

The fabric of Bertie County since 1832

Faith

Special Events

Church announcements are published each week in the Bertie Ledger-Advance. The deadline to submit news items for this listing is 10 a.m. each Monday. Submissions may be emailed to twhite@ncweeklies.com.

Nov. 12

Pastoral Anniversaries

WINDSOR – The 26th Pastoral Anniversary of the Rev. Dr. James R. Wrighton will be observed at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 12 at Saint Paul Missionary Baptist Church.

The guest speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Gregory Ellis of Greater Saunders Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Hertford. His choir and congregation will accompany him.

The church is located at 1352 Woodard Rd. in Windsor. The congregation invites the public to attend.

Veteran Recognition Services

WINDSOR – A Veterans Recognition Service is planned for 11 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 12 at Ross Baptist Church.

The Rev. Dr. Carroll Tarkenton, a retired missionary, Korean War veteran and founder of Cadence International, will be the guest speaker. The service will celebrate the freedoms secured by the military and public safety veterans.

The church is located at 1020 Bull Hill Rd. in Windsor. The Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Russell, and congregation invite the public to attend.

Nov. 18

Evening Prayer

ROXBEL – Evening Prayer will be observed at 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 18 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

Light refreshments will be served following the service.

The church is located at 206 West Church St. in Roxobel.

The Rev. Canon Sonny Browne and congregation invite the public to attend.

Nov. 19

Anniversary

MERRY HILL – The 152nd Church Anniversary will be observed at 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19 at Peterson Chapel Missionary Baptist Church.

The anniversary theme is "Many Members, But One Body" taken from I Corinthians 12:19-20. The guest speaker will be the Rev. O.D. Sykes, 3rd Vice President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. The Zion Bethlehem Mass Choir will provide musical selections.

The Pastor, the Rev. Percell Whitaker, and congregation invite the public to attend.

Ongoing

Women's Ministry

WINDSOR – The Women's Ministry meets from 6-8 p.m. on the second Friday of each month at Cedar Landing Missionary Baptist Church. The meetings include fun activities, free food, door prizes and lots of love.

The congregation invites the public to attend.

Choanoke Area Development Association of NC, Inc. (CADA) has designated November 20th - 30th, 2017 for district election meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to elect two (2) electors from each community within an established district. These selected electors will meet within their respective district to elect one (1) district representative to CADA's Board of Directors. A board member does not have to be a low-income person but must be selected by the low-income residents of a CADA district as their representative. Residents must be 18 years of age or older to be eligible to nominate an elector and to vote. CADA employees are not eligible to nominate candidates or to vote in the election. All low-income persons are encouraged to participate in the election process. Polling locations, dates and times for voting are as follows:

District: Bertie County

9/10 - CADA / NCWorks Building - 128 East Granville St., Windsor NC 11/21/2017 12:00PM - 1:00PM

9/10 - CADA / NCWorks Building - 128 East Granville St., Windsor NC 11/22/2017 4:00PM - 5:00PM

District: Martin County

11 - Martin Co. Public Library - 200 N. Smithwick St., Williamston NC 11/29/2017 2:00PM-3:00PM

11 - Morris Lynch Comm. Center - 305 S. Front St., Hamilton, NC 11/29/2017 10:00AM - 11:00AM

12 - NC Works Building - 407 East Blvd., Williamston, NC 11/29/2017 10:00AM - 11:00AM

12 - NC Works Building - 407 East Blvd., Williamston, NC 11/30/2017 4:00PM - 5:00PM

For additional information or location of districts visit the CADA website at www.cada.org or contact Chris Moody at (252) 539-4155.

Cultivation

Cultivate means to prepare and use (land) for crops or gardening. So we prepare the soil for seeding. Without the cultivation process it's harder to put a seed into the ground.

Cultivation is a difficult process. It takes lots of energy or horsepower you might say to pull the plow, or to hold the tiller which is softening the soil for the seed.

Sometimes the soil can be very hard and you have to go over it more than once and sometimes you have to use different types of plows to get the soil ready for the seed. After you have cultivated the soil it's now ready for the seed.

In our christian walk, God has called all of us to go! So we must cultivate the area God has placed us in. I want to very briefly highlight three P's of cultivation in our christian walk. Cultivation = Prayer, Preparation, and Presence.

If we are going to reach people for the Lord we must be led by Him.

We must Pray. The Bible says in 1 Thessalonians 5:17 Pray without ceasing. Through the scriptures you will find Jesus

getting alone to pray. Prayer is the key.

Pray and get ourselves ready for whatever God has for us and also to be full of the Spirit and be ready for anything the enemy comes at us with.

The second P is Preparation.

After Prayer we need to Prepare. 2 Timothy 2:15 says, "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth".

We need to Prepare ourselves for the ministry God has called us into. God will help us if we ask Him. He will bring to remembrance what we have studied.

Not only do we need to Pray and Prepare, we need to have a Presence with the people we are going to reach.

Jesus was ridiculed for being around sinners, but isn't that who we are supposed to reach?

Luke 15:1-2 says "Then all the tax collectors and the sin-

ners drew near to Him to hear Him. And the Pharisees and the scribes complained, saying, This Man receives sinners and eats with them".

How can we reach the people if we do not have a presence with them.

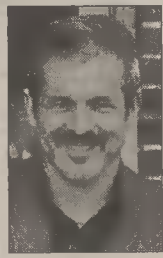
Not to do what sinners do but to show a better way. If we are saved old things are passed away; we are a new creation.

So we need to have a Presence in the midst of the people we are going to reach with the Holy Spirit. Presence is a part of cultivation.

Without Presence, without the people seeing us, without us being real with people, and without us being there and sharing God's Love, how can we sow the seed?

The more cultivation, which is, the more prayer, the more preparation, the more presence, the easier it is to sow the seed. Let's go Cultivate (the 3 P's) and sow seed.

The Rev. Jason Johnson is Pastor of Freedom Fellowship of Bertie. He can be reached via email at preachthecrossjj@gmail.com or by telephone at 252-509-1931.



THE REV. JASON JOHNSON
Be Still

Guaranteed

I have owned a nice pair of quality binoculars for a few years now. I use them often for many of my outdoor activities.

When I am not actually afield, they stay in my truck within arm's reach just in case I need them. The many years of use, have also presented some maintenance issues. One of the eye relief caps has come off, and recently I noticed a small crack in the frame.

I have never intentionally abused the binoculars, but repeated use has exposed them to extreme elements and an occasional fall or two.

Recently, I started searching for my receipt in hopes that the binoculars may still be under some type of repair warranty. To my dismay, I could not locate the receipt. I contacted the manufacturer and was thrilled to learn that my binoculars are covered by a lifetime repair and replacement warranty (with or without a receipt)! Now that is a great deal!

The company is so confident in their product that they are willing to give a lifetime guarantee. If the product fails or is damaged for whatever the reason, they will make it right. All

I have to do is return the product to them for repair and they will fix it and send it back to me completely restored.

As I contemplated this scenario, my attention was drawn to a passage of scripture in Ephesians chapter 4 where the Apostle Paul advises us to live our lives in a way that pleases and honors God.

He mentions several behaviors that "damage" our witness for Christ. Such things as lustful pleasures, lies and deception, uncontrolled anger, stealing, foul language, bitterness and slander among others.

Like my binoculars, we may not intentionally engage in these destructive behaviors, but they have a way of "occurring" during the course of our daily lives.

The repeated exposure to life creates many opportunities for wear and tear! The good news is, we are covered under warranty!

That warranty is found in

verse 30 of chapter 4: "And do not bring sorrow to God's Holy Spirit by the way you live. Remember, he has identified you as his own, guaranteeing that you will be saved on the day of redemption.

There it is. God is so confident of his product (us) that He guaranteed that we will be saved on the day of redemption.

Once we belong to Him (by grace through faith in Jesus Christ) the damages and failures of our everyday life (whether intentional or accidental) can and will be made right. We simply "return" to Him to be repaired and to correct our issues.

Verses 23-24 say "let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God, truly righteous and holy. Whatever issues or challenges that may have rendered you less than whole, that have left you feeling broken or damaged, remember, God has given you His lifetime warranty. Return to Him today and find complete restoration.

Pastor Jay Rivenbark is Pastor of Open Door Church - Bertie Campus. He can be reached via email at jay@visitopendoor.com.



THE REV. JAY RIVENBARK
This is the day

Bible Trivia

BY WILSON CASEY

1. Is the book of Obadiah in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. From Matthew 9, after Jesus healed a paralyzed man, what did the man pick up and carry home? Brother, Bed, Mother, Cart

3. Which book begins, "And the Lord spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai"? Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy

4. What is the largest number specifically mentioned in the Bible (KJV)?

Hundred thousand, Thousand thousand, Two hundred thousand, Thousands of millions

5. According to Acts 25, what title belonged to Agrippa? Priest, Apostle, King, General

6. In Exodus 7, what river was turned into

blood? Red, Galilee, Marah, Nile

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Bed; 3) Numbers; 4) Thousands of millions (Gen 24:60); 5) King; 6) Nile

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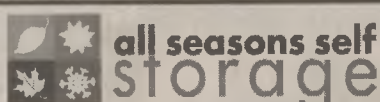
A Debt Relief Agency helping people eliminate debt through bankruptcy



Faith-based community!

Planning a special service?
Interested in inviting your neighbors to attend?
We're the source for you!

Send it to the Bertie Ledger-Advance:
Email all of your special weekly service announcements to: twhite@ncweeklies.com



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