

# Ash Avenue Baptist Dispatch

ISSUE # 159

SEPTEMBER 2011

## From Eure Pastor's Desk

by John D. Eure

The last full week of August brought a shake in our routine as the earth quaked under our feet. Though moderate, it did little to no damage around us, though our friends in Mineral, VA were affected.

We're thankful, too, that the winds of Hurricane Irene spared us, though our friends in Richmond and on the coast have suffered costly destruction.

While natural disasters occur all over the world, much devastation is caused by human wars and persecution. Though there are moments of shocking crimes in our area, we're blessed to live in a country where dictators and tyrants aren't harassing and torturing its citizens.

However, we don't forget that we live in a fallen world and there is nothing within it that offers 100% security. This month, we somberly remember the terrorist attacks on United States soil 10 years ago.

One attack was just within our Commonwealth's borders. Uncertainty and a sense of helplessness was close to home.

You and I cannot predict the future. Life is full of uncertainties. We can thank sin for that. Its nature is to separate us from God's safety for the sake of following our own path. But in life's uncertainty, isn't it the most amazing thing to know that God still desires us? Jesus is our unchanging assurance. Through storms, quakes, fighting and violence, the Lord gives strength. In boredom, depression, and grief, He extends joy and purpose.

Why would the Lord spare us when others have suffered? Did we pray harder, give more in the offering, or are we just finer people? Of course not! We can speculate on the reasons why and we'd still not know these hidden answers from God. But there is a way Christ's followers are called to respond in crisis moments. We are called to serve the hurting in Jesus' name. How? Lift them in prayer? Yes!

Collect a love offering? Nice! Share the Gospel story? Absolutely! However, showing up to help is **vital**, too. Now, not everyone may have skills, a passion, or even a calling towards disaster relief missions. But 9/11 should remind us that our Master has given His people a mission that involves serving others outside of His church and our comfort zone.

Whatever way the Spirit calls you to serve, know it will take your time, it will inconvenience your schedule, you'll get dirty, and you may be saddened over the conditions of others. But.. *wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.*— **2 Corinthians 3:17**. Answer God's call and let His Spirit free you from hindrances to serve others. And when you serve, you'll have opportunity to share His freedom with others who are bound. What joy and privilege our Savior gives us!



The annual offering for Virginia Missions, which will be collected throughout the month of September, was named for **Alma Hunt**, a native Virginian who was known worldwide for her missions service and unwavering dedication to the cause of Christ. When you give to the Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Missions, you are equipping those who seek to share with others how God has set them free to live and serve.

This year's theme, "**Free to live**", comes from Galatians 5:13... "**It is absolutely clear that God has called you to a free life...(so) use your freedom to serve one another in love; that's how freedom grows.**"

**Week of Emphasis: September 11-18, 2011**

**Ash Avenue's goal: \$1,300.00**

One of the exciting new minis-



September

- 9/4 Ricky Brogden  
Jim Chandler  
Fred Flinn  
Mike Harris
- 9/11 Randy Guill  
Jerry Crenshaw  
Randy Hupp  
Jason Snead
- 9/18 Dennis Stewart  
Jimmy Allen  
Tom Hahn  
Daniel Ivey
- 9/25 Don Williams  
Victor Crump  
Dickie Fallen  
Don Gainey



**AABC Offering**  
**Report as of 8/28/11**

**Budget offering received...  
\$ 123,263.55**  
**Budget offering needed...  
\$ 137,646.25**  
**Offering deficit:  
(14,382.70)**



• **During SUNDAY SCHOOL**

The September Nursery  
Coordinator:  
To be announced

• **During WORSHIP**

The September Nursery Coordinator:  
To be announced

**Volunteer Assistants:**

- September 4th– Carolyn Chandler
- September 11th– Paul Kipps
- September 18th– Karen Hupp
- September 25th– Sarah Brogden

• **September Children’s Church Leader:**  
To be announced

**\*\* Please note:**  
Children’s Church will be held  
on just the 2nd & 4th Sunday  
of each month.

**New Hymnal given in Memory  
of Nellie Ford by Friendship  
Sunday School Class**



**WHLF-FM**  
We will be **On The Air** during  
the month of September!  
Turn to WHLF on your FM dial  
for Morning Worship  
at 10am each Sunday

**WMU News \*\***

2pm Monday, September 12th  
Nonie Gravitt  
7pm Thursday, September 8th  
Sisters Serving Christ

**\*\*The Eva Saunders group  
will no longer meet  
unless notified**

**Sunday, September 11, 2011**  
**6:30pm**  
**Constitution Square**  
*10th Anniversary Remembrance  
of 9-11*

*A community event to remember  
those who died on 9-11-01,  
those who have died defending  
our freedom and honoring  
those who protect us.*

*Special Patriotic Music by :*  
**\*Cluster Springs Elementary  
School Chorus,**  
**\*Halifax Middle School Chorus,**  
**\*First Presbyterian Church  
Handbell Choir**  
*and featuring*  
**“America, We Must Not Forget”**  
*by Combined church choirs*



**The Good Samaritan** has opened a satellite location in **Republican Grove** that is open on **Saturdays** from **10am until noon**.

**Food donations** are accepted there during those hours or at other times by appointment.

**Clothing donations** may be taken to the **Halifax Fire Department** between **9am and 5pm, Monday through Friday**.

In addition to the satellite location, **The Good Samaritan** in cooperation with the **Halifax and South Boston Police Departments**, has begun a **Transient Ministry**.

Referrals are made through local churches and certain other guidelines are in place.

Additional information is available by calling church office (572-2006).

**Virginia Baptist Men’s Gathering**

**September 17, 2011**

**9:00am-3:00pm**

Second Baptist Church, Richmond

This is a FREE one-day event that will feature **The Bigger Breakfast** and **Virginia Missions** as its Prayer and Missions Emphasis this year.

\* The VBMB Virginia Missions Coordinator, Dean Miller, will be our guest speaker during

**The Bigger Breakfast.**

\* Keynote Speaker for the **Men’s Gathering** will be Tom Stocks.

\* Special Music throughout the day by Derwin Hinson.

The day will begin at 9am with

**The Bigger Breakfast**

followed by **Worship Celebration, Special Breakout Sessions, Lunch**, and will close with a **Worship Celebration** from 1:30 until 3:00.

Registration is not required but is strongly encouraged.

**\*\*\*Check with our Pastor or Missions Chairperson\*\*\***

or you can contact Billy Hutchinson at 1-800-255-2428, ext. 7265 for more information.

**Regional YEC  
(Youth EnCounter)  
on September 18,  
3-7 pm at  
Halifax County High School**



Dear Church Family,

We so appreciated your cards, letters, and calls concerning our recent surgeries. Your prayers have been heartfelt throughout our healing processes.

Joe’s vision is the best he can remember and my leg muscles are adapting well to my new knee.

We appreciate your continued support and again, thank you for your ongoing prayers.

With much love,

**Donna and Joe Boutwell**



**Properties Contacts for September  
To be announced**

**Deacons of the Month for September  
Jimmy Allen & Ricky Brogden**

**September van contact  
to be announced.**



**Ash Avenue Baptist Church  
900 Ash Avenue  
South Boston, VA 24592  
(434) 572-2006**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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