

Robinhood Road Baptist Church

The Encourager

"Therefore encourage one another, and build up one another, just as you also are doing."
1 Thessalonians 5:11

NOVEMBER 2025



Pastor's Pen

Well October certainly feels like a blur! What a busy month in the life of our church, and November promises to be just as active as we get ready for Thanksgiving and then Advent. There has been so much happening that I thought I would use my space in this month's Encourager to simply make sure we are all up to speed on a few things. So, here's what I want to make sure you know:

First, praise be to God for the new faces, the new members, and the regular filling of our baptistry waters lately. God is certainly on the move at RRBC and almost weekly we are reminded that He is still in the business of changing lives and building the Kingdom one soul at a time. With all the new faces though, it presents both the challenge of not always knowing everyone and the opportunity to make visitors feel welcome and to integrate new members into our family. So do your part, step out of your comfort zone, and help us be great stewards of the people God is entrusting us to care for.

Second, regarding our Fall Festival, a GREAT BIG THANK YOU to Karlee Matherly, 27 people who had trunks, the Social Committee who made hot dogs, our Building and Grounds Committee who handled prep work, parking, and trash, and last but not least our INCREDIBLE YOUTH who did a great job setting up Sunday afternoon and then manning our game station. It was a fantastic day thanks to all who helped. Now, let's pray that those seeds planted bear fruit!

Third, we have said goodbye to our pianist Amy Gideon and hello to our old friend and new pianist Elena Doomy. I hate that our relationship with Amy had to come to an end, but God has blessed us tremendously with the addition of Elena to our staff. She and her family will be a great asset to our church and I encourage you to welcome them properly!

Finally, we've been working diligently to prepare the budget for 2026 and will have copies available on Sunday, Nov. 9 for anyone who would like to study it before we vote on Wednesday evening, Nov. 19. The bottom line is that we are submitting a proposal for a total budget of \$378,197.62 which is about an 8.2% increase over 2025. That sounds like a big step, but I would remind you that giving for 2025 has already surpassed that number with two months left in the year, so it is a very doable, manageable budget.

See, I told you we've been busy! Now you're in the know, but most importantly I always want you to be in the know about how much God loves you! It's a great privilege to be your friend and pastor.



Youth Ministry News

"In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will" (Ephesians 1:11)

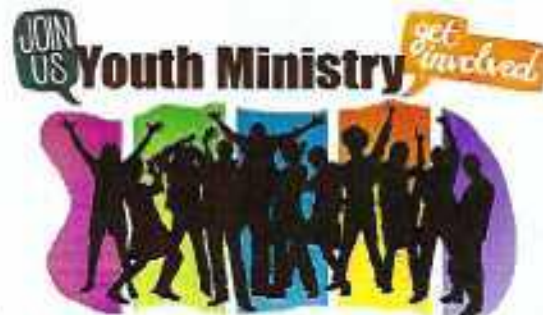
On Wednesday nights, the youth and I are going verse by verse through the book of Ephesians. What a powerful message from Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit! This verse reminds us that our lives are not random, and our stories are filled with meaning. From the very beginning, even before we took our first breath, God had a good plan for each of us. Sometimes, life can feel uncertain or confusing. You might be trying to figure out what comes next, or perhaps things aren't going the way you hoped. However, Ephesians 1:11 encourages us to trust that God is at work, weaving every part of our lives into His greater purpose. Even when we can't see it, He is shaping us, guiding us, and preparing us for what He has in store. As you go through this month, remember: you are deeply loved, purposefully created, and fully known by God. Keep walking with Him, trusting that His plan for your life is far greater than anything you could imagine. In Christ, you have an inheritance and a purpose that will never fade.

Youth Ministry Announcements:

- **Save the Date:** The Hanging of the Greens service will take place on Saturday, November 30, at 6:00 p.m. Throughout November, our youth will be practicing during Sunday School in preparation for this special service. If you have an active role, please make every effort to attend these practices.

- **S'more Night & Devotions:** Join us on Wednesday, November 19, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. for a night of s'mores and devotions around the campfire here on the church campus. It will be a great evening of fellowship, fun, and reflection!
- **Sunday Night Youth Worship:** Meets each Sunday from 5:00-6:00 p.m. Come ready to worship, grow, and connect with others.
- **Wednesday Night Youth Worship & Fellowship:** Meets each Wednesday from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Join us for a time of worship, Bible study, and meaningful community.
- **Youth Sunday School:** Meets each Sunday from 9:45-10:45 a.m. as we dig deeper into God's Word together. There will be no Youth Services on Wednesday, November 26, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Minister of Family Life.
— Rev. Jason East



What's the SCOOP?

Happy Thanksgiving to you all! As we celebrate Thanksgiving this month, we will have a Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Saturday, November 22nd @ 5:00pm. We will provide the turkey, dressing, rolls and drinks. We need you to provide the side dishes and desserts. If turkey is not your favorite, you can bring a different meat to share. We usually have a lot of people at this meal, so bring enough to share with everyone. Feel free to invite a neighbor or friend that may not have family close by.

-Kay

Veteran's Day is coming November 11th. We will celebrate our vets on Sunday, November 9th with a display in the Awana Room. There will be tables set up for pictures and military memorabilia. If you are a new member of the church and a vet, please let Linda Patterson or Bob Bolling know. We will set up on Saturday, November 8th, from 1pm-4pm. There will be tables for the Army & Air Force and a separate table for the Navy, Marines & Coast Guard.



Children's Activities

Kids' Worship during Sunday morning worship for ages 3 years - 5th Grade.

Children receive a snack, sing songs, and hear a Bible message, as they learn to participate in worship.

Children's Hand Bell Choir

Every Sunday starting at 5:00pm through November 23, 2025.

No experience needed—just a love for music and teamwork. Perfect for ages Pre-K through 5th grade.

← Scan the QR code for more information on the Hand Bell Choir.



AWANA will be on Wednesday nights through May 20th. Weekly from 6:00-7:30pm.

Awana is a program that teaches our children to memorize scripture, learn to be team players through game play and to open their Bibles to see answers. We have music, exciting games, handbook time, and story/lesson time. Dinner is also provided.

Scan the QR code to get more information and register!!



UpBeat

This is the season of the year, as Thanksgiving approaches, when we offer gratitude to the Lord for the blessings He has bestowed on all of us. I'm reminded of this with the decorations seen in many places including our home. Kay has them placed in several locations and they really add to the "feel of home" where we live. (Somehow they seem to multiply as each year passes!)

Among these decorations is the Horn of Plenty which displays the fruit of a bountiful harvest. As I read from a daily devotional book, "Moments with God" by Dr. David Jeremiah, he mentioned how God has blessed us with harvest for each season. In winter, we enjoy the citrus fruits. We all look forward to strawberries in late spring. As we transition into summer, we enjoy blueberries, blackberries, raspberries, grapes, tomatoes, cucumbers, and a large variety of produce from the garden. Fall brings apples, pumpkins, and pecans among other things.

Dr. Jeremiah continues with a challenge based on Galatians 5:22-23 and the fruit of the Spirit. As God's children, we need to seek to be well grounded, or rooted solid, in Jesus, as the branches are in the Vine. This allows the "sap" or power of the Holy Spirit, to flow freely and nourish us with the word of God (Col. 3:16) to produce these nine fruits, like grapes in a cluster. It's God's purpose that we bear this fruit continually, season to season, through every year of our lives.

So we each could ask ourselves, compared to a year ago, am I more loving? More joyful? Resting more in God's peace? How about more patient and kind? These fruits only exist as they are nurtured on a daily basis. As I read this challenge from God's word by Dr. Jeremiah, I was reminded of how it is underscored in verse 2 of the traditional Thanksgiving hymn "Come Ye Thankful People, Come": We ourselves are God's own field, fruit unto His praise to yield, wheat and tares together sown, Unto joy or sorrow grown. First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear, Lord of harvest, grant that we, wholesome grain and pure may be."

So how good are the grapes hanging on our branches?

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!

-Jerry



Mission Matters

Toy Store update- Our PMBA Toy Store requested that this year, instead of toys, we provide hoodies of various sizes. We will purchase them with already collected mission monies in order to get a volume discount. Admittedly we were disappointed, as we look forward to blessing children with toys at Christmas. Then God's plan came into focus. The Bethlehem Toy Store in Hendersonville (Western NC) contacted us because many families are still struggling post flood. So, we will still collect toys and deliver them to Western North Carolina this year. We have been informed that their greatest need is pre-teen and teen gifts, so please focus on those if you can. If you need ideas, a list of suggested donations is available in the sanctuary foyer or Mission Center coffee table. Please bring all donations to the Mission Center by Nov. 30. We will be delivering them the following day.

Guatemala Mission Trip – In 2026 we will be traveling to Quetzaltenango, Guatemala to help at the Good Shepherd Center again! Please pray about going and also pray that those God calls will say yes. If you need more information or are interested in going, please let Karla Hackworth know ASAP. The deadline to sign up is in early December, but the sooner we have a team together the better. This trip is open to anyone 18 years of age or older, and 16-17 year olds if accompanied by a parent. This is a great opportunity to get your feet wet in international mission work! Don't be shy because we can use you. But more importantly, listen for and obey God's calling. Dates are Feb. 14th- Feb. 21st.

Mission Report – On Sunday night, November 2nd, our team who traveled to Eastern Europe will be giving their report to the congregation. Please come and support them and hear about their experience.

MISSION PRAYERS

Stop by the mission center and pick up a prayer card. Each of our partners has specific requests hanging on our windows. Take one or two and pray for them every day.

MISSION PRAISES

We collected 40 backpacks for Appalachian Christmas Outreach.

We delivered 2 lunches to the Winston Salem Street School.

Our WOM collected money in baby bottles and delivered them to the Pregnancy Network.

We reached our goal for the NC Baptist on Mission Offering.

Our Men's Bible Study Group donated \$1,100 to help with the crisis at the Good Shepherd Center in Guatemala. This money will be used to pay lawyer fees for one of the children who has been taken from their care.

Guests from the Winston-Salem Rescue mission visited and shared testimonies with us on Oct. 19. We were blessed to hear from them. Continue praying for them.



RRBC WOMEN'S MINISTRIES
Seeking Jesus ~ Serving Others



The goal of RRBC Women's Ministries is to unite our women through opportunities of fellowship, discipleship, and service, thereby finding a place to grow and thrive at RRBC.

Calling all Mission-Minded Women!

Please join us as we talk about, pray for and do missions.



Women on Mission (WOM)

Next meeting: *Tuesday, November 11*
4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

November Theme:

Because He Is King Over Us -
We Have Joy!

Bible Study:

"Because He Is King Over Us"

Scripture -- Acts 17:24-31 and Colossians 1:15-23

Prayer Study:

"Praying to the King of Kings"

God has the highest throne and absolute dominion over ALL! Yet He invites us into His presence to converse with Him! We pray in humility and submission, recognizing His sovereignty.

Mission Spotlight:

Ministry in the Valley of the Shadow of Death

teaches us how hospital chaplaincy offers hope to people who are dying and to their families.

Please join us as we celebrate missions work around the world! To learn more, contact Lucille Crumpler (336) 575-5696 or jayandlucille@gmail.com.

Ladies' Fellowship @ The Sherwood

Tuesday, November 18, 6:00 pm

3348 Robinhood Rd, Winston-Salem, NC 27106
This monthly social time is a great opportunity for all RRBC ladies to connect with each other. There is always an abundance of great girl-talk, good food and plenty of laughter. Each person picks up her own tab. Invite a friend and come join us!!

Meal Ministry

Next Meal: Tuesday, December 2

Volunteers always welcome! To add your name to the list of delivery drivers, please contact Linda Patterson (336) 247-2984; lap@almondtree.com.

HEAVEN Bible Study Continues

Thursdays, through November 13

6:00pm in the FH

Wow! Almost thirty of our ladies have been digging deeper into God's Word to learn all that He has prepared for us as believers. We have learned that we were made for eternity, and just how important the resurrection of Christ is to the telling of the "full" gospel story. Because Jesus rose from the grave, we too will rise. Our sessions will be drawing to a close on November 13 and we hope you will plan to join us in the afternoons for our next inspirational time of study with Judy McDowell.

Upcoming Women's Study

Begins Thursday, November 20 - January 8
(excluding Thanksgiving, Christmas & New Year's Day)
3:00 pm in the FH

Gratitude, Celebration & Service

Are you ready for the holidays? They are just around the corner!! This year let's approach the holiday season with a joyful heart. Let's begin with a time of gratitude to get ready for Thanksgiving Day.

Then we'll commit to preparing for the celebration of Jesus' birth by focusing on hope, peace, joy and love. Lastly, how will we prepare for the new year? By looking forward with intention, reflection, and a renewed sense of our life's purpose as the daughters of the King of kings. By filling our hearts with gratitude and preparing us for a life of service, we will be empowered to live out His love and grace in our daily lives in 2026. Our next study will give us an opportunity to do all of that! You don't want to miss this fun and meaningful time!

Contact Judy McDowell (336-529-1151)
if you plan to attend or if you have questions.

MissionCrafters

Next Workday: Saturday, November 15

9:30 am - 11:30 am

Crafty ladies, it's time for another workday! We will gather in the Kid's Worship room to stuff & stitch, as well as catch up on any unfinished items.

For questions or donations, please contact Linda Lunsford (336) 529-7732;
lin82352@gmail.com.