

Luther continues, “God makes the person a sinner (by the law) so that God may make the sinner righteous.” “It is certain that a person must utterly despair of personal ability before such a person is prepared to receive the grace of Christ...for grace and faith are infused without our works. After they have been imparted the works follow.” Hence, “...the law (says Augustine) commands what faith obtains.” Finally, Luther reminds us that “sinners are attractive because they are loved (by God); they are not loved because they are attractive,” and “true theology and recognition of God are in the crucified Christ.”

All of this teaching comports with a verse that I read this morning in Galatians 2:20: “I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” God’s love, His sacrifice, His miraculous imputation of faith, and His undeserved salvation of sinner are all reasons to celebrate this October! May the recovered doctrine of the Reformation lead us into wonderful Thanksgiving in November, appreciation of Advent in December, and Worshipful expectancy of the Passion Week in the Spring, Christ providing eternal life to all who would receive it by faith alone which is by grace alone (Eph.2:8-9).

Pastor Rusty

CHRISTMAS Parade

Save the date! Saturday 11/30 Downtown Blue Ridge. We need help decorating @ 12 that day and then we need participants for that evening. Some will be riding the float and others will be walking beside the float. Be at the church no later than 4:45 (parade starts at 5:30) Please see Peggy Hozgreffe, Brittany Carroll or Shelley Smallwood

Rusty Thomas-Senior Pastor—706-633.0745—rusty.thomas@blueridgefbc.org
 Jacob Boatner-Associate Pastor—334.318.0558—jacob.boatner@blueridgefbc.org
 Austin Leach-Student Minister—423.331.7504—Aleach15@gmail.com
 Pat young-Childhood Ministries/Music
 770.316.6575—pat.young@blueridgefbc.org
 Shelley Smallwood-Secretary
 706.207.9150—shelley.smallwood@blueridgefbc.org
 Debbie Jones-Pianist
 Matt Hinman-Audio/Visual Coordinator

WHAT’S GOING ON FOR FBCBR:

- 10/5 Gun Range Day (Outside)
- 10/6 Life Chain
- 10/9 Fall Break (No Wed. Activities)
- 10/11 Equipping Men’s Bible Study
- 10/19 Women’s Movie Night
- 10/26 SALT
- 10/28 Men’s Book Club Meets
- 11/24 Church Thanksgiving Meal
- 11/30 Christmas Parade/Church Float
- 12/6 CLC Christmas Concert
- 12/7 Morning at the Manger
- 12/13 Kenny Evans Christmas Concert
- 12/15 Choir Christmas Special
- 12/22 Christmas Caroling

Are you musical? Come join the fun at
Worship Choir

Do you have detail-oriented skills? How about the new volunteer position of
Nursery Coordinator?

What about the Nursery Ministry? We are in great need of nursery workers! Can you serve at least once monthly?

Do you have the calling to help others?

If so join the Security or Medical Teams

There is place to serve here at FBCBR for

Everyone!

Please keep bringing your donations of candy and put in the designated tote in @ the Welcome Center for upcoming events.

Please note mailboxes/Lost & Found are located in the Conference Room



October Is For Christ, Not Creeps

October is the month when everyone’s mind is on significant “fall-ish” matters. Izzy is celebrating Pumpkin Spice Lattes, I and Nicole are pointing out the changing leaves to the kids, and finally, our teenagers can justifiably wear their hoodies without seeming rather out of place in the ninety-degree weather. October is a month when the world allows their goblins and ghouls to take over their yards, and perhaps even their hearts. However, for the church of Christ, it is a time to celebrate the Great European Reformation of the Church, traditionally celebrated to have begun on October 31, 1517, with Martin Luther’s posting of 95 Thesis which he desired to debate with the local scholars of Wittenberg, Germany concerning the Church’s abuse of Indulgences (which were basically Church-issued papers of forgiveness for sins of the living and the dead).

Reading Luther’s Heidelberg Disputation this week for a seminary class, I reveled in the doctrine that he, by the Holy Spirit, brought back to the forefront of church teaching in the sixteenth century. “The will is captive and subject to sin. Not that it is nothing, but that it is not free except to do evil.” This is an echo of Augustine, who Luther declares to be “the most trustworthy interpreter of Paul,” when the fourth century saint writes, “Free will without grace has the power to do nothing but sin (Augustine: The Spirit and the Letter).” How then shall depraved, wicked, enslaved man be saved?

[Continued]

October 2024



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Witness to your faith against abortion by standing with others in prayer!
October 6th 2:00-3:30
United Community Bank
See Abby Noblitt for details

DEACON OF THE WEEK - OCTOBER 2024

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| 06 Mike George | 252-341-3385 |
| 13 Chris Thigpen | 706-466-1713 |
| 20 Mike Creasman | 678-232-8859 |
| 27 Tim Smallwood | 706-248-1091 |

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- Matt Lynch—10/05**
- Darcy Arnall—10/07**
- Lorita Pardue—10/11**
- Paul Ramirez—10/11**
- Pat Young—10/14**
- Nicole Thomas—10/17**
- Spencer Lanning—10/18**
- Caroline Thigpen—10/25**
- Cheryl Zak—10/26**
- Joe Queen—10/27**
- Judah Tercero—10/27**
- Mary McDonald—10/30**
- Eli Franklin—10/31**
- Will Nuckolls—10/31**

- Jacob & Emma-Ruth Boatner—10/02**
- Tim & Shelley Smallwood—10/14**
- Quinn & Kayli Leach—10/16**

		1 Quilting B's @ 9AM	2 Turkey w/ Cornbread Dressing	3	4	5 Outdoor Gun Range @ 10am
6 Life Chain @ 2:00PM	7 Deacon's Meeting @ 6PM	8 WMU/Heart to Hands @ 10AM	9 Fall Break No Activities	10	11 Equipping Men Bible Study Evening	12 Arts in the Park Peru Mission Team Parks Cars
13	14	15 Quilting B's @ 9AM	16 Chicken Sandwiches	17	18	19 Women's Movie/ Dinner 5:30-7PM
20	21	22	23 Spaghetti	24	25	26 SALT Outdoor gun Range 2PM
27	28 Men's Book Club Meets	29	30 Baked Apple Chicken	31 Safe Zone		