

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2024



BONSACK
BAPTIST CHURCH



Happy New Year!
FROM BONSACK BAPTIST
CHURCH

Better Love Date Night | Kenya Trip | January Bible Study

VOLUME 65 | NO.1

BONSACKBAPTIST.ORG | (540)977-5701

From the Pastor

Suppose you are a farmer. Suppose that you are the true owner of all the resources that go into the farm. You own the land, the equipment, the barn, the silo, and the seed, so you are free to operate this farm any way you see fit. One day you decide you want to break from normal convention and change the way you manage the farm. Everybody else follows the boring pattern of planting their seeds in the early spring. This means they must work their fields during the heat of the summer in preparation for a fall harvest. You, however, have other ideas. You want to spend your summer at the beach, so you decide to postpone planting your seeds until the fall. That way you can work the fields during the winter, when it is too cold to do anything “fun,” all in preparation for harvesting your crops in the spring.

It sounds like a great idea until you try it. That’s when you discover that the cycle of the seasons is such that the crops don’t grow during the winter months. The shorter days and the colder temperatures simply won’t allow it. You can protest to the media that you have no harvest in the spring; you can demand a government investigation into why you have been treated so unfairly; you can sue the local meteorologists for not giving you the forecast you need, but nothing will change the outcome. If you want a successful harvest, then you must work

in sync with the rhythm of the seasons. Of course, even this is no guarantee. Drought, pests, invasive weeds, and countless other risks might keep you from reaping a bountiful harvest in any given year, but the reason everybody else plants their seed in the spring is because this is the pattern God has baked into the creation. It is how the world works.

The Bible refers to this as wisdom. Wisdom is the ability and the willingness to live our lives in sync with the rhythm and the order God has established. Practically, morally, and spiritually, our lives will “work” better if we adhere to this pattern rather than fight against it. This doesn’t mean there is no room for creativity and innovation. It does mean that over time, those who align themselves with the patterns of truth God has revealed will be more likely to flourish in all the ways that God has intended.

The good news is that we don’t have to look too far or acquire highly specialized knowledge to know what these patterns are, because God has revealed them to us. As the Apostle Paul makes clear in Romans 1, we see initial evidence of them in the creation. More importantly, we see His divine order revealed in Scripture, which makes plain what He intends for his people. Ultimately, we see His wisdom most fully on display in the person and the



work of Jesus Christ. According to the opening lines of John’s gospel, Jesus is the Word, which translates the Greek word, Logos. In the Greek language, Logos is the ordering principle that lies behind all things. As Colossians 1:17 puts it, “He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.” Jesus is God’s wisdom made flesh.

Many of us enter the new year with goals to pursue or changes to make, which is all well and good, but the most important change we can make is to put Christ at the center of all things. It is by worshiping, serving, and obeying him that our lives have the best chance of flourishing, because only then will we truly be in sync with God’s revealed wisdom. Let’s pursue him together and see what kind of harvest he has in store!

Grace and peace,

CHRIS CADENHEAD
Pastor

ccadenhead@bonsackbaptist.org

Community & Stewardship

OCTOBER OFFERING

Regular Offerings \$205,840
United for Impact \$243,624

NOVEMBER OFFERING

Regular Offerings \$304,397
United for Impact \$142,207

NEW MEMBERS:

Twenty new members have joined since the last newsletter:

Curtis & Joyce James	Foster Landes
Margaret Jones	Raegan Landes
Carolyn Leachman	Jett Wright
James & Sandi Snead	Glenn & Susan Armstrong
Jonathan Snead	Denise Young
Micah Young	Roger & Claire Hammond
Joseph Agee	Wendell & Lisa Hart
Jesse Caldwell	

SYMPATHY TO:

The family of Billie Sue Booze Liptrap

Paul Byrd, sister, Betty Evelyn Byrd Butterworth

Barry Hall, brother, John Preston Hall

The family of Linda Catherine Kellison Adams

Rodney Spickard and Donna Simmons, father,
Dale Newman Spickard

David Fisher, wife and **Emily, Ryleigh and Russell Fisher**, mother,
Leanne Burnop Fisher

Carl Hundley, father, Donald Ray Hundley

Debbie Byrd, husband, Paul Elvert Byrd

Charlotte Beard, husband and **Shannon Cowger**, father,
Kenneth "Kenny" Wayne Beard

Nancy Prillaman, husband, Alfred "Al" Prillaman

Malcolm "Mal" MacLean, father, Douglas Malcolm MacLean

Staley Lyle, grandmother, Peggy Sue Morgan Lyle

Elizabeth Pierson, father, John "Johnny" G. Long, Jr.

Andy Ashworth, father, Floyd McKinley Ashworth

The family of Jeanne Ayscue

Sean Goldsmith, stepfather, Ortho Martin Givens

Christmas Eve - We got to celebrate the birth of Jesus with over 800 people Sunday evening! We had many guests and some first timers who said they had been invited by members. May the Lord be glorified by the impact of the services.

Calendar

January

- | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 5-6 | Night to Shine Dress/Suit Fitting |
| 7 | January Bible Study Begins |
| 8-11 | Directory Photos |
| 10 | Wed. Night Activities Resume |
| 12 | Women's Soup, Apps, & Game Night |
| 15-18 | Directory Photos |
| 26 | New Members Banquet |
| 28 | Testimonies During Worship |

February

- | | |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 2 | GA Family Game Night |
| 11 | Baptism Sunday |
| 14 | Ash Wednesday |
| 17 | Better Love Date Night |
| 18 | Endowment & Memorial Sunday |
| 24 | RA Car Race |
| 25 | Youth Sunday |
| 25 | Heart Reach Brunch |

FULL CHURCH CALENDAR ONLINE:
BonsackBaptist.org/events

For detailed weekly stewardship information, worship order, announcements, and upcoming events, view our online bulletin at BonsackBaptist.org/worship-bulletin



Better Love Date Night

With Drs. Les and Leslie Parrott

By Lisa Adams - It was a cold, dark Friday night when Ben and I sat down for dinner at Cabo Fish Taco in downtown Roanoke. With three school-aged kids, date nights are few these days, and even finding time for conversation can be challenging. During the day? Too busy. At night? Too tired. Can anyone relate?

We've been married for almost sixteen years, and we discovered from year one that marriage takes work. A strong, healthy marriage doesn't happen naturally, not with two sinners involved, the world's message inundating us, plus spiritual attack—in other words, the world, the flesh, and the devil all against us. Marriage is something you have to work for, fight for.

So there we sat at Cabo Fish Taco with a pile of papers in front of us, because we can be old school and print things. (I know a lot of people can relate to that!) Earlier that day we'd each spent a few minutes taking Drs. Les and Leslie Parrott's Better Love Relationship Assessment. The papers we were looking at were our results.

What were each of our love languages? What were our personality types? What were the challenges of our two personality types working together? (Let's just say I was not surprised when I was reminded of my need to be patient!) Where were we winning in our marriage? And where did we need to grow?

It's hard to have these conversations—without conflict, at least!—in the middle of a busy routine. Taking the Better Love Relationship Assessment gave us the context to have a truly helpful conversation, growing in our appreciation of and commitment to each other. The assessment results came with a guide for four conversations, and we are looking forward to the Better Love Date Night here at Bonsack Baptist on Saturday evening, February 17th.

Coming just after Valentine's Day, we'll enjoy a special night together as bestselling authors Drs. Les and Leslie Parrott help us experience better love and healthier relationships. Drs. Les and Leslie (yes, they have the same name,

and they both have doctorates!) bring to the table not only a strong faith and biblical insights, but also backgrounds in counseling and psychology that equip them with practical relational tools.

Where do you come in? If you are married, engaged, or dating, register on the church website to receive a custom link to the Better Love Relationship Assessment, your personalized conversation guide, and two seats at the table on February 17th. No matter how long you've been married, we want you to join us—we believe we all have room to grow, and we also want to learn from each other. We want to see couples at this event who have been married 50+ years. You are an inspiration!

If you are not married, ask us how you can help—this will be an all-hands-on-deck night, and the whole church benefits when our families are strong! We especially need help with childcare, so that young parents can fully benefit from the evening.

And this night isn't just for us here at Bonsack—it's an important outreach opportunity! What friends or family members could you invite, who attend a different church or don't attend church?

We'll be talking a lot about this in the coming month as we all jump in on this Better Love journey. Join us!



Register with the QR code or visit bonsackbaptist.org/events

REC CENTER NEWS

January Special:

Working out is more fun with a friend. This month, bring a first time guest with you to the rec center and both you and your guest will receive a free 1-month membership!

Now Open the 1st and 3rd Saturday:

Beginning January 6th, the Rec Center will be open from 9am-12pm on the first and third Saturday of every month!

New Classes and Clinics:

Saturday Silver Sneakers and Yoga

Our classic and favorite Silver Sneakers and Yoga classes will be offered on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month. Silver Sneakers will start at 9:15am with Yoga following at 10:15am.

Chair Yoga

Following in the spirit of SitNBFit, we will now offer a chair-based yoga class. This class will feature stretching and meditation from your chair. The class is a brisk 30 minutes and will take place every Tuesday and Thursday at 11am.

Lifting Forms

This 30 minute, free class will teach proper form while exercising to enable you to exercise effectively and safely. It will be taught Monday-Thursday the week of January 8th at 8:30am. This is a great opportunity to learn how to have proper form while exercising.

Weight Room Orientation

Come learn how to best use all of the equipment in the weight room. This class has limited spaces and is free!

Small Group Training

Everything is better with friends, especially working out! Get personalized training together. This is for groups of 2-3 people who want to sweat and grow together. Free consultation!

Adult Pickup Basketball: Monday Nights 7pm-9pm

Pickleball: Tuesday 6pm-9pm, Thursday 10am-12pm

Volleyball: Thursday Evenings 7pm-9pm



Kenya Mission Trip

Sodzo International is an organization based in Maua, Kenya, and they have been a mission partner of Bonsack since 2018. Their mission is to advance the well-being of the world's most vulnerable children. They envision a world where all children possess the opportunity to discover and actualize their God-given potential. Sodzo confronts the problem of child homelessness through direct reintegration, a rescue center, and family strengthening.

Sodzo has a nearly 80% success rate with the children that they minister to and have made an incredible impact on thousands of families in north-central Kenya.

This September, we are returning on a mission trip to serve alongside our Kenyan brothers and sisters as they share the love of Christ with some of the most vulnerable people in the world. The trip is open to all adults. While the exact work that we will do is somewhat dependent on the make-up of the team, we will be interacting with children and adults. There will be opportunity for ministry and teaching as well as physical projects. This trip is a great opportunity to serve God through serving the people of Kenya and it is an opportunity to grow deeper in your faith.

Dates: September 14 – 22

Cost: Approximately \$2,500

Applications will be due at the end of February.

The first meeting will be in March.

For more information on Sodzo, visit sodzointernational.org. For more trip specific information, contact Ryan Saunders rsaunders@bonsackbaptist.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

Our twenty-five Adult Sunday School groups have had a busy few months!

BIBLE STUDIES

The first week of December, several groups began a study of Genesis, which will take them through the month of May. A book of beginnings, Genesis is foundational to understanding the Biblical story.

Other Sunday School groups are studying the Names of God, Exodus, Acts, James, and others. Studying God's Word in a small group gives everyone a chance to participate.

SERVICE PROJECTS

Participating in an Adult Sunday School group puts you on the front lines of ministry here at Bonsack Baptist! Over the last few months, groups have participated in a variety of service opportunities:

The **Believers**, a 55+ group led by Marcy Wohlford, and the **Anchors**, a 20s group led by Jacob Meacham, both turned out en masse for Parents Night Out on November 10th! Their willingness to sacrifice a Friday evening to care for young children provided an opportunity for many parents to enjoy a date night.

Faithful Branches, led by Pam Moreland, has sponsored a child at the Ruth School in Romania since 2014.



Faithful Branches Christmas Party

A Deeper Faith, led by Tom Hoover, Louise Hundley, and Chris Meacham, adopted two families from Care Portal, a partner ministry of Bonsack Baptist that helps families of children in the foster care system. Over Christmas, they provided gifts for the children and a grocery gift card to the family.

Faith and Fellowship, led by Louise Nunn and Greg Stidham, initiated a variety of service projects in 2023, helping Teen Challenge, providing snacks for children in need at a local elementary school, and adopting a family for Christmas. The **Believers** group also adopted a family for Christmas.

PURE, our Special Needs Adults led by Charlotte Creasy and Jill Winston, love to write encouraging cards.

Peace and Joy, led by Mike Bryant, raised \$850 for the Friendship House Christmas Toy Store. Friendship House is a partner ministry of Bonsack Baptist, and their Christmas Toy Store sells new toys at deeply discounted prices to families in need. Funds raised through the toy store provide scholarships for their after-school program.

Did you see apple butter for sale around the church this fall? **Legacy Builders**, led by Jay Hipes, got together to make 59 gallons of apple butter, a twelve-hour project at the Muncneys' home that they describe as "...fellowship and fun, with a purpose. We knew we wanted to do something to minister to others, and we love being able to raise money for a ministry while enjoying spending time together as a group." The Legacy Builders raised \$2,319 for the youth mission trip to serve Pathway Dominicana in the Dominican Republic!

This list is just a sampling of so many fundraisers and service projects initiated by

our Bonsack community. We are putting into practice Hebrews 10:24—"let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds."

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Sunday School groups do a lot of Bible study and a lot of service—but they also have a lot of fun! The month of December was packed with group Christmas parties, some meeting at the church, some at homes, one at Waffle House at midnight!



Synergy Christmas Parties

If you are not part of an Adult Sunday School group, you are missing out! Talk to Lisa Adams to find a group that is right for you.

Lisa Adams

Director of Christian Education
ladams@bonsackbaptist.org

ANGEL TREES

Thank you for your overwhelming generosity! With your help, we were able to make Christmas wishes come true for 38 residents at the Woodhaven Nursing and Memory Care Center. We provided over \$300 in restaurant gift cards



for the children at Keystone Community Center, along with sponsoring 3 of their children and donating multiple large bags of toys. Finally, we sent two car loads full of outdoor toys, including 7 bikes, multiple scooters, skateboards, and so much more to help Friendship House stock their annual Christmas Store.



MUSIC TIME FOR KIDS: SPRING AUDITIONS

Happy New Year Bonsack Family! 2023 was a fantastic year and we are so grateful for all that God has done. Every new year brings new opportunities, and 2024 is certainly no different! Grab your magnifying glass fellow detectives and prepare to search for clues as we discover who our neighbor is! **Music Time will resume January 10 at 6pm.** Auditions for the musical, *A Not So Terrible Parable*, will be on Sunday, January 14 from 1:30pm - 3pm. Auditions will be for 4th-6th graders with opportunities in both drama and vocal solos. We will have a table read with the main cast at 5:30pm on January 17.

A Not So Terrible Parable combines mystery and truth in this dramatic retelling of the Good Samaritan. Characters such as the famous detective Ricki Blaine, Jeeves the butler, Yvette the maid and our host Alistar McAlister, dive into what it means to love your neighbor and exhibit Christ's selfless love in all that we say and do. We invite you to join us for an afternoon of mystery, detective work, and odd pizza toppings as we present the musical on May 5th.

JOB OPENINGS

Food Service Coordinator - We are looking for a part-time Food Service Coordinator to help coordinate Wednesday night meals as well as keep the kitchen organized and clean. Know someone who may be interested? Visit bonsackbaptist.org/employment

Minister of Children & Families - This full-time position will help guide, encourage, and minister to children and their families. The search-team requests your prayers as they continue their search using Chemistry Staffing. Please contact Bill Drennan, Search Chair, with questions or leads. For more information, visit bonsackbaptist.org/employment

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Soup, Apps & Game Night

Fri, Jan 12, 6pm - 9pm

Ladies, come join us for a delightful evening of games and good company! Bring a soup or appetizer to share with everyone. We can't wait to have you there!

Bible Studies (Open to all women)

Tuesday Night | 6-8pm, CLC 1

Starting January 9th - "Romans: In View of God's Mercies"

Wednesday Night | 6:15-7:30pm,
Roanoke Hall C

Starting January 10th - "Abide: A Study of 1, 2, & 3 John"

Thursday Morning | 10am-11:15am,
Room B215

Starting January 11th - "Hosea: Unfailing Love Changes Everything"



2024 ABIGAIL GIRLS

The Women's Missionary Union of Virginia has selected five GA's from our church to serve as Abigail Girls for the upcoming year—Sadie Whitenack, Grace Richardson, Emily Ramsey, Elanor Adams, and Emma Garcia. Selection is made via an application review process based on their interest and participation in missions and the recommendations of church leaders. They will plan and fund a mission project, participate in Association and State WMU gatherings, participate in an in-state mission trip (perhaps their very first mission trip!), and attend GA camps. You will have opportunities to meet and encourage these girls throughout the upcoming year.

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS STUDY: ZAMBIA

On December 7, GA's and RA's joined together for a special two-hour International Missions Study on magnificent Zambia! We learned about the geography, culture, demographics, and the work of six different missionary families who are supported by the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. It was interesting to hear about churches where people sit on rocks under a tree for worship services, a missionary who started a basketball team in rural eastern Zambia, how much scripture children must learn to "pass" Bible School, how missionaries help Zambians access clean water, experiencing the national food "nshima," and catching grasshoppers for breakfast. These missionaries are well established in their work, and Zambians are responding to the gospel with enthusiasm! We would like to acknowledge our outstanding GA and RA leaders, WMU ladies, and special guest Josh Bartley who facilitated this special missions event.

GA's and RA's on Mission

- Our 5th and 6th grade GA's exceeded all previous records with their fall craft sale and raised \$965 for Angel Tree Gifts
- The Abigail Girls completed their year of service, collectively raising \$2,000 for the Ronald McDonald House
- The GA's raised \$901 for the Lottie Moon Offering from their bake sale
- Several GA and RA families assisted with Christmas deliveries to shut-ins this year



PRESCHOOL NEWS

The pinnacle of December for our preschoolers was their music presentation of *Joy For Jesus* that they sang for their parents, grandparents, and friends. This was their first time in the sanctuary since the renovation.

As we closed the preschool for 2023, the folks from Witt Carpet came to put down the new flooring in the Children's Building. They installed gray luxury vinyl tile and carpet squares in the classrooms and hallways. It looks amazing and it's a huge improvement over what we had before, which was many years old. If you haven't seen it, come check it out!



New Flooring!



Joy for Jesus Presentation

The children are looking forward to our annual Olympic Day festivities, which will happen near the end of the month. We will play games in traditional Olympic fashion! Be sure to mark your calendars for our Spring Consignment Sale on Saturday, March 2. May the New Year point the way to the Hope who is Jesus our Lord!

Tana Adams

Director of Weekday Early Education
tadams@bonsackbaptist.org

BONSACK KIDS

As we begin a new year, we have a lot of events to look forward to. MT4K and Mission Groups return on Wednesday, January 10. The GA's will be having a Family Game Night on Friday, February 2. The RAs will be having their annual Car Race on Saturday, February 24.

Mark your calendars for summer VBS, June 10th-14th! We will be taking a trip to Breaker Rock Beach and learning about God's rock-solid truth in a world of shifting sands.

CORRECT INFORMATION?

With a new year and a new pictorial directory on it's way, help us by checking your contact information on your MyBonsack account on the website. We want to make sure everyone's information and unlisted preferences are correct before printing the directory. To edit or unlist your home phone and physical addresses, click the edit button next to your last name. To edit an individual's information, such as cell number, birthday, and name, click the "edit household member" button underneath each person. Be sure to check your unlisted status for each individual. In the directory, children's cell numbers will not be listed.

For helpful tips on the MyBonsack account, go to the MyBonsack frequently asked questions page (bonsackbaptist.org/faqs). You will not be required to be logged in to access this page. If you have any issues or need any help with this, contact Traci Hickman at thickman@bonsackbaptist.org.

JANUARY BIBLE STUDY

Come hear from Dr. Bob Moore as he leads a study of the Sermon on the Mount each Sunday in January from 5-7pm. Books are available for purchase at the coffeeshop.

The Sermon on the Mount presents the heart of the teaching of Jesus; it may be the best-known part of the New Testament, though it is the least understood, and certainly it is the least obeyed. Immediately after his baptism and temptation, Jesus began announcing that the long promised kingdom of God had come. The Sermon on the Mount is Jesus' own description of what He wanted His followers to do and what they should look like when they come under the rule of God.

Jesus meant for His sermon to be obeyed. This study will give an in-depth look at what the Sermon on the Mount says. It will invite participants to let Jesus speak again. If Christians wholeheartedly accepted the values and standards that Jesus sets forth, we would become a radically different society. Our witness to the world would be so much clearer and stronger.



Prime Time Platitudes

2023 seems to have flown by fast! We look forward to an exciting year of more luncheons, dinners, movies, speakers and trips. There will be a luncheon in January featuring deli sandwiches and a movie. In February, we will have another luncheon with soup and a speaker.

As we move into this year, I hope that we will focus on growing our relationships with Christ and each other. If you have any suggestions for events or speakers, please email me and we'll get to work on adding them to our adventures for the new year!

Rhon Williams

Minister to Adults 60+

rwilliams@bonsackbaptist.org



We had over 1,000 guests at *Sounds of Christmas* this year! Thank you to everyone who participated and made this event possible!

PHOTO DIRECTORY

Our new church directory won't be complete without YOU!

Schedule your photo session online or at the sign-up sheet at church. Each family that is photographed will receive a free directory and an 8x10 photo. Dates: January 8-11, 15-18.

"Can I submit my own photo?" - There will be a charge of \$20 to submit your own photo, so sign up for your free session today!

YOUTH NEWS

Summer Internship

College students, are you looking for a paid summer internship? Visit bonsackbaptist.org/youth

Student Music Resumes - January 7

Wednesday Night Activities Resume - January 10

Jamarama - April 19-21

Centrifuge Camp

Now that the weather has turned cold and the sun sets at 4:45pm it is the perfect time to talk about summer. In the summer of 2024, we are headed to Centrifuge Camp at James Madison University June 17-21. The cost for camp this year is \$459. Camp is open to all students currently in the 7th-12th grade.



Christmas Karaoke



*Lifting Hand Weights
during the SitNBFit
fitness class*



BBC PRAYER TEAM

Loving Others Through Your Prayers

One way to show love to other people is by praying for them. Intercession means going to God on someone else's behalf and taking their needs and concerns to Him. Colossians 4:2 says "Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving" NKJV. People you can pray for: Family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, our church, persecuted Christians and those defending them, our community, state, and country, and countries around the world. Your prayers of intercession are the most powerful, valuable gift you can ever give to other people. They make an eternal difference in the lives of other people and in yours. There may be times when you are the only person on earth that is praying for someone else—and your prayers of intercession can change a person's entire life. Ask God to bring to mind specific people to pray for.

Beginning in January 2024 there will be a Thursday prayer gathering in CLC #1 from Noon until 1 o'clock each week. The prayer gatherings on the third Sunday of each month will be held in the Roanoke Hall of the CLC from 3:30pm - 5pm. The first Sunday prayer gathering will be January 21.

The BBC Prayer Team



Bonsack Baptist Church

4845 Cloverdale Road

Roanoke, VA 24019

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

MINISTERIAL STAFF:

Lisa Adams, *Director of Christian Education*

Ann-Marie Ball, *CLC Worship Leader*

and Director of Media Ministries

Dr. Chris Cadenhead, *Pastor*

Rev. Rob Covington, *Minister of Youth*

Rev. Grant Frederick, *Minister of Music*

Dr. Robert Moore, III, *Pastor Emeritus*

Michele Quesenberry, *Director of Children's Ministries*

Rev. John Recktenwald, *Executive Pastor*

Rev. Ryan Saunders, *Minister of Community Life*

Rev. Rhon Williams, *Minister of Adults 60+*

Watch online!

Livestream from your computer, tablet, or phone:

Visit the Bonsack Baptist Facebook page, the church website, or visit www.bbroanoke.online.church

You can also download the Bonsack Baptist Church app!

The Sanctuary service livestream plays on Sundays at 9:45am.

The CLC service plays a recording on Sundays at 11:15am.

*Both services can also be accessed later in the week through the
Bonsack Baptist Facebook page or on the church website.*

Thank you for joining us, both online and in-person!

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