

# BETHANY HIGHLIGHTS

NOVEMBER 2011

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## Ben's Pen

What is thanksgiving? I am not asking about the fourth Thursday in November on our calendar, but rather about thanksgiving with a lower case t. For many of us it often becomes the one time a year we pause for a few minutes (or a few moments longer) to thank God for His blessings, especially on our food. Is thanksgiving an attitude or a day for you? For the psalmist David it was an attitude. He did not always realize God's hand at the moment, but he frequently recorded his words of praise and thanks to the living God. We read them sometimes, perhaps not enough. What we really should look for is a spirit of thankfulness that pervades our lives and an attitude that changes the way we act and react as the events of our lives unfold. There have been a lot of blessing from God since last year when we observed Thanksgiving. Were we thankful at those times? Did we say thank you to God for giving us another 365 days? Did we say thank you for those loving family members and friends that make our lives better? Did we thank God for our homes and livelihoods? There are billions of people around the world who would love our house and our income. Did we say thank you for a church family and a building to gather in regularly? Many of our Christian brothers and sisters around the world have never had the right to worship as they please. Thanksgiving is an attitude. It was for the pilgrims, that is why they set aside a special day to express it. I need to be a more thankful to God all year. How about you?

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The **Bears and Stockings** are needed back by November 27<sup>th</sup>. The dolls never arrived, but we have had a great response on the bears and stockings. Thank you for your contributions.

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Our annual **Fall Festival** is November 5<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. Make your plans to be here. There will be great people, hobo stew, games, fresh popcorn, a bounce house, fellowship, and our annual cake walk for missions. Contact Rebekah Newman or the church office for more details.

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Our **Prime Timers** will meet on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12 noon. They will be having a potluck lunch. They also will have a guest speaker, Michelle Patton, regional case manager for homeless school children. Come share in the food and fellowship and hear how we can help the less fortunate youngsters in our community.

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The **Woman's Missionary Union's Christmas party** is not until December 13<sup>th</sup>, but they need your reservation by November 15<sup>th</sup>. Contact Mary Lee Bullock, Linda Lee, or Joanne Lee for more details or to make your reservation. All the ladies of Bethany are invited to participate.

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Our annual **churchwide Thanksgiving dinner** is on Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. Meet in the sanctuary at 5:30 p.m. for a time of music and prayer. We will then move to our time of fellowship around the table together. If you know of some of our homebound members who would like to receive a meal have them contact Aaron Faulconer or Mark Irving.

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## BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Ben Thomas, Pastor

5001 Arcadia Road

PO Box 408 Thornburg, VA 22565

(804)448-3508 email: [bthomas@bethanybaptistwoodford.org](mailto:bthomas@bethanybaptistwoodford.org)

[www.bethanybaptistwoodford.org](http://www.bethanybaptistwoodford.org)

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Bethany Baptist Church

PO Box 408

Thornburg, VA 22565