



The Patrick Press

Personal Comings & Goings

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6

It's hard to believe another holiday season is quickly approaching...didn't we just begin another school year? As we prepare our home and pantry for visitors in the coming weeks, I am also keenly aware of my personal need to prepare my heart as God's dwelling place, examining my life and acting in obedience to God as He reveals areas of selfishness and unrepentance. God is gracious and faithful. He takes the initiative in my relationship with Him, and I desire to acknowledge Him and His Lordship over my life by following His path for me.

As a wife and a mother, my most earnest desire and prayer has been to be a Christ-like

example to my family so I can say to my children, "Do as I do." We have been so blessed to have homeschooled all four of our children (and we're still going—Melanie may never graduate). But as much as we have tried to instill spiritual truth and Godly principles and direction into their lives, we recognize that we are inadequate to **always** protect them from evil, to **fully** prepare them for what God has planned for their lives, or to **consistently** respond in the right way to their needs. But we know that God knows our children, and He is able to work in their lives in ways that we could never have anticipated...for His glory!

That's why I'm thankful to God as I prepare for Thanksgiving and Christmas this year. He is good. He is faithful. And He demonstrates His goodness and faithfulness to me through the trials of life as well as through

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Ministry Headlines

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:
Ephesians 1:3

This year's conferences were among the best that I can remember. We had a great group of leaders attending both conferences, and Melanie and I had a great time teaching this year as well. It has been a while since we were able to step back from the administrative side and lead workshops ourselves. But the ministry team that God has provided for us is a tremendous blessing, and they graciously and ably managed so many aspects of the conference making our job easier. Thank you to all who attended and to our ministry team for all your hard work.

We are also thankful to God that over the past few months He has impressed people to pray about joining our ministry team. We have someone who is praying about becoming the Bible Quiz Coordinator for Montgomery/Birmingham and someone else that has shown an interest in becoming the AwanaGames Coordinator for Montgomery/Birmingham. Please pray that God would continue to direct them. I, along with many of you, will be glad to see events come back to this area of the DixieShores

territory.

With the Fall Conferences concluded, we now turn our attention to the clubs that are preparing to start this January as well as visiting club and participating in missions conferences. I am very excited that we have had as many clubs to start this fall, and I am looking forward with the same excitement to those who will be starting this January. Training continues to be the major challenge, but I know that with God's help, we will be able to accomplish it. Please be in prayer for the new clubs and the training team as we work to complete this task.

In November, I will be participating in two missions conferences, and I am looking forward to sharing the vision of Awana to these congregations. On the heels of these conferences, I have the opportunity to go to headquarters for our regional missionary meeting. These meetings are always very informative and encouraging but also very exhausting. I am sure that you enjoy as much as I sitting all day listening to speakers no matter what the subject.

November is a busy month, and Katie will join Melanie and I for a special club visit at which she will talk to the clubbers about life as a

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the blessings He bestows on me and my family.

Now for a brief update on what's happening around the Patrick house:

Andrew is still in Birmingham at Bible college, now is his junior year. It's been a tough year with sickness, an extended hospital stay, and a few financial setbacks, but he's trusting God to teach him through it all.

Michael is a full-time student and employee. He's doing well with his studies, and he's learning a lot about time management.

Now a sophomore in high school, Daniel is taking a dual-enrollment class at a Montgomery university. He has also begun his second year in the Montgomery Youth Orchestra. One of the blessings of homeschooling is learning with your child, and this year, Daniel and I are studying the History of Christianity and the church. This subject is

captivating for both of us, so I'm anticipating many good discussions and a new appreciation for the many people who were leaders in the faith.

Katie is a year-round swimmer now, swimming with the Barracuda swim team. She has a great attitude and seems to be progressing well. Her first meet is in November. She wants to participate in Bible Quiz this year in her first T&T book, and she's working hard in her handbook—almost to the halfway point.

Last but not least, our cats are keeping us busy (and driving us crazy). Claire, Lily, and Max work very hard to rest during the day so they can keep us up at night. Why didn't someone warn us?

Bruce and I will celebrate our twenty-third anniversary in a few weeks...really, where does the time go? God has been good, and we know He's been good to us as well. Take some time to count His blessings and Happy Thanksgiving!

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missionary kid. Melanie will accompany her since I will have been requested to speak to the church during the club time. Pray that God will use her, and that she will overcome the butterflies that she is experiencing when she thinks about it. She really is excited about the opportunity.

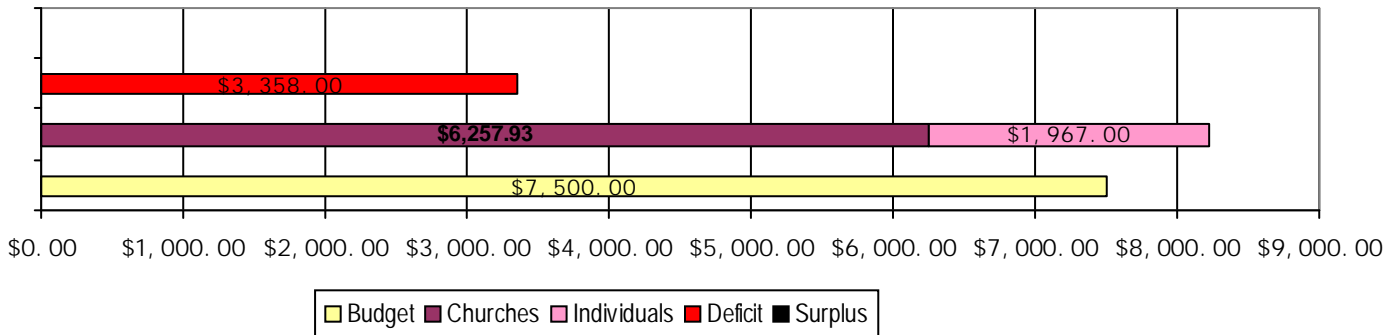
Looking ahead just a little, in January we will be hosting the second annual Commander College 101 in Montgomery AL. Last year we had a great time with the nineteen commanders who attended. We are looking forward to a little larger class this year but will limit the number of participants to twenty-four. Details and registration are on the website under upcoming events. Next month we will plan to dedicate a large portion of the newsletter to Commander College and the benefits and blessings awaiting your commander, your club, and your church.

As we near the end of the year we are looking forward to the holidays.

As has become our family tradition, Melanie's family will be coming to our house for Thanksgiving. We will have a house full, but we'll enjoy the time with family. We are also grateful that it doesn't require travel on our part. We hope that you will be able to enjoy this time as you reflect on God's abundant blessings to you, your family, and your church family this year.



Our Financial Picture



Projected Monthly Budget Amount	\$ 7500.00		
Sept Giving (Churches)	\$ 6257.93	# Churches	41
(Individuals)	\$ 1967.00	# Individuals	37
Sept Overage	\$ 724.93		
Balance in Ministry Account	\$ 3358.00		



Patrick Prayer Page



Our Monthly Praise and Prayer

Blessings

- ⇒ For the safety and health of our four children and the blessing they are to us
- ⇒ For leaders who are burdened to train warriors for Christ in today's society.
- ⇒ For the opportunities that God provides us to minister to His people. May we always be faithful in doing our very best for Him.
- ⇒ For God's provision and blessing in our lives.
- ⇒ For the wonderful trainings that we have been a part of this summer and the new leaders who are excited about beginning the Awana ministry.
- ⇒ For the new ministry partners who support us in prayer and have by faith committed to support us financially.
- ⇒ For those that have are in the process of joining and those who are praying about joining us on our ministry team.
- ⇒ For the nearly 300 churches using Awana in the DixieShores Territory.
- ⇒ For the new supporters over the summer and conference seasons.

Prayers

- ⇒ That God would be glorified through our lives, and that we would rest in Him for every provision in our lives
- ⇒ For even more ministry team members to help us in ministering to the nearly 300 churches in the Dixie Shores Territory. We especially need additional help in the Central and Northern areas.
- ⇒ That God would continue to lead those to partner with us in faith to bring our support level to 100% and that He would use the leaders of the territory to eliminate the debt through a one time love offering this fall.
- ⇒ That we would pass along a heritage of faith to our children through trusting God for every need.
- ⇒ For God's provision of a reliable vehicle for the family.
- ⇒ For safety in traveling, Bruce especially will be traveling a lot during November.
- ⇒ For healing and comfort for ministry team wife who has just learned she has cancer.
- ⇒ That God would prepare our hearts and the hearts of commanders who will be attending Commander College to impact our communities and the world for Christ.



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But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

I Corinthians 15:57-58



DixieShores Awana Missionary Calendar

October 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- Oct 5-8 Missions Conference, Montgomery, AL
- Oct 6-10 Conference Preparation
- Oct 11 Destin Conference, Destin, FL
- Oct 15 Presentation, Jacksonville, AL
- Oct 25 Basic Training, Tuscaloosa, AL
- Nov 2 Club Visit in DeFuniak Springs, FL
- Nov 3-5 Missions Conference, Smiths, AL
- Nov 6-7 Missions Conference, Saraland, AL
- Nov 10-15 Regional Missionary Conference in Chicago
- Nov 19 Club Visit in Atmore, AL
- Nov 23 Presentation, Hartford, AL
- Nov 27 Thanksgiving Day with family
- Dec 15 Early Registration Deadline for CC101
- Dec 24-Jan 1 Awana Offices Closed

2009

- Jan 15-18 Commander College 101, Montgomery, AL
- Jan 24 Spring Events Training
- Feb 7 Registration for Spring Events Due
- Feb 21 Bible Quiz, Lynn Haven, FL
- Feb 28 Bible Quiz, Pensacola, FL
- Mar 7 AwanaGames, Lynn Haven, FL
- Mar 14 AwanaGames, Niceville, FL
- Mar 21 AwanaGames, Pensacola, FL



Please remember to call early to schedule club visits.