from front cover

Water is a precious commodity in the Near East; and it is also a precious commodity to our nation and the world. God supplies not only water for vegetation but also food for the birds and animals, and the plants and the animals provide food for the people. God uses the cooperation of farmers who grow the crops or raise livestock, but ultimately He is the giver.

Without the cycle of day and night and of the seasons, life would come to a halt. "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven" (Eccl. 3:1).

"These all look to You to give them their food at the proper time. When You give it to them, they gather it up; when You open Your hand, they are satisfied with good things" (Psalm 104:27-28). All creation expectantly looks to the Lord to provide what it needs, and He does so generously.

Pray this prayer with Fran and I: Thank you, God, for the accomplishments of small beginnings. Thank you for great journeys from first steps and for large harvests from tiny seeds. Amen.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Jim & Fran

BRIEF NOTES

- ❖ Ladies are invited to First Wednesday Coffee at The Buzz on October 2 at 9:30 A.M.
- Bible Study will be on Wednesdays at 10 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall, beginning October 9.
- Thanks to all who supported the World Mission Offering during September.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

201 South Main Street ~ Benton, IL 62812 Phone: 618-438-7661 E-mail: bentonfbc@gmail.com Web: bentonfirstbaptist.org

Staff

Rev. Jim Jenkel, Pastor

Annette Campbell, Administrative Assistant

October 2024

The Herald

A BOUNTIFUL CROP

The fall harvest has begun and our nation and the world pray and hope for another bountiful crop from our generous God. God did not wind up the clock of creation and then let it run down; God is



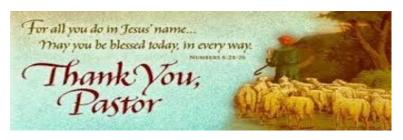
constantly at work, meeting the needs of His creatures.

"They sowed fields and planted vineyards that yielded a fruitful harvest; He blessed them, and their numbers greatly increased, and He did not let their herds diminish" (Psalm 107:37-38).

In these verses, the psalmist is saying this: "Give thanks to the Lord" for His goodness and mercy (lovingkindness). Yes, God shows His love and mercy to the disobedient who repent and call on His name, but the Father would rather share that love with *obedient* children who would enjoy it more.

continued inside





Pastor Appreciation Day is Sunday, **October 13**, a special day to honor Pastor Jim and Fran for the many ways they have served our church.

A potluck dinner will follow the 10:30 A.M. worship service. The Deacon Board will provide chicken, rolls and dessert. Those attending are asked to bring a casserole, salad or vegetable. For planning purposes, please indicate your attendance on the sign-up sheet in the sanctuary. A basket for cards and remembrances will be available. Join us for a wonderful day of worship and fellowship!



Oct. Offering Saltine Crackers

Snapshot of Back-to-Church Sunday





The Deacon Board will host **Sing & Share** on Wednesday, **October 16**, at **4 P.M.** in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Jim will share his testimony. Join us!

BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE

Ken Whittington, co-chairman

- ❖ Thanks to Steve Meyer for handling security while Leon and Ken were having health problems.
- ❖ The new Conference Room chairs have arrived.
 We appreciate the generosity of the anonymous donor.
- * The elevator has been repaired.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 9 Nickey Berrong
- 13 Marcus & Kelli Owens
- 16 Ruth Ann Carter



24 John Aiken25 John & Mary Ellen Aiken

Thank You We are extremely grateful to Elizabeth Gulley for funding our new Communion Set and to the anonymous donor who funded new chairs for our Conference Room.

THIS MONTH

Oct. 2	9:30 а.м.	Ladies' Coffee
Oct. 3	9:00 а.м.	Brown Bag Packing
Oct. 4	10:00 а.м.	Ministry at Heritage Woods
Oct. 8	9:00 а.м.	Board of Trustees Meeting
Oct. 9	10:00 а.м.	Bible Study
Oct. 13	10:30 а.м.	Pastor Appreciation Sunday
Oct. 16	10:00 а.м. 4:00 р.м. 5:00 р.м.	Bible Study Sing & Share Board of Deacons Meeting
Oct. 18	10:00 а.м.	Ministry at Helia Healthcare
Oct. 23	10:00 а.м.	Bible Study
Oct. 30	10:00 а.м.	Bible Study

WEEKLY

Sun.	9:30 а.м. 10:30 а.м.	Sunday School Worship Service
Wed.	10:00 а.м.	Bible Study (excluding 1st Wed.)

