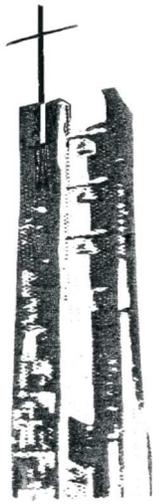


The Announcer



First Baptist Church—Mount Airy, North Carolina 27030

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Volume 56

February 22, 2018

Number 8

I Choose L VE

All students (of any age), teachers, administrators and support staff, past and present, are invited to the sanctuary at 9:15 Sunday morning. Details below.

Grace Notes

The Parkland school shooting has let something loose. Children are speaking up, begging for answers to this horrific pattern of violence. They, more than anyone, have the right to speak. They go to school now with a strategy in the back of their mind for escaping an active shooter. They have seen the bodies of murdered friends in their schools, places meant for learning and companionship. No community, even ours, is immune from such terrible events.

What can we do? The political debate rages on with no resolution. What can we do at First Baptist? What can I do as Linda Denney? What can you do? Perhaps the first and most basic step is to hear our students. Hear what they experience. Hear their fears and hopes. Hear the stories of kids they know that are suffering. Hear without offering pat answers, political, or otherwise.

Last fall our youth choir, joined by others from our community, sang a powerful song, *I Choose Love*, written after the massacre at Mother Emmanuel Church in Charleston. Our youth would like to sing it again Sunday and invite all students, teachers, administrators, and support staff, past and present, to sing this song with them in worship. Many of you are or have been educators. Use this opportunity to stand in solidarity with hurting students, showing your love for them.

I Choose Love is easy to learn, but a short rehearsal would be helpful. Come to the sanctuary at 9:15 Sunday morning to help us make this powerful statement of support. Come even if you aren't an educator, or even a singer, but want to participate. Come to choose love.

Sing love, Linda

Heck-Jones Offering

Contributions to the WMU NC Heck-Jones Offering will be collected during the month of February. This offering helps fund ministries such as Camp Mundo Vista Summer and Year-Round Camp, Military Ministry, Habitat for Humanity Women Build, Women's Prison Retreat, New Ministers' Wives Retreat, Christian Women's and Men's Job Corps, and development and training for Associational and Church WMU Leaders. This is the only offering that supports the work of WMU.

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!

Youth Happenings

I want to encourage each of you to make a special effort to join us this Sunday, February 25. Here's the schedule:

9:15 am – Special Youth Choir rehearsal, and others who wish to join in, to prepare to sing “I Choose Love”, which will be sung as an important part of our worship experience.
See Linda Denney's column for details

9:45 am – Youth Sunday School, led by Marsha Meadows

11:00 am – Worship with our Church Family

4:45 pm – Youth Choir Rehearsal

5:30 pm – Youth will join the rest of our church family for supper as part of our Crock Pot Creations Fellowship.

6:00 pm – Youth leave the church to go **BOWLING at MT AIRY BOWLING LANES**. Cost is \$3.00 per game, plus \$3.00 for shoe rental. So \$10.00 should be enough. As mentioned at Youth Family Time this past Sunday, your game is FREE if you can beat my score! Do I need to bring any extra money???. We are planning to return to the church around 7:00pm.

Coming Sunday, March 4 – **Youth Sponsored Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser** from 8:30am – 9:30 am in the Church Fellowship Hall. Money raised will help pay for our Summer Passport Retreat, so we'll need everyone present to help.

Hope to see YOU Sunday - Kevin



Saying “Yes” to the Cross Second Sunday in Lent- February 25

This Sunday: The Nails
Mark 8: 31-38, Embarrassing God



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.

A Note From the Personnel Committee

It has been our custom around this time of year to place a suggestion box in the breeze way to give every member of the congregation the opportunity to submit suggestions or concerns to the Personnel Committee. We will leave the suggestion box out for about six weeks. Please let this be an opportunity to not only voice suggestions or concerns but also to offer positive feedback and encouragement to any and all members of our ministerial and office staff. We are blessed to have a wonderful staff who work very hard to make our church, our worship, and our ministry the very best it can be as we all serve the Lord together. The scripture encourages us to be generous in supporting and uplifting our coworkers in the ministry of the church.

Senior Gathering, Monday, February 26

11:45-2:00, Fellowship Hall

What Does the Bible Say About Love

Seniors Of All Ages ...are invited to join your friends in faith and fellowship for devotion led by Benny Robinson, beautiful musical selections on the harp, by Susie Cooper, and a delicious meal of baked spaghetti. Transportation will be provided upon request. **Please RSVP to 710-2041.**

Thank you... I thank everyone so much for all my birthday wishes at the Senior Gathering on January 22, and with my husband, Larry's planning it was definitely a **BIG** surprise! I am so blessed to be part of a church that is so loving and special. *Barbara Blood*

Primetimers Trip “Tunes & Tales” with David Holt and Josh Goforth Thursday, March 15, 5:00pm: Bus leaves the church 6:00pm: Dinner at K&W- 7:30pm: Concert

Join the Primetimers as they travel to Winston-Salem, March 15, to enjoy a performance by four-time Grammy Award winner David Holt and rising acoustic music star and Grammy nominee Josh Goforth as they join together to bring to life the joy and spirit of old time mountain music and stories. It is a program of songs, stories, and amazing musicianship that will appeal to all ages. Please call the church office to sign up. Ticket price for this event is \$25 plus the cost of your meal at K&W. Your ticket will need to be paid to the church by Monday, February 26 to secure your spot for this trip. You don't have to be a Primetimer to join this event, which is part of the NC Co-operative Baptist Fellowship Annual Gathering.

The View from the Rafters

In this week in which we celebrate President's Day, here's a notable presidential quote from President Theodore Roosevelt taken from the "Citizenship in a Republic" speech given on April 23, 1910.

It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.

At the time of this speech, Roosevelt was speaking in France on the importance of citizenship. Explicit in his remarks is the encouragement to those "in the arena" of citizenship who are marred by struggle, who are striving valiantly, who, even though they err, try again, and who count it a great achievement to have been in the arena at all. In a phrase, Roosevelt praises those "who show up, engage and do their best (regardless of defeat or victory)" for the sake of the larger community and for the sake of the common good. Roosevelt would say again, "With you here, and with us in my own home, in the long run, success or failure will be conditioned upon the way in which the average man, the average woman, does his or her duty, first in the ordinary, everyday affairs of life, and next in those great occasional cries which call for heroic virtues."

Being a family member within the faith community of First Baptist, I urge you to "show up" and continuously be among those who contribute to the betterment of our community; "show up" and jump into the arena of public service; "show up" and jump into the arena of making our schools stronger and better; "show up" and jump into the arena of supporting local missional outreach; "show up" and jump into the arena of prayer groups, ministry teams, and a host of corporate scripture study gatherings. Let us all "dare greatly" and be the full presence of Christ in our homes, churches, communities and nation.

Joy for the Journey,
Jay

WMU Appreciation Lunch



Our WMU ladies have been acutely aware of all that our emergency workers contribute to the safety and well-being of our community. February 13th, they hosted their annual luncheon for our Mount Airy Police Department, Firemen, EMS Workers, and Surry County Sheriff's Department. It was estimated that approximately 40 workers were served a warm meal. A special **THANK YOU** to all these ladies who helped cook, helped serve, wash dishes, and to the various children who made the placemats for the tables.

Statistics**Date: 2-18-18**

Sunday School Attendance	144
Worship Attendance	174
<u>Tithes and Offerings</u>	<u>This Week</u>
Weekly Needs	\$10,683.00
Budget Offering	\$6,201.00
Weekly Surplus	(\$4,482.00)
Designations (summarized below)	\$1,161.50
Total Offering	7,362.50
<u>Tithes and Offerings</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>
Yearly Needs	\$74,781.00
Budget Offering	\$54,880.51
YTD Deficit	(\$19,900.49)
Designations	\$11,865.01
Total Offering	\$66,745.52
<u>Weekly Designations</u>	
Building Fund	\$212.50
Organ Fund Pledge	\$70.00
Designated Missions	\$70.00
Miscellaneous	\$711.00
Wednesday Night Meal	\$98.00
Building Fund Bal to Date	\$25,995.98
Organ Fund Bal to Date	\$34,102.48

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS**General Fund**

In memory of John Brewington's mother by:
Richard and Nancy Pyles

Caring & Sharing in Our Church Family

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

Sympathy

Norma Kallam and family in the death of her sister,
Henrietta Bingman

Nancy Twitty and family in the death of her sister,
Ruth Stone

Jane Fussell and family in the death of her aunt,
Marie Ward

College

Madison Willingham

ASU Box 13975

Boone, NC 28608

Home or Retirement

Betty Key

1000 RidgeCrest Lane #213

Mount Airy, NC 27030

Lillian Kirkman

221 Glen Echo Trl

Mount Airy, NC 27030

The Week Ahead**SUNDAY, February 25 Second Sunday in Lent**

9:00am	Prayer Time-Prayer Room
9:15am	Coffee Fellowship-Fireside Room
9:15am	Music Rehearsal
9:45am	Sunday School
9:45am	New Members and Prospects Class
11:00am	**The Church at Worship & Praise
	No Children's Handbells
3:30pm	Granite City Ringers
4:00pm	Griefshare Class
4:45pm	Youth Choir
5:30pm	Crockpot Creations-Fellowship Hall
6:00pm	Youth Group Family Time

MONDAY, February 26

11:45am	Senior Gathering-Fellowship Hall
6:30pm	*Cub Scouts

TUESDAY, February 27

7:00am	Baptist Men's Breakfast- Olympia
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WEDNESDAY, February 28

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	Bible Study
7:30pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, March 1

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

SUNDAY, March 4 Third Sunday in Lent

8:45am	Youth Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser
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	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

*Community Ministry **Hearing Assists / Valet Parking available upon request. Wheelchair spaces are available in the sanctuary for the convenience of those who need to stay in their chairs.

Ministry for Sunday: Rev. Jay Meadows ; **Scripture:** Mark 8: 31-38 **Sunday School Greeters:** George & Maude Speight ; **Deacon Greeters:** Ron Niland & Helper ; **Babies:** Drew & Kellye Fussell ; **Toddlers:** Chad & Erin Stanley ; **Preschoolers:** Jared & Ashley Moser ; **Kid's Korner:** Andrew & Alisha Brown ; **Children's Sermon :** Marie Niland ; **Sound:** Benny Brannock, Gina Brannock, Jeffrey Ellis

Menu: Wednesday, February 28

Vegetable Beef Soup w/Toasted Cheese,
Salad, Dessert

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