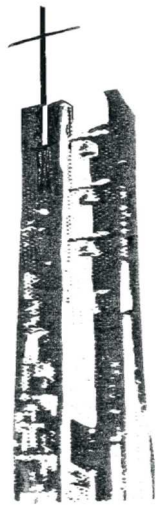


The Announcer

First Baptist Church—Mount Airy, North Carolina 27030

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Number 30

The View from the Rafters

“Oh, be careful little hands what you do;
oh, be careful little hands what you do;
for the Father up above is looking down with love;
oh, be careful little hands what you do.”

For those familiar with these words, you most likely recognize them as a verse from the well-known children's song “Oh, Be Careful.” For generations children have been singing and using hand motions to learn the truth of God's watchful gaze. Certainly you remember, that in addition to our hands, there is encouragement for eyes, ears, mouths, and feet. Remembering that God's continual, all-seeing presence is diligently watching over us should give us confidence and courage in our daily lives.

This week we send forth a beloved friend and trusted minister – Linda Denney – into a new chapter of her life, and as we do, I am contemplating the “careful and caregiving hands” and life that have served our congregation well for twelve-plus years as Minister of Music. Her hands regularly commenced every worship service as she offered up instrumental organ pieces as preludes to our worship of God. Though we could not see her hands, we could hear the melodies and chords that called us to turn our hearts and minds upward to God. Her hands weekly welcomed children with various percussion instruments as she taught young lives how to keep rhythm to the beat of God's grace and how to follow the tune of God's Spirit. Her hands directed adult, youth, and children choirs reminding us one and all that we are living our best lives when we “sing together” in unity and “sing our parts” as we are gifted. Her hands took up hand-bells, along with the Granite City Ringers, ringing out a joy for the Lord meant to be shared with all. Linda's hands through the years have written notes of encouragement, have held the hands of dying parishioners, have comforted the sick among us, and have clapped in exceeding joy for God's goodness. Her hands have been clasped together as she has offered up thousands of prayers on behalf of our congregation, and the same hands have often been some of the first to be open in welcoming new folks among us. With her hands she has prepared meals for the sick, knocked on the doors of those in need of a visit and driven countless miles for ministry, mission, and retreat with folks of all ages. Her hands have given the very best care, and in response to her going forth - with tear-filled eyes and joyful hearts – let us say collectively, Linda Denney will be missed. Thank you, Linda, for your faithfulness, sacrifice, and love of the Lord which you have generously shared with us, your FBC family of faith.

The psalmist writes in Psalm 90:17, “Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands — O prosper the work of our hands!” We have found in Linda a worthy servant and model of a faithful life, a faithful heart, and faithful hands.

Joy for the Journey,

Pastor Jay

Summer Bible Study: Fireside Room

Wednesday Bible Study will resume on August 1, 2:00pm.

Youth Happenings

What a great experience we had at

Passport Camp

last week!

There are many people who helped make our experience at Passport possible and meaningful!

So on behalf of the youth:

*Thanks to you, our church family, for your ongoing and faithful support and encouragement

of our youth;

*Thanks to you, members of the Youth Ministry Council, for your guidance and leadership throughout the year;

*And a special thanks to our Passport Chaperones, for your willingness to give of your time, and lots of energy, to help make our retreat possible: Lone Cooke, Andi Morris, Morgan Meadows, Angela Stroup, Conni Tucker, Scott Wilson, Mike Marion, and Ron Niland (and also bus driver extraordinaire).

This Sunday, July 29, will be a special day as we worship God and honor the

Life and Ministry of Linda Denney

who is retiring after 12 plus years as our Minister Through Music and Worship!

*There will be Sunday School at 9:45am and then at 11:00am we will worship God as we honor the ministry of Linda Denney through an experience of music and song, with a variety of people and groups leading us in worship.

*Then, from 2:00pm - 4:00pm, in the Fellowship Hall, there will be a reception in honor of Linda and her many years of ministry among us.

*Both Linda's life and ministry have touched many lives over the years and will continue to do so for many years to come. Let me encourage all our youth and families to be present to worship God and to honor Linda on this special day!!

I'm already missing you, so after Linda's reception, let's plan to get together for a time of fun & fellowship as we go bowling or to play putt-putt. After that we will go out for a bite to eat-so bring some money!

Hope to see YOU Sunday – Kevin

Ministry for Sunday: Special Music Service:
O Sing to the Lord—the Community of Music

Sunday School Greeters: Jean Atkins & Jeanette Jordan ; **Deacon Greeters:** David & Betty Jones; **Babies:** Chip & Jenn Fussell ; **Toddlers:** Jared & Ashley Moser ; **Preschoolers:** Andrea & Meredith Taylor ; **Kid's Korner:** Richie & Anna Norris
Sound: Ben Cooke, Peter Cooke, Martin Cooke



*Please join our First Baptist Family
as we celebrate the many years of
Ministry through Music and Worship*

of

Linda Deyton Denney

At a reception honoring her retirement

Sunday, July 29, 2018

2:00pm-4:00pm, Fellowship Hall

2019 Offering Envelopes



It's time to order our 2019 Offering Envelopes!

Please contact the church office if you want to add, delete, or make address changes for next year's envelopes. We will place the order AUGUST 15th, so please contact us ASAP!

Addresses Needed for College Students

Summer will soon be over, so we know that our college students will soon be settling into their new residences. Please call or email the church office to update your college information. Our Sunday School classes and missions groups send out care packages at exam time, and we don't want to overlook anyone. We'd like to have this information by August 15.

Caring & Sharing in Our Church Family

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

Hospital

James Hayes-Forsyth

Homebound

Gilbert & Mellie Huffman

3302 Summit Hills Trl

Mount Airy, NC 27030

Doris Hunter

1000 Ridgecrest Lane #202

Mount Airy, NC 27030

Grace Notes

This week brings many emotions, but the one that surfaces most consistently is gratitude. The opportunity to serve here at First Baptist has been goodness and mercy to me. We have been privileged to share the most important moments of our lives, the joyful and the difficult times that consume our days: births, marriages, working, child-rearing, grandparenting, illness, and loss. You have been present for me in my days of joy and sorrow; I hope I have been for you in turn. We have shared much laughter, balm to my spirit.

You are an encouraging, loving church, and I have been taught and strengthened by your example of serving others, even "unto the least of these". Your loving welcome of all who enter is the face of Jesus to those who come.

To our amazing Chancel Choir: you are a choir director's dream! Your ability is matched by your work ethic, and the combination has been a blessing to me and to the church. What joy we have had in our working together!

To Granite City Ringers: I can't imagine anything more fun than ringing together on Sunday evenings. It was never like work, was it? You are an amazing group of musicians and friends.

To children and youth, those still here and those I have watched grow up: you have been an inspiration to me as I watched your spiritual and musical development. You will enrich the worship life of the churches to which you will belong.

To Jay, Kevin, Jeanette, Kim, and Marie, thank you for the ways you have loved and supported me and for the joy of sharing ministry with you. To Cheryl Hicks and Steve Hunter, thank you for what you will contribute to the music ministry of this church.

To all members of this community of faith: thank you!

Sing to the Lord!

Linda

Attention: The Nominating Committee is seeking Volunteers to fill Committee Vacancies. Please prayerfully consider serving on one of the following committees.

- Discipleship Committee-Need 1
- Nominating Committee-Male (2 year Term)
- Kitchen Committee-Need 2
- Security Committee-Need 1
- History Committee-Need 1

Please contact Ben Cooke or call the office for job descriptions for each of the listed vacancies.

CHURCH COMMITTEE ORIENTATION

Wednesday, August 29, 6:30pm, FH



Everyone who has agreed to serve on a church committee for 2018-2019 church year is expected to attend an initial planning meeting. Please mark your calendar and make this a priority. No meal will be served.

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY, July 29

9:00am Prayer Time-Prayer Room
9:15am Coffee Fellowship-Fireside Room
9:45am Sunday School
11:00am **The Church at Worship & Praise
2:00pm Reception for Linda Denney
4:00pm Youth Outing

TUESDAY, July 31

7:00am Baptist Men's Breakfast- Olympia

WEDNESDAY, August 1

12:00pm Bible Study
7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, August 2

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

SUNDAY, August 5

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

*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.

August Primetimers' Trip: Information Coming SOON!!

Our seniors have a great time on these trips, so add your name to the list for the next trip! If you would like to offer suggestions of new places to visit, please contact George Speight, 336-786-6219.



QUARTERLY BUSINESS CONFERENCE

Financial Report

30- June 30-18

	2018	2017
Contributions		
General Fund (\$66,451 under budget - 2018)	218,640.00	239,812.00
Building Fund	6,724.00	9,316.00
Ben Brannock Transportation Fund	-	80.00
Restricted Music Funds	1,100.00	200.00
Total budgeted expenses	234,056.00	248,763.00
(\$51,035 under budget - we spent less than we budgeted - 2018)		
(\$42,124 under budget - we spent less than we budgeted - 2017)		
Cash Surplus to date (we spent more than we took in-2018)	(15,416.00)	4,178.00
Cash surplus to date (we spent less than we took in - 2017)		

Mission Expenditures

Budgeted missions	26,835.00	31,511.00
Unbudgeted missions (home/world missions/Soup Kitchen/etc)	18,857.00	20,429.00
Total	45,692.00	51,940.00

Cash balances

General Fund	245,315.00	254,034.00
Perpetual Fund	2,336.00	1,961.00
Boggs Foundation	84,076.00	76,230.00
Irvin Gentry Fund	10,529.00	9,769.00
Building Fund	27,316.00	15,412.00
Ben Brannock Transportation Fund	-	467.00
Willard Benevolent Fund	4,367.00	6,098.00
Maintenance Reserve Funds	38,889.00	52,551.00
Restricted Music Funds	10,388.00	10,388.00
Organ Fund	38,941.00	56,285.00
Other Restricted Funds	42,400.00	43,736.00
Total	504,557.00	526,931.00

Loan balances

Building loan	-	-
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Statistics

Date: 7-22-18

Sunday School Attendance	118
Worship Attendance	156

Tithes and Offerings

This Week

Weekly Needs	\$10,683.00
Budget Offering	\$11,462.16

Weekly Surplus

\$779.16

Designations (summarized below)	\$1,590.00
Total Offering	\$13,052.16

Tithes and Offerings

Year To Date

Yearly Needs	\$309,807.00
Budget Offering	\$260,461.50

YTD Deficit

(\$49,345.50)

Designations	\$60,891.65
Total Offering	\$321,352.46

Weekly Designations

Building Fund	\$100.00
Organ Fund Pledge	\$1,020.00
Designated Missions	\$20.00
Miscellaneous	\$450.00

Building Fund Bal to Date

\$28,351.08

Organ Fund Bal to Date

\$40,798.48

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

Building Fund

In honor of Linda Denney's Retirement by:
Revel and Bonnie Young

General Fund

In Honor of the following by Andy Hennis:

John and Resa Brewington
Lib Boyles
Mark and Deidre Rogers
Jerry Simmons
Bud and Barbara Oliver
David and Betty Jones
Sis Elder
Becky Hennis
Connie Hennis

In memory of Gary Sewell by:
Andy Hennis

Happy Birthday!

7/27	Marvin Driskill
7/28	Donna Hall
7/29	Rocelle Hart
7/29	Richie Norris
7/30	James Hayes
7/30	Laurie McGee
7/31	Ken Street

