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# TIMBER RIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## NEWSLETTER

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November 2023

## Happy Thanksgiving!

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- NOV 2- PRAYER MEETING 6:30 – 7:30 (CHURCH)
- NOV 5 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM  
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM  
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS
- NOV 6 - BIBLE STUDY 10 AM  
AMY BRILL'S BIRTHDAY
- NOV 9 - PRAYER MEETING 4 5 PM (LARUE'S)
- NOV 10 - FALL FESTIVAL GAME NIGHT (SEE ARTICLE)  
SETH VANDERLINDEN'S BIRTHDAY
- NOV 11 – VETERANS DAY HOLIDAY  
RURITAN VETERANS BREAKFAST 7:30 AM  
MENS BREAKFAST 7:30 AM (SEE ARTICLE)
- NOV 12 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM  
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM  
LAST DAY FOR OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD  
(SEE ARTICLE)  
TIM WINGFIELD'S BIRTHDAY
- NOV 13 - BIBLE STUDY 10 AM
- NOV 19 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM  
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM  
COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE 6:30 PM  
(SEE ARTICLE)
- NOV 20 - AMBER CAMPBELL'S BIRTHDAY
- NOV 21 - LOGAN SPAID'S BIRTHDAY
- NOV 23- TOM PUGH'S BIRTHDAY
- NOV 26 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM  
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
- NOV 27 - BIBLE STUDY 10 AM
- NOV 28 - GALEN SPAID'S BIRTHDAY
- NOV 30 - PRAYER MEETING 6:30 – 7:30 (CHURCH)  
ED & JANET KLINE'S ANNIVERSARY  
TOM & SHARON JENKINS' ANNIVERSARY

### VETERANS DAY

On November 11<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate Veterans Day. This is a time when we remember those who have served our country in the armed forces. There are several folks associated with our congregation who we would like to recognize as veterans:

Dan Donovan (USMC)     Jonathan Brill (USA)  
Steven Szelmeczki (USN)     Chris Orndorff (USA)  
Thomas Pugh (USA)     Jim Campbell (USA– Rangers)  
Galen Spaid (USA)     Gerald Whitacre (USA)  
Harry Spaid (USA)     Tim Wingfield (USAF)  
Mike VanDerLinden (USAF)

Please remember to thank those who have served our country for their service and dedication to the principles upon which this country was founded.

We apologize if we missed including anyone on the listing. We are maintaining a list of veterans, who are also church members, so please let us know if there are others that we need to include.

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The Sunday School will once again be collecting shoe box gifts in association with Samaritans Purse. These gifts are distributed to children in need in this country as well as remote areas around the world. Collections will end on November 12<sup>th</sup>. The Mission Committee will be paying for the postage again this year. For more information contact Jeanie Spaid.

We welcome any comments and suggestions.  
Alan & Ginger Brill, [alanbrill1@frontier.com](mailto:alanbrill1@frontier.com)  
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### **COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

The annual Community Thanksgiving Service will be hosted by Ebenezer Christian Church on November 19<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:30 pm. Everyone is invited to attend.

### **RURITAN VETERAN'S BREAKFAST MEN'S BREAKFAST**

The Ruritans will be serving a veteran's breakfast on Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:30 am. The breakfast will be free to all veterans and spouses. A free will donation will be accepted from all others. The Men's Group will be attending the veterans breakfast as their November breakfast date at 7:30 am as usual followed by some activities.

### **FALL FESTIVAL**

#### **Game Night / Hot Dog Roast**

We will gather for a fun Fall Festival and game night on Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 9 pm. This will be a time of fellowship, food, and games. We will be providing drinks and popcorn, but we ask that you bring snacks and desserts to share. Please join us and bring a friend!

### **DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON**

As has been the case for the past several years, we will be decorating the church and Parish Hall for the Christmas season on the first Sunday in Advent, which is December 3<sup>rd</sup> following the worship service. Look for more details in the December newsletter and in the bulletins.

### **NEWSLETTER ITEMS**

Forms have been placed in the pews for the purpose of having items placed into the monthly newsletter. This would include birthdays and anniversaries that we do not already have and any events and newsworthy items that should be included. If you have any items to include, please complete the form and place in the offering plate or give to Alan or Ginger. The reverse of the form also includes a prayer request and a removal from the prayer list section.

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### *PASTOR'S PEN*

#### **Basic Facts**

Your mind is a beautiful thing created by a loving God. Your brain contains billions of nerve cells coordinating thought, emotion, behavior, movement, and sensation. Not only does it coordinate the functions of your body, but it also stores vast amounts of information. Think about all the memories you have, all of the knowledge about life. You know how to brush your teeth, care for children, drive, cook, eat, and hopefully tie your shoes. You've learned all these things because they were essential and needful. And even though some of us are older than others, we've all learned to use VCRs, smartphones, and the internet. My point? It's never too late to learn or re-learn the basic facts about the gospel. And your brain is not too old either.

Here are some basic facts you should know—the order of the 66 books of the bible. You should at least know where to start looking for them. You should be able to trace the storyline of God's work of redemption found in the bible - the significant events from creation to the second coming of Christ. I know that sounds daunting, but you can learn a basic outline. Include creation, the fall, the flood, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, David, the divided kingdom, the exile, the return, the life of Jesus, Pentecost, the ingrafting of the Gentiles, and the return of Christ.

Memorize the Ten Commandments – in Order! Start with the basics and then memorize the entire commandment as given to us in Exodus 20. Next, study what's called the Romans Road to Salvation. These are five verses in the book of Romans that help us walk through and understand our need for a Savior and what we receive through God's provision of Christ (3:10; 3:23; 5:8; 6:23; 10:9). Mark these in your bible so you can use them to share the gospel and lead someone to Christ.

You should know some other scriptures: John 3:16; 1 John 1:9; Ephesians 2:8-10. I won't write John 3:16 here; you probably know that one already. 1 John 1:9 reads, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." This is a great reminder when temptations lead to sin, and you need true repentance. You can be sure that when you repent, God will forgive.

Memorize Ephesians 2:8-10 which reads, "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." This is the heart of the gospel message. God saved you by grace, not by any works you've done, but as a gift you didn't deserve.

Now that you've begun to exercise your brain, here's a little theology for you. Five Solas describe what we believe as Christians (sola means alone). They can be condensed into two statements. We believe Scripture alone is the final authority. We believe that Salvation comes by God's grace alone, through Christ alone, by faith alone to God's glory alone.

Your mind is a beautiful organ created by a loving God. Use it to glorify Him by learning just how much He loves you.

~ Pastor Mike