

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

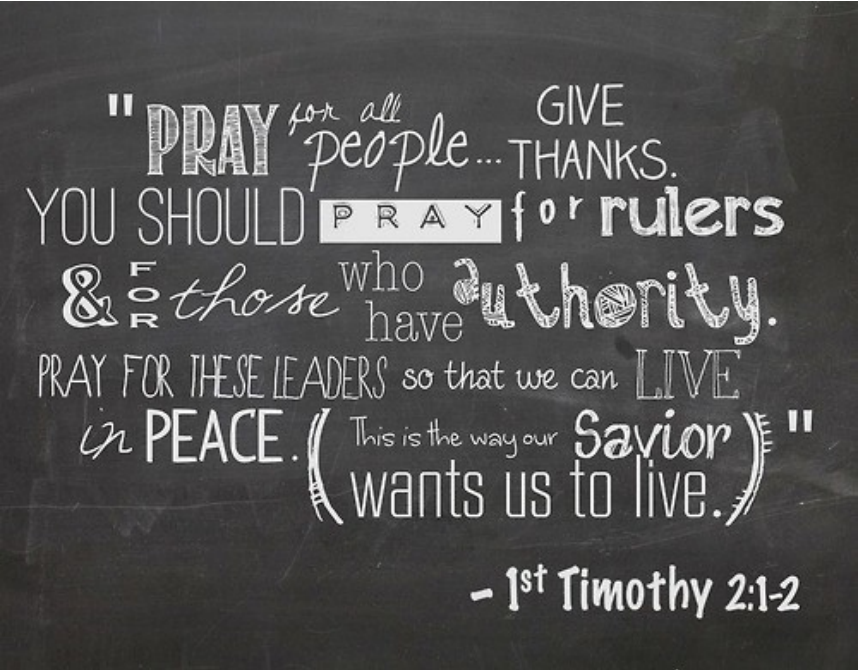
October 4	10:00am	Worship Service In-Person or Virtually via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551
October 4	11:00am	Town Hall Meeting In-Person or Virtually via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551
October 7	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study with Ken Copeland via Zoom—Meeting ID : 271 659 616
October 7	7:45pm	Town Hall Meeting Virtually via Zoom with Meeting ID : 271 659 616
October 11	10:00am	Worship Service Virtually via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551
October 11	11:00am	Virtual Deacon’s Meeting via Zoom
October 14	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study with Ken Copeland via Zoom—Meeting ID : 271 659 616
October 18	10:00am	Worship Service Virtually via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551
October 21	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study with Ken Copeland via Zoom—Meeting ID : 271 659 616
October 25	10:00am	Worship Service In-Person or Virtually via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551
October 25	11:00am	Town Hall Meeting In-Person or Virtual via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551
October 28	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study with Ken Copeland via Zoom—Meeting ID : 271 659 616
October 28	7:45pm	Town Hall Meeting Virtually via Zoom with Meeting ID : 271 659 616
October 29	3:00pm	Food Packing at F.A.C.E.S. until 5:30pm
October 31	8:30am	Food Distribution at F.A.C.E.S. until 10:00am
November 1	10:00am	Worship Service In-Person or Virtually via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551
November 4	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study with Ken Copeland via Zoom—Meeting ID : 271 659 616
November 8	10:00am	Worship Service In-Person or Virtually via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551
November 11	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study with Ken Copeland via Zoom—Meeting ID : 271 659 616
November 15	10:00am	Worship Service In-Person or Virtually via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551
November 15	11:00am	Town Hall Meeting In-Person or Virtual via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551
November 18	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study with Ken Copeland via Zoom—Meeting ID : 271 659 616
November 18	7:45pm	Town Hall Meeting Virtually via Zoom with Meeting ID : 271 659 616
November 22	10:00am	Worship Service In-Person or Virtually via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551
November 25	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study with Ken Copeland via Zoom—Meeting ID : 271 659 616
November 26	All Day	Happy Thanksgiving—Church Office is CLOSED November 23rd thru November 27th
November 29	10:00am	Worship Service In-Person or Virtually via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551
December 2	7:00pm	Virtual Bible Study with Ken Copeland via Zoom—Meeting ID : 271 659 616

The Informer

October & November 2020

Combined October & November Issue of The Informer

We hope you enjoy this copy of the Informer – a joint October/November issue. This will allow us to publish the December issue well ahead of the start of the holiday season!



Farmville Baptist Church

132 N. Main Street, Farmville, VA 23901
(434)392-5041 • www.farmvillebaptist.org

PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who participated in the first two Town Hall meetings on our history. (If you did not get a chance to participate, it’s not too late, please respond in writing to the question found elsewhere in the newsletter.)

The search committee will share the results of these first meetings at our next Town Hall meetings which will be Sunday October 25th and Wednesday October 28th. We will begin working on part two – where we are now – in the November Town Hall meetings on November 15th and 18th.

Please continue to be in prayer for the search committee, our church as a whole, and the candidate that God is preparing to come lead FBC, and plan to join us for the upcoming meetings.

COVID-19 UPDATE

A member of our congregation, who attended worship last Sunday, has tested positive for COVID-19. Please pray for this member’s full and speedy recovery and that other family members remain healthy. Out of an abundance of caution, Farmville Baptist Church has chosen to return to virtual worship only for October 11th and October 18th. Worship will begin at 10:00 a.m. and Pastor Tracy will open the Zoom portal at 9:30 a.m. Please see below for the meeting number and password. We look forward to seeing you online on Sunday!

Financial Report Through September 30, 2020	September Receipts	\$12,227.00
	September Expenditures	\$7,289.35
	September Receipts vs. Expenditures	\$4,937.65
	Quarter 3 (July, August, September) Receipts	\$34,538.41
	Quarter 3 Expenditures	\$26,621.68
	Quarter 3 Receipts vs. Expenditures	\$7,916.73
	YTD Receipts	\$104,006.01
	YTD Expenditures	\$78,961.56
	YTD Receipts vs. Expenditures	\$25,044.45

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

If you are able to volunteer for our upcoming services please contact Sandy Yeatts or the church office at (434) 392—5041.

Zoom Log-In Information

If you haven’t joined us on Zoom yet, here are the very simple instructions to get started.

If you are logging in via the **INTERNET** follow the below steps.

- Go to zoom.us.
- Click on the tab labeled "Join a Meeting".
- Click the box that says "Meeting ID or Personal Link Name". Type in corresponding meeting ID for either Worship Service, Daily Devotions, or Wednesday Night Sunday School as listed below and click "Join".

If you are calling in via **PHONE**, you do not need to follow these steps; just simply dial +1 253 215 8782 or +1 301 715 8592 and enter the corresponding meeting ID for either Sunday Worship Service, Daily Devotions, or Wednesday Night Sunday School as listed below followed by #.

This web-

**SUNDAY MORNING
WORSHIP SERVICE
AT 11:00 AM**

Meeting ID :
626 833 551
Password:
592659

information and more can also be found
site at

**DAILY DEVOTIONS
(MONDAY—FRIDAY)
WITH TRACY AT
12:15 PM**

Meeting ID :
844 110 379

<http://www.farmvillebaptist.org/virtual-meetings/>.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS
WITH KEN COPELAND
AT 7:00 PM**

Meeting ID :
271 659 616
Password:
688863

on our
[gatherings/](https://www.farmvillebaptist.org/gatherings/).

DEACON FAMILY MINISTRIES

Chuck Daniel	A—Bh	Jordan Whiley	Dr—E	Jack Davis	P—R
Jack Davis	Bi—Coo	Kathryn Copeland	F—L	Chuck Daniel	S—Tn
Janett Southall	Cop—Dq	Becky Kelly	M—O	George Carter	To—Z

LIFE DEACONS

Peggy Cave, Jack Davis, Jim Davis, Joyce Davis, Gene Watson, Cecil Yeatts

In-Person & Virtual TOWN HALL MEETINGS

~ Town Hall Meeting Dates are as listed below ~

Sunday, October 4th
Wednesday, October 7th

Sunday, October 25th
Wednesday, October 28th

Sunday, November 15th
Wednesday, November 18th

Sunday, December 6th
Wednesday, December 9th

***The meeting content each Sunday will be repeated on Wednesday, so we encourage you to join either Sunday or Wednesday, there is no need for you to attend both.
Each week's meeting will address a different topic.***

Sunday afternoon meetings are in-person and virtually directly following Worship Service
Wednesday evening meetings are ONLY virtually and directly following Bible Study

REMEMBER YOU CAN ALSO STAY INFORMED BY FOLLOWING OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES!

www.facebook.com/

farmvillebaptist.org



@farmvillebaptist



Operation Christmas Child

Farmville Baptist Church annually participates in the Samaritan's Purse shoebox program, a world-wide mission project. In the past we have packed over a 100 boxes each year and paid the shipping for each box. Due to COVID-19 our situation is different this year but we still want to participate in this outreach program. We regret that circumstances are out of our control and that we are having to rely on a different ways of participation. In respect to social distancing, some members sheltering in, not being able to have a packing party and the church being closed temporally, we have developed the following plan or ways individuals can still take part in the program using one of the following three methods:



- ★ Pack a shoebox at home. Contact Chuck Daniel if you would like a box and he will bring it to you. When you have packed your shoebox, attach a project cost check payable to FBC on the top and call Chuck. He will pick it up. The church will send one check to cover expenses. **The boxes must be picked up by November 15.**
- ★ Send a check in any amount you prefer payable to Farmville Baptist Church with **Shoebox** written on the memo. This money will be sent to Samaritan Purse and will be used for project costs.

Go on line at www.samaritanspurse.org/occ and click on the packing a shoebox site. You can electronically pack a box (s).

If you have any questions please contact Becky Kelly at 434-392-9095 or Chuck Daniel at 434-547-9422.

Holiday Poinsettias



The holiday season is quickly approaching and it is time to preorder our poinsettias. If you want to purchase a poinsettia for the sanctuary in honor of or in memory of someone, we request you please do so by Wednesday, **November 18.**

Each flower costs \$15.

You may mail a check to the church office at 132 N. Main Street, Farmville, VA 23901 or you may order through our online giving system noting 'Holiday Poinsettias' in the memo.

Thanksgiving Blessings

The Thanksgiving holiday will look very different for most of us this year due to COVID-19. I know that I, like many of you, will miss gathering with our extended families. While it is normal and healthy to grieve the losses and continued sacrifices we are all making during the pandemic, may we balance that with remembering that we have much to be thankful for and what is really important to us. I am grateful for the Farmville Baptist family and the ways you continue to care for one another, I am grateful for the opportunity to worship together, both in person and via Zoom.

Consider utilizing Zoom for family gatherings this year. Schedule a family feast and all sit down to eat together via Zoom. There are also several websites where you can gather virtually to play cards and board games. With flexibility and creativity, we can stay connected and make this a meaningful Thanksgiving.

-Tracy Hartman

Church leaders, please don't waste your transition crisis

OPINION BILL WILSON | SEPTEMBER 28, 2020

What would you say is the best gift a transitional pastor can give a congregation?

Most traditional interim training programs land heavily on the idea that the primary task of a church in transition is dealing with grief. Thus, much of the work of a traditional intentional interim pastor focuses on unearthing, exploring and analyzing the pain and unresolved conflict that exists in the congregation.

While recovery from grief can be a valuable process in some congregations, in many congregations it results in unnecessary conflict, busy work and opportunity lost.

This is the conclusion of Russ Crabtree's book, *Transition Apparitions: Why Much of What We Know About Pastoral Transitions Is Wrong*. Crabtree makes a compelling case that rather than grief recovery being the primary challenge a church faces, most congregations in transition are hungering for an appreciative approach that engages a wide number of people, clarifies purpose and prompts action in a coherent direction. Providing guidance on these tasks is the very best gift a transitional pastor can offer a church in the midst of a crisis brought on by a transition.

Bill Wilson



The COVID-19 pandemic has the potential to create a tsunami of clergy retirements and departures. I expect the challenges associated with recovery from the blows the virus has inflicted upon local churches will be the stimulus that causes a substantial number of late-career ministers to step away from their posts. As more than one pastor has said to me over the last few weeks: "I'm just not equipped or motivated to lead us into this new era of church. It's time for the next generation to take over."

As a result, many more churches than normal will soon be in a season of obvious and overt transition. They will be seeking transitional leadership and will be wrestling with the issues associated with the changing of their pastoral guard. What will be needed is transitional leaders who understand family systems theory, who have some diagnostic tools for discerning local church needs, and who are committed to an appreciative, purpose-focused approach to the future.

Actually, I suspect that *a*ll churches will find themselves in a decade of less obvious and more covert transition for the duration of the 2020s. Things have changed, and there will be no going back to church life as it was in the 2010 decade. Instead, every minister will become more and more aware that he or she is, in reality, a transitional minister. Managing a season of major transition will become the norm for all ministers. The same skill set we [teach transitional pastors](#) will be required of all pastors and ministerial staff members.

The temptation will be to fall back into a grief model that laments the past and becomes stuck in unhelpful analysis of "what went wrong." Instead, we will need the ability to engage our congregations in a collective effort to, as Bob Dale taught us, "clarify purpose long before we fret about programs, people or policy."

Forty years ago, William Bridges introduced us to the idea that between every ending and eventual beginning is a season of transition he described as "the neutral zone." This is a place created when something that has existed ends, but the new thing that is coming is not yet clear. This liminal time of uncertainty between an ending and a beginning is filled with anxiety and stress, grief and lament.

It also offers a time of great potential, for the illusion of perpetuity has been destroyed, and we are fully sensitized to the inevitability of the coming change. We are open to change and new things in a way not known previously.

If we choose to simply grieve over what was, we will lose the opportunity to imagine what could be. This is where many churches are going to find themselves in the coming months and years.

As unsettling as this season of transition is, we would do well to remember that transitional seasons have the potential to open our eyes to possibilities previously hidden from us. Too much focus on what we have lost will blind us to what we might be gaining.

Finding healthy leadership to navigate this season of transition will be paramount. Done well, a season of transition can lead a person or a congregation to a refreshed vision of who we are, why we are here and what the future can be. It can provide permission to stop doing some things that are no longer effective and to embrace possibilities long thought to be beyond us.

It may be that this season of pandemic-induced transition will turn out to be the onset of a renewed sense of purpose for churches willing to grapple with the complexities of the day. That will only happen if we recognize the value of the uncertainty of the day.

To be "in it, but not of it" when it comes to anxiety and stress is no easy task, but it is that place rich with possibility as we rethink nearly everything.

Bottom line: Please don't waste your crisis. In the midst of all the anxiety and stress in your transitional neutral zone is the seedbed of a vibrant and thriving future.

Bill Wilson is director of [The Center for Healthy Churches](#) in Winston-Salem, N.C., and a member of the Baptist News Global [board of directors](#).

"Every minister will become more and more aware that he or she is, in reality, a transitional minister."

"Finding healthy leadership to navigate this season of transition will be paramount."

Living Faithfully in a Contentious Election Season

We are just a few weeks away from one of the most contentious elections in our nation’s history. What is our role as Christians, and as a church located next door to the Courthouse, in the days ahead?

First, Scripture encourages us to pray for those in power (and those seeking power). I Timothy 2:1-4 says, “First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” The challenges facing our nation and our world are complex and unprecedented, and there are no easy answers. Whether we agree or disagree with leaders on the local, state, or national level, they need our prayers.

Second, be involved in the process, but do so with dignity, humility and respect. By all means, talk about the issues that are important to you. Get involved in a campaign if you are passionate about a candidate. The opportunity to vote is a right and a privilege, so make your voice heard. But as followers of Christ, let us do all of these things in ways that model the commandments to love God with all our hearts, minds and souls, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Let’s model what it means to respect and honor the humanity of all.

Finally, instead of complaining about the way things are, let’s all commit to do what we can to make our communities and our nation a better place. None of us can do everything, but all of us can do something. Donate items for the Thanksgiving baskets, volunteer to do online tutoring, pick up litter when you walk your dog, pay for someone’s coffee or lunch at your favorite restaurant, knit or crochet lap blankets for those in nursing homes or make hats for preemie babies, make a donation to a worthy cause – the list of possibilities is endless.

My prayer for all of us, at the end of this election season and beyond, is that God will look at Farmville Baptist Church, and each of our members, and say, “Well done, good and faithful servant.” May it be so.

On the journey with you,

Tracy

NOVEMBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Happy Birthday Maxwell Arauz 10:00am-Worship Service 11:00am-Combined Pastor Search Committee & Deacon's Meeting	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10:00am-Worship Service 11:00am-Town Hall Meeting	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Bible Study via Zoom	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Deacon's Meeting	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10:00am-Worship Service 11:00am-Pastor Search Committee Meeting	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Bible Study via Zoom	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	
29	30					
Happy Birthday Carol Wallace 10:00am-Hanging of the Greens Worship Service	Happy Birthday Peggy Miller 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman					

OCTOBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	2 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	3
4 Happy Birthday Gail Cave	5	6 Happy Birthday Melissa Helm	7 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Bible Study via Zoom 7:45pm : Town Hall Meeting	8 Happy Birthday Gary Watson	9	10
10:00am-Worship Service 11:00am-Town Hall Meeting	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Bible Study via Zoom 7:45pm : Town Hall Meeting	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	11
11 Happy Birthday Whitney Tipton	12	13 Happy Birthday Daniel Huskey	14 Happy Birthday Crystal Barnett 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Bible Study via Zoom 7:45pm : Town Hall Meeting	15 Happy Birthday Weldon Thompson	16 Happy Birthday McKinley Towler	17
10:00am-Worship Service VIRTUAL Only	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Bible Study via Zoom 7:45pm : Town Hall Meeting	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	
18 Happy Birthday William Covington	19	20	21 Happy Birthday Charles Wilckerson 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Bible Study via Zoom 7:45pm : Pastor Search Mtg.	22	23	24
10:00am-Worship Service VIRTUAL ONLY	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Bible Study via Zoom 7:45pm : Pastor Search Mtg.	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	
25 Happy Birthday Kathy Thompson	26 Happy Birthday Alise Taylor	27 Happy Birthday Edith Ann Austin & Wayne Wallace	28 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Bible Study via Zoom 7:45pm : Town Hall Meeting	29 Happy Birthday Katherine Austin	30	31
10:00am-Worship Service 11:00am-Town Hall Meeting	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Bible Study via Zoom 7:45pm : Town Hall Meeting	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	
Notes:						