

Here to Serve



Volume 7 Issue 5
November 1, 2023

Knowing God

Growing in relationship to Him

Going into the world in His name and with his message

Showing others how they can do the same.

SPECIAL DATES:

Nov 3...Balance Class

Nov 6...Women's Day of Prayer

Nov 9...Deacon's Meeting

Nov 11...Veterans Day

Nov 12...Church Conference

Nov 15...Wednesday Night

Thanksgiving Celebration

Nov 19...Shoebox Dedication

Nov 23...THANKSGIVING

Nov 27...Ministry Leadership Team Meeting

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR

When we are around people who embrace life to the fullest, we sometimes say about them that they "live life with gusto" or they "grab life by the horns" or another of numerous expressions to describe their determination to thrive rather than to merely survive. Probably, you can think of examples of people like that. Maybe you are one of those people. But have you ever considered Jesus in that way? I hadn't until just recently. That may seem obvious when we consider that He is the very essence of life. However, in my personal Bible reading the other day, I saw in a different way a statement in Mark 7:37 where the people who were witnesses of Jesus' life and ministry said of Him, "He has done all things well!"

In the context of that declaration, Jesus had been freeing the demon-possessed and those who were deaf and had speech difficulties, to which these eye witnesses responded. But notice that those particular miracles aren't all that the people give Him credit for doing well. They said "He does all things well!" They were right. It may be helpful to consider this acknowledgement in its original wording. The word to describe what Jesus had "done" is defined as "to make" ... "to do" or ... "to cause". In other words, everything Jesus made, every action He took and everything He caused to be was well done. In addition, the word which is written "all things" in our English translations describes each and every part that applies. Each and every part of each and every act of ministry (and life for that matter) which Jesus fulfilled was well done. In his life and ministry, Jesus never did anything

half-heartedly. He never said "Ah, that'll do." Or "That's good enough." When Jesus was helping Joseph in their carpenter's shop (whatever that looked like), Joseph never had to say "Jesus, are you giving that your best effort?" Mary never had to say "Now Jesus, I know you can do better than that."

There's a lot of application we could take away from this truth about our Lord and Savior, but allow me to highlight two of them: As our Savior, Jesus has completely, finally done all things necessary for our salvation perfectly well. We need only to fully trust Him. Then, as our Lord, Jesus has given us a perfect example by which to live our lives in His name and likeness. This is not to imply that we can do all things in the same measure that Jesus did. It does mean though, that we can strive to do all things in the same manner which He did.

Let's trust whole-heartedly in Jesus' perfect salvation. And, if I may say it this way, let's live with a God-given "gusto" (empowerment) to do all things well, as unto the Lord (Col. 3:32).

For His Glory: Pastor Brandon

WEDNESDAY NIGHT THANKSGIVING SUPPER

On Wednesday, November 15th, we will have a "Carry-in" supper. The church will provide the meat, rolls and drinks. Please, bring a dessert, salad, or casserole. We will eat (of course), fellowship and have a devotion. We will remain in the Fellowship Hall for the prayer time. The children will have their regular program and Choir practice will follow at 7:00 PM. Everyone...**come and joins us** .

Let's Celebrate

Anniversaries

- ◆ Nolan & Frances DeWitt 11/14
- ◆ Gilmer & Revena Breedlove 11/09
- ◆ Bill & Denise Tippett 11/16
- ◆ Steve & Cynthia Rowland 11/28
- ◆ Hayes & Margaret Snyder 11/30

Birthdays

- ◆ Pat Bennett 11/08
- ◆ Katie Norton 11/14

- ◆ Karsyn Hahn 11/15
- ◆ Scott Asby 11/16
- ◆ Linda Cunningham 11/16
- ◆ Walt Lovett 11/16
- ◆ Derik Shuler 11/18
- ◆ Mark Dove 11/22
- ◆ Brooke Tippett 11/27
- ◆ Colton Gibson 11/29

IOTLA BAPTIST YOUTH NEWS:

My family and I would like to extend our deep, heartfelt gratitude to you as a church family for your confidence and support. You have proven to be a loving and welcoming church and we consider it an honor to be joined with you in service to our loving Creator.

Youth Sunday school has been moved from the youth room down stairs to the Sunday school area. Wednesday evening youth group will continue to meet in the youth room.

The youth group is looking forward to serving the community this weekend, Saturday November 4, in cooperation with the Macon Baptist Association through Love Serves. This is a one day missions focused event that helps the youth spread God's love by serving people in our community.

Submitted by: Trevor Trammel

IOTLA BAPTIST CHURCH

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SHOEBOXES!

Operation Christmas Child is in full swing! Boxes are available in the vestibule and if you need assistance doing an online box, please feel free to reach out to me. I will be glad to help. Our dedication day will be on Sunday, November 19th. Please make sure all boxes have been returned to the church by that day. Our goal is 100 boxes. Last year we collected 95 boxes so we can do this. If you do a box online, please let us know. You can call, text, or put a note in the offering plate. Thank you for your dedication to this project!

Submitted by: Tammy Dills

Coming in December

**The LOTTIE MOON
Christmas Offering.**

More information to
come soon.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM:

The Children's Program has added some new equipment. They now can do their programs on 2 new Promethean ActivPanels. This is an exciting new way to provide them with the tools to stay on the cutting edge of technology. Come by and check this equipment out.



Love Serves

Love Serves will kick off on Friday night, November 3rd at 6:30 PM at Pine Grove Baptist Church. We have 10 people so far that will be participating. On Saturday, November 4th, Teams will go out and do Love Serves Projects, returning to Windy Gap at 5:30 PM for a cook-out and worship service. We will be doing yard clean-ups. Pray for good weather and for the impact of the work that we will do for others.

Our willingness to wait reveals the value we place on the object we're waiting for.

Charles Stanley



Iotla Baptist Love Serves Team from April 2023.

TRUNK OR TREAT



Thank you to all who helped with Trunk or Treat. We collected approximately 225 pounds of candy, had 198 children and adults attend and approximately 73 church members here that evening helping. Trunk or Treat 2023 was a **HUGE SUCCRSS!**

THANKSGIVING

The US has celebrated Thanksgiving as a national holiday on the fourth Thursday in November since 1941. It's a season for reuniting, sharing a meal, and giving thanks.

The autumnal feasts celebrated the harvest of crops after a season of bountiful growth. In the 1600's, settlers in MA and VA had feasts to thank God for surviving, fertile fields, and their faith. The Pilgrims in Plymouth, MA, had their infamous Thanksgiving feast in

1621 with the Wampanoag Native Americans. This 3 day feast is considered the "first" Thanksgiving celebration in the colonies. However there were other recorded ceremonies of thanks on these lands in 1565.

Of course, the idea of "thanksgiving" for the harvest is as old as time, with records from the Egyptians, Greeks and Romans. So on Thursday, November 23rd enjoy and give thanks .

PRAYER LIST

Church Members

- Mildred Asby
- Hugh & Gaye Blaine
- Raleigh Buchanan
- Mary Jo Campbell
- Elka Gibbs
- Charlie Leatherman
- Emma Lovett
- Pauline Luke
- David Pangle
- Joyce, Richie and Family

- Barbara Wilson
- Janis Wilson

Family and Friends

- Marcia Crawford
- Tony Free
- Johnny Galliher
- Fred & Pam Goldsmith
- Betty Halman
- Chelsea Heaton
- Shawn Henry
- Johnny & Caralee Henson
- Carson Ilhardt
- Stanley Jacobs
- Dina Jones
- Mildred McSwain
- Bill O'Connor
- Linda Parker
- Richard & Bea Perry
- Steven Reeves
- Carson Rowland
- JoAnn Runyon
- June Sorrells
- Mary Stockton
- Morris Stockton
- Bruce Wilson, Jr.
- Ann Wood

I admit it feels refreshing, but I still say this isn't safe.

