

THE WITNESS OF THE SPIRIT

"The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit..." (Romans 8:16).

We are in danger of getting into a bargaining spirit with God when we come to Him—we want the witness of the Spirit before we have done what God tells us to do.

Why doesn't God reveal Himself to you? He cannot. It is not that He will not, but He cannot, because you are in the way as long as you won't abandon yourself to Him in total surrender. Yet once you do, immediately God witnesses to Himself—He cannot witness to you, but He instantly witnesses to His own nature in you. If you received the witness of the Spirit before the reality and truth that comes from obedience, it would simply result in sentimental emotion. But when you act on the basis of redemption, and stop the disrespectfulness of debating with God, He immediately gives His witness. As soon as you abandon your own reasoning and arguing. God witnesses to what He has done, and you are amazed at your total disrespect in having kept waiting. If you are debating as to whether or not God can deliver from sin, then either let Him do it or tell Him that He cannot. Do not quote this or the person to Him. Simply obey Matthew 11:28, "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden...." Com, if you are weary, and ask, if you know you are evil (see Luke 11:9-13).

The Spirit of God witnesses to the redemption of our Lord, and to nothing else. He cannot witness to our reason. We are inclined to mistake the simplicity that comes from our natural commonsense decisions for the witness of the Spirit, but the Spirit witnesses only to His own Nature, and to the work of redemption, never to our reason. If we are trying to make Him witness to our reason, it is no wonder that we are in darkness and uncertainty. Throw it all overboard, trust in Him, and He will give you the witness of the Spirit.

Community Appreciation Dinner

You are cordially invited to attend the reception/dinner, honoring Terri Bryant Community Appreciation Dinner, October 27, at 5:30 P. M., Sr. Adult Center, tickets \$30.00 available through the Hot Spring Chamber of Commerce 501-332-2721.

Opportunities to Serve

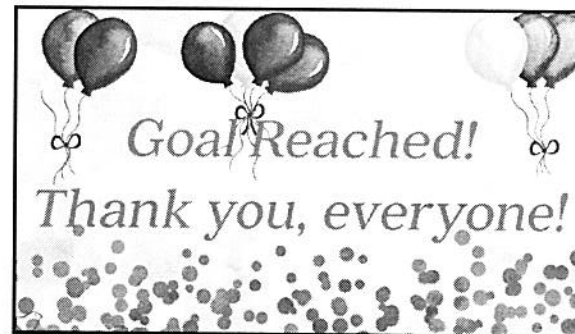
Candy, candy, and more candy for the Downtown Merchants' Annual Trick-or-Treat event on 10/31/18 from 5-6:30 p.m. FBC will have a table in front of Walgreens. Please bring candy to the church office during regular business hours or drop it off in the marked boxes in the foyer or at the organ-side exit of the auditorium.

FBC will provide hot dogs at the Malvern Police Department annual fall festival at the courthouse annex on Highland Street on October 31, from 6 to no later than 9 P.M. If you would like to help defray the cost of hot dogs and supplies, please mark your offering as "outreach."

Opportunities to serve as follows: Downtown Jobs: transporting candy, a table, etc., from the church to the site in front of Walgreens, and handing out candy &/or information. Set up should be completed by 4:45 and pack-up could be as late as 6:30 P.M.

MPD Fall Festival jobs include transporting food & supplies from the church to the courthouse annex, setting up, cooking hot dogs, serving hot dogs, and clean up.

If you would like to take advantage of any of these service opportunities, please see Cynthia Braziel or call 501-844-1104.



Dixie Jackson State Missions OFFERING

State Goal: \$1.7 million
Church Goal: \$3,000
Total to Date \$4,713

**A BIG THANK YOU to all who helped
us reach our goal!!!**

Breath Of Life Preg. Resource Ctr.

Current needs of the Breath Of Life Resource Center are: Newborn diapers, crib sheets, baby toys, and baby wash. For more information, call Terri Colananni at: 501-337-6079.

It's time for the Associational Food Drive. The food will provide a complete Thanksgiving and Christmas meal for each family that receives a food sack. The following is a list of the specific items needed: Canned Corn, Stuffing Mix, Canned Green Beans, Cornbread Mix, Canned Green Peas, Cake Mix, Canned Yams, Cake Icing (in little tubs), Canned Fruit, 1lb Bags of Rice,

Cranberry Sauce, 1lb Bags of Pinto Beans, Peanut Butter, Large Paper Grocery Bags. Boxes will be placed in each building to collect the food. The deadline to bring the food is October 28th.

Thanks in advance for your generosity.

FIRST LADIES HOLIDAY TEA

First Ladies Holiday Tea November 3, 10:00 A.M, Family Life Center. We had a grand time at the Spring Tea, please join us! Hat and Pearls are not required but they do add to the fun!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

NATIONAL COLLECTION WEEK

IS 4 WEEKS AWAY!

Our Church goal is 251!!! Here are some ways you can help...pack a box, donate items for boxes such as school supplies, give monetary gifts towards shipping, most of all PRAY for children receiving these boxes and will hear the news of Jesus! Below is a schedule for NCW drop off here at FBC MALVERN We will have a sign up sheet for volunteers starting this Sunday!

ATTENTION

There will be an OCC Volunteer Meeting in the class room off the Gym on Sunday, October, 21, at 4:00 P.M.



THE VISION

SS Enrollment	124
SS Attendance	87
Weekly Budget 10/14/18	\$3,315
Budget Offering for October	\$16,416.19
Required Monthly	\$30,874.51
October Building Fund	\$4,001.00
Hispanic Attendance	10
Hispanic Offering 10/6/18	\$400

October

Deacon Greeter

Charlie Daniel

Encore Healthcare & Rehab

Layne Sparks 116

YOUTH NEWS

Registration for:

REALITY weekend is now open! This weekend is a discipleship weekend for 7th — 12th grade. It is January 18-19th in Benton.

Early Bird price is \$75, down payment of \$20 is needed to secure your spot.

Contact Sean Ray for questions.

The Vision
Periodical Postage
PAID
Malvern, AR 72104
Permit No. 856800

Periodical postage paid at Malvern, Hot Spring county AR.
USPS NO 856800 POSTMASTER
Send address changes to:
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 531 S. Main St Malvern, AR 72104

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

531 S. Main St.
Malvern, AR 72104

"Loving God, Loving Others: Serving Both"



Pastor Billy Bartlett
Youth Pastor Sean Ray
501-332-5263