



First Baptist Church of Tryon

The Good News

First Baptist Church of Tryon

125 Pacolet Street

Tryon, NC 28782

(828) 859-5375

Pastor's Cell: (828) 899-1386

E-mail: tryonfirstbaptist@gmail.com

Website: www.tryonfirstbaptist.org

Staff

The Reverend Jeff C. Harris, Pastor

The Reverend Candace Wilson, Minister of
Music and Christian Formation

Kay Greene, Pianist

E. Leslie Raymond, Organist

Joey Whiteside, Youth Director

Sandy Frady, Handbell Choir Director

John Spinks, Sexton

Worship

Sunday School 10 am

Worship 11 am

Refuge/Sunday Evening Ekklesia 5 pm

Office Hours

Mon/Tue/Thurs 9am to 3 pm

Wed 12pm to 4 pm

CHAT WITH THE PREACHER

The last few weeks I've been talking (i.e. preaching) about the strangeness of being Christian. I have done this *not* in the hopes that I would convince you to recant your faith. Instead, my hope is that the "strange talking" will convince us to take our faith more seriously.

Chances are, if you don't think that practicing the faith is a bit strange, then you probably do not have a good grasp on the type of living that Jesus calls us to. And if I never articulate another thing, I want to say clearly, that being Christian is a *way* of living. Too often in our part of the world (i.e. The Bible Belt) we think being Christian is essentially about *believing* that Jesus is God's son. And that is, of course, what we believe, but the language of Jesus himself was always more about "following" him than "believing" in him.

Most people who follow Jesus do believe in him, otherwise, why would they follow him? For some folks, however, it happens the other way around. Some people have to follow Jesus before they can believe in him. The point being, the strange acts of following Jesus (Lent, Bible, Sex, Worship, Sabbath, Death, and Resurrection—and these are just a few) are life-giving practices rather than life-taking ones.

These strange, and seemingly demanding practices, ultimately do more than lead us to believe in Jesus. Instead, this strange way of living leads us to Jesus. May God give us the grace and wisdom to embrace this strange-life-giving way of life.

Jeff

MARCH SCHEDULES

ACOLYTES FOR MARCH

- 3 Jessie Emory, Ella Waldman
- 10 Luke Miller, Verae Upton
- 17 Elliott Whiteside, Wilson Edwards
- 24 David Amitrano, Sydney Waldman
- 31 Caleb Anagnos, Jessie Emory

CHILDREN'S CHURCH WORKERS

- 3 Kevin & Christy McCall
- 10 JT & Cathy Johnson
- 17 Jodi Harris
- 24 Linda Martin
- 31 Joey & Olivia Whiteside

MARCH DEACONS

- *Billy McFarland
- Ed Justice
- Howard Greene
- Phillip Pleasants
- Sharon Burrell

*Denotes Lead Deacon

MARCH USHERS

- Sharon Burrell (front)
- Tommy Burrell (front)
- Gigi Covil (side)
- Dee Huneycutt (hall)

WMU MISSION FOR MARCH

For March missions, the WMU has selected to contribute to Pure Water, Pure Love. Safe drinking water is critical for missionaries around the world. With a water filter system, missionaries can be healthier and have more time to minister to their peoples.



SUPER SATURDAY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Super Saturday is presented every March and includes the best in children's theater and entertainment. World-class acts perform in indoor venues, with entertainment continuing all day on the street as well as the Community Stage. The mid-day parade is an event not to be missed by children of any age!

Super Saturday is produced annually by the Children's Theater Festival, an all-volunteer organization in Tryon, NC, with the purpose of enriching the lives of children and their families by introducing, promoting, and encouraging the arts in the communities centered in and around Polk County.

Super Saturday is celebrating its 35th year on March 16. We will not have the food court at our church parking lot this year. The planning committee for Super Saturday moved the food court to Sassoon Park, just up the street at the corner of Pacolet and Melrose.

Because we at Tryon First Baptist want to support Super Saturday, and give something fun to the community, we will be sponsoring two bounce houses and a large slide in our parking lot. These will be free of charge for the children attending.

We will need volunteers for that day, and are asking folks to help with an hour shift, if possible. We will need three people at all time slots, from 8 am until 3 pm, when the festival closes.

Please consider working a shift on Super Saturday and experience the joy of being a child again. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Sunday School hallway for all those who are interested.

TFBC UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS



HOCKEY IN GREENVILLE

Family Life is sponsoring a trip to Greenville SC for a hockey game - Greenville Road Warriors vs. Elmira Jackals for Faith & Family Day, **March 3rd**. We will depart from Bi-Lo at 1:30 PM. There will be contemporary Christian music provided outside of the Bi-Lo Center (live) before the game.

After the game, attendees can rent ice skates for \$3 and skate on the ice (cost is free if you bring your own skates). We will return after the game and ice skating. Cost for tickets to the game is \$6. This event is open to all ages. If you would like to attend please talk with Joey Whiteside. There is a sign-up sheet in the Sunday School Foyer as well.

EASTER EGG HUNT

All preschoolers and children (and their parents) are invited to Phil and Hilda Pleasants' farm on Saturday, March 23rd, from 3 to 5 pm. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt (with prizes!), a hot dog lunch, baked goods, an egg toss and other relay games. We encourage this great time of fun with your family and hope you will plan to attend.

To that end, we will be taking donations of plastic Easter eggs and individually-wrapped candies. Donation boxes will appear in the church office and narthex, starting February 24.



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AND RENEWALS ARE AVAILABLE!



Spring is here, and so are our Scholarship applications and renewals! The church family at First Baptist supports and encourages our youth by making a scholarship donation to the college or university of his/her choice.

Requirements for the Scholarship Application include the application itself, a recent photograph, a letter of acceptance from an accredited college, university, Bible or theological school, a short essay describing career goals, and two letters of recommendation in a sealed envelope, with the writer's signature across the seal. For renewals, applicants will need the form and a transcript of grades, showing that the student has maintained a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 at the institute at which they're studying. All scholarship applications and renewal forms are due in the church office no later than April 30, 2013. They are available in the office and in the church kitchen entrance.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL “EVERYWHERE FUN FAIR”

Mark your calendars! Our Vacation Bible School theme for 2013 is “Everywhere Fun Fair—Where God's World Comes Together.” Bible School will be June 17-20, from 9 am until 11:30 am. It takes commitment, dedication to our young ones, and many volunteers to make VBS happen. If you are interested in teaching, being a helper, crafting sets, or just generally want to be involved, please contact Candy Wilson, Jodi Harris, or Peggy Edwards, to see where your gifts can best be used.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Wedding Anniversaries

- 1 Phil & Marian Corn
- 3 Matthew & Adria (Harding) Denny
- 7 Kevin & Christy McCall
- 8 Howard & Mary Greene

Birthdays

- 2 Leah McKaig
- 2 Damon Johnson
- 5 Keith Constance
- 6 Sandy Frady
- 6 Malik Miller ('99)
- 9 JT Johnson
- 10 Billy McFarland
- 10 Grayson Jones ('02)
- 11 Kaya Bishop
- 11 Gigi Covil
- 12 Howard Greene
- 13 Nancy Brady
- 13 Teresa Rossi.
- 13 Sadie McKaig
- 14 Charles Stafford
- 14 Wilson Edwards ('01)
- 15 Cathy Johnson
- 15 Barbara Batchler
- 16 Jennie Bradshaw
- 16 Kate McFarland

- 16 Jan Perry
- 19 Jean Bolus
- 19 Jonathon Edwards ('03)
- 19 "Skip" Williams
- 19 Dan Kimble
- 20 Cale Burrell
- 22 Erin Shu ('01)
- 24 Chase Constance ('02)
- 24 ScottLynn Whiteside ('12)
- 26 Sharon Burrell
- 26 Judy Lair
- 27 Franklin Williams
- 28 Jessie Emory ('03)
- 29 Joe Wray
- 31 Tommy Burrell
- 31 Phillip Pleasants
- 31 Mary Smith

Military Birthdays

- 14 Sgt. Tracy Payne
4020 Elks Park Rd.
Rock Hill, SC 29732
(sgtflop@yahoo.com)

Student Birthday

- 24 Martha Nobles
(garynobles@windstream.net)

CALENDAR FOR LENT

Christianity is Strange?! Lenten Sermon Series

- | | | | |
|------|------------------------------|------|--|
| 3/3 | Sex | 3/23 | Easter Egg Hunt, Pleasants Farm, 3-5 pm |
| 3.10 | Worship | 3/25 | Noon Prayer Service, TFBC Sanctuary |
| 3/17 | Sabbath | 3/26 | Noon Prayer Service, TFBC Sanctuary |
| 3/24 | Death (Palm Sunday) | 3/27 | Noon Prayer Service, TFBC Sanctuary |
| 3/31 | Resurrection (Easter Sunday) | 3/29 | Community Good Friday Service, Tryon Presbyterian, 12 pm |
| | | 3/31 | Sunrise Service, 7am—Tryon Fine Arts Center Ampitheater |
| | | 3/31 | Easter Worship Service—11 am |



Notes From Candy

The Psalmist has challenged us to “sing a new song to the Lord.” Every day, each moment of our lives is a new song waiting to be sung, played, whistled, or hummed. During the season of Lent, it is good to examine our individual “songs,” or lives, and determine how we can best play, sing, whistle, or hum that which God has given us. The Psalmist has also said: “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.” When we offer our self, our total being to God in worship, we begin to experience the joy of the abundant life. In our corporate worship services, we can decide to participate more fully, sing the hymns more heartily, pray more fervently, and read the scripture with deep conviction.

It is a joy for me on Sundays when I look around the congregation and see children searching the hymnal for the correct hymn number, adults sharing their hymnals with children, and delight on the faces of everyone while singing those hymns. Eric Routley, 20th century hymnist, composer, and theologian said that a good hymn is one that is “well written, well chosen, and well sung.” A vital element in congregational worship is hymn singing, for it is a time when the people of God unite in voicing their praise to the Creator. As our prayers and hymns ascend to our Maker, do we consider offering anything less than our Best?

Sing to the Lord!

Candy