

# CRABTREE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH



## THE VALLEY ECHO

November 21, 2022

Please mail all correspondence to: P.O. Box 30954, Raleigh, NC 27622

Church location: 4408 Lead Mine Rd Raleigh, NC 27612 Phone: (919) 781-5345

Email: [cvbc@crabtreevalleybaptist.org](mailto:cvbc@crabtreevalleybaptist.org) Website: [www.crabtreevalleybaptist.org](http://www.crabtreevalleybaptist.org)

Church Office hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm (closed on Friday)

### PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Pastor Johnny's office hours this week will be Sat, November 26, 9:00am till noon.

### THANKSGIVING SERVICE



Everyone is invited to our Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 23rd, at 7:00pm in the sanctuary. We will be joining our hearts and minds together as we pause to give thanks to God for all His blessings.

### —STAYING— CONNECTED

If you're unable to attend our Worship services, you can watch the weekly Virtual Worship Service on Sundays at 11am.

<https://www.crabtreevalleybaptist.org>

### Church office information:

#### Interim Pastor •

Rev. Johnny Richards

Music Director • Risa Poniros

Secretary • Peggy Utley

Youth Director • Anna Clark

Website updates/maintenance

[webmaster@crabtreevalleybaptist.org](mailto:webmaster@crabtreevalleybaptist.org)

### Let Us Give Thanks



### From the Pastor's Heart...

If you have been following my articles for the past while, you will know I have been talking about words that begin with each letter of the alphabet. These are not just any words, but words that can help us grow in our relationship with God and also help us encourage those around us. If you have been following along, you have probably gotten to this point in our alphabet and thought, "I

wonder where our pastor will go with the final three letters." That would be a natural thought because these are the hardest letters of the alphabet to find encouraging and challenging words for the Christian.

Thankfully, we have google which helped me with this week's letter. The letter I am going to focus on is "X" and the word I want to look at is the word "xenial". Have you ever heard of this word? If so, then you know the word means "*hospitable or friendly*." I really find it hard to think of anything the Christian needs to be more than friendly. The definition even goes deeper while saying xenial means to be hospitable *to strangers or foreigners*.

As I read the definition, my heart was immediately thankful for the decision of CVBC to host the Welcome House. It is a symbol of love and acceptance for those who are looking for refuge and shelter. I can't imagine the feeling of not having a place to sleep, or stay warm or have food. It really is hard to imagine, if you are a stranger in a land, where you know no one. The trust you have to have and the faith you have to exhibit to accept what is given is amazing.

The other side of this is true as well. To be able to offer strangers and those from a foreign land a place to live and stay while their lives are attempted to be put in order is indeed a show of love and acceptance. It is an act of hospitality, an act of xenial. This idea of being hospitable to those who are looking for love and acceptance is not a new idea. As a matter of fact, Jesus talked about it in a very familiar verse of scripture in Matthew 25:40. Jesus taught, "*The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'*" It is the ultimate teaching of xenial. If you see someone who is hurting, be friendly and hospitable toward them, as Jesus would. For when we help those who are hurting, we are in fact helping Jesus. We are the hands and feet of Jesus to those people.

We are all journeying on the same path. This earthly place is not our final home. But while we are here, while we are journeying, we need to try and make it as good as it can be. One way of doing this is to practice being xenial, hospitable and friendly with one another. Until next week...

Peace and Blessings...

Johnny

## Weekly Church Calendar

### EACH SUNDAY

9:45am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship Service  
2:00-5:00pm Point Church (Filipino)

### EACH WEDNESDAY

9:00am-12:00pm Hope Pantry is open  
6:30pm Children and Youth Mission groups  
6:30pm Bible study & Prayer meeting

### EACH THURSDAY

7:30pm Gamblers Anonymous

### SECOND & FOURTH TUESDAY

6:30pm Tarheel Toastmasters

## Prayer Concerns:

### HOME

Frances Viano  
Sandi Robinson  
Walt Switzer  
Jane Williams  
Jetta Lewis  
Marci Phelps – (friend of Jean Glosson)

### REHAB & CARE FACILITIES:

Anne Barden – Oak Hill Asst Living in Angier  
Betsy Shaw – Sunrise of Raleigh on Edwards Mill Rd.  
Catherine Mullins – Sunrise of Cary

### OTHER:

Sonshine Person of the Week  
The Price family – Missionaries in Wales

### Upcoming Events:

#### Thursday, November 24

Office closed for Thanksgiving

#### Sunday, November 27

First Sunday of Advent

#### Sunday, December 4

Business meeting following worship service



We will have a church business meeting on **Sunday, December 4th**, immediately following worship for the purpose of voting on the proposed budget for the new year. There are also a couple other items that need to be voted on so please make every effort to attend on the 4th and stay for the meeting.



*SHARE THE SONSHINE*

### Person of the Week for Nov 20-26

Mr. Charlie Capps  
3325 Ashby Place  
Raleigh, NC 27604

**Deacon for this week:** 11/20 Iva Snyder  
**Deacon for next week:** 11/27 Gene Sherwood

**Properties for December:** David Jenkins



**The church office will be closed Thursday, November 24 for Thanksgiving.**



## **BIRTHDAYS**

- 12/13 Ashley (Walker) Humphries  
1117 Hallsville Rd  
Beulaville, NC 28518
- 12/16 Charlie Capps  
3325 Ashby Place 27604
- 12/18 Marian Brinley  
8810 Cypress Lakes 27615
- 12/19 Whitt Stallings  
4826 Brookhaven Dr 27612
- 12/26 Barbara Best  
5009 Picardy Place 27612