



ELK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

September - October 2019

From the Pastor's Study...

"The Default Option"

The hardware that runs our world baffles me. How computers, phones, and iPads work have always been a mystery. I am as far from a computer engineer as it is possible for one to be.

Over time, I've become more adept at handling other parts of that world, such as the nomenclature. When we got a desk top computer, the first time I heard the term "mouse," I probably looked at the floor for a rodent.

"Default" was another confusing term. When you first hear the word, it sounds like you've done something wrong; it's the "-fault" part of it. But I soon realized the word was used in a different way: If you don't choose an option, for example, there's a "default" option that the computer, phone, or iPad will choose for you. Failing to make a choice is still making a choice.

This time of year is a good time to consider your default choice. September 11th is upon us, and I think it's important for us to have a default in place of tolerance, acceptance, and peace. Just this morning, for example, Baptist News Global had a story about a restaurant one minister in New York was in when a woman started screaming obscenities and making accusations against people that looked different—and all the patrons sat and watched. Their default option was to ignore what they saw. Only he got up to intercede, and is worried that far too many people in these charged days are making that same choice—just accepting this kind of behavior is a default choice; it's just the wrong one.

Fall is coming, and with it Thanksgiving and Christmas. If there are ever days for us to find fault with other family members, it's likely around those

two holidays. You're basically shut up inside with people you may not be around often and tempers are loosened by "beverages," as my son-in-law likes to say (he's from Minnesota, so "drunk as a skunk" is not a term he's familiar with yet!).

In times like these, let's make a real, conscious effort to choose a default option that looks like the gospel writer John and his interpretation of Jesus: *"For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another....Whoever does not love abides [meaning, lives] in death,"* and finishes with, *"let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action."* Not a passive, but an active, kind of love.

Choose your default option now: When you have to make a choice, make it love.

Mickey

DATES TO REMEMBER

September

Mission Project: Alma Hunt Offering for State Missions
11th & 25th Book Study at the Church 7:00 p.m.
15th Deacon's Meeting - after 11:00 service
22nd Quarterly Business Meeting - 10:00 a.m.

October

Mission Project: To Be Determined
3rd Women's Ministry - 9:00 a.m. at the home of Debbie Burt
6th, 13th, 20th, 27th Bible Study with Mickey - following the 11:00 a.m. service
Israel's Ancestors by Mark Biddle
lunch will be provided
9th & 23rd Book Study at the Church - 7:00 p.m.
13th Goshen Fall Missions Celebration - 3-5 p.m.
Craigs Baptist Church, 14123 West Catharpin Rd.,
Spotsylvania, VA
29th Goshen Fall Meeting - 10:00 a.m.
Louisa Baptist church, 305 East Main St. Louisa, VA

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

September

Frazier, Alana	1
Paine, Gerald	1
Frazier, Wayne & Alana	7
Vancampen, Marc & Wanda	7
Harlow, Margaret	10
Ward, Doug	15
Koenig, Martin	15
DiFranco, Mike	16
Myers, Joyce	17
Robertson, Catie	20
Stahl, Lee	21
Powers, Bill	21
Burt, Chip	25
Schultz, Myrna	25
Smith, Macy	25
Koslow, Jim	26
Powers, Janice	28
Croce, Susan	30
Koslow, Jim & Lori	30

October

Ward, Mindy	4
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October - continued

Ashwood, Chris & Connie	5
Ward, Aubrey	6
Losinski, Jack & Coral	6
Hale, Scott & Pamela	8
Naugle, Scott & Cheryl	8
Smith, Gomer & Julie	8
Polonsky, Stan & Mary Virginia	9
Ward, Michael	9
Robertson, Mickey	11
Pittman, Mark & Karilyn	11
Brown, Brad	14
Burt, Debby	14
Jones, Steve	14
Smith, Gomer	14
Schultz, Darrell & Myrna	17
Martin, Jeff	19
Morrell, Cindy	19
Beal, Debbie	23
Vaughan, Clorese	23
Ashwood, Chris	25
Vaughan, Joey	25
Duerson, Dorothy	29
Raabe, Bill	29
Wood, Rodney & Karen	29

We have started a new cleaning ministry to take care of the inside of the church building. If you have time and interest we could use more teams to help. The idea is for a team of 2 (husband and wife or friend) to take a month of cleaning leadership. Each team will clean the first week of the month by vacuuming, cleaning restrooms and kitchen, mopping linoleum floors, dusting etc. Occasionally there may be other cleaning needs that you might discover that are not mentioned here, but this should give everyone a basic list. The rest of your month just inspect weekly and clean as needed

Anyone wanting to help clean the church can sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall or e-mail their name, cell phone number and e-mail address to lindasbridges@gmail.com

Thank you,

Linda

Ladies,

You are invited for fellowship and devotional time at the home of Debbie Burt, 439 Longway Dr. Bumpass, VA on Thursday, October 3rd at 9:00 a.m. We will have breakfast together followed by a devotional led by Alana Frazier. Please bring a small dish to share. We welcome all to join us. Contact Alana Frazier with any questions. 703-282-2393

Reminder - book study meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the church. We start a new video series on "What On Earth Am I Here For?" by Rick Warren. Any questions, please contact Tony Wilson @ 540-748-1159. **All are invited!!!!**

FINANCIAL TIP - WHAT IS QCD?

Perhaps you have never heard of it, but a QCD is a Qualified Charitable Distribution. The use of a QCD may be beneficial to you, if you are no longer itemizing deductions on your federal income taxes.

A QCD allows taxpayers, age 70 1/2 or older who are required to take RMDs (Required Minimum Distributions), to donate from a traditional IRA to an eligible charity without that amount being subject to federal tax. Of course there are specific rules and procedures to follow and you should work with your IRA custodian and tax preparer to do it correctly. For more information and an easy reading resource, you can check online at <https://www.kiplinger.com/article/taxes/T055-C032-S014-10-things-anyone-considering-a-qdc-should-know.html>

A QCD takes planning but can be a win-win situation for both you and your charitable causes, such as Elk Creek Baptist Church, if you meet the criteria.

By Bunnie Wyckoff

In August Chip's sister (Leslie) visited and sang with the Elk Creek Band. Also, Gerry and Bunnie's son (Shawn) and daughter-in-law (Maria) visited and played with the band.



Linda Mason renewed her baptism



Float in for the Church



September was a happy time for Pastor Mickey and Pam
Erin and Colten's wedding

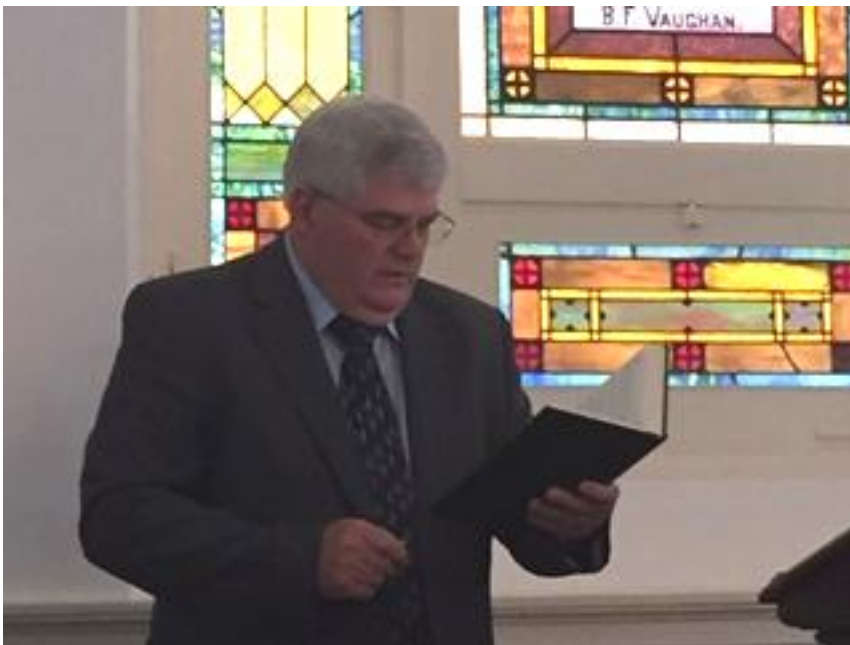




Women's ministry group meeting at the home of Jo Canova viewing the movie "War Room". Fun time!!!



Work Session and 206th Homecoming service with special guest speaker John Miller from Goshen Ministries



Together in Christ.

Alana Frazier