



# The Cross & Steeple

[www.collinsvillebaptistchurch.com](http://www.collinsvillebaptistchurch.com)

Collinsville Baptist Church

P.O. Box 558

Collinsville, AL 35961

Dr. John Morgan, Pastor

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## November 2012

### From John

All through history – inspiring stories of human against monsters – George and the Dragon, Ulysses and the Hydra, Ahab and Moby Dick – and now, a story in that tradition for our times – Gloria versus the Spider.

My sweet wife hates bugs, spiders and all other crawling creatures. One night recently, I found a dead bug on the floor. “Gloria, did you spray this thing with poison?” “Yes”. “How much spray did you use?” “Enough to kill it. I always try to drown them with poison.” Her goal – death to all creepy things.

Which brings me back to the saga of Gloria versus the Spider. A spider has decided to make its home next to the spot light outside our back door. It’s a pretty small spider, but it’s stubborn. So is Gloria.

Elijah has told her about this kind of spider – “Nonna, that kind of spider won’t hurt you. It helps by eating flies and mosquitoes.” Gloria – “Thank you Elijah. I will remember that. I love you.”

And then to me – “I want it dead. Soon.” And so Gloria takes the broom and knocks down the web each day. The spider comes back and builds a new one each night. Gloria tried her gallon of poison method. The spider just moved its web over a few inches. Every day the same thing. Spider web. Broom. Spider web. Broom.

I have enjoyed watching the show. I am openly pulling for the spider to be more stubborn than Gloria. I give it encouragement when I leave each day. “Hang in there. Keep weaving webs.” Gloria has not appreciated me much in this. And the duel goes on. Woman against monster (the spider is smaller than a dime).

I remember hearing a story in school about learning from a spider. About fourth grade and I think the story was about Robert the Bruce. Thrown into jail in Scotland, he was ready to give up his battle for freedom for Scotland. And then he saw a spider spinning its web. Over and over. Never quitting. And so Robert gained the strength to try again. And to lead Scotland to freedom.

Leading to my commercial for you. We Christians could learn a couple of things from this story. The first is not what you expect. The first thing about being a Christian is knowing when to quit. Quit. Quit. Stop it. You cannot do it. Forget the spider –all your efforts will fail. Quit and surrender to Jesus. You will never be good enough on your own. Sing it – I surrender all. How freeing. It’s not up to you. How little we Christians act like we believe this. We just keep pouring guilt on ourselves for our failures. Spinning our little webs. And failing. So the first thing is – forget the spider. Quit.

And then the second thing. After you quit, never quit again. As long as you are trusting Jesus, never quit. Learn from Gloria and the spider. Spin your web. Sweep down those webs. After you quit, never quit. Give it to Jesus, and you should never again feel guilty or a failure. It will be up to Jesus. That’s what all those great Christians through history did. Quit and never quit again.

Back to our story – the weather is changing. The spider seems to be going elsewhere. It seems the cooler weather has called a halt to the contest. No clear winner between Gloria and the spider. But I saw something I did not tell Gloria about. In the web. A huge egg sack. Coming next spring – Gloria versus the Son of Spider. Tune back in then for updates.

## Events and Happenings

### Welcome to new members

Jon Helms joined with us by letter. Angela Helms joined by baptism.  
As did Allora Perkins and Trinity Perez.

### Thanks

To Our Men Who Will Have Cooked Three Times in a Month –  
At the Quilt Walk, at Fall in the Park and at Turkey Trot.  
Marty, Jon, Stan and all the other hard working men  
Thank you for all that you do.

### Election Day

Tuesday, November 6  
In addition to presidential and other races, there will be eleven  
amendments on the ballot. Please continue to pray for our country  
and its leaders. And please go and vote any time from 7 in the  
morning until 7 at night.

### Daylight Savings Time Ends

Sunday, November 4  
Set Your Clock Back One Hour

### Turkey Trot

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Saturday, November 3  
Our Men Will Be Cooking

### Yellow Dot Program

Go to City Hall Fill Out a Form with Your Name and Medical Info.  
Have Your Picture Made at City Hall  
Put It in Your Car's Glove Compartment  
To Be Accessed by Police in the Case of an Emergency - No Charge  
THERE WILL BE A BOOTH AT TURKEY TROT where you can enroll.

### Operation Christmas Child

BOX PACKING PARTY – Sunday November 4 @ 2:00  
Children Welcome!!!  
We still need shoe boxes and wrapping paper

### Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions



Church Goal - \$3200  
Beginning November 26  
Ending January 7  
Week of Prayer for International Missions – December 2-9

### Special Veteran's Day Program

Sunday, November 11  
Special Speakers – Three Vets Who Love the Lord  
Bill Fortner, Jon Helms, Jason Preston  
At the Morning Service  
You Will Regret It If You Miss This Special Service

### Community Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 18  
6:00 P.M.  
At Collinsville Baptist  
Tim Barnes, Speaker  
Bring Canned Goods for Food Baskets  
Our Church Will Be Responsible For  
Putting the Boxes Together and Delivering Them

### Community Christmas Tree Lighting

Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 22  
5:00 P.M. - Across the Street From Our Church

### Community Christmas Parade

Saturday, December 8  
2:00 P.M.

### Community Christmas Service

Sunday, December 9  
Harvest Center Church of God of Prophecy  
6:00 P.M.

### Advent Begins

Sunday, December 2



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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 BIRTHDAYS Jessica Shankles	2	3 BIRTHDAY Daniel Borntrager ANNIVERSARY Jackie & Joann Myers TURKEY TROT
4 BIRTHDAY Chris De La O OCC BOX PACKING	5 BIRTHDAY Deborah Redditt	6 ELECTION DAY	7 BIRTHDAY Andy Myers	8	9 BIRTHDAY Mickey Jones	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 BIRTHDAY Bobbie Jean Jones ANNIVERSARY Brad & Belinda Barksdale	17 BIRTHDAY Belinda Barksdale
18 BIRTHDAY Jennifer Wilkins COMM. THANKSGIVING SVC	19 BIRTHDAY Luke Jones ANNIVERSARY Jon & Leah Perkins	20	21 BIRTHDAY Shane Barkley	22 BIRTHDAYS Kevin Godshall Angie Shankles ANNIVERSARY Frank & Annette Wardrup CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING	23 BIRTHDAYS Susan Shankles Clyde E. Killian Gracie Foster ANNIVERSARY Fred & Carolyn Shankles	24 ANNIVERSARY Clyde & Sandra Killian
25 BIRTHDAY Janet Nelson ANNIVERSARY Ronald & Katrin Smith	26 ANNIVERSARY Bill & Dee Fortner	27	28 BIRTHDAY Joyce McKee	29 BIRTHDAY Sheila Smith	30	

# PRAYER CONCERNS

## Our Church Family:

Jerry Delk   Frank Wardrup   Carolynne Gese   LD McReynolds   Pendergrass Family   Tonya Scott   Bill Fortner  
JoAnn Burton   Keith Edwards   Jerrie Alexander & Family   Garoutte Family   Juanita Rogers   Deb Reddit

## Church Family Relatives:

Brian Lopez   Ricky Pinkerton   Steve Pope   Jackie Higgins   Ashley Teague   Johnny Mack Edwards  
Jerry Street & Tim Davidson (Morgan's cousin)   Joshua Mathis and Family   Dalton Cosby   Poppers

## Friends:

Celeste Martin & Daughter   Lois Carpenter   Elna Wright   Linda Watkins   Mary Jo Nelson  
Michael Nelson   Wife of Brad's co-worker   Don Matthews   Sharon Fortenberry   Harley Lloyd & Family  
Rodney Teal   Jonathan Perkins' co-worker & family   Krafts & Schneiders

## Nursing home:

Ola Mae Chandler   Bobbie Jean Jones   Lillian Stover   Dean Walls

## And:

Those who do not know Christ as their Savior  
Peace in Israel  
Missionaries at home and around the world  
Our nation and leaders at every level  
Mental Health Advocacy  
Christians being persecuted for their faith  
Local businesses  
All those needing jobs, transportation, and places to live  
Travelers  
Our service men and women  
Churches in transition  
New church year  
Turkey Trot  
Upcoming Elections