

# The Announcer

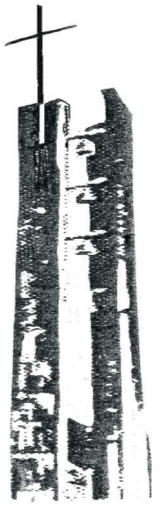
First Baptist Church—Mount Airy, North Carolina 27030

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## *The View from the Rafters*

**He danced!** .... He was in a field, not far from the others. I saw him as soon as I came over the crest of the hill and, wow, could he put on a show. His tail was up in the air; his face was red and blue and then white. I slowed down to watch him as he strutted, back and forth, back and forth. His dance caused all the others to scamper and dance around him. For the uninitiated, I am speaking of a large "Tom" turkey, and the hen turkeys that surrounded him. It is the Spring mating season, and the rituals of courtship have begun across the county. When you pass by a field out in the county, slow down; you just might see a large "Tom" dancing with his tail in the air.

**They danced!** .... There was a dozen of them; girls all about the same age – thirteen to sixteen years old. The music started, and they tapped their feet. Then they began shuffling and jumping all around the stage. The bright smiles, the enthusiastic expressions, each and every dancing girl poured forth with joy and enthusiasm. I couldn't help myself, as I sat and grinned. Life slowed down a bit as I realized that the goodness of the moment was what I needed then and there. Sweet, sweet joy as they danced!

**Should we dance?** .... We were taught "Baptists don't dance!" It was a hold-over from a time when dancing was associated with several unseemly activities. Yet, I remember reading in the scriptures, "David was dancing before the LORD with all his might." As I searched God's word, I found several more times the Bible mentions David dancing. Even in the Psalms, he writes, "thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing, thou has put off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness." Of course, there are others who danced, even several of the prophets mention dancing. Yet, perhaps the most notable mention of dancing is the scene in the house when the prodigal returns, and the father kills the fatted calf. Scripture records, "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing."

**Come dance!** .... I invite you to join the excitement of worship and song. You are welcomed to gather with us as we dance through God's word. Come feel the warmth of God's fellowship as we abound with joy. Excitement and exuberance fill the room. Each Sunday in worship, we celebrate the news of first time professions of faith, new commitments, rededications, news of births and weddings, even the joy of loved ones being called to their eternal home in the presence of Christ. Our feet tap; our hands reach out; smiles abound, and then when we see the eight year old girl walk the aisle or the young couple or the older man or the longtime church member -- our spirits cannot be contained - tears fill our eyes,.... **and we dance!**

Joy for the Journey,  
Jay

**Please notice change in date:**

**Called Church Conference**

**Wednesday, March 28, 6:30pm-Fellowship Hall**

**A called Church Conference will be held on Wednesday, March 28, to vote on:**

1. The Nominating Committee's recommendation to fill a vacancy on the Finance Committee, and
2. Proposed changes to the Child Safety and Protection Policy and a volunteer form.

Please plan to attend this meeting.



## Youth Happenings

We will resume our regular schedule this

**Sunday, March 25**

I hope each of you will make every effort to be present

9:45 – **Youth Sunday School**

11:00 am – **Worship** – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

4:45 pm – **Youth Choir Practice**

5:30 pm – **Youth Snack Supper**

6:00 pm – **Youth Family Time**

Sign-up has begun for our

**Youth Spring Retreat to Fort Caswell**

**April 13-15**

Cost - \$100.00

**Sign-up Deadline is Sunday, March 25**

**IT'LL BE FUN – DON'T MISS IT**

Many thanks to Jill Cawley, Connie Tucker, and Laura Marion for providing the youth snack supper this past Sunday.



## **Friends Helping Seniors Gathering**

**Monday, March 26, 11:45-2:00**

Join your friends in faith and fellowship for devotion led by Jim Pickett, chicken salad for lunch, and "What is Easter?" by Mark Donnell. Transportation provided by request.

**Please RSVP to 336-710-2041**

## **Boggs Memorial Scholarship**

The Boggs Memorial Scholarship will be available for 2018-2019. This scholarship was established at First Baptist Church in memory of long-time and faithful members, Paul and Pauline Boggs, by their children. **The Boggs' Scholarship Committee will be receiving applications from now through Friday, March 30.** Applications may be picked up in the church office during regular business hours. Please read and complete carefully.



## **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.

## **CBF Annual Gathering Update**

...FBC was well represented for fellowship, worship, renewal, and a gathering of ideas to share in leading ours to be a **FIT CHURCH!** Ask us about it!



- 31 enjoyed Tunes & Tales Concert
- 10 pictured above and Pastor Jay spent Friday in workshops, worship, and connecting
- 3 attended "All Are Called" sessions

## **It's A Girl!**



Congratulations to Jared and Ashley Moser on the birth of their daughter, Sadie Grace, born on Thursday, March 13. Sadie has a brother, Nolan and a sister, Natalie. Grandparents are David and Chris O'Neal and Sam and Wendy Moser.

## **March is our month for emphasis on giving!**

CBF Offering for  
GLOBAL MISSIONS

ANNIE ARMSTRONG  
EASTER OFFERING  
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

**Total Given to Date: \$615:00**

For each of you who offered up a prayer for me during my hospital stay, I will always be grateful.

I felt God's presence and thank you for helping that happen.

Sending hugs and love to you,  
Sherry Blackmon



**Saying "Yes" to the Cross  
Sixth Sunday in Lent- March 25**



**This Sunday:** Palm Branches  
**Scripture:** Mark 11:1-11  
**Sermon:** Palms, Parades, and Processionals

**Holy Week Activities**

**March 25: Palm Sunday**

Children's processional with Palms  
Children's choirs sing

**March 29: Maundy Thursday-Sanctuary**



**Service and Communion- 7:00pm**

For all the family

**April 1: Easter Worship- 11:00am**

Children's processional with flowers to decorate the cross. Special music includes Granite City Ringers, Brass Ensemble, and Chancel Choir. Please bring flowers (**single stem, 4-6 inches**) from home that the children can use to decorate the cross on Easter Sunday.



**Grace Notes**

Thank you, dear friends, for your prayers, texts, and calls during the time of Joe's mother's death. Remarkably, or perhaps not remarkably, she died three years to the day after he did. She did not seem to be alert enough to understand the date, but we cannot believe it was coincidence. I give thanks for this great lady, who loved me well all the years I knew her. I ask your continued prayers for my sister-in-law, Suzanne, who cares for her husband, Mike, as he deals with advanced Parkinson's disease.

With love and thanks,  
Linda

**Easter Lilies for the Sanctuary**

Easter Lilies in foil will be available to decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Price is \$12.50. Please place the order form in the offering plate or return to the church office by **Friday, March 23, 12:00 pm** to reserve yours.

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_ or in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_



**The Week Ahead**

**SUNDAY, March 25**                      **6th Sunday in Lent**  
9:00am                      Prayer Time-Prayer Room  
9:15am                      Coffee Fellowship-Fireside Room  
9:45am                      Sunday School  
11:00am                      **\*\*The Church at Worship & Praise**  
4:00pm                      Children's Handbells  
4:45pm                      Youth Choir  
4:00pm                      Griefshare Class  
5:30pm                      Granite City Ringers  
5:45pm                      Youth Supper  
6:00pm                      Youth Group Family Time

**MONDAY, March 26**

11:45am                      Senior Gathering-Fellowship Hall

**TUESDAY, March 27**

7:00am                      Baptist Men's Breakfast- Olympia

**WEDNESDAY, March 28**

10:00am                      Beth Moore-Rebekah Class  
4:30pm                      Grades 1-5 Music  
5:00pm                      Pre-School-Kindergarten Music & Missions  
5:15pm                      Grades 1-5 Missions  
5:45pm                      Family Night Meal  
6:30pm                      Bible Study  
7:30pm                      Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**THURSDAY, March 29**

5:30pm                      Feeding Friends Meal  
7:00pm                      \*Boy Scouts-Scout Hut  
7:00pm                      Maundy Thursday-Sanctuary

**SUNDAY, April 1**

**Easter Sunday**

9:00am                      Prayer Time-Prayer Room  
9:15am                      Coffee Fellowship-Fireside Room  
9:45am                      Sunday School  
11:00am                      **\*\*The Church at Worship & Praise**

**No Evening Activities**

**MONDAY, April 2**

**Office Closed**

\*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.

**Focus on Friends Helping Seniors**

MINISTERING TO THE NEEDS OF THE SENIOR ADULTS OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

**Errands and Transportation** -



This Team acts as a liaison between seniors and their families to ensure transportation is provided for medical and other necessary appointments when family members are unavailable. Transportation can also be provided to run brief errands or to pick up a few groceries. When a request has been made, an individual from the list of approved volunteers will drive the senior to his or her appointment or run the requested errand.

*Happy Birthday, Linda Denney!*



*March 31*

**Statistics****Date: 3-18-18**

Sunday School Attendance 118  
 Worship Attendance 224

**Tithes and Offerings**

Weekly Needs \$10,683.00  
 Budget Offering \$10,122.00

**Weekly Deficit (\$561.00)**

Designations (summarized below) \$5,528.98  
 Total Offering \$15,650.98

**Tithes and Offerings****Year To Date**

Yearly Needs \$96,830.00  
 Budget Offering \$95,997.51

**YTD Deficit (\$21,515.49)**

Designations \$26,918.49  
 Total Offering \$122,916.00

**Weekly Designations**

Building Fund \$10.00  
 Organ Fund Pledge \$40.00  
 Designated Missions \$215.00  
 Miscellaneous \$5,134.98  
 Wednesday Night Meal \$129.00  
**Building Fund** Bal to Date \$24,087.58  
**Organ Fund** Bal to Date \$35,247.48

**MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS****General Fund**

In memory of Henrietta Bingman by:

Lucy Bryant  
 Rebekah Sunday School Class  
 Vickie Tutor

In memory of Mildred Glenn by:

Rebekah Sunday School Class

In memory of Margaret Hennis Taylor by:

Lucy Bryant  
 Dr. & Mrs. Hugh L. Hennis III  
 Rebekah Sunday School Class

In honor of Jay Meadows by:

Dick and Pat Vaughan

In honor of Joy McGehee and Phyllis Stanley by:

Rebekah Sunday School Class

**Youth Fund**

In memory of Mildred Glenn by:

Cynthia Brown  
 Rick and Pamela Copenhaver  
 Richard and Elaine Poindexter  
 Tracy West and Family

**Wednesday, March 28****Menu:** Baked Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls**March Birthdays**

3/23 Eve Webb  
 3/24 Jennifer Fussell  
 3/26 Amy Edwards  
 3/27 Bob Demcio  
 3/27 Sonnie Sanders  
 3/27 Anne Webb  
 3/27 Cindy Wilson  
 3/28 Hilda Brannock  
 3/28 Harris Greene  
 3/29 David Jones  
 3/31 Linda Denney  
 3/31 Matthew Dowell  
 3/31 Lillian Kirkman

**Caring & Sharing in Our Church Family**

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

**Sympathy**

Linda Denney and her family in the death of  
 Joe's mother, Elinor Denney  
 Ellie and Ben Webb and family in the death of  
 Ellie's grandmother, Carolyn Stevens

**Hospital**

James Hayes-Forsyth  
 Ruth Marion-Home

**College**

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

**Home or Retirement**

Richard Williams  
 1731 Pine Ridge Rd  
 Mount Airy, NC 27030

Dora Ann Wood  
 207 Parker Rd  
 Mount Airy, NC 27030

**Note from the Technology Committee**

The Technology Committee has placed a church-wide survey about our website in the Sunday School classes. If you didn't receive one, and would like to submit one, copies are available in the vestibule of the sanctuary, and on the Welcome Center table in the breezeway. Please fill them out and return them in the boxes no later than Sunday, April 1st, 2018.

**Ministry for Sunday:** Rev. Jay Meadows ; **Scripture:** Mark 11:1-11 ;  
**Sunday School Greeters:** Jerry & Barbie Simmons ; **Deacon Greeters:**  
 Roger & Carole Kerley ; **Babies:** Paula Brinkley & Maggie Nicholson ;  
**Toddlers:** Kyle & Mary Alice Leonard ; **Preschoolers:** Gregg Martin &  
 Charlotte Hauser ; **Kid's Korner:** Chip & Jenn Fussell ; **Children's**  
**Sermon :** Marie Niland ; **Sound:** Ryan Parker, Cathy Parker, Martin  
 Cooke, Peter Cooke

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