:00 p.m. There are a lot of activities including a bounce house, face painting, hay ride, cake walk, silent auction and craft sale. Of course, it would not be a festival without Hobo Stew, Dickie's Deep Fried Oreos and other homemade goodies. Make your plans to bring some friends and join us for a great time of fun and fellowship. As always we need your canned contributions to the Stew. In addition, there is a need for cakes, craft items, homemade goodies or other items for the silent auction. Contact Janet Irving or Joanne Lee if you have some items you would donate.

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*Our Baptist Men will begin their annual food drive for the Massaponax Food Bank this month. You may bring your store bought canned goods to the Fall Festival or place them under the Food Tree in the sanctuary later this month. One of the emphases for our food drive this year is the "ornaments" on the tree. A \$1 ornament will purchase 5 pounds of canned foods. A \$5 ornament will purchase 25 pounds of canned foods or 100 pounds of crackers and cookies. We will have pricier ornaments as well. Just imagine how much food a few of our dollars will purchase. Let's decorate our tree well.*

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Our annual churchwide Thanksgiving dinner is on Saturday, November 21. We will gather in the sanctuary for a time of prayer and song at 5:30 p.m. We will then move to the Fellowship Hall for our meal. There is no cost for the meal, but we do need your reservations so we can adequately prepare. A sign-up sheet will be available in the sanctuary beginning November 1.

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<i>Offering received thru October 25, 2015.....</i>	<i>\$70,187.45</i>
<i>Weekly amount needed to meet annual budget.....</i>	<i>\$ 2,033.46</i>
<i>Budget needs thru October 2015.....</i>	<i>\$87,438.84</i>
<i>Alma Hunt State Missions Offering received thru October 2015.....</i>	<i>\$ 2,154.00</i>

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The December *Highlights* article deadline is November 18.

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### **BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH**

Rev. Ben Thomas, Pastor

5001 Arcadia Road

PO Box 408 Thornburg, VA 22565

(804)448-3508 email: [bthomas@bethanybaptistwoodford.org](mailto:bthomas@bethanybaptistwoodford.org)

[www.bethanybaptistwoodford.org](http://www.bethanybaptistwoodford.org)

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Bethany Baptist Church  
PO Box 408  
Thornburg, VA 22565

