

THE CONTACT

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, WHITEVILLE, NC
SEPTEMBER 2016 VOLUME 51, NUMBER 25

We would like to welcome John and Jennifer Bowling as our newest members of First Baptist Church. John and Jennifer joined the church August 21, 2016. They would like to thank the entire congregation for sharing their warmth, comfort and love. Our community has quickly made them feel welcomed into this church family. They want to invite the entire congregation to join them as they celebrate their baptism on Sunday, September 4, 2016.



EVENTS AT A GLANCE :

SEPTEMBER 5

LABOR DAY
OFFICE CLOSED

SEPTEMBER 11

COMMUNION
NOMINATION OF
DEACONS
YOUTH KICKOFF

SEPTEMBER 18

PRESENTATION OF
BUDGET

SEPTEMBER 19

FINANCE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 20

DEACONS MEETING

SEPTEMBER 21

BUDGET DISCUSSION

SEPTEMBER 25

VOTE ON BUDGET &
DEACONS

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

PASTOR'S CORNER: BUILDING GOD'S CHURCH BY BUILDING UP EACH OTHER



Ephesians 4:11-12, 16

¹¹ *The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,* ¹² *to equip the saints for the work of ministry, **for building up the body of Christ...*** ¹⁶ *from whom*

*the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in **building itself up in love.***

1 Thessalonians 5:11

*Therefore, **encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.***

My favorite team to watch historically has been the Washington Redskins (that is subject to change now that I'm in NC). But I have learned in watching the NFL that when things are going well there is plenty of praise to go around – the coach, the quarterback, the offense, the defense, etc. After a victory the team rides the high and they warmly congratulate one another. But when the team is losing the fans, the media, and even the coaches and players begin to place blame on individuals within the system. I guess this is to be expected in a cut-throat game where the main objective is to win. My biggest question is when did the church become cut-throat? And when did individuals within the church become so focused with *winning*?

If winning and/or being the best is our focus, then it's easy to imagine how the church might come to function like a professional sports program – congratulating one another on victories and criticizing one another and placing blame when things don't go as planned. Fortunate for us, Jesus didn't call us to "come in first" or "be the best." He instructs us to love one another, specifically by serving others and putting others above ourselves.

We live in an age when churches are stretching their resources and individuals within the system are feeling a growing sense of discouragement. Now, as much as ever, we need to encourage one another! If our efforts aren't producing fruit then perhaps we will find encouragement in the words of Thomas Edison, when he said, "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." If our efforts don't produce fruit then we don't need to give up, we just need to redirect our efforts – encouraging and building one another up along the way!

"You're really doing a great job!" "You really have a warm spirit about you!" "I want to thank you for all of your hard work!" "We couldn't do what we do without you!" "I've recently noticed how much you do around here!"

The previous phrases can never be overstated in the local body of Christ. It's ironic really – because it seems the more discouraged we become the more we tend to criticize the people around us. But the thing we benefit the most from when times get tough is encouragement from others.

Let me take the opportunity to tell every person reading this that I'm thankful for you and your efforts in your Christian journey. It's not an easy time to be a participant in Christ's church. But you haven't given up on it as many have. You're doing a great job and we couldn't do it without you! I'm optimistic about our future because I know that there are some wonderful believers in this world committed to following God's will – wherever that may take us. God gave us a great gift when he created you. Thank you for sharing your gift with Christ's church!

SUNDAY SERMONS

SEPTEMBER 04

"Weighty Decision"

Luke 14:25-33

SEPTEMBER 11

"When a Sinner Repents"

Luke 15:1-10

SEPTEMBER 18

"Creativity, Friendship,
Trustworthiness, and Stewardship"

Luke 16:1-13

SEPTEMBER 25

"Work the Problem"

Luke 16:19-31

OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Monthly Worship Attendance Average: 108

Sunday School Attendance Average: 66

August Financial Update:

(July) 31: \$ 5,555.00

07: \$ 6,148.25

14: \$ 8,029.00

21: \$ 4,628.00

28: \$ 3,980.87

Amount Received for August: \$ 28,341.12

Amount Needed to make Monthly budget: \$ 43,975.75

Under Budget for the Month: \$ 15,634.63

Budget Needs to Date: \$ 422,167.20

Budget Received YTD: \$ 326,808.94

Budget Under YTD: \$ 95,358.26

MUSIC NOTES



Music Ministry 2016-2017

Make your plans now to include the Music Ministry in your fall schedule. We offer music activities for all ages. On Wednesday, September 7 we will begin our fall ministry activities.

The **Children's Music Activity** for grades 1-5 will begin on Wednesday, September 7, at 5:00 p.m. During this time our children will have the opportunity to explore music through handchimes, other musical instruments and singing.

Music for Preschool Children will be incorporated during the Sunday morning Sunday School hour at 9:45 a.m.

Our **Chancel Choir** for adults and youth has begun the new church year and rehearses each Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. The Chancel Choir provides music for our worship services each Sunday. They also prepare and offer seasonal music services.

The **Youth and Adult Handbells** will begin on Sunday, September 11, at 5:00 p.m. Please bring your calendars and youth bring a parent to this organizational meeting.

The **Youth Choir** for grades 6-12 will begin on Sunday, September 11, at 5:30 p.m. Once again, please bring your calendars and a parent for this organizational meeting.

On Tuesday, September 13, 11:00 a.m. we will begin a hymn study titled ***Sing With Understanding***. During our time together we will explore hymns through the ages both ancient and modern. This will be an informal time of singing and inspiration for all ages. Please invite your friends.

Music Ministry 2016-2017

At a Glance!

The Chancel Choir (for Adults and Youth)
Wednesday, 7:15 p.m.

Children's Music Activity (for grades 1-5)
Begins Wednesday, September 7, at 5:00 p.m.

Preschool Music Activity
Each Sunday during the Sunday School hour at 9:45 a.m.

Youth and Adult Handbells
Organizational meeting, Sunday, September 11, at 5:00 p.m.

Youth Choir (for grades 6-12)
Organizational meeting, Sunday, September 11, at 5:30 p.m.

Sing With Understanding (A hymn study for all ages)
Begins Tuesday, September 13, at 11:00 a.m.

Future Music Opportunities

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| October 2016 | Youth Choir to Carowinds (date to be determined) |
| January 27-28, 2017 | Adult Choir Festival (FBC Charleston, SC) |
| March 3-5, 2017 | Youth Choir Festival (Myrtle Beach, SC) |
| April 9, 2017 | Raleigh Ringers Concert (Lumberton Civic Center) Tickets: \$25 adult, \$10 student *To insure a concert seat please pay for your tickets in the church office by Sunday, September 18. |

MISSIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **WMU Meeting Monday, September 12, 2016, 10:00 a.m.** in the conference room, we would like to invite all of the women of the church to attend this meeting.
- **Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child**, anyone interested in volunteering in the Charlotte Processing Center please notify the church office by Wednesday, September 14, 2016 for registration. Date and specific location given at time of registration.

SEPTEMBER MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

4 Grayanna Young
11 Wendy Hensley
18 Katherine Jordan Scott
25 Tricia Sanderson

OFFERING TELLERS

4 Eric & Peggy Underwood
11 Armond & Brenda Carter
18 Eric & Peggy Underwood
25 Eric & Peggy Underwood

WORSHIP SERVICE GREETER

Merle Worley

PEW STOCKER

Myrtle Corbett

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

4 John Sauls & Joann Hinson
11 Brownie Cook & Charlie Duncan
18 Hilda Ray & Emory Worley
25 Brenda Carter & Stephen Prince

DVD DISTRIBUTION

4 Peggy Walters
11 Hilda Butler
18 Rose Langston
25 Frances Price

NURSERY

4 To be announced
11 To be announced
18 To be announced
25 To be announced

USHERS

Chairperson: Joe Hooks
4 Ellis Jordan, Jerry Wilson, Clint Grainger, &
Buster Carter
11 Travis Harrison, John Sauls, & Emory Worley
18 Jerry Carter, David Heath, David Tedder, & Ben Sauls
25 Joe Hooks, Lewis Sauls, Glenn Walters, & Harry Ward

SOUND & VIDEO

4 Jason Schoolcraft
11 Wil Ezzell
18 Kirby Sanderson
25 Eric Kronenwetter

HOSPICE MEAL FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

Myrtle Corbett

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

| | | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|-------------------------|----|--------------------------|
| 2 | Carl Butler | 15 | Karen Dawsey | 23 | Pat Davis |
| 2 | Summer Thorne | 15 | Traci Bright | 23 | Carolyn Cook Southerland |
| 3 | Howard Jones | 16 | Patricia Coble | 25 | Fred Obrecht |
| 3 | Ella Jo Sellers | 17 | Brad Johnson | 25 | Ophelia Sellers |
| 3 | Sable Walker Hall | 17 | Trent Young | 25 | Jerry Gore |
| 3 | Summer Britt | 18 | Joanne Hardee | 25 | Melvin Ezzell |
| 4 | Robert Young | 18 | Betty Gail Kronenwetter | 28 | James Greer |
| 8 | Wanda Thorne | 18 | Grayanna Young | 29 | Donald Viets |
| 8 | Bettie Lou Memory | 19 | Dana Bright | 30 | John Norosky |
| 8 | Carlton Prince | 19 | Dottie Stephens | 30 | Joseph Cook |
| 9 | David Heath | 19 | Revice Butler | | |
| 10 | David Coble | 19 | Haley Cook | | |
| 12 | Barbara Whitson | 21 | Sylvia Walker | | |



COMMUNITY IN PRAYER:

This month our community is in deep sadness over the loss of a beloved church member, Carol Greer. Please pray for her children and for all in our community who she embraced as her own family. She was a beautiful person whose life was intricately connected to so many in this community. She shared her time, her resources and her love with so many and it seemed to come so easy to her. She did all of these things behind the scenes because she was not the kind of person who desired praise or adoration for her deeds. Her motivation was strictly LOVE. We are all greatly affected by the loss of this great person. There are no words to describe the tragedy that occurred. May we find strength in God and one another.



You are beautiful.

I know, because I made you.

God

YOUTH KICKOFF COOKOUT:

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2016 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Youth: Grades 6 - 12 and parents invited

Please call the church office at 642-2139 to make reservations for the cookout.

Details for upcoming retreats and mission trips will be announced at the cookout.



Announcement:

Edgewood Elementary School is looking for male volunteers to provide support and guidance to students from third to fifth grade. Any person over the age of 25 is welcome to fill out a volunteer application, which can be found on the Whiteville City Schools webpage or at any school within the district. Applications are subject to approval by the Whiteville City School Board of Education. You simply need a desire to make a kid smile, 10 minutes to have lunch with a table of fourth graders, or the ability to read Dr. Seuss! Thank you all for your continued prayers for a safe and productive school year.

Thank you,

Jared Worthington

Principal, Edgewood Elementary

A Special Thank You :

We are so very grateful for the time, effort and love extended to our family during the observance of Charles' ordination to the ministry. We especially thank Carlton & Mary Jean Prince and Lewis & Ann Sauls. We appreciate everyone who assisted in any way. Thank You so very much.

Frances Price, Charles Price and Family

**FAMILIES FIRST AND COLUMBUS
COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL
PRESENT:
THE 2ND ANNUAL LIP SYNC
BATTLE**



This fundraiser is in the style of The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon, and will have your community's celebrities competing for best act and most money raised. This year your Pastor, Rev. Clore, will be participating. Make sure you come out and show your support for not only your pastor, but especially for Families First and the Columbus County Arts Council!

The fundraiser will be Saturday, September 24 at Vineland Depot in downtown Whiteville. There will be a social hour at the pavilion beginning at 6 p.m. and the show will start at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$40 and include hors d'oeuvres, beer, and wine.



www.familiesfirst.org/lipsync

Families First: (910) 642-5996

Arts Council: (910) 640-2787

To vote for The Three Preachers featuring Ryan Clore, Danny Russell & Bert Young go to:

http://www.familiesfirstnc.org/Families_First_Inc/events.html

Last year the agencies together raised over \$30,000 for special programming in Columbus County. Families First has served victims of domestic violence and sexual assault since 1995. The Arts Council has promoted and increased public awareness and appreciation of the arts since 1976. Both agencies look forward to a fun and exciting evening that will also raise much needed funds for community programs.

If you are interested in donating to or sponsoring the event please contact Families First at 642-5996 or the Columbus County Arts Council at 640-2787.

Deacon Nomination Sunday: September 11, 2016

You may nominate five adult members of First Baptist Church for the office of deacon. In accordance with the By-Laws, the following persons are not eligible for nomination this year. They are currently serving or have served within the last two years. Please spend time in **prayer** about who God would have serve as the spiritual leaders for our church.

Term Expired 2015

Buster Carter
Betty Jo Prevatte
Carlton Prince
Barbara Whitson

Term Expires 2016

Charlie Duncan
Joann Hinson
Hilda Ray
Ann Sauls

Term Expires 2017

Brownie Cook
Melvin Ezzell
Rose Langston
Sylvia Walker
Emory Worley

Term Expires 2018

Kate Carter
Stephen Prince
John Sauls
Jim Warlick
Jerry Wilson

Absentee Nomination Ballots will be available in the Church Office September 7th, 8th and 9th **for those who know they cannot be in worship service on September 11th.** Our Ministry Assistant, Stacy Pukl, will handle these ballots confidentially. The ballots will be given to the Tally Committee on Sunday morning, September 11th, prior to their tallying the nominations.

First Baptist Church
Deacon Nomination Ballot
Sunday, September 11, 2016

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Your 2015-2016 Nominating Committee...

wishes to thank you for your cordial and positive responses to our phone call as we have attempted to fill the ministry positions of our church. A few vacancies remain. If you feel led to volunteer, please call Emory Worley (770-2753) or Stacy Pukl at the church office (642-2139). You will be asked to vote on these nominees at the September 21st business meeting.

Again our thanks,

Pat Davis
Rick Kimball
Jason Schoolcraft

Sherry Waters
Emory Worley

Vacancies:

Drama Committee- 1
Grounds Committee- 1
Music Committee- 1
Lord's Supper Committee- 2
VBS Director & Assistant- 2
Grief Committee- 2
Sunday School Greeter- 1
Baptist Men's Director- 1
Nominating Committee- 3

| | September 2016 | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship | 5 Labor Day Office Closed | 6 1:30 Finance Committee Meeting | 7 5:00 Children's Music Activity grades 1 - 5 5:45 Wednesday Night Supper 6:30 Prayer Meeting & Children in Action 7:15 Chancel Choir | 8 10:00 Peer Learning Group for Pastor-Bladenboro | 9 | 10 |
| 11 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship TBA Youth Ensemble TBA Youth/Adult Handbells 6:00 Youth Kickoff | 12 10:00 Staff Meeting 10:00 WMU Meeting 4:00 - 6:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry) | 13 11:00 Hymn Sing | 14 5:00 Children's Music Activity grades 1 - 5 5:45 Wednesday Night Supper 6:30 Prayer Meeting & Children in Action 7:15 Chancel Choir | 15 | 16 12:00 Hospice Meals to be Served | 17 |
| 18 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship (Budget Presented at Worship) TBA Youth Ensemble TBA Youth/Adult Handbells 6:00 Youth Group | 19 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:30 Finance Committee Meeting 4:00 - 6:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry) | 20 7:00 Deacons Meeting | 21 5:00 Children's Music Activity grades 1 - 5 5:45 Covered Dish for Church Conference & Budget Discussion 6:30 Children in Action 7:15 Chancel Choir | 22 | 23 | 24 6:00 Fundraiser at Vineland Depot Lip Sync Battle |
| 25 9:45 Sunday School Apostles, Seekers, Inquirer's & Youth Classes to Visit Liberty Commons 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship (Vote on Budget) TBA Youth Ensemble TBA Youth/Adult Handbells 6:00 Youth Group | 26 10:00 Staff Meeting 4:00 - 6:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry) | 27 | 28 5:00 Children's Music Activity grades 1 - 5 5:45 Wednesday Night Supper 6:30 Prayer Meeting & Children in Action 7:15 Chancel Choir | 29 | 30 | |

Sunday Morning Worship 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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