

The Announcer

First Baptist Church—Mount Airy, North Carolina 27030

Phone: 336-786-5185, Fax: 336-789-3982, Website: www.fbcmountairy.org



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The View from the Rafters

Are you smarter than a fifth grader? Recently an elementary school student came home and asked his parents to help them use the word "geotropism" in a sentence. The parent knew a bit about the origins of words and knew that "geo" refers to the "earth," but had difficulty with "tropism" which means "a turning toward." The parent learned that "geotropism" is the phenomenon that takes place when a seed sprouts and the roots of the young plant "turn toward the center of the earth" in response to gravity. In science there are other kinds of "tropisms", i.e. sunflowers demonstrate "heliotropism" as the brilliant flowers turn toward the sun; many trees demonstrate "hydrotropism" as they respond to a nearby reliable water source and grow toward the water source. It is fascinating how God has embedded in the plant world a response to turn toward those things "earth, sun and water" which strengthen a plant's life.

As a church family in the upcoming weeks beginning February 14th, we are embarking on forty days of preparation as we make ready for Easter celebration. We mark the days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday as Lent, and this is the time in which our spiritual roots should demonstrate a "theo-tropism" and turn toward God (theo) in order that we would receive the nurture and nourishment that comes in walking closer to God. In the upcoming weeks we will dive into the gospel books of Mark and John seeking to deepen our spiritual roots, stretching toward the cross of Christ and reaching toward the Resurrection of the Lord. It is here that we will walk together the sacred journey as each week invites us to turn toward God as our center, make new our commitment to Him and grow diligently with the fruit of faithfulness.

Come each Sunday morning and join the journey of the cross in our morning worship and may God be glorified in all we are and all we do.

Joy for the Journey,
Jay

WMU Focus Week: February 11-18



On Sunday, February 11, WMU members and our Mission Kids will participate in the worship service. Our guest speaker for that morning will be Kim Wyatt, a CBF missionary, who is currently serving in the Research Triangle area with her husband Marc. Kim is passionate about their ministry working with international students, visiting scholars, and their families, as well as refugees and immigrants.

Immediately following the worship service, the ladies in our church are invited to eat lunch with Kim and enjoy an informal time of food and fellowship. You do not have to be a member of a WMU group to attend, but we do need to know if you are planning to join us. Deadline for reservations is Thursday, February 8th. Sign-up sheets will be available on the bulletin board in the hallway across from the office and on Wednesday night in the Fellowship Hall. You can also call the church office to make a reservation.

Youth Happenings

Due to the forecast for a lot of rain this past Saturday at Winterplace we cancelled our day ski trip. Sorry...BUT... **we are working to reschedule a ski trip for another time.** Keep an ear and eye out for upcoming details of our re-scheduled trip!!!

We will resume our regular Sunday Youth Activities this Sunday, February 11.

Here's the schedule:

Sunday School - 9:45 am, led by Marsha Meadows – we'd love to have YOU!!

Worship - 11:00am

Youth Choir - 4:45 PM – Linda enthusiastically welcomes one and all.

Youth Snack Supper – 5:45 PM

Youth Group Family Time – 6:00 pm (Games, Fellowship, and Devotion)

I hope to see YOU this Sunday. Your presence is important!!!!

Mark Your Calendar – **Youth Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser – Sunday, March 4!** More details to come.

Many thanks to Katie, Reece, Stephanie, and David McDuffie for hosting our Super Bowl Party this past Sunday!
Kevin

SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST February 18, 8:45 a.m.



Bring your family for great food and fellowship!

**Guest Speaker: Seth Hix
Church Engagement Coordinator for
NC Cooperative Baptist Fellowship**

**Come and make connections with our church
family and our NC Baptist Family
No Coffee Fellowship—come for breakfast instead!!**

Regular Sunday School classes will meet at 9:45

SOUPER Bowl of Caring Is Extended



Sunday, February 11

Due to weather conditions last Sunday, the 3rd-5th grade class has extended their collection of canned food or money for the Souper Bowl of Caring. Members from this class will be stationed in the breezeway and vestibule to receive your donations on Sunday, February 11th. All food and monetary donations will be divided between Yokefellow and the backpack program. Thank you for assisting with this ministry!

WMU Appreciation Luncheon

On Tuesday, February 13th, our WMU will host their annual Soup and Sandwich Appreciation Luncheon for Mount Airy Policemen, Firemen, EMS workers, and the Surry County Sherriff's Department. Guests will come to our Fellowship Hall from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. to enjoy home-made soup, toasted cheese sandwiches, and homemade desserts.

Youth Meals....

If anyone would like to help feed our youth on a Sunday evening, please sign up on the sheet located on the youth board outside of the church office or let Lesa Hensley know. We have approximately 30 youth each Sunday night in attendance. So instead of just one person providing the meal, we have between 3 to 4 youth parents signed up already to help with the costs. However, we have run out of youth parents for the winter/spring months and are now asking for your help. If a group of you and/or a Sunday School class would like to volunteer, we have no one down for April 29th so that would be good date for a group. Many thanks!



It's a Girl!

Congratulations to Michael and Emily Reeves on the birth of their daughter, Penelope Jane, born on Friday, February 2. She has a big sister, Sophia.

Caswell Summerfest May 28-June 1 "Enjoying the Journey"

5-day, 4-night retreat for retired and semi-retired adults.

Speaker: Bobby Morrow-**Worship Leader:** Clyde Buckner-**Pianist:** Larry Keesler

Cost for all meals and lodging :\$330

We have 10 fully furnished rooms reserved in Fort Caswell Hotel

Call the church office by **MARCH 1** to reserve a space – you will be glad you did!

*Every good gift
and
every perfect gift
is from above...*

James 1:17a

Grace Notes

I am thinking of women who, through the years, have been influential teachers, mentors, and friends. Some I have known for many years, some I have followed by reading their work, some I have heard preach or teach. My mother was the first, of course, and I am beyond grateful for her. I give thanks for all the wonderful women who have shaped me.

I am recalling these women as I read the service prepared for this Sunday by the WMU of First Baptist Church. The service expresses their deep desire to serve Christ in our war-torn, divided world, and to overcome barriers of race, ethnicity, religion, and demographics. Their passion to offer friendship, hope and love to ALL in the world is obvious. Their commitment to the scriptural principle of welcome and hospitality is obvious in their choice of speaker, Kim Wyatt.

Kim and her husband Marc are advocates for internationals in the Research Triangle area, an eight-county region surrounding Raleigh. According to the U.N. Refugee Agency, an unprecedented 65.3 million people in the world have been forced to flee their homes because of conflict or persecution. In addition to fleeing well-known conflict zones in Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq, immigrants increasingly flee African and Southeast Asian countries. The Wyatts' partner in renewing God's world through Welcome House, a community dedicated to holistic ministry among displaced peoples. "This ministry of welcoming immigrants and refugees is all about building beloved community and bearing witness to Jesus Christ as we share life together," Kim says.

Thank you, WMU of First Baptist Church, for giving us this opportunity to hear and respond to Christ's call to serve.

Sing to the Lord!

Linda



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLEAN-UP

– now through Feb. 11

Please take a look around your Sunday School classroom, recycle old materials and discard items in use. Anyone who has stored items in the Children's Resource Room is invited to re-visit that area and let the Children's Dept. Directors (Paula Brinkley and Carol Dunning) know if it should be saved or tossed.



Exciting Opportunity for Fellowship and Learning

NC Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Annual Gathering
 March 15-17, Knollwood Baptist Church, Winston-Salem
 Go to www.cbfn.org for details and registration information
 See details on hall bulletin board or talk to Becky Keesler!

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY, February 11

9:00am Prayer Time-Prayer Room
 9:15am Coffee Fellowship-Fireside Room
 9:45am Sunday School
 9:45am New Members and Prospects Class
 11:00am **The Church at Worship & Praise
 4:00pm Diaconate Meeting
 4:00pm Children's Handbells
 4:45pm Youth Choir
 5:00pm Griefshare Class
 5:30pm Granite City Ringers
 5:45pm Youth Supper
 6:00pm Youth Group Family Time

WMU Sunday

MONDAY, February 12

6:00pm *Cub Scout Pack Meeting

TUESDAY, February 13

7:00am Baptist Men's Breakfast- Olympia
 10:00am Hensley Mission Group-Ridgecrest
 12:00pm EMS Luncheon-Fellowship Hall
 4:00pm Scout Meeting
 7:00pm Wilson-Newell Prayer Group-Carole Kerley

WEDNESDAY, February 14

10:00am Beth Moore-Rebekah Class
 4:30pm Grades 1-2 Music; Grades 3-5 Missions
 5:00pm Pre-School-Kindergarten Music & Missions
 5:15pm Grades 3-5 Music; Grades 1-2 Missions
 5:45pm Family Night Meal
 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service-Sanctuary
 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, February 15

5:30pm Feeding Friends Meal
 7:00pm *Boy Scouts—Scout Hut

SUNDAY, February 18

8:45am Sunday School Breakfast
 9:00am Prayer Time-Prayer Room
 9:45am Sunday School
 9:45am New Members and Prospects Class
 11:00am **The Church at Worship & Praise
 12:00pm WMU Luncheon-Fellowship Hall
 4:00pm Children's Handbells
 4:45pm Youth Choir
 5:00pm Griefshare Class
 5:30pm Granite City Ringers
 5:45pm Youth Supper
 6:00pm Youth Group Family Time

First Sunday of Lent

*Community Ministry **Hearing Assists / Valet Parking available upon request. Wheelchair spaces are available

It's a Surprise!

Please join us for

Ralph Cooke's

80th Birthday Celebration

Saturday, February 10, 2:00 -4:00

First Baptist Church-Fellowship Hall

714 N. Main Street, Mt. Airy, NC

No gifts

Statistics

Date: 2-4-18

Sunday School Attendance 56
Worship Attendance 115

Tithes and Offerings

This Week

Weekly Needs \$10,683.00
Budget Offering \$6,391.00

Weekly Deficit (\$4,292.00)

Designations (summarized below) \$1,304.00
Total Offering \$7,695.00

Tithes and Offerings

Year To Date

Yearly Needs \$53,415.00
Budget Offering \$35,858.51

YTD Deficit (\$17,556.49)

Designations \$6,736.51
Total Offering \$42,595.02

Weekly Designations

Building Fund \$200.00
Organ Fund Pledge \$150.00
Designated Missions \$45.00
Miscellaneous \$730.00
Wednesday Night Meal \$179.00
Building Fund Bal to Date \$25,658.48
Organ Fund Bal to Date \$34,032.48

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

General Fund

In memory of James Andrew Hennis by:
Andy Hennis

In memory of Zachary Towe by:
Andy Hennis

Organ Fund

In memory of Ed Lovell by:
Clarence and Nelda Goings

Ministry for Sunday: WMU ; **Scripture:** Luke 10: 25-37
Sunday School Greeters: Larry & Barbara Blood ;
Deacon Greeters: Jackie & Sarah Houston ; **Babies:** Dot Brannock & Maggie Nicholson ; **Toddlers:** Jennifer Hiatt and Morgan Hiatt ; **Preschoolers:** Richie & Anna Norris ;
Kid's Korner: Ben & Ellie Webb ; **Children's Sermon :** Becky Keesler & Mission Kids ; **Sound:** Ryan Parker, Cathy Parker, Wes Parker

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Wednesday, February 14

Menu: Poppy Seed Chicken w/Rice, Green Peas, Rolls, Salad

Happy Birthday!

- 2/10 Martin Cooke
- 2/10 Peter Cooke
- 2/11 Katy Hoyng
- 2/13 Stan Marion
- 2/13 Anderson Rowe
- 2/13 Jerry Simmons
- 2/14 Mary Lindsay Boyles
- 2/14 Frances Gwyn
- 2/14 Alma Key
- 2/15 Bonnie Young
- 2/15 Ralph Cooke
- 2/15 David McDuffie
- 2/18 Pat Vaughan
- 2/22 Gene Garland
- 2/22 Lesa Hensley



Caring & Sharing in Our Church Family

Write a note, make a telephone call, or pay a visit to

Sympathy

John Brewington in the death of his mother, Agatha Brewington, Cross Anchor, SC

Hospital

Mildred Glenn-Northern
Lee Dancy-Home
Janet Handy-Home

College

Malcolm Malone
9201 University City Blvd
Laurel Hall #454
Charlotte, NC 28223

Home or Retirement

Becky Hennis
115 Hennis Hill Drive
Mount Airy, NC 27030

Haywood Jordan
510 Ridgeway Drive
Mount Airy, NC 27030

Crockpot Creations

Sunday, February 25, 5:30pm



To add more variety to our usual menu of chili , we're asking folks to also bring their favorite soup, stew, or dessert. There will not be a judging for this event but just a good time of fellowship. Sign up sheets will be in your Sunday School class or you may call the church office. The meal will begin at 5:30pm.