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**Church Staff:**

Tony Gomillion	Senior Pastor
Jon Haskew	Associate Pastor/Minister of Education
Rodney Hawkins	Minister to Students
Laura Casey	Children's Minister
Renee Luna	Financial Secretary
Becky Garner	Secretary
Wilma Wright	Secretary

# September

## Schedule of Events

- September 1 - Fallpalooza (Back to School Bash) - Sharwood Park - 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- September 6 - Labor Day - Church office closed
- September 12 - Lord's Supper
- September 12 - 19 - Week of Prayer for State Missions
- September 14 - 2nd Tuesday Ladies Luncheon - 11:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hall - Theme: Indian Summer with Fall Fixings  
Hostesses: Mary Bailey, Jeanette Ogea & Evelyn Erwin - Call the church office to make your reservations.
- September 19 - Sunday School Teacher Meeting/Training - 4:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall
- September 20 - Deacons Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- September 22 - See You at the Pole
- September 22 - Business Meeting
- September 24 - Youth Choir Rehearsal - 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- September 25 - Youth Choir Rehearsal - 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
- September 26 - Youth Choir Musical - 5:30 p.m.
- September 27 - Sr. Adult Fall Jubilee - Gatlinburg, TN - Reservations Required
- September 29 - October 2nd - Directory Pictures

### **Don't Forget**

GROW - Tuesdays from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.  
Celebrate Recovery - Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.



## Upcoming Events

- September 29 - October 2 - Directory Pictures
- October 2-3 - Guys Retreat
- October 11-15 - Fall Break
- October 15-16 - Marriage Conference
- October 17 - Sunday School Teacher Meeting/Training
- October 18 - Deacons Meeting
- October 20 - Business Meeting
- October 24 - Red Cross Blood Drive
- October 27-30 - Directory Pictures

Grady Nutt relays a story about a man who bought a new radio, brought it home, placed it on the refrigerator, plugged it in, turned it to WSM in Nashville (home of the Grand Ole Opry), and promptly pulled all the knobs off! The man did so because this allowed him to be tuned into all he ever wanted or expected to hear.

We can be so much like that radio-playing country music lover – only listening to those opinions or beliefs that reinforce our own. Getting locked into our own ideas and behaviors often has devastating effects. Proverbs 16.18 says, “*Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.*” James 4.6 reminds us that God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Remember: Mature Christians stay hungry and teachable. Are you teachable? Are you humble? Are you open to change? God wants us to be. Our individual spiritual growth *requires* that we be. And the simple truth is, for us to be a productive and effective witness for Christ in this community our church must be open to change.

If you’re wondering how you’re doing in this department, next month’s *Advance* will serve as a small test. Given technological advancements over the past several years, escalating postal rates, and our desire to be faithful and wise stewards of God’s resources, we do not intend to mass-mail the *Advance* after this month. Here’s the plan ... We will still prepare a newsletter each month, which will contain a note from one of the pastors, important dates, etc. If a home-bound church member desires to get the newsletter in paper form, all s/he needs to do is let us know and we’ll mail it as usual. Most of us will opt to receive an electronic copy of the newsletter, which can be requested one of two ways, through: 1) a call or note to the church office, or 2) an electronic form in the “media” section on our church website. (Electronic copies of current and past newsletters will be posted there as well.) Lastly, we will prepare additional paper copies that will be placed in easily-accessible locations around the church building.

While most of us don’t enjoy leaving the security of the familiar, your church family is trusting that God in His grace – and you in yours! – will help this minor change be a smooth one. It’s likely that as we pray, share, and gain vision for our future as a church we’ll have more opportunities to apply what we’re learning about change. These are exciting days! May the God of all grace and comfort help us remain humble, teachable, and open to change so we may better represent Christ in each others’ lives, this community, and a hurting world.

Encouraged by His example (Hebrews 5.8-9),

*Bro. Tony*