



SEEDS NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

INTRODUCING THE FAMILY / PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE /
WHAT'S HAPPENING! / HISTORY OF REVIVALS

THANKING THE FAITHFUL

Gary & Nona Wilt

They have been members of our church since moving to Kentucky from the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia in 2015. Gary was saved in 1975 and attended Mid-Atlantic Baptist Bible Institute soon after to gain basic Bible knowledge. Nona was saved in 1971 and later attended Tennessee Temple University where she earned a degree in elementary education. For the next 31 years she taught in Christian schools throughout Virginia. Gary is a retired truck driver and now a retired Scott County school bus driver.



They enjoy working quietly in the background at church, just like their daughter, Jessica, our Pastor's wife. Nona works in the infant nursery and when she is not at church she enjoys sewing, reading, and cooking. Gary enjoys Bluegrass music (he plays a mean guitar!), antique tractor shows, and dirt track races. On Sunday mornings he is the first to arrive at church to prepare coffee for the rest of us.

The couple has been married for almost 45 years and have three children (Jessica is the oldest) and ten grandchildren – three of whom are here with them: Drew, Nate and Luke Fannin.

MEETING THE FAMILY

Juston & Jenny Hamm



They were both raised in godly homes and led to Christ by their parents— Jenny when she was eight years old and Juston a year later. She was born in Kentucky and lived first in Stamping Ground before moving with her parents to a farm in Cynthiana. He was born in Washington, Iowa and moved to Macomb, Illinois. Then in 2005, when he was 21 and she was 19, they met at Commonwealth Baptist Bible College in Lexington, KY. Two years later they married, and after a brief stay in Illinois moved back to Kentucky where Juston is a manager for a lawn

care company that “keeps

farms looking nice”, in Jenny’s words, for “rich, fancy-pants horses.”

Jenny stays home, caring for and homeschooling their six children, Nathan (13), Logan (12), Daniel (9), Andrew (8), Eli (6) and Charlotte (3).

Bluegrass Baptist Church is an important part of their lives. They enjoy the Christ-centered preaching and teaching, the focus on missions, and an atmosphere that encourages people to grow in their personal relationship with the Lord.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

On Graciousness

We live in an age of personalized truths and subjective realities that cause strife in human society. God wants Christians to be full of grace, not consumed with strife. His plan for our church is that we would share with others the grace we have freely received.

Graciousness is defined as kindness, courtesy, tact and propriety. This used to be the hallmark of all churches. Alas, not anymore. The defining Bible passage about how to be gracious is Ephesians 4:32: *And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.*

Endless politicking, group polarization by news media, social influencers promoting godless ideologies, and some who profit from peddling hate, produces a world where everything seems bent on removing graciousness from our daily interactions. In its place a spirit of pride and arrogance thrives, fueling contempt for those with whom we disagree.

Our response to the spirit of this age must be to exercise grace to others. We are the salt! We shine the light of God's presence into the world. Jesus was gracious with the zealots, the adulterous, the murderous, and the thieves of his day. He never agreed with their lifestyle, nor their choices, but was gracious to all of them. He presented truth, offered love, and provided hope. That is how we should be gracious.

May this be a lasting hallmark of Bluegrass Baptist Church, that we are a gracious people, kind, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, and extending the same graciousness to those whom God brings across our daily path.

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

Empty Nesters: Growing Church Gets New LifeStage *by Chris Graham*

Our newest lifestage group is called the Empty Nesters, led by Chris and Jen Graham. As the name implies, this group is for those whose children have grown

into adulthood. The general age for members in this LifeStage is from 45 to 60 years.

As with all the affinity groups our church, from Singles to Primetimers, we provide a way to get together for times of service, and fellowship, and fun, while establishing and strengthening friendships that support each other in times of need, and in our daily walk with Jesus.

At our first get-together we discussed service opportunities, starting with a plan for Community Outreach. Fun activities added to the agenda for the coming year were hiking, fishing, kayaking, food tours, scavenger hunts, and paintball. We plan on being an active group! Also discussed were small group opportunities where couples will be better able to get to know each other.

If you find yourself in this stage of life, please contact us for wonderful times with a great group of people who are excited about serving God and each other.

Sunday School: by *Nate Fannin*



It's not all work!

I was born in 2011, three years after our church was planted. Many friends have moved or haven't been able to attend anymore, but Jesus has still blessed me with many new friends. In the 4th-6th grade Bible Adventure Club (BAC) classes, things are never boring.

You could meet a new friend, or Mr. Ryan and Mrs. Jenna Vance (our teachers) could bring a snack or dessert to eat! Each person in class is friendly and fun. The BAC games and music are just as fun (thanks to the Lanter family and Mrs. Pat Fannin!). The 4th-6th grade BAC classes feel like home.

On Sunday mornings, I work in the 6-10 year old Junior Church classroom with the Bridenbeckers. I enjoy helping Mr. David with the slide advance. As a helper, we try to set a good example for the younger kids. If you are 10-12 years old, we would love to have you come and help in Junior Church (*ed. note: please see Brian and Shannon Lawson first — they will be taking over from the Bridenbeckers for the next quarter*).

The Sunday evening 9-12 year old classes are equally good. We are presently taught by Mrs. Jolie and Mrs. Jan Preston. They both are friendly and good teachers. I am going to be 12 soon and will be going into the youth group (which my older brother isn't looking forward to). I will still remember these classes for the fun times in them.

Youth Group: by *Katherine Seaman*



I have been blessed to grow up in a stable spiritual home. This is not the case for many teens, and I am immensely grateful to have been taught about God by my parents throughout my childhood. In my early teenage years, I struggled with my faith. I realized I needed to learn why I believed what I believed.

Girls enjoy a game of foosball before Bible study.

Unsurprisingly, it wasn't easy as the world pushes its agenda on us. According to the ideals of the world, we need to accept what people choose to do or to be, even if it is against what is true, or we will be rejected. I realized it is important to be strong in what I believed because my parents' reasoning was no longer sufficient. Thankfully I have been supported by my family and church during this time.

The youth group at BBC has helped me to understand the importance of being grounded in the Bible for what I believe. It has given me a sense of belonging where I can serve others. Through God's grace, I have learned to be all right with rejection by the world because when I have the promises of God to trust in, I do not need anything more.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF GREAT REVIVALS

A Continuing Series

The New Testament ministry of Jesus was in every aspect an expression of the Spirit of the Lord God bringing revival that literally caused the blind to see, the deaf to hear and the lame to walk – physical manifestations illustrating the human spiritual condition without God.

When Jesus ascended to heaven His earthly ministry was multiplied through His followers, beginning at Pentecost. After several days of continuous prayer (Acts 1:14), a group of uncertain and afraid disciples were instantly transformed by an outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-4). Following these events there was a fresh outpouring in response to prayer for help against attacks on the new church, recorded in Acts chapter 4. The church grew rapidly in numbers and the revival quickly spread to other areas.

The sins we must avoid and the attitude we must adopt to spark a revival through our prayers is outlined in James chapter 4, written soon after the great outpourings of the Holy Spirit recorded in Acts 2 and 4. Opposition from the world, the flesh, and the devil must be constantly resisted to maintain a level of consecration and sanctification in the church that ensures the ongoing presence of Christ's resurrection life. If we are satisfied too easily, we will first reach the position of the church at Ephesus (a busy church that lost its first love—Revelation 2:1-4), leading eventually to the church at Laodicea (materially rich and spiritually bankrupt—Revelation 3:14-20).