

Stewartsville Baptist Church

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Where Do We Go From Here?

I am writing this before the presidential election has taken place. By the time you receive this newsletter the election will be over and we will all still be talking about it with either a frown on our faces or a smile. Know this, that no matter who has won the election, we (Christians) will be judged by how we respond. How should we as Christ followers respond? Here it is:

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,

but made himself nothing,

taking the very nature of a servant,

being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself and became obedient to death—

even death on a cross! (Philippians 2:5-8)

What our country really needs is revival and we must not fall into the trap of thinking that simply by trying to get society to reflect Godly principles through the political process is going to solve things. We cannot get God's Kingdom to come by force or by legislation or by cleaning up immorality. The truth is, our country's surge toward greater and greater godlessness has continued to increase no matter who has ever been elected president and neither candidate this election is a man of God or a born again Christian.

What our country needs is for her citizens to acknowledge Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. For this to happen, we, as Christians, need to reflect mercy and humility and care for the poor and the weak and the oppressed (Micah 6:8; Isaiah 58; Matthew 25:31-46). We need to live the heart of Jesus in society by truly loving our neighbors as ourselves. Not simply just agreeing that we should because it is in the bible but by being doers of the Word in increasing measure.

We must be sure to express hope in God instead of in man no matter which way our lips are turned due to the election results. Yes, I pray that everyone who voted, voted based on biblical values. I pray that none of us will see those who voted against biblical values as our enemies but rather as a people who need God's grace in their lives just as we once did and still do. Remember, we are Christians before we are Americans. Our greater citizenship is in heaven and no matter who has been elected, he will let us and our God down in 'one way or another' or in many ways throughout his term. Our hope must remain in the living God.

Have you noticed the cotton fields lately? They are ripe unto harvest. As I drive the country roads I see the farmers working hard to reap what has been sown. My prayer for Stewartsville Baptist Church is that we, as a

small gathering of Christ followers, will become increasingly fixated on advancing the kingdom of God by offering our lives as a living sacrifice holy and pleasing to God, so that we will bear fruit that lasts and reap the fields that are white unto harvest. We need to get excited about the harvest field whether or not we are excited about who we as a nation have elected as our president.

As you lay this issue of the Stewartsville Baptist Church newsletter aside, why not take a moment to thank Yahweh God the Father for His grace and mercy in your life and for strength to work those harvest fields that are white before us (no pun intended).

Rick Boda

UPCOMING MEETINGS

November 4	4pm	Deacons Meeting
November 11		Business Meeting

CHURCHWIDE VISITATION

November 27

Join us at 6pm for a meal and "Gather and Go" or "Stay and Pray" at 7pm. Everyone is invited.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR S.O.S. – sign up sheets on bulletin board

Wreath Making Class for those who signed up. Bring your \$13.00 to the class on Thursday, November 15 and we will meet in the Old Sanctuary.

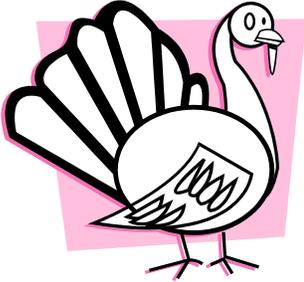
Southern Supreme Fruitcake factory – December 4, leave at 9am.

S.O.S. meeting with Christmas meal and program – December 6 at 6pm. Meat (turkey and dressing and ham) provided. Bring vegetables, salad and dessert.

Tuesday, December 11 Christmas Show at Carolina Opry in Myrtle Beach. 1:00pm show and tickets are \$27.00 due by November 25.

RECENT ARRIVALS

Congratulations to Jared and Renee Russ of Charlotte on the birth of their daughter, Linley Faith who was born October 16 and weighed 8 lbs. 15 oz and was 21" long. The proud grandparents are Robert and Christine Russ.



THANKSGIVING MEAL

Sunday, November 18 at 6:00pm

Meet in Sanctuary for a time of worship and then we will go eat.

Stewartsville's Women's Embrace Retreat

"Reflections of His Love – You're Invited" Friday, Nov. 16 6-9pm
Registration 5:30pm

Saturday, November 17 8:00am Continental breakfast
Retreat with lunch provided

Ladies, invite your friends, family and coworkers for this wonderful event.

Need childcare? The Stew Crew will be hosting a One Day Spectacular with puppet shows, songs, skits, etc. with lunch and snacks provided.



CHRISTMAS MUSICALS:

December 2 at 10:15am	Preschool Choir - "A Cowboy Christmas"
December 2 at 6:30pm	Youth
December 9 at 10:15am	Children's Choir - "The Best Christmas Present Ever"
December 16 at 10:15am	Adult Choir and Drama - "Celebrate The Wonder"

TOUR OF CHURCHES

We will be on the tour this year on December 4 from 6-9pm. CTCA and church members will be providing music throughout the evening.

Garry's Open House

December 14 6-9pm

December 15 6-8pm

Church office will be closed in observance of Thanksgiving November 22 and November 23

HERITAGE BUILDERS Parenting Tip

Taking Care of Stuff

Being a faithful steward means managing God's gifts wisely. Place the following on a table and have family members sit around it: peanut butter, marshmallows, pretzel sticks, graham crackers. Have each one create something using the edibles. When finished, celebrate each creation and share that others will be "caretakers" of their creations and may add something to it to make it better. Call out "switch." Each person moves to another chair to watch over another creation. Read I Peter 4:10. What does it mean to be a good steward of God's gifts? Call out "switch" again. Read Luke 19:12-26. Share: A steward is someone who takes care of, or manages something that belongs to someone else. Call out "switch" again and ask: Which of the servants were good stewards of what the master had given them? What does this story tell us about taking care of things? Share: When we obey God and take care of things He gives us, we are being good stewards. If we are good stewards of what we have, God sometimes chooses to trust us with more. Consider: What was it like to care for someone else's creation? Share: God has blessed us with many things - clothes, home, toys, food, money, etc. God wants us to make wise decisions about how we take care of these things. Let's remember to pray often for help in knowing how to be good stewards of these many great gifts.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES

We will once again be collecting shoeboxes. Please make sure your shoebox is returned no later than Sunday, November 18.

What's Happening in Youth?

This year's theme: **WALK BY FAITH**

"We walk by faith, not by sight." II Corinthians 5:7

Purpose: Combining ministry & outreach with personal spiritual growth

Every Sunday night – 5:30-6:30 PM – Bible study/small groups
Stew Crew Youth Building

In November . . .

Tuesday, Nov. 6th & Nov. 20th – DIS-Co-T (Disciples of Truth)
Bible study at the Boda's home

Wednesdays – Drama Practice for Christmas Youth Program!!!!

Coming in December

Sat. Dec. 1st – Christmas Spectacular Show in Virginia (Formal)
Annual dinner and musical at Thomas Road Baptist Church

Sun. Dec. 2nd – Youth conduct Christmas Drama and Worship Service

Sat. Dec. 8th – Youth Shopping Day

Wed. Dec. 19th – Christmas Party and Caroling