



CRADOCK BAPTIST CHURCH

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~ August 2024 Newsletter ~

A Note from Our Pastor:

Last Sunday, 18 August, I preached on *Standing Up for Jesus!* In a world that dictates its own morals and values, it is not easy to keep and stand up for Christian Values. Someone said that Character is how we act when no one is looking. Unfortunately, we often find it difficult to distinguish between character and reputation. But our character is more important than our reputation as people can damage our reputation, but they cannot damage our reputation.

"Yale law professor Stephen Carter defines character (he calls it integrity) as something very specific, and it requires three steps: (a) *discerning what is right and wrong*; (b) *acting on what you have discerned, even at personal cost*; and (c) *saying openly that you are acting on your understanding of right from wrong.*" (1)

If we have character, then we should not be ashamed of our deep convictions nor afraid to live them. Standing Up for Jesus requires us to have Christ's standards as to how we live, act and believe. In our society that seemingly have none of them, we must be willing to set an example that everyone can see that we are different. Christ gives us the best way to live that leads to eternity, but in this day and time it is not very popular.

Psalm 15 asks several questions: "Lord, who may dwell your tent? Who may live on your holy mountain? (v. 1) Then what follows is a description of what God accepts and who is pleasing to Him.

First: Is a person that speaks the truth and walks blameless before the Lord. (vs. 2-3) He or she speaks the truth no matter how it diminishes us, hurts our reputation (according to society) or is painful, because we are ostracized from society. A person of truth speaks the truth no matter if it accuses them of a crime.

Second: A person of character and integrity honors friendships and says no evil about a friend or shares gossip. To find out who your friends are all you have to do is make one public mistake and you will find out.

Third: A person of character keeps their commitments whether their commitment is verbal or contractual.

Fourth: A person of character never takes advantage of others, especially if we can profit from their mistake.

The question we need to ask ourselves is would Christ be pleased with our character and integrity or do we bring shame on our Christian values, we say we adhere? We need to be Christ's examples and model how He would have us live so others can see Jesus in us and that we stand for different values that Christ taught us.

No real news on the steeple, but we are still in need in help with normal finances as our congregation has slimmed down due the Lord calling our people Home!

1. Life-Changing Bible Verses You Should Know by Erwin & Rebecca Lutzer, page 29 along with thoughts from their article. Harvest House Publishers Eugene, Oregon 2011.



*For where your treasure is,
there will your heart be also.*

- Matthew 6:21

Financial Information for January 1, 2024 ~ July 31, 2024:

Church Financials:

Income (tithes and offerings):	\$57,331.75
Expenses (utilities, salaries, et cetera):	\$62,564.75
Net Operating Total:	- \$ 5,233.00
Summary Income exceeded expenses by:	- \$ 5,233.00
Annual Expense Budget:	\$95,726.50
Year to Date Actual Expenses:	\$62,564.75

Church Banking Account Balances:

Checking Account:	\$35,633.93
Certificate of Deposit Value:	\$22,416.30
Capital Campaign Fund:	\$35,235.40

Endowment Fund Balance: \$120,741.78

(Restricted Funds per Cradock Baptist Church's By-laws and Constitution)



DEACONS

Leading through Serving.

A Note from Our Deacons:

Dear Friends,

As always, please let any of the Deacons know how we can assist you. All of our Deacons, consider each member of our Church, to be a part of our family! May God always bless each of us! Wishing all of our students a wonderful new school year full of wonderful blessings from our Lord!

Sincerely,
Vernon Butler,
Chairperson



Our Deacons

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*VBS:
Celebrating Jesus!*



VBS at Cradock Baptist Church...

This year's *Vacation Bible School* program was a great success due to our many volunteers, who offered their time and energy, to ensure our children learned more about and grew closer to Jesus! We had 18 children and 26 volunteers! We would like to thank those who donated snacks, their time and/or made a monetary gift towards this year's program...your gift truly made a difference in the life of a child! May God bless all of our students and volunteers!



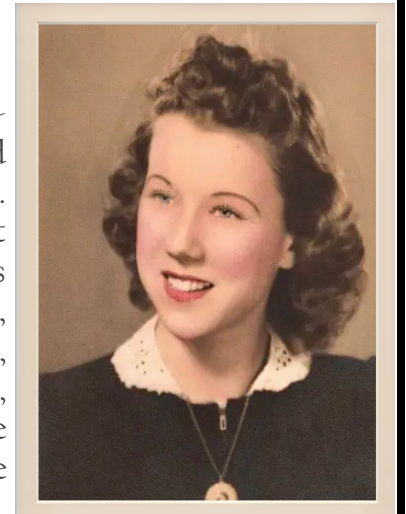
Church Notes...



Please pray for the Ray Family...

Margie Guthrie Ray
December 31, 1921 ~ July 28, 2024

Margie Ray, 102, died July 28, 2024. Living most of her life in Churchland, she was a former member of Cradock Baptist and Churchland Baptist Churches, and current member of River Shore Baptist Church. She loved the Lord and found joy in her church work, but her greatest joy was her family. She cherished her name, "Granny Ray". Margie was predeceased by her husband, Robert M. Ray; and son, Robert M. Ray, Jr. She is survived by her son, Leonard 'Butch' Ray (Sandra) of Camden, NC; daughter-in-law, Rosanne B. Ray of Pungo, VA; granddaughter, Karen Ray Connelly (Robert); step-grandchildren, Andrew Rountree (Wendy) and Cheri R. Brown (Derek); great-grandchildren; Katherine Medina (Rummel), Elizabeth Rountree, Dixon Brown, Austin Archer, Rob Rountree, Kemper Brown, Devin Gilliam, and Mackenzie Gilliam; and great-great-grandson, Benjamin Medina. A funeral service was held on Friday, Aug. 2, at 11 AM at Sturtevant Funeral Home, Bennetts Creek Chapel, Suffolk. The family received friends at the funeral home an hour before the service. Burial will be at Meadowbrook Memorial Gardens. Reception to follow at River Shore Baptist Church. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to River Shore Baptist Church, 4501 River Shore Road, Portsmouth, VA 23703 or charity of choice.



Robin Class News...

The *Eagle Eyrie Retreat for Special Needs* will be held October 18 to 20, 2024 in Lynchburg, Virginia! Last year, we had 4 students from our Robin Class, along with 2 chaperones, attend the retreat. They all had a wonderful time together learning about and deepening their relationship with God. We are making an appeal to our Church family for monetary donations to help off-set the expenses, so that there will not be a cost for the retreatants. Please make a notation in the memo section of your check for "Eagle Eyrie". Thank you and may God always bless you!





AUGUST

6 Erin Bracy
8 Richard Hartung
10 Bailey Sprayberry
18 Arline Roark
25 Theodore Hartung
25 Aline Hartsell
29 Teena Coronado
31 Jackie Phillips

SEPTEMBER

16 Joan Mercer
26 Diana Talman

May God bestow special birthday blessings to those celebrating!



AUGUST

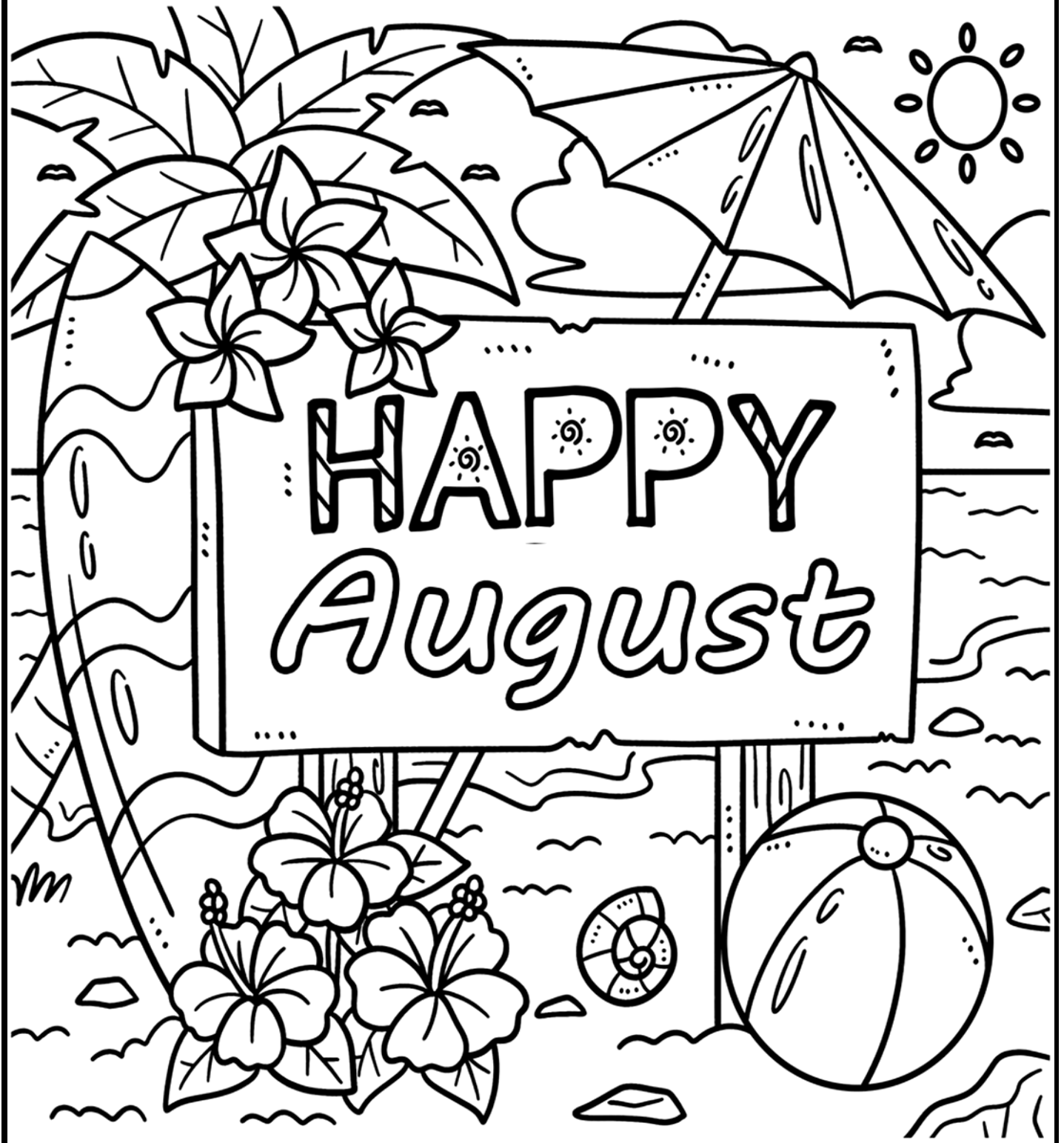
8 Chris & Carrie Allsbrook

SEPTEMBER

7 Donald & Betty Large

*May God bestow special wedding anniversary blessings
upon the couples celebrating!*

*Kid's Coloring
Fun Page...*





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2 STAMPS

MAILING LABEL



This is the day the Lord has made!
~ Psalm 118:24