

October 2012

Blessings

A publication of Byromville Baptist Church



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Pastor's column

Lilies signal harvest time



Ed Sandefur

Early morning of August 31st found me in the woods with bow in hand. Looking for wild hogs was my objective and fresh sign was all around me. This was going to be a good day! Easing through the creek bottom watching and listening for pigs feeding or bedded up for the day is a challenge I thoroughly enjoy. The morning was very overcast and the swamp was dark but

enough morning light had penetrated the swamp floor for me to catch a glimpse of something red off in the distance. Curiosity finally having its way, I found myself looking at something I have never seen in 50 years of hunting swamp bottoms. The red color I had picked up on was three Spider Lilies growing in the dark wet flood prone area of the swamp bottom. They added a special beauty to this place that carried my thoughts back to a time I hold dear in my heart.



On the farm where I spent much of my growing up years, Grandmother had Spider Lilies all around the yard and I remembered Granddad's description of their blooming. He used to say, "when the lilies bloom the laziness of summer is ending and the harvest time is near". So true. As of this letter, we see

farmers busy harvesting corn. Then they will prepare for peanuts, beans, cotton. Granddad always could point to "signs" that helped determine when some event was to start or end.

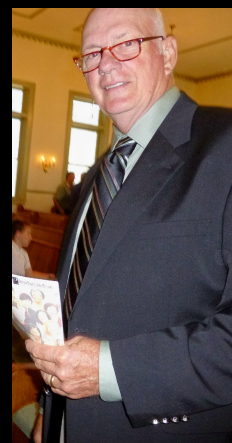
As I enjoyed seeing the lilies and thought of Granddad's wisdom, I could not help but think of the Lord's words about the harvest. He said; "*the fields are white for harvest*". (John 4:35) The lilies made me ask myself am I harvest minded? Am I prepared to work the harvest as the Lord pointed out? Or has the "laziness of summer" taken me prisoner? Do I bring something of beauty to a dark and dying world just as these lilies brought beauty to the dark woods?

When we hear the word lily most times we think of the Easter Lilies that are white, fragrant and so beautiful. The Bible gives several accounts of lilies through scripture and in Song of Solomon 2:1 we read, "*I am the rose of Sharon, And the lily of the valleys*". A lily is white and very beautiful; within it are seven grains or seeds, (number of perfection) of the color of gold, (color of royalty) and it's whiteness (fine linen) it exceeds all flowers. So amiable that our Lord said, "*That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.*" (Matthew 6:29) In all its beauty, the lily even being one of the tallest flowers in our gardens, will bend its head almost as if it is humbling itself before the world around it. I think of the beauty of my salvation in how my Lord humbled Himself, gave Himself for me so I might become as He.

Once again I returned home with game bag empty but truly can say the Lord met me in the woods!

In Christ,
Bro. Ed

We love and appreciate our pastor, Ed Sandefur. October is Pastor Appreciation Month.



*Sugar and spice and everything nice,
That's what little girls are made of!*

*Baby Shower
for
Jenn Averill
October 14, 2-3 pm
Saliba Hall*

Jenn is registered at Target
and Three's Company in Cordele.

Spaghetti, singing and sweets to help Ally

A GospelSing and Spaghetti Dinner on October 20 at Fullington Academy will benefit little Ally Gregory. Ally is the two year old daughter of Josh and Marah Gregory of Pinehurst and the big sister to one year old Bradley. She is also the great niece of Tracy and Terri Gregory. She was diagnosed with acute lymphocytic leukemia on July 25, 2012 and is currently undergoing chemotherapy.



Ally Gregory

Tickets may be purchased for the spaghetti dinner from a Fullington Senior Beta member or through the school office (229-645-3383). Plates (dine-in or carry out) are \$6 each, and can be picked up between 5:00–6:30 p.m. at Fullington's lunchroom.

The GospelSing at 7:00 p.m. in Fullington's auditorium will feature South GA Quartet, Joseph Jones and Five for One. There will also be a cake auction and refreshments for sale.

If you would like to donate a cake, homemade goodies or money, please see Vicki Lamberth or Robin Peavy.

To follow Ally's journey, visit www.caringbridge.org/visit/allysongregory.

Seasoned Saints going to Georgia National Fair October 11



The Seasoned Saints will be leaving the church house at 3:00 p.m. on October 11 to go to the Georgia National Fair in Perry. Contact Martha Peavy for more information about the trip.



A trick or treat trip for kids is planned for October 27 at 5:30 p.m. After returning to the church house, the kids will enjoy a hotdog supper.

If you would like the kids to visit your house, contact either Vicki Lamberth, Robin Peavy or Paula Smith.

Terrified Christians flee homes; WHF is there to help



Pakistani Christians, driven from their homes when an 11-year-old mentally handicapped girl was accused of blasphemy, were assisted in their distress with resources provided by the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund.

Rimsha Masih has since been released on bail and Khalid Chisti, the Muslim cleric who accused her, was arrested when witnesses alleged he framed the girl by placing pages from the Muslim holy book in the trash bag she was carrying.

When the girl originally was accused on Aug. 16, an angry crowd gathered outside the police station where she was being held, according to news reports. The cleric who accused the girl reportedly had called for the massacre of Christians in the neighborhood. Terrified Christians fled their homes, many of them taking none of their belongings.

One of those Christians, Arif Masih, told reporters his family had left so quickly they didn't even lock the front door. When they returned nine days later, the house had been looted. Even his kitchen utensils and a sack of flour were gone.

"People are so afraid, they cannot sleep at night," Masih said, according to the McClatchy news service.

As many as 600 families evacuated from the neighborhood, many of them taking refuge with other Christians in the city. Baptist Global Response partners became aware of the displaced believers and made plans to provide them with meals. Drawing on \$1,544.33 from the World

Hunger Fund, the partners were able to prepare one meal a day for an average of 300 people over the course of ten days. As the meals were served, Christian leaders were able to pray with the traumatized families and share Bible stories that helped them understand how to live out Jesus' command to love one's enemies.

"It's such a privilege to be able to help people who find themselves suddenly in desperate need," said Francis Horton, who with his wife, Angie, directs work for Baptist Global Response in South Asia. "When this story broke in the international news, many people in the United States were shaking their heads, wondering what to do about a crisis like this. Southern Baptists can celebrate that their partners were actually on the scene, helping people in need. And they were able to respond because Southern Baptists give generously to their World Hunger Fund."

October is World Hunger Month

When a dollar is contributed to the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund, unless otherwise designated, 80¢ is sent to the International Mission Board for overseas hunger project, while 20¢ is sent to the North American Mission Board to support hunger projects in the United States and Canada. Because personnel and volunteers are already in place, and promotional expenses come through other budgets 100 percent of your gift is used to minister to the hungry in Jesus' name. Offering envelopes are available during October or just mark your check "for world hunger".

Associational news

Vienna First to host 182nd annual meeting Oct. 16



Dr. J. Robert White

Dr. J. Robert White, Executive Director of our Georgia Baptist Convention, will be one of the speakers at this year's annual meeting of Houston Baptist Association. Other preachers speaking include Bruce Howland of Unadilla First and Fred Jones, our moderator and pastor of Ebenezer Church.

Special music will be provided by an associational choir, our associational missionary Gary Leutzinger, Jim Bolton of Vienna First, and Glow, a women's quartet from Pinecrest Church.

The theme of this year's meeting, *Working Together To Reach Our World for Christ*, comes from the Three Year Strategy Plan that was adopted in May.

The meeting will begin at 4:30 p.m. Supper will be served at 6:00 p.m. with the second session going from 7:00–8:30 p.m.

Assn'l administrative assistant Janet Pate retiring in October

Janet Pate is retiring from her position of administrative assistant in late October. She will be honored at the October 16th annual meeting for her six years of faithful service to Houston Baptist Association. Mrs. Pate will continue on as assistant administrative assistant. Brenda Lockerman of Byromville will begin work with the association October 1 and become the administrative assistant after the annual meeting.

BBC hosting Assembly of Prayer October 2 at 7pm

Our church is hosting an Assembly of Prayer for the Dooly County area Tuesday, October 2 at 7:00 p.m. Join your Christian brothers and sisters across our county to lift up specific community and county needs and issues in corporate prayer.

Water and volunteers needed for Big Pig Jig booth

Once again this year, our association will have a booth at the Big Pig Jig in Vienna, November 2-3. Volunteers are needed to staff the booth and share bottled water and Christian tracts. Call the associational office (229-273-4127) if you want to help. If you would like to donate bottled water, please place in the marked box in the foyer near the pastor's office by October 28.

Ladies, plan for spiritual renewal at women's retreat November 9-10



"A Season—A Purpose" will be theme for the women's retreat for spiritual renewal at Camp Houston November 9-10. Cost is \$30 per person before November 1 and \$40 thereafter. The retreat will begin with registration 5:00 p.m. on Friday and dismiss at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Debbie Beal of Sylvania will be the Bible study leader and Cheri Slade of Cordele will be the praise and worship leader. For more information including a schedule and registration form, visit www.houstonbaptist.org or contact Brenda Lockerman. Registration forms are also posted on the bulletin board across from the nursery.

Visit www.houstonbaptist.org for more news from Houston Baptist Association.

Community news

Byromville to host a fall event November 10

The Town of Byromville is planning a BBQ cookoff and festival for November 10. More details will be in the November *Blessings*. We are hoping BBC will have a cake walk at this event and maybe something else as well.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 World Hunger Month	2 7:00pm Assn'l Assembly of Prayer, BBC	3 Pastor Appreciation Month	4 6:30pm Byromville Town Council Meeting, Municipal Complex	5	6 
7	8  Columbus Day (observed)	9	10	11 3:00pm Seasoned Saints leaving for Fair in Perry	12	13 10:00am GEMS
14 Pastor Appreciation Sunday World Hunger Day National Dessert Day 2-3:00pm Baby Shower for Jenn Averill	15 10:00am Women on Mission (going out to eat after meeting)	16 Bosses Day 4:30-8:30pm Assn'l Annual Meeting, Vienna First Church	17	18 	19	20 8:00am B'hood Breakfast Benefit for Ally, Fullington Academy 5-6:30pm Spaghetti Dinner 7:00pm Gospel Sing
21 	22	23	24	25	26	27 5:30pm Kids leaving to go Trick or Treating 7:00pm Kids Hotdog Supper
28	29 National Cat Day 	30	31	2012  October		

Birthdays



10-1 Brandy Elrod
Shani Payne
Juston Trimback

10-2 Paul Bush
Beverly Carroll
Brandi Miller

10-7 Russ Wilkes

10-9 Kenny Fountain
Shannen Payne

10-10 Jessica Jones

10-11 Linda Melton

10-12 Robin James
Meadows

10-17 Chuck Bush

10-20 Darlene Brinn
Johnny Massey
Mary Ellen Wilkes

10-21 Joseph Lamberth

10-22 Jeff Dickerson

10-23 Bryson McCullum

10-24 Katrina West

10-27 Larista Thompson


10-30 Kate West

11-1 Mary Kathryn
Blankenship

11-2 Noah Chappell

11-4 Ginger Carroll
Lynn Murray
Robin Peavy

11-6 Tom Barrett
Rodney Kitchens
Danielle Stephenson
Lynn Woodruff



Please pray for these folks on their birthday.

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY

Sunday School 10AM
Worship. 11AM
Women's
Bible Study. 4:30PM
Worship. 6PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible study & prayer. . 7PM



Nursery for all services.
Children's Church for
Sunday 11AM Worship.

Schedule of Volunteers for October

Please remember it is up to **you** to arrange coverage if **you** are unable to serve on your scheduled day.

Date	Flowers	Nursery AM	Nursery PM	Children's Church	Deacon of the Week	Ushers
Oct. 7	Open	Katrina/Kylee West	Brenda Lockerman	Tricia/Joe Kent	Frank Thompson	Daniel Thompson George Massey
Oct. 14	Thompson Family	Robin/Mark Peavy	Patricia Kent	Tori/Vicki Lamberth	Floyd Tucker	Mark Smith Quint Smith
Oct. 21	Open	Jill/Sarah Averill Brannen	Katrina West	Robin/Mark Peavy	Joe Kent	Monta Averill William Preston
Oct. 28	Open	Paula/Mark Smith	Suzy Grantham	Terri Gregory Tricia Kent	Jimmy Lockerman	Mark Peavy Arthur Roney

September Sunday School Stats

Senior Adults	7
FBIC	14
CIA	5
VOC	5
Young Adults	2
Older Youth (ages 14-17)	5
Double Y (ages 11-13)	2
Older Children (ages 8-10)	4
Younger Children (ages 6-7)	0
Older Preschoolers	1
Younger Preschoolers	4
Nursery	4
General Officers	1
TOTAL	52

Financial Summary

<u>August receipts</u>	
General offerings	\$7,618.00
Memorials	150.00
TOTAL	7,768.00
<u>August disbursements</u>	
General expenses	8,090.89
Houston Baptist Association	420.08
Cooperative Program	1,092.20
TOTAL	\$9,603.17

Two ways to help kids at Christmas



Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes are due by November 11. Information flyers, predecorated boxes (for 50¢) and labels will be available at the church house in October. Also, for more information visit <http://www.samaritanaspurse.org>.

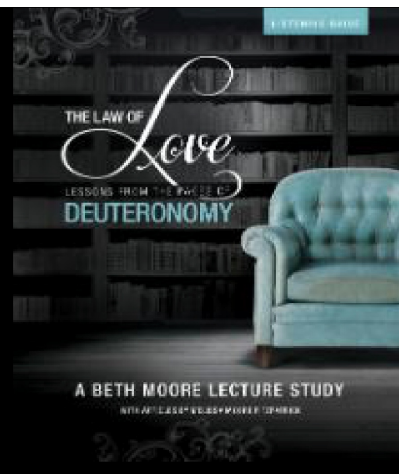


Bring canned and packaged food for local hunger needs. Collection boxes will be located at various places in the church house. Any food items with expired dates will be discarded. Half of the food will be taken to the Dooly County Family and Children's Services and half to the Houston Baptist Association's food ministry.

Christmas in Appalachia 2012 is donating new backpacks filled with gifts for children in the poverty stricken Appalachian Region. This is a Georgia Baptist ministry that will bless families in need as well as enhance the ministries of missionaries in Appalachia. More information about this project is posted on the bulletin boards and our website. Deadline to bring the gift filled new backpacks is November 25.



Women's Bible Study Beginning October 7



Join us for a study of Deuteronomy using the video teaching of Beth Moore on Sundays at 4:30 p.m. in Saliba Hall beginning October 7. Books are \$10 each. This study consists of six 90-minute sessions of Beth lecturing, however, we plan to divide the sessions into 45 minutes, making it a 12 week study. We will most likely skip one Sunday in November and two in December making the study continue into January 2013.

Coffee will be provided at the study. Bring your own beverage and snack if you like.

Contact Brenda Lockerman at 478-433-2791 or 478-244-9089 for more information and to obtain a book.

Blessings is published monthly by Byromville Baptist Church. Send news items and/or comments to Editor Brenda Lockerman at POB 217, Byromville, GA 31007, email to brendalockerman@windstream.net or call 478-433-2791.

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