

# THE CONTACT

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, WHITEVILLE, NC  
AUGUST 2016 VOLUME 51, NUMBER 24

As most of you are aware, Dr. Mark Andersen will begin a new journey in his career path. He will be with us as our organist for two more Sundays, August 7 and 14 before returning to his home church, First Baptist Lumberton in September.

We have been truly blessed through his musical giftedness with organ, piano, harp and flute. His vast musical knowledge and years of experience have been a great inspiration for our music ministry and especially for our time of worship. We will sincerely miss he and Lynn and pray only the best for them in their future.

The Chancel Choir and the Music Committee will be having a covered dish luncheon after Sunday worship on August 14. Anyone interested in joining is welcome to bring a dish and participate.



## EVENTS AT A GLANCE :

### AUGUST 7

DVD VIEWING  
ORDINATION OF  
CHARLES PRICE &  
DINNER

### AUGUST 14

FAREWELL COVERED  
DISH LUNCHEON  
FOR MARK ANDERSEN

### AUGUST 15

FINANCE MEETING

### AUGUST 16

DEACONS MEETING

### AUGUST 17

SALAD SUPPER &  
HOMEMADE ICE CREAM

TO ADD AN EVENT TO OUR  
CALENDAR, PLEASE CONTACT THE  
CHURCH OFFICE:  
(910) 642-2139

# PASTOR'S CORNER: CHRISTIANITY: THE THINKING RELIGION



*"The mind of the righteous ponders how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil."*

Proverbs 15:28, NRSV

Take a moment and jot down the top 5 tools for your own personal Christian faith and put them in order of importance...

I imagine that most of your list included things like, the Bible, the Church, Small Groups, Prayer, Family, Fellow Believers/Friends, Devotional, or other resources that have been helpful to you throughout your journey. But I also imagine that you did not list in your top 5, "My Brain." Our brains are the organs where thinking happens and likely the place in the human body where the soul exists. Yet in most Christian circles this is not often talked about as one of the top tools at our disposal. Why is that?

I want to tell you a secret: Thinking is very hard work – and many of us avoid it at all costs. We are much more inclined to adopt the thoughts and ideas of other people than develop and formulate our own perspectives. Think about your political ideas, did you come up with those on your own? What about the shaping of your religious ideologies, who were the major contributors to your perspective(s)? My Baptist brothers and sisters, is there anything in particular about the Baptist polity that speaks uniquely to your understanding of the Christian journey, or did you just happen to choose this church because the style of worship was attractive to you? In other words, how much *thought* went into your

decision? American Christians tend to focus more on what we *feel*, rather than what we *think*.

If your top 5 list included prayer, then perhaps you can give yourself partial credit. Because prayer is not only the act of communicating with God, but also learning to navigate our own noisy minds. It seems to me that much of what Christ was doing by teaching in parables was training his disciples to become better thinkers; he seemed to be teaching them how to use their brains and encouraging critical thinking (Consider also Jesus' words in Matthew 10:16). The same happens when we engage in our own personal interpretations of the Bible, especially the parables.

I encourage you to make a new list of top 5 most important tools for the Christian faith and put "My Brain" somewhere on that list. I'm convinced that Christ intended for his "way" to be the thinking way. Yet somehow, Christianity has become a religion of orthodoxy and tradition. But how does orthodoxy become orthodoxy without the brains of men and women working hard – encompassing the entirety of the Scriptures to become complex theological convictions? Faith is not merely something to be handed down. What faith *is*, is something that every individual *invests* in. If your brain is not actively involved, then your faith may not be authentically "yours."

What do *you* think?

*"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect."*

Romans 12:2, NRSV

## MUSIC NOTES



The month of August begins our move toward the fall Music Ministry schedule. Please take a look below at our 2016-2017 music opportunities:

**The Chancel Choir** resumes on Wednesday, August 3, 7:15 p.m. Rehearsals are every Wednesday, 7:15 p.m.

**The Children's Choirs** and **Handbells** begin on Wednesday, September 7, 5:00 p.m.

**The Youth Choir** begins on Sunday, September 11, 4:45 p.m.

**The Youth/Adult Handbells** begin on Sunday, September 11, 5:15 p.m.

**Hymn Sing** for all ages begins on Tuesday, September 13, 10:30 a.m.

### Festivals 2017

**Adult Choir Festival**, January 27-18, Charleston, SC

**Youth Choir Festival by the Sea**, March 3-5

**Please be in prayer with us as we seek our future organist.**

# AUGUST MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

7 Grayanna Young  
14 Wendy Hensley  
21 Katherine Jordan Scott  
28 Tricia Sanderson

## WORSHIP SERVICE GREETER

Kenwood Royal

## DEACONS OF THE WEEK

7 Brenda Carter & Stephen Prince  
14 Rose Langston & Kate Carter  
21 Jerry Wilson & Jim Warlick  
28 Melvin Ezzell & Sylvia Walker

## NURSERY

7 Clint & Carolyn Grainger  
14 Trisha & Leah Sanderson  
21 Carlton & Mary Jean Prince  
28 Yvonne Bass & Tonya Schoolcraft

## SOUND & VIDEO

7 Jason Schoolcraft  
14 Wil Ezzell  
21 Kirby Sanderson  
28 Eric Kronenwetter

## OFFERING TELLERS

7 Brenda & Genie Carter  
14 Joe & Mary Hooks  
21 Joe & Mary Hooks  
28 Joe & Mary Hooks

## PEW STOCKER

Betty Batten

## DVD DISTRIBUTION

7 Peggy Walters  
14 Hilda Butler  
21 Rose Langston  
28 Frances Price

## USHERS

*Chairperson:* Charlie Duncan  
7 Ellis Jordan, Jerry Wilson, Clint Grainger, & Buster Carter  
14 Travis Harrison, John Sauls, & Emory Worley  
21 Jerry Carter, David Heath, David Tedder, & Ben Sauls  
28 Joe Hooks, Lewis Sauls, Glenn Walters, & Harry Ward

## HOSPICE MEALS FOR MONTH OF AUGUST

Mary Jean Prince


# AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

3	Bobbye Suggs	20	Stephanie Hathaway	27	Jennifer Clore
3	Sherry Waters	21	Sue Jordan	28	William Taylor
4	Bryce Russell	22	Muriel Hill	30	James Fowler
6	Becky Murray	22	Michael Cole	31	Dewey Hill, Sr.
6	Madelyn Grace Love	23	Dr. Gregory Stark		
8	Olivia Butler	24	Stephen Prince		
11	Rev. Daniel Suggs	25	Stephen Willetts		
11	Rita Todd	25	Margaret Hensley		
11	Jerry Wilson	26	Mary Alice Stanley		
15	Richard Cox	26	Sylvia Elkins		
16	George Holt	27	Robert Stanley		
17	Benjamin Sauls	27	Rose Langston		
19	Crystal Leonard	27	Sonya Peacock		



## SUNDAY SERMONS

- August 7: "Self Motivated for Christ"  
Luke 12:32-48
- August 14: "No Longer a Foe"  
Luke 12:49-56
- August 21: "Critics"  
Luke 13:10-17
- August 28: "Self Esteem, Honor, and Humility"  
Luke 14:1, 7-14



Spiritual Growth

## OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Monthly Worship Attendance Average: 113  
Sunday School Attendance Average: 71

### July Financial Update:

03: \$ 34,977.76

10: \$ 7,051.00

17: \$ 4,799.75

24: \$ 6,668.00

31: TBA in September

Amount Received for July: \$ 53,496.51

Amount Needed to make Monthly budget:  
\$35,180.60

Over Budget for the Month: \$ 18,315.91

Budget Needs to Date: \$ 378,191.45

Budget Received YTD: \$ 298,467.82

Budget Under YTD: \$ 79,723.63

## MISSION MOMENT

ATTENTION MEN, WOMEN & STUDENTS...  
"SHARING GOD'S LOVE THROUGH WORD  
& DEED" :

Baptists on Mission: NC Missions Rally-Region 3  
Tuesday, August 16, 2016 : *presented by*  
*NCBM/Baptists on Mission at:*

Western Prong Baptist

167 Peacock Road

Whiteville, NC 28472.

Supper - 6:00; Program - 6:50 to 8:30

Men, Women & Youth Invited!

NO CHARGE FOR THE MEAL, but we must have  
your reservation no later than one week prior  
to the Rally. To register, contact the NCBM  
office at 1.800.395.5102 x 5596 or register  
online at [http://baptistsonmission.org/events/  
region-rallies](http://baptistsonmission.org/events/region-rallies)

## BACK PACK MINISTRY

First Baptist Church will be placing an order for the  
Back Pack Ministry for the start of the new  
2016/2017 school year. If anyone would like to  
make a donation to the Back Pack Ministry, please  
make all checks payable to First Baptist Church and  
specify that you would like the contribution to go  
towards the Back Pack Ministry. If you have any  
questions please call the office at 642-2139.

Thank you for all of your support.

## A NOTE FROM THE KITCHEN:

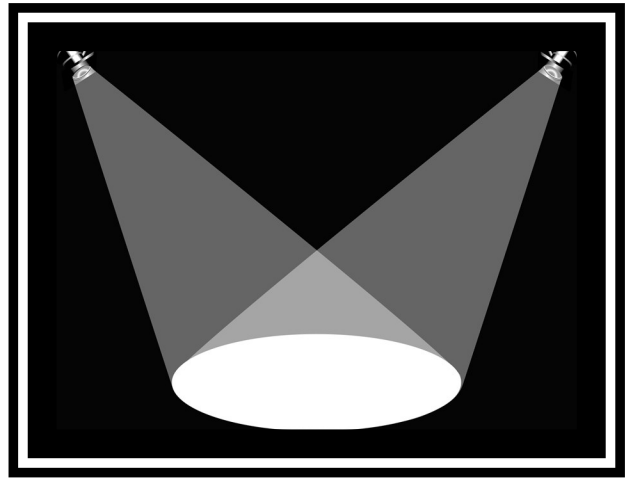
We have several items that have been left in the  
church kitchen. If you are missing any dishes  
please contact Ann Sauls to reclaim them.  
(910-642-6430 or 910-988-3213) . If they are not  
claimed by the end of August they will be added to  
our kitchen inventory list.

Thank You,  
Ann Sauls

## FBC MEMBER SPOTLIGHT DONNA & STEPHEN PRINCE

*This month's Member Spotlight is written by Donna and Stephen Prince. Donna and Stephen are longtime members and friends of FBC.*

We moved with our family to Whiteville and joined First Baptist Church in 1987. Previously, we lived in nearby Clarkton where Stephen worked in the family furniture business and I, (Donna) taught in the county school system. We are the parents of two grown children who were baptized at First Baptist Church. Our son Alston is married, he, his wife Cristi and young son live in Fancy Gap, Virginia. Alston works under the golf pro at the Primland Golf Resort. Elizabeth, our daughter lives in Salt Lake City, Utah where she works as an attorney for the University of Utah. Over the past twelve years Stephen worked at Bladen Community College and I taught in the city system here in Whiteville.



Currently, we are both retired living at Lake Waccamaw enjoying the peace and serenity of the water. We both love golf, boating and travel. A passion for Stephen is singing in the choir. Our lives have been blessed by the closeness and community we enjoy as members of Whiteville First Baptist. May our church continue to grow and flourish as we do the will of Jesus Christ.



# 2016 YOUTH MISSION TRIP— NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

This year we had an awesome group of our Church Family leave our community from June 26 through July 2, 2016 to do the Lord's work in Nashville, Tennessee. They volunteered their time and efforts to help a community in need. They left Whiteville prepared to fill any need in the community with open, loving and serving hearts. Due to the nature of some of the jobs, we were unable to post pictures of everyone while they were hard at work, but what they did speaks volumes to their commitment to serving others.



Pictured from left to right (back row) Mitchell and Tina Sauls, (middle row) from left to right, Andrew and John Sauls and (front row) from left to right, Bridger Warlick and Emily Sauls. They are standing on the front steps of Trinity United Methodist Church being welcomed into the community.



John was fixing computers, air conditioners, cleaning ovens and spending time with independent living senior citizens. He also worked in a community garden which was started to support a growing immigrant community.



Tina and Bridger went to Preston Taylor Ministries. Above Tina was working with high school students on team/relationship building and Bible Study. Pictured below is Bridger who was working with at risk middle school youth.



We have to give credit to our Missionaries for enduring a weeks worth of showers in a tent!



Community Garden which was originally started to support a growing immigrant community.



Emily taught K-5th grade refugee children reading and phonics, while Mitchell was teaching phonics to 1st graders. Andrew was busy cleaning up yards for elderly home owners who can no longer do their own yard work.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & LETTERS OF GRATITUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENT: UPCOMING DEACON ELECTION INFORMATION

In accordance with the by-laws of our Church, it is time for us to nominate and elect five individuals to serve as deacons for the next three years. We would ask that you prayerfully begin to consider adult members of our congregation that you feel would be willing and able to serve as deacons. As these names occur to you, please pray about God's will for this Church. If you believe these people would be able to serve, please contact them personally to ask for their permission to submit their names for election.

On September 11, 2016, at the Sunday morning worship service, you will be given the opportunity to nominate five names. A committee composed of the outgoing deacons will tally the names and the ten individuals with the most votes will be placed on the ballot for election.

On Sunday, September 25, 2016, we will vote to elect five new deacons to serve a three year term. The five persons who have the highest vote total will be contracted to confirm their willingness to serve as deacons. Please give your careful and prayerful thoughts to this election in order that we may elect the very best people we can to lead our congregation. Absentee ballots will be made available and returned to the church office each of the weeks prior to the election.

A list of names appears below indicating those individuals who are unable to serve because they are either current deacons or have served within the past two years.

<u>Term Expires 2015</u>	<u>Term Expires 2016</u>	<u>Term Expires 2017</u>	<u>Term Expires 2018</u>
Buster Carter	Charlie Duncan	Brownie Cook	Kate Carter
Betty Jo Prevatte	Joann Hinson	Melvin Ezzell	Stephen Prince
Carlton Prince	Hilda Ray	Rose Langston	John Sauls
Barbara Whitson	Ann Sauls	Sylvia Walker	Jim Warlick
		Emory Worley	Jerry Wilson

## ANNOUNCEMENT: CHARLES LEE PRICE ORDINATION DVD VIEWING

On August 7, 2016 there will be a special dinner prepared for the viewing of the Ordination of Charles Lee Price held in the Fellowship Hall. Reverend Danny Deaton, a former pastor at First Baptist Church delivers the message and the challenge. For anyone who is interested in watching the DVD and enjoying fellowship, please join us for dinner at 5:30 p.m., followed by the DVD viewing starting at 6:30 p.m.

## ANNOUNCEMENT: CHERRY GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

We will be accepting donations for Cherry Grove Baptist Church through Sunday August 28, 2016 in order to help them start the process of rebuilding their sanctuary that was tragically burned down recently. If you would like to make a contribution please make the checks payable to First Baptist Church and specify that you would like the contribution to go to Cherry Grove Baptist Church.

To the wonderful folks at First Baptist Church,

I'd like to thank you for the Bible I received on Graduate Sunday. I will be sure to keep God's Word close to my heart, especially during the next few months as I transition into a college student at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Thanks Again,  
Grace Morningstar

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the many thoughtful ways that you showed your love, care, and support during J.C.'s illness. It brightens the days knowing that others care and are praying for you daily. We are grateful for each of you and your loving kindness.

Love,  
Pat & J.C. Hyatt

	August 2016					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 10:00 Staff Meeting 4:00 - 6:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)	2	3 6:30 Prayer Meeting 7:15 Chancel Choir	4	5	6
7 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship 5:30 Dinner 6:30 DVD Viewing Ordination of Charles Price	8 10:00 Staff Meeting 4:00 - 6:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)	9	10 6:30 Prayer Meeting 7:15 Chancel Choir	11 10:00 Peer Learning Group for Pastor- Bladenboro	12	13
14 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship (Farewell Luncheon for Mark Andersen following worship)	15 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:30 Finance Committee Meeting 4:00 - 6:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)	16 7:00 Deacons meeting	17 5:45 Church Wide Salad Supper & Homemade Ice Cream 6:30 Prayer Meeting 7:15 Chancel Choir	18	19 12:00 Hospice Meals to be Served	20
21 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship	22 10:00 Staff Meeting 4:00 - 6:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)	23	24 6:30 Prayer Meeting 7:15 Chancel Choir	25	26	27
28 9:45 Sunday School Gleaners Class to Visit Liberty Commons 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship	29 10:00 Staff Meeting 4:00 - 6:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)	30	31 6:30 Prayer Meeting 7:15 Chancel Choir			

Sunday Morning Worship [www.wtxy1540.com](http://www.wtxy1540.com), Audio Streaming Live.....at 11:00 am

Scroll to the "Click to Listen Live" link

**First Baptist Church**  
**412 North Madison Street**  
**Whiteville, NC 28472-3298**

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