



The Pastor's Paragraphs – Rev. Alan Ray

The month of November is a time when we remember the importance of giving thanks. I want to thank you for the wonderful expressions of appreciation during Clergy Appreciation Month. You are all very kind and your expressions mean a great deal to all of us who have the great privilege of serving you. We also devote time this month to expressing our gratitude to God for the blessings he has poured out on us. Finding those blessings may be a little more challenging this year than in other years. Our grandson, Isaac, and I were chatting just the other day. He summed everything up pretty well. He said, "overall it's been a pretty bad year." Even though he does not like "virtual school" or the fact that he has been "like a prisoner in his own house," he still could point to some things that were "pretty good." I like that.

We need to be honest about the challenges we have faced thus far in 2020. It does no good to gloss over the heartaches or difficulties. It also does no good to see those difficulties in a vacuum. Even in the midst of challenges or tears, there are still plenty of things for which most of us can give thanks. Let's focus on counting our blessings this year.

One of the best ways we can give thanks to God for the way he has blessed us is by taking some of our resources and sharing them with others. During the month of November we are going to receive a special offering that will be used to replenish our Community Helpline funds. These funds are used to assist families and individuals in need. They provide assistance with rent and utility bills during crisis times; they're sometimes used to assist with providing an overnight accommodation for someone who is temporarily homeless; and we also keep gift cards that can be used to assist with the purchase of groceries or gas. These resources are used both to help those in our own church family and in the community at large. As you might imagine, during a time when supplemental unemployment assistance has ended and people have been furloughed from jobs because of COVID-19, there are often substantial needs to be met.

We have always sought to keep an amount from the budget available for the work of the Helpline, but contributions from individuals have provided the bulk of the financial resources. With those funds now nearing depletion, we want to take the opportunity to express our gratitude to God by giving to provide for those in need. If you would like to give to help support the Helpline, you can give online by selecting the Helpline designation, or you can just mark "Helpline" clearly in the memo section of a check. In the spirit of the season, let me again say "THANK YOU" for helping us help others.

This year, November also marks the beginning of the Advent season. COVID-19 is going to make this year's observance of the Advent season a little bit different. We are still hoping to have a program of Christmas music this year on Sunday evening, December 13. We will present this service the way we have done our Sunday morning worship time, with limited in-person seating, live streaming online and by FM radio in the church parking lot. If circumstances change, we will try to make everyone know as soon as possible. We will be lighting the Advent wreath each week representing Hope, Love, Joy and Peace. We will not be having our traditional Christmas Eve Service this year. We will be recording a program that you can share together online as a family on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

While we are reminded of just how many things are different this year, we are still blessed to be able to provide opportunities for Worship and Bible Study either online or in person. Those who can't come to Worship in person can always share in the service through the church Facebook page, either live or recorded for later viewing. You can also share that entry with your friends and family. If you check the "Sermons" link on the church website, you can find recordings from worship for each Sunday. You can also subscribe to the "Ridge Baptist Church" YouTube channel. If you log into YouTube (www.youtube.com) and search for "Ridge Baptist Church Channel" you will find a list of several church channels. Keep scrolling down until you see our blue logo with the words "Ridge Baptist Church" in it. That channel has three

Pastor's Paragraphs (cont. from pg. 1)

specific sections to it. One is a section that includes just the sermon from each Sunday. Another section includes brief clips from sermons. The third section is devoted to the Children's Sermon for each week. This would be a good way to engage children in a section prepared especially for them. It is important during these days to **ENGAGE** with your church family whenever and wherever you can, **INVITE** others to be part of the Ridge experience either in person or online, **PRAY** for the church and her family, and **GIVE** to support the ministries of the church that continue, even when we are not able to be physically present.

All are Invited to Join the 2020 BGAV Virtual Annual Meeting!



Must pre register for the link to participate
<https://meeting.bgav.org/>

If You Sow, You'll Reap ...

"The one who plants generously will get a generous crop." 2 Corinthians 9:6 NLT

Your financial harvest is determined by what you *spend*, what you *save*, and what you *sow* into God's Kingdom. The Bible teaches that consecutive sowing guarantees consecutive reaping. Your future begins with what you have in your hand right now. Nothing is too little to multiply. Every one of us has received something from God that is capable of reproducing; the secret is putting it into His hands. He wants us to succeed, to have the resources needed to fulfill His will, and help others do the same. He said, "I am the Lord ... which teacheth thee to profit" (Isaiah 48:17). In the New Testament Jesus taught fishermen how to catch more fish (Luke 5:1-11). On one occasion He even told His disciples where to find money to pay their taxes (Matthew 17:27). He taught that giving, not withholding, is the way to multiply what's been given to you (Luke 6:38). Sometimes your seed is your only way out of trouble, but you must be willing to sow it. Here are the facts of Scripture. Jesus showed people where money could be found. And when they failed at something, He motivated them to get up and try again -- using His methods. He told them God was their unfailing source of supply, and encouraged them to expect harvest on every seed they sowed. Paul says, "God loves people who love to give. God can bless you with everything you need, and you will always have more than enough to do all kinds of good things for others" (2 Corinthians 9:7-9 CEV). Bottom line: If you sow, you'll reap! It's that simple.

Daily Devotional "The Word for You Today", Sept. - Nov. pg.14; Sunday, September 20

NEEDED: Gently Used Suitcases/Duffel Bags

A local children's home needs new or gently used duffel bags and suitcases for children as they return home or go to their foster homes. Often they have only paper or trash bags to transport belongings.

Until Wed., Dec. 2 you may leave donations on the bench at the parking lot entrance.



Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

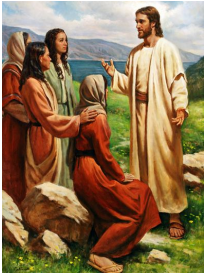
You can fill one with a "wow" toy such as a doll, soccer ball with pump, or stuffed animal and other fun toys, hygiene items, and school supplies. Pray for the child. Include a note and photo, if you wish.

A \$9 donation would be helpful; please make checks payable to Ridge Baptist Church, on the memo line write "Operation Christmas Child."

Checks can be put in your shoebox or in the collection plate on Sunday morning.

Please return the filled box to the church by Wednesday, November 18.

"Your shoebox may be the only gift the child ever receives."



Exploring the Women of Luke 8

*A Bible Study by Abbie Duenckel
Beginning Sunday, November 1.*

Women of all ages are invited to join Abbie on a four week journey as we dive deep into the lives of the women of Luke 8:1-3, learn their story, and discover what their story means for your story as you strive to live out your faith each and every single day. This will be a four week set of daily devotions delivered to your email inbox each morning including Scripture, video teaching, and application.

There will also be a way to communicate with other members of this Bible Study group. All you need is an email address.

To sign up to take part in this study, email Abbie at ridgechurcheducation@gmail.com

Abbie cannot wait to do this study with you!



Pajamas Pop In Continues ...

Sunday evenings at 7:30pm

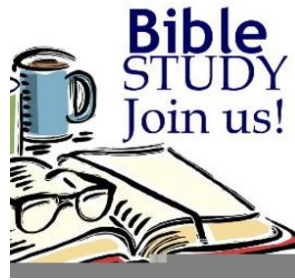
This time allows the children to connect by Zoom, to share what is going on in their lives and to hear the word of God. Many in our church have joined as "mystery guests" to share music, lead games or read a story.

Please contact Abbie Duenckel at ridgechurcheducation@gmail.com for more information and to participate.



REMINDER: The Church Office and Promise Care will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday Weekend, November 26 & 27. Have a safe and blessed

Thanksgiving. Stay safe and healthy!



Sunday Evening Zoom Book Study with Alan Ray

"The Church in Babylon"
by Erwin Lutzer

6pm via Zoom Sunday Evenings

Please contact Alan Ray ray5778@gmail.com for the link to participate in the study

Zoom Adult Bible Study Wednesdays with Alan Ray

Join Pastor Alan Ray Wednesday mornings for a weekly Bible Study at 10am.

Interested... please contact Alan at ray5778@gmail.com for a link to his Bible Study. Don't have a computer or internet? Check in with Alan and he will send you a phone number to join by phone.

Youth Zoom Bible Study with Lindsay Ray

Wednesdays at 7pm

Youth are encouraged to join Lindsay Ray via Zoom for Bible Study, fellowship and more.

Please contact Lindsay Ray at lindsayray05@gmail.com for the link to join in the fellowship, study and discussion!

Young Adult Zoom Gathering with Abbie Duenckel continues ...

The 1st & 3rd Thursdays each month at 7pm.

Young adults are encouraged to join Abbie twice a month to focus on something different each month.

Please contact Abbie Duenckel at ridgechurcheducation@gmail.com for more information and to participate.

Our Stewardship ...

2020 Ministry Stewardship Plan	
Sun., 10/4	\$5,070.00
Sun., 10/11	\$5,565.00
Sun., 10/18	\$1,787.00
Sun., 10/25	\$2,750.00
Wkly Budget Goal	\$5,973.00
YTD Congregational Giving	\$222,644.32
YTD Budget Goal	\$256,839.00

Alma Hunt Mission Offering	
YTD Giving	\$995.00
Goal	\$2,500.00

May God Bless You on Your November Birthday!

11/1	Paula Harlfinger
11/2	Gregory Price, Jr
11/3	Ceil Booker
11/3	Ryland Rice (4)
11/7	Bud Johnson
11/7	Joan Pemberton
11/8	Joan Moses
11/10	Dottie Koontz
11/13	Martha Hardee
11/15	Betty Rouse
11/16	Irene Taylor
11/20	Sam Hubbard (17)
11/23	Bill Pemberton
11/24	Will Gill
11/26	Carol Hawkins
11/27	John Thomas
11/28	Earl Maxey
11/30	Michael Woodard (10)



Birth Announcements:

Matthew & Sydney Gibson welcomed their son, Owen, on September 30. The proud grandparents are Kirk & Sheryl Gibson and equally proud great-grandmother, Shirley McClenny.

Katie & Roy Harver, brothers John and David welcome son/brother, Andrew Wilson, on Oct. 17. The proud grandmother is Pat Taylor and equally proud great-grandmother is Hazel Perkins.

Prayer Concerns ...

Ridge Members at Home:

Jeanne Beckett	Earline Isom
Mary Helmick	Jan Jones
Ruth Kee	Bea Rahmlow
Donna Robinson	Margaret Rosson

Members in Healthcare:

Phylis Benner, *Lighthouse Sr. Living in MD*
Mae Callaham, *Morningside Assisted Living*
Mary Clark, *Lakewood HCC*
Tom & Mary Jane Cook, *Lakewood HCC*
Trudy English, *Morningside Assisted Living*
Grace Lipscomb, *Lakewood HCC*
Kay Myers, *The Laurels at University Park*
BJ Noel, *Autumn Care in Mechanicsville*
Irene Taylor, *Brookdale West End Richmond*

We Express Our Christian Love and Sympathy...

To the family of Bruce Carlton who passed away 10/15.

Friends of Ridge Baptist Church:

Carl Bottom, *Cheryl McCartney's brother*
Ann Brogden, *friend of Shirley McClenny*
Nancy Burks, *Cheryl McCartney's friend*
Francis Coffman, *Bob Coffman's father*
Debbie Dunn, *family friend of Michael & Beverly Gleason*
Meagan Englert, *Laura Gilmer's niece*
Helen Fitzgerald, *Pat Mahone's friend*
Bob Fleming, *Phyllis Coffman's father*
Sally Frost, *Susan Smith's friend*
Patsy Marks, *Joan Moses' sister*
Pastor Buford "Boots" Marsh, *Tipi Wakan Church*
Deb Maddox, *Laura Gilmer's sister-in-law*
Fran & Victor Mauzy, *friends of Dawn Ford*
Steve McCaskill, *Trudy English's son-in-law*
Natalie Merryman, *Laura Gilmer's niece*
Joyce Rice, *Bob Dawson's sister*
Brian Sullivan, *Donna Robinson's cousin*
Glenn Wyrick, *Nichole Fogleman's friend*

Special Prayer Requests:

For our Ridge extension members
For our healthcare workers and all first responders
For all those deemed essential workers during the
Coronavirus Pandemic
For our military men and women representing the US
For those ministering in Christ's name everywhere
For our government leaders

November 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 DST Ends 10:30am Morning Worship/ Sanct 2pm CMC/ CLC 6pm Online Book Study w/ Alan 7:30pm PJ Pop-In w/ Abbie</p>	2	<p>3 Election Day</p>  <p>8:30pm Facebook LIVE w/ Abbie</p>	<p>4 10am Online Bible Stdy w/ Alan 6pm Quarterly Business Meeting/ Sanct 7pm Youth Zoom Bible Stdy w/ Lindsay</p>	<p>5 6pm Dover Partnership Missions Interest Mtg/ CLC 7pm Young Adult Zoom Gathering w/ Abbie</p>	6	7
<p>8 10:30am Morning Worship/ Sanct 6pm Online Book Study w/ Alan 7:30pm PJ Pop-In w/ Abbie</p>	<p>9 BGAV Virtual Annual Mtg – Day 1 (Must pre-register for Event)</p>	<p>10 BGAV Virtual Annual Mtg – Day 2 (Must pre-register for Event) 8:30pm Facebook LIVE w/ Abbie</p>	<p>11 Veteran's Day 10am Online Bible Stdy w/ Alan 7pm Youth Zoom Bible Stdy w/ Lindsay</p>	12	13	14
<p>15 10:30am Morning Worship/ Sanct 3pm Deacon Mtg/ CLC 6pm Online Book Study w/ Alan 7:30pm PJ Pop-In w/ Abbie</p>	16	<p>17 8:30pm Facebook LIVE w/ Abbie</p>	<p>18 10am Online Bible Stdy w/ Alan 7pm Youth Zoom Bible Stdy w/ Lindsay</p>	<p>19 7pm Young Adult Zoom Gathering w/ Abbie</p>	20	21
<p>22 10:30am Morning Worship/ Sanct 6pm Online Book Study w/ Alan 7:30pm PJ Pop-In w/ Abbie</p>	23	<p>24 8:30pm Facebook LIVE w/ Abbie</p>	<p>25 10am Online Bible Stdy w/ Alan 7pm Youth Zoom Bible Stdy w/ Lindsay</p>	<p>26  Church Office & PC Closed</p>	27 Church Office & PC Closed	28
<p>29 10:30am Morning Worship/ Sanct 6pm Online Book Study w/ Alan 7:30pm PJ Pop-In w/ Abbie</p>	30					

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**Ridge Baptist Church
Worship Leaders & Staff**

Rev. Alan Ray,
Senior Pastor

Rev. Abbie Duenckel,
*Minister for Christian
Discipleship & Outreach*

Rev. Lindsay Ray,
Minister for Students

Mr. Robert Blaylock,
Praise Team / Media Director

Mr. Robert Coffman,
Music Ministry Director

Mrs. Phyllis Coffman,
Church Accompanist

Mrs. Louise Crooks,
Financial Secretary

Mrs. Theresa Altland,
Church Secretary

Mrs. Thelma Ford,
Kitchen Technician

Walk Through the Bible – November Readings

11/1	Lamentations 2 2 Timothy 4	11/16	Ezekiel 25-26 Hebrews 11
11/2	Lamentations 3 Titus 1	11/17	Ezekiel 27-28 Hebrews 12
11/3	Lamentations 4 Titus 2	11/18	Ezekiel 29-30 Hebrews 13
11/4	Lamentations 5 Titus 3	11/19	Ezekiel 31-32 James 1
11/5	Ezekiel 1-2 Philemon	11/20	Ezekiel 33-34 James 2
11/6	Ezekiel 3-5 Hebrews 1	11/21	Ezekiel 35-37 James 3
11/7	Ezekiel 6-7 Hebrews 2	11/22	Ezekiel 38-39 James 4
11/8	Ezekiel 8-10 Hebrews 3	11/23	Ezekiel 40-41 James 5
11/9	Ezekiel 11-12 Hebrews 4	11/24	Ezekiel 42-43 1 Peter 1
11/10	Ezekiel 13-14 Hebrews 5	11/25	Ezekiel 44-46 1 Peter 2
11/11	Ezekiel 15-16 Hebrews 6	11/26	Ezekiel 47-48 1 Peter 3
11/12	Ezekiel 17-18 Hebrews 7	11/27	Daniel 1 1 Peter 4
11/13	Ezekiel 19-20 Hebrews 8	11/28	Daniel 2 1 Peter 5
11/14	Ezekiel 21-22 Hebrews 9	11/29	Daniel 3 2 Peter 1
11/15	Ezekiel 23-24 Hebrew 10	11/30	Daniel 4 2 Peter 2

