

Crowders Creek ARP Church



Pray ... with Thanksgiving by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

I've heard a lot of droopy prayers in my life. Hey, I've prayed a lot of them, too.

- Prayers of desperation -- God, you've got to help me!
 - Prayers of self-pity -- God, things are so awful!
 - Prayers of resignation -- God, if you want to leave me unemployed, then I can't stop you!
- But I'm learning how to pray a different kind of prayer -- prayer said with thanksgiving. I learned it from St. Paul who, writing from prison, taught me a most powerful lesson. He said,

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, **with thanksgiving**, present your requests to God."¹

Strange. Here he is suffering himself, yet he's telling me to pray with thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving is the seasoning that makes our prayers edible to God. After all, who wants to hear people whine all the time? I've learned that you can't whine and give thanks in the same breath. Self-pity and thankfulness don't mix any better than oil and water.

In fact, mixing thanks with prayer somehow changes it. When we remember what God has done for us in the past and think about who He is in the present -- and express that in thankfulness -- our prayers become more gentle, more trusting somehow. Thankful prayers are offered with faith. And faith is an essential ingredient for prayers that God chooses to answer.

We remember the Pilgrims on Thanksgiving Day, not so much for their turkey dinner, but for the sheer faith that inspired them to give thanks in a year that saw nearly half their number die of sickness. Yet they prayed with thanksgiving.

When your annual day of feasting is over, you may bemoan your extra helpings of dressing, mashed potatoes, and pumpkin pie. But if you can hang on to the "thanks" part of Thanksgiving, you'll be a different person. Because when you learn to talk to God about your needs -- mixed with a healthy dose of heartfelt thanks -- then you have crossed the divide from whining at God to real prayer.

Happy *thanks*-giving!



November

- 11/02 Doug Roach
- 11/03 Mona Davidson
- 11/03 Rob Elliotte
- 11/03 Betty Oates
- 11/04 Jack Jackson
- 11/07 Dave Brooks
- 11/07 Awilda Stowe
- 11/07 Bill Stowe
- 11/07 Judy Stowe
- 11/07 Ginny Styers
- 11/08 Abigail Stephens
- 11/08 Wayne McAllister
- 11/11 Catherine Clarke
- 11/12 Jan Roach
- 11/13 Roger Mauney
- 11/18 Wayne McAllister
- 11/18 Caroline Styers
- 11/20 Angela Crawford
- 11/22 Addison Key
- 11/23 Felix Alpizar
- 11/30 Michael Adams

Leadership Meetings

- November 7—Deacon’s Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- November 9—Session Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- November 20—Christian Education Meeting at 5:00 p.m.

I would like to thank my friends and family at Crowders Creek Church for all the kind cards, calls, prayers, and gifts during my recovery. It is such a blessing to have such a caring church family.

Ethel Mauney

Additional Ministers this Month...

	Children's Church	Nursery Schedule
11/6	Laurie Murphy & Shirley Edwards	Peggy, Bob, Josh Grigg
11/13	Carla Clarke & Ava Mauney	Allison & Martin Moses
11/20	Felix & Michelle Alpizar	Charlie & Christy Rhyne
11/27	NONE	Mona & Tommy Davidson
November Visitor Sheets:		

Soldiers On Active Duty
Meredith Millar

November Lectionary Texts

November 6—21st Sunday after Pentecost

Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10, 22;
1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

November 13—22nd Sunday After Pentecost

Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123;
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew
25:14-30

November 20—Christ the King

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100;
Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

November 27—First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19;
1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13: 24-37



Any families interested in reading Scripture and lighting the Advent candle for the upcoming Advent season please contact the church office.

CIRCLES

- Nov. 1—Minnie Alexander Circle at 2:00 p.m.
- Mollie Falls at 7:00 p.m.
- Nov. 7—Ruth Grier Circle at 7:00 p.m.



Installation Service for Andy Ward



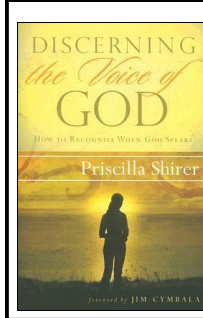
Everyone is invited to the Installation Service for Andy Ward, at Mooresville ARP Church on Sunday, November 6th at 4:00 p.m. Andy is a close friend of Pastor Ben and Pastor Ben will be preaching for this service.



Shoeboxes for kids

Shoeboxes for **Operation Christmas Child** will be collected on November 13th. You may pick up a box from the vestibule and prepare it as indicated on the brochures in your bulletin. If you would prefer to have boxes packed for you, just bring items to the box in the vestibule and Crowders Creek will prepare them. You may also want to give a donation to help with shipping...it costs \$7 per box to ship. Make donation out to Samaritan's Purse and drop in box in vestibule and note Operation Christmas Child.

ARP Thanksgiving Offering
The ARP Thanksgiving Offering will be collected Sunday, November 13, 2011. Please prepare to give as the Lord leads you. Envelopes will be available November 6, 2011 in your bulletin.



Women's Bible Study
MONDAYS
6:45-8:15 p.m.
Ladies Bible Study Room

Contact Marilyn Brooks if you are interested and need a book.

Upcoming Advent Sermon Series based on the book of Isaiah

Looking at the prophecies of Christ in the Old Testament

Beginning Sunday, November 27th

OPEN OUT OF THE OFFICE Pastor Ben will be on vacation November 11-19 and back for World Missions Day on Sunday, November 19th.

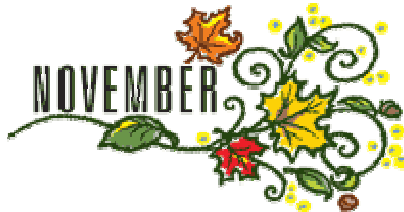
Rev. Chuck Evans, a former pastor of Crowders Creek will be preaching in Pastor Ben's absence on Sunday, November 13th.



Everyone is invited for a covered dish lunch following the morning worship service to have a time to visit with Chuck, Carolyn, and their daughters Holly and Christy with their families. When Chuck and Carolyn came to Crowders Creek in 1974 Holly was small and their daughter Christy was born while they served at Crowders Creek. Rev. Evans retired from Pinecrest ARP Church (near Bonclarken) last year. He continues to preach when needed. We are happy to have him with us on November 13th.

Everyone can bring covered dishes for the lunch. Tea, lemonade, and coffee will be provided.

In case of emergency contact the church office during office hours and Rick and Chris Oates or Cathy and Bill Best after office hours. In case of need please contact your shepherd leader.



Fall Festival
Saturday, November 5th



Fall Fun For Kids will be held from **3:00-5:00 p.m.** at the home of Mike and Barbara Moses. Children bring your parents and come enjoy hayride, marshmallow roasting, and games. Any questions call Allison Moses 803-222-5233.

Fall Fun for Adults will begin at **4:00 p.m.**, there will be activities for the adults at the church. Everyone is welcomed to join at the church at 5:15 for a hot dog supper, cake walk and other activities. There will be signup sheets for food items for the hot dog supper, cakes, and cookies for the cake walk and prizes for the adult bingo game. Cash donations are welcome also. So we can adequately plan for supper, please let us know how many from your family will be attending, and how many hotdogs your family will eat. Please mark this date on your calendar, and plan to come out for a wonderful afternoon and evening of fellowship.



WORLD MISSIONS DAY/JUBILEE BIRTHDAY OFFERING

We will have Sheila Osborne—Coordinator of Short-Term Ministry and Liaison to Women’s Ministry for World Witness speaking in the Worship Service Sunday, November 20th. Shelia and her husband, Jeff, were commissioned as missionaries with World Witness in 2001.

After completion of pre-field training and language school, they moved to San Luis Potosi, Mexico in 2002. After living in San Luis Potosi for one and half years, Jeff and Shelia moved to Rio Verde. Their ministry together in Mexico included discipleship courses with adult couples, training children’s workers, Bible Clubs and hosting Short-Term Mission Groups. In addition, Shelia established and managed a Lending Library of Christian Education materials for local churches, taught Sunday School, led a women’s Bible Study, and taught English.

In March, 2009, they returned to the United States for Jeff to seek medical care for some health issues he developed. Shelia currently serves as Coordinator of Short-Term Ministry and Liaison to Women’s Ministry for World Witness.

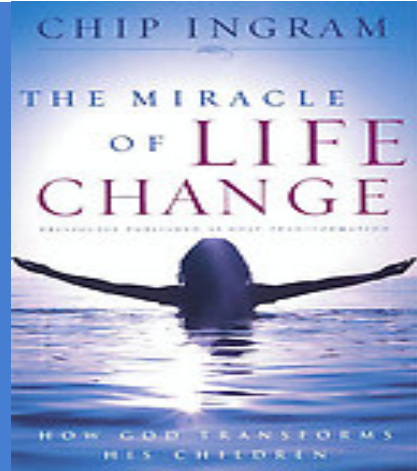
The Osbornes are members of Covenant ARP Church in Statesville, NC, where Jeff serves as an elder. Before their service in Mexico, they were active in their church, as well as with the Christian Motorcyclists Association.

They adopted their daughter, Sarahi in Mexico.

The Jubilee Birthday celebration is a time each year that an offering is taken throughout Synod. There are two missionaries whose sole support is provided by this offering sponsored by the ARP Women’s Ministry. The current missionaries are Judy Buis and Nanette Howard.

For several years Crowders Creek ladies have opened this opportunity up to everyone when our church celebrates church-wide Missions Sunday.

Please use the pew envelopes and designate “Jubilee Birthday”. If you are writing a check please write it to Crowders Creek Church.



Wednesday Night Bible Study

6:00 p.m. Dinner

6:30 p.m. Bible Study for all ages

Adult Bible Study

The Miracle of Life Change
by Chip Ingram

High School Students

So What?

Middle School Students

Walk through the Bible

Older Children

Route 66

Younger Children

Kids Quest

Meals:

Cost: \$2.00 per person \$5 family (suggested donation)

Nov. 2nd
Meatball Sandwich
Chips
Dessert

Nov. 9th
Rosemary Chicken
Green Beans
Rolls
Dessert

Nov. 16th
Covered Dish
(no charge)

Nov. 30th
Chicken Pot Pie
Salad
Dessert

*If your child would like a “kid’s meal” we will have chicken nuggets or peanut butter sandwich and chips available each night.

I have seen



the Lord!

John 20:18

HARPS

Seven members of HARPS headed to the NC mountains on Wednesday, October 19th. In spite of the rain, the leaf colors were beautiful! We enjoyed a visit to Crossnore, NC, where we toured a chapel with a Benjamin Long fresco, a children’s residential cottage, the academy, and weaving museum with gift shop, at the Crossnore charter school. Lunch at The Tartan Restaurant near Grandfather Mountain was delicious! On our way home, we stopped to get a bag of apples. What a wonderful trip!

Thanksgiving Breakfast



Come enjoy a morning of good food & devotion at 7:00 a.m. on Thanksgiving morning, November 24th, as the men of Crowders Creek treat us to a Thanksgiving breakfast.

The food will be followed by a devotion time led by Pastor Ben. Come hungry, and prepare to be physically and spiritually “filled”.

