



Kindred Lines

Newsletter of the Alexandria Baptist Church
October 2025

Hello church family,

I grew up a tennis fanatic. Even when we went on vacation, I would stay in the hotel room watching Jimmy Connors take on John McEnroe while the rest of the family did other things.

Bjorn Borg was my favorite. He came along as Connors and Chris Evert, the darling of women's tennis, were the best in the world - and dating each other. Borg comes on the scene, the Pete Maravich of tennis. Long blond hair kept at bay by a headband around his head. drooping socks that gathered on his ankles. But something else. Absolute calm. While Connors was a grenade waiting to go off, arguing with refs, fans, and opponents alike, Borg never said a word. He just went out and won. And won. And kept on winning. He ended up winning 11 Grand Slam titles, equivalent to the Masters and US Open in golf. Connors would win 8. The most famous of the trio, John McEnroe, would win only 7.

Ivan Lendl arrived in their midst and the big three became the big four. Lendl won 8 Grand Slams too, Wimbledon, the US Open etc. All things being equal, Lendl is the best tennis has ever seen, IMHO.

Age as always took it's toll and a new breed came along. The best of them was Pete Sampras. Sampras won 14 Grand Slam titles and the tennis world thought that record would stand forever. In 2001 Pete was trying to win his 32nd consecutive

match at Wimbledon, meaning he hadn't lost there in nearly 5 years. His opponent that day was a little known 19-year-old named Roger Federer.

Federer would win that match and Sampras would retire the following year. The world didn't know it yet, but a run of unprecedented greatness had just begun. Federer would not just eclipse Sampras's Grand Slam record; he would obliterate it. Winning a then total of 20 major titles.

Roger Federer; "I won 80% of my matches. But only 54% of the points I played."

Meaning his opponents played tennis at an equal level - but Federer almost always won. Just a 4% difference between greatness and ordinary.

How was he able to do that? He had a short memory. He didn't dwell on the points he lost. He didn't let the last point have any impact on the next point. In other words - he left the past in the past.

Philippians 3:13-14 - BSB - Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize of God's heavenly calling in Christ Jesus.

Paul was still in the middle of the game. "I haven't taken hold of it (the prize) yet. But there is only one way to keep moving forward. And that is to quit looking backwards.

Let go of everything that keeps you back. *Hebrews 12:1b - 2a - (NIV - NKJV)* - let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith.

Let go of the past, go out, and be great.

Jesus Loves You,

Pastor Brian

ALEXANDRIA BAPTIST CHURCH

94 West Main Street Alexandria, Ohio 43001

740-924-3961 alexandriabaptistchurch.net

Pastor Brian Potts 614-266-5415

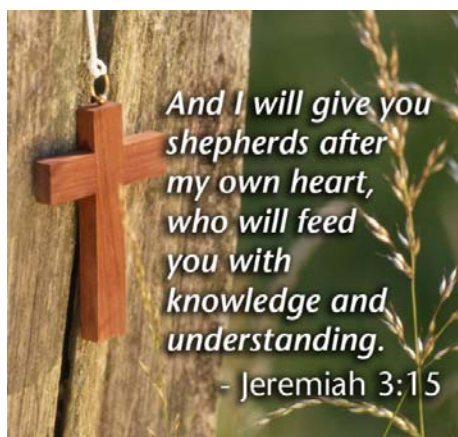
bpottsabc@gmail.com

PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH



We want to share our gratitude for your spiritual leadership, unwavering faith, dedication to the congregation, and the guidance you offer. We acknowledge your wisdom, compassion, and the positive impact you have on individuals and our church family. We recognize the personal sacrifices you make, **for your commitment to biblical truth**, and your efforts to make the church a welcoming place.

"We are blessed to have you as the shepherd of our congregation. Your sermons inspire us each week, and we thank you for all that you do".



Pastors
ARE SPECIAL
BUT A PASTOR'S WIFE IS A
blessing

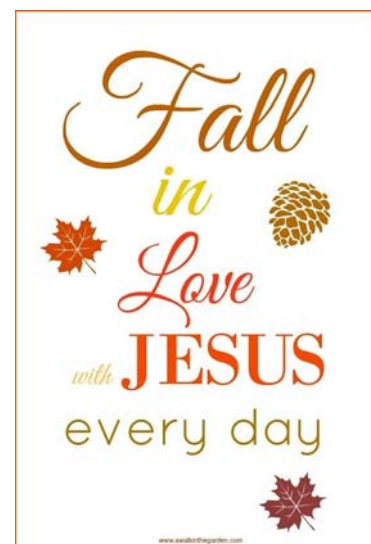


October 19th following church

Church Family Meeting

Make plans to attend this meeting to participate in the workings of the church. We will be presenting a proposed budget for 2026. Then stay for Food & Fellowship.

Potluck after business meeting, soup, sandwich, salad and dessert. Drinks and table service is provided!
Sign up in the fellowship hall.





Fourth QUARTER MISSION 2025 GIVING GOAL: \$1,000.00

Adam & Amy Burkey CRU Coaching Center

Reaching the Next Generation with the Life
Changing Message of Jesus Christ

Adam and Amy consider it a privilege to be in full-time ministry. They feel that the Lord has called them to influence young people through the ministry of CRU's coaching center. They get to be a part of Jesus transforming lives as they mentor college and high school students in their walks with God and help enable them to build movements to reach their peers here and in Macedonia. The Burkey's were over in Macedonia for close to 20 years and then came back home to Alexandria to work here for the CRU Center in America. They still do a summer mission where they return to Macedonia and Croatia area to still help the centers there.

Jesus commanded his followers to make disciples of all nations. Today's students will be leaders of the nations tomorrow. That is why CRU focuses most of their energy on students, because students have so much potential to influence. Also, students are at a time in their lives, where they are making decisions that set the course of the rest of their lives. High school and college is such a crucial time in the life of young people to have opportunities to put their faith in Jesus, and learn to walk with him. In light of these truths, CRU has strategies in place to help the body of Christ get to each school and every student.



OCTOBER *Mini Mission*



Baskets For Our Homebound Members

*In October we'd like to do a collection of money where we can buy items or food collections to put together baskets for Thanksgiving time. If you'd like to make a monetary contribution, put cash in envelope marked "food baskets" and place in the OFFERING BOX. (no checks please) If you wish to contribute food (please check expiration dates to make sure the dates are several months away) or other supplies (personal items, notecards, postage stamps etc.) you can put them in the tub in the Fellowship Hall. Food items can be cans of soups, canned vegetables, individual packaged items, like granola bars, fruit, cups, snack cakes, Jell-O, pudding, cups, chips, candy bars, Ensure, Instant mashed potatoes, dressing/stuffing, etc. we can split up multi pack packages between the baskets. These are just a few suggestions but sure you can think of others. In November our youth will be taking Sunday School time to put the baskets together and deliver them to these members' homes close to Thanksgiving time. Have fun thinking of our homebound
Questions – see Michelle*

