



SEEDS NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

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

MEET THE FAMILY

Nick and Victoria Lanter



Nick and Victoria grew up in this area and knew each other in high school. They were active in FFA and served as officers in different years.

Nick was a young teenager when he received Christ as his Savior and was baptized. Victoria met Christ in 2014. She was a sophomore at Georgetown College and thought she was a Christian because she believed in God, but she had no relationship with God or real knowledge of Jesus Christ. Then she began attending a weekly Bible study (in a dog parlor) where she heard salvation clearly explained.

After weeks of solid doctrinal Bible studies, she surrendered to Christ, alone in her room (and only thought to tell others about it a few weeks later). She was baptized at Bluegrass Baptist Church where she has been a member ever since. The couple met again, a year after Victoria's salvation, six weeks before Nick left for Marine Corps boot camp. They maintained a long-distance relationship until Pastor Fannin married them in 2017. When Nick's Marine service ended, they moved back to Georgetown from North Carolina in 2019.

Nick works as an electrician and Victoria left Toyota to be a stay-at-home mom when their daughter Jocelyn was born in April this year. They love to see the Lord at work in this wonderful stage of life and enjoy being part of a church where truth is taught straight from the Bible.

Bonnie Howard and Amy Slone



Bonnie and Amy are a mother-daughter duo who teamed up to find a good church and came to BBC.

Several years ago, a door hanger was left at Amy's home and was still there two weeks later when Bonnie came to dinner, read it, went online several times to hear sermons, and told Amy they needed to visit. Now they love being part of our church family. "I'm so grateful for that door-hanger," says Amy. "From the moment we stepped inside here we knew we had come home! Everyone has been a blessing to us."

Bonnie is a widow, originally from New York State where she was

saved as a young child. In 1971 she moved to Hazard, KY to work for 40 years as a nurse at the local hospital, raising two children (and now has two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren). In 2020 she moved to Lexington to be close to Amy who works as a medical coder at UK (and part-time as a Revenue Cycle Specialist at Bluegrass Community Health Center).

Amy was born in Hazard and was saved in Third Grade. Now she has two children (daughter and son), two stepchildren and two grandchildren.

Kristie Dean

Originally from southeastern Kentucky, Kristie has lived in both Knott and Perry counties and still has family living in both places. She gave her first public profession of faith in Jesus Christ at Camp Nathaniel in Emmalena, Kentucky when she was 9 years old.

In her early twenties she moved to upstate New York but was homesick for Kentucky and soon moved back.



For the past 30 years Kristie has lived in the Lexington area and works at the University of Kentucky, as both an Administrative Services Assistant and as a security guard. She first visited BBC when we were still meeting in the Cardome Center. Years later, after a lot of her friends had joined our church, she visited again and loved the preaching and the warm, friendly atmosphere. “It felt like coming home and I knew this was where God wanted me to be!”

Kristie has a grown son, Jacob Johnson, a daughter, Jessica Copass, a son-in-law, Valentino Copass, and a 2 1/2 year-old granddaughter, Alayna.

PASTOR’S PERSPECTIVE

Revival. Renewal. Ready!

Fall is a time of harvest, when we reflect on our life as a church with a special focus on our fruitfulness and the good works that we do for Christ. Within this context, three words come to mind during September and October that I would like to highlight here: Revival, Renewal, and Ready.

Revival was well covered by Edward’s series on the subject earlier this year. I will simply add that our revival meetings are usually in Spring or Fall and are geared either to awaken and motivate us, or to stir us to be fruitful in our own harvest fields. I hope you have planned to join us for every revival meeting this year, from Sunday October 1 through Wednesday October 4. I have planned and prayed about these services for many months, and while I know that schedules may make attendance difficult for some I also know that the spiritual benefits will be worth a little discomfort from rearranging calendars if necessary.

Allow God to interrupt your life with some lively and purposeful preaching! Invite neighbors, family, and friends. Your participation will have a lasting impact in the days, months, and even years to come.

Renewal is the second word to consider because October is the month in which we reset our support for world evangelism. The Bluegrass Baptist Church Missions Budget is separate from our General Fund—it is not treated as a line item in our overall budget, as is typical in other churches. We support individual missionaries on foreign fields after we get to know them, their needs and objectives, and welcome them into our extended spiritual family. We presently support 21 missionaries in this way, with an additional two national pastors who have grown out of missions work in Honduras and the Dominican Republic.

Our commitment is renewed every October with regard to whom we are able to support, and to what level. For 2024 our total commitment comes to \$52,500. This money is in addition to our General Fund. If you give faithfully to the Missions Fund, thank you. Don’t stop! If you have participated only in giving

to the General Fund, thank you. Perhaps you would consider giving beyond your tithe by adding a commitment to support world evangelism?

Our church is currently supported by roughly 90 “giving units” (individuals and families). If each of these “units” gives just \$50 a month to the Missions Fund we would be able to support all of our present missionaries, and a few more. Imagine how many other missionaries we could take on if our individual average giving increased by just a few dollars each month!

Ready is the last word to consider. It speaks of our Stewardship during the period from Thanksgiving through the Christmas season and on to the New Year. This fourth quarter is always our busiest time, exciting, rewarding and challenging as we ready ourselves to be at church, to participate, to reach out to the lost, to be ready for God to work in us and through us, and to be ready for great fellowship one with another.

I pray that this October, and beyond, you will be ready, renewed, and revived by God’s Word and God’s continuing work here at Bluegrass Baptist Church!

WHAT’S HAPPENING!

Primetimers LifeStage

By Cookie Deering



A perfect September afternoon for an outdoor picnic!

We are a group of about forty seniors meeting for social events, fun, and most of all to encourage and pray for each other. Some of our activities this past year included movies, game nights, pizza parties at the Duffy's home, lunch at Halls On The River, dinner at Ramseys, and at Woodford Theater to see "The Music Man". On September 29th we enjoyed an outdoor BBQ and friend chicken with all the fixings, accompanied by some fine strumming and fiddling and singing the old-time hymns and gospel songs. Our last event for 2023 will be on December 8th at the Derby Dinner Playhouse for a lunch buffet and the play, "A Christmas Carol".

The Olympics Came to Bluegrass & Everybody Was a Winner! *by Pam Lindner*



The first Bluegrass Olympics was born out of a desire to encourage fellowship for all ages within our rapidly growing church family. We were blessed with a beautiful sunny day and a large, enthusiastic group of people to enjoy it.

Team events were out in the field. Refreshments like ice cream and freshly popped popcorn were supplied and several Bake Walks were featured throughout the day with many treats donated as prizes by our church family.

The front parking lot was filled with different games like Buzz Wire, Splat the Rat, Ring Toss, Donuts On a String, and a face-painting booth. Smaller children enjoyed a large bouncy house and slide.

While the day was friendly, there was also an element of competition involved! Olympians earned tickets for their LifeStages, with the winners announced in church on Sunday night: NAVIGATORS (Gold), HOMEBUILDERS (Silver), and HORIZONS (Bronze).

Thank you to all who participated, volunteered, and donated; the afternoon was a wonderful time of fun and fellowship. As an added bonus we collected six boxes full of donations for the Ronald McDonald House and the VA's Fisher House!



Be sure to mark your calendar for next year's Olympics. Plans are already in the works!

A BRIEF HISTORY OF GREAT REVIVALS

A Continuing Series

THE THIRD GREAT AWAKENING

The third great spiritual awakening in America's history lasted from 1860 to 1910 and was marked by support for moral causes like ending slavery and prohibiting the sale of alcohol. This period spurred the worldwide missionary movement and the rapid growth of mainline Protestant churches in America. It was also notable for strange contradictions.

A major impetus for the revival was the Civil War (1861-1865) that saw tens of thousands of young men on both sides of the conflict receive Christ as Savior before slaughtering each other in battles notable for their huge loss of life. New movements emerged, with Nazarenes emphasizing holiness, Pentecostals celebrating baptism in the Holy Spirit, and the Jehovah's Witnesses, Christian Scientists and Spiritualists promoting entirely new versions of "Christianity".

The revival was not limited only to America. A great awakening happened in Korea, and in Britain where William and Catherine Booth founded the Salvation Army, Hudson Taylor began the China Inland Mission and Charles Spurgeon preached to thousands each week in his great Metropolitan Tabernacle (a church that exists to this day and has remained true to Spurgeon's emphatic biblical focus).

D.L Moody led revival meetings in both America and Britain. He prospered as a shoe salesman in Chicago before surrendering to Christ in 1860 and immediately focused on mission work in the Chicago slums. In 1870 he met Ira Sankey, a hymn writer, and together they made extended evangelical tours on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. Moody deplored "higher criticism" of the Bible and the theory of evolution, emphasizing a literal interpretation of Scripture.

Billy Sunday was the other big-name evangelist at this time. He was a professional baseball player who met Christ as a young man in 1862 and is considered America's most influential preacher of the first two decades in the 20th century. His flamboyant style drew massive crowds as he would sometimes times run across the platform, or stand on the pulpit, or remove his coat and throw it on the floor while diving across the stage, pretending to slide into home plate as if completing a home-run. Sometimes he smashed chairs to emphasize his points.

By 1910 Sunday was front-page news in cities across America where he held campaigns. Newspapers often printed his sermons in full. Over the course of his career, he preached to millions of people face-to-face, without electronic amplification. Before his death in 1935 he estimated that he had preached nearly 20,000 sermons, an average of 42 per month from 1896 to 1935, proclaiming "the old-time religion" that spoke of a personal God, salvation through Jesus Christ, and following the moral lessons of the Bible.