



The Voice

Rankin Lake Baptist Church

October 2021

From the Pastor's Heart . . .

Help me! Where is time going? It seems like just yesterday we started a new church year and here it is again—a new church year. The older I get the smarter my Mom gets. As a child, I would wish for Christmas or birthday or some other special occasion to get here sooner. She would often respond, “don’t wish your life away...the older you get the faster time seems to go by.” I suppose this is what she meant. But in fairness, since God created time for the earth, the day has been 24 hours long. So, where does the time seem to go?

The new church year is a lot like the new calendar year. You can adjust your schedule, change your priorities, adapt to new opportunities and certainly look at the last year and evaluate what you see was accomplished or, you can do nothing. There ought to be “hurrah” moments we can celebrate. But inevitably, there will be some “oh no” moments we need to look at, too.

Dealing with the lingering effects of COVID-19, we had to make adjustments. Some people are still struggling and dealing with the impact of this virus. It can be intimidating to look at the harsh realities. With one person, it may be little more than an inconvenience and for the next person, it could have life threatening consequences. As much as I wish we could be saying “good riddance” to this virus, I am afraid it may be with us for a while to come. We may still be adjusting to it next year, too.

I “tip my hat” to you for your response as a church. Many of you have endured the issues and concerns of the virus, but still remained faithful in attendance, tithes and the sweet spirit of cooperation toward each other and guests. I’ve read horror stories of how people have been treated in airports/airplanes, stores and other public venues when there has been a difference of opinion on an issue. But not you. You have been respectful of each other and differing opinions. For that, you are to be commended. Thank you for loving each other that much!

But, personally and as a church, we need to take a moment to assess where we are. A few questions to aid in this: How is your walk with God? What about your relationship with Him? Would you say you are closer to the Lord now than you were last year at this time? How about your discipleship—are you ***“be(ing) diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth”*** (2 Timothy 2:15)? Would you say you are growing in your relationship? But maybe the most important question to ask yourself, would God be pleased with your progress as His child from last year until this year?

Depending upon your heartfelt responses, how did you score? Whether you are OK with where you are really doesn’t matter. God’s assessment is what matters. So, as we begin the new church year, let’s look seriously at where we are. Then, ask God to show us what He wants us to know and determine in our hearts to follow Him. Let’s do that together!

Continuing on the Journey,

October 2021

Join us for adult **Sunday School** in the sanctuary and children and youth meet in the educational building each Sunday at 9:30am.

The **FLC** is reserved Thursday, October 7th, Friday, October 8th, Saturday, November 6th and Saturday, January 29th. If you need to reserve the FLC, please contact the church office well in advance of your event.

The **Ladies Prayer Group** is excited to meet Tuesday, October 12 at 10:30am in the FLC Conference Room. Looking forward to seeing everyone for a special time of prayer and fellowship. All ladies are invited to join us.

Adult Discipleship will continue on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. We will meet in the Youth Room and will be joining with the Youth in a study on Apologetics. If you have not been coming on Wednesday nights, this is a perfect time to join us.

Salvation Church will continue to meet in our FLC. If you need to reserve the FLC for a private function, please contact the church office at least 2 weeks prior to your event.

Join us for RLBC's 76th **Homecoming Sunday**, October 17 and our Church Picnic at Rankin Lake Park on Saturday, October 30 from 3pm-6:30pm. Invite others to join you for these special times as we celebrate and fellowship together.

Youth Fall Retreat

Friday, November 19—Sunday, November 21
Hearts on Fire, Pigeon Forge, TN

This is an awesome weekend for our youth. The purpose of this conference is to fan the flames within the hearts of all ages and to challenge them to a dynamic walk and commitment in Christ.

Contact Leslie Miller for more information.

Sunday Morning worship services are available on Facebook LIVE at 11am and can also be found on our website at www.myrlbc.org and on the Rankin Lake Baptist Church YouTube Channel.

Nursery Schedule

10/3 Leslie & Anna Miller
10/10 Elaine Putnam & Kinley Craig
10/17 Leon & Faye Hovis
10/24 Lynn Davis & Brooke Loftis
10/31 Leslie & Anna Miller

If you are unable to serve in the Nursery on your assigned date, please contact Teresa Williams so she can make arrangements to serve in your absence.

October Birthdays:

10th Ronnie Cloninger
10th Terry Davis
16th Leslie Buchanan
25th Terry Mobley
28th Anna Miller



Mark Your Calendar:

The Youth will be going to **Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Processing Center** Friday, November 26, 2021 from 7:00-10:00pm to volunteer and help with the process of completing the Shoeboxes. Contact Ashley Loftis for more information.

A Special Note of Thanks! *To You, Our Church Family!*

We struggle to find adequate words to show our appreciation for all you have done for our family during this past week, especially. The calls, texts, cards, flowers, food (before and the day of the funeral) were so much appreciated and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Mom loved each of you and you were a special part of her life. Thank you for being there for the visitation and celebration of life service in support of our family.

We love and appreciate you and thank God for the blessing of you, our church family and friends!

Jim, DeLaine, Jason, Emily, Ashley, Brian, Brooke, Bethany, Jace and Baylee

October 2021

**You're
invited**

Rankin Lake Baptist Church

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Weekly Church Activities

Sunday

9:30am

Adult Sunday School in the Sanctuary
Children's & Youth Sunday School in the
Educational Building

11:00am

Morning Worship Service (in person or LIVE on
the Rankin Lake Baptist Church YouTube Channel)

Tuesday

6:00am

Men's Bible Study

Wednesday

7:00pm

Youth and Adults Small Group Study and



Join us!

76th Homecoming Celebration
October 17th during our 11:00am
Worship Service. Join us in person
or live (the link will be posted on the
RLBC Facebook page and at
www.myrlbc.org)

October 30th for a Picnic at Rankin
Lake Park from 3:00-6:30pm