

Chat With the Preacher

There are lots of good things happening at First Baptist. I want to highlight a few opportunities:

Holy Week . . .

We begin the final journey toward the Cross this coming Sunday. Palm Sunday starts this roller coaster of a week, and there will be options for worship and reflection every day this week (except Saturday). We'll share time in prayer and quite reflection on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at noon. These noonday prayer times will last about 15 minutes.

We're doing something a bit different for Maundy Thursday this year. We're trying to capture a bit of the flavor of that last meal that Jesus shared with his disciples. So at 6:00pm we'll share a covered-dish/potluck meal together. This time of fellowship and food is certainly in the spirit of the Passover Seder tradition. Around 6:40pm we'll share our own Passover Seder, and this will help us to understand some of the traditions that Jesus and the disciples would have shared on that last evening. It's a hands-on learning/worshipping experience that you don't want to miss. We'll conclude by sharing the Lord's Supper together.

On Friday, our congregation will join with others from the community for Good Friday worship at Noon, at the Congregational Church. Easter Sunday begins with a sunrise service in the TFAC Amphitheater at 7am. We'll join with our friends from Tryon Presbyterian Church and others from the community to celebrate the Resurrection. Worship will last approximately 30 minutes, and then we'll go to the Activity Building for breakfast. It's a great way to start your Easter Sunday! We'll gather again at 11am for Easter Worship—a service that will include lots of music, bells, and trumpet! (There is no Sunday School on Easter Sunday).

Fishing ...

I'm really excited about our upcoming fishing project. As you know, in 2014 we received a \$1,000 gift from Bill Stillerman,

of the NC Baptist Retirement Homes in memory of his brother, David Stillerman, to initiate a "fishing project for children." The gift will be renewed each year for five years. David lived in the Atlanta area and worked for IBM for most of his career. He had a keen interest in the outdoors and children, so Bill wanted our church to have this gift to assist in establishing a fishing program to benefit First Baptist Tryon children and community children. We are working to especially connect with foster children in Polk County, and children who participate in Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Polk County.

While fishing is a great pursuit in and of itself, this is also an opportunity to share God's love in life-giving and life-changing ways. I am grateful for this opportunity, and appreciate your prayers and support for this ministry. Our first fishing excursion will be May 31. Details and schedule coming soon.

Backpacking ...

We had a great time backpacking in the Roan Highlands last year, and we're looking forward to another great trip. This year we'll be trekking in the Pisgah National Forest and Shining Rock Wilderness on June 12-14. I hope you'll put it on your calendar.

The purpose of the backpacking trip is to provide an opportunity for Sabbath in a natural environment, and to help participants explore opportunities for prayer and silence. We'll also have a lot of fun! This trip is open to anyone 16 or older who can carry at least 30lbs. on their backs, while hiking 5 to 7 miles per day in mountainous terrain. If you are under 16, you must be accompanied by a parent. Participants are required to bring their own back-pack, sleeping bag, sleeping pad, and tent/shelter. If you do not own these items, Sunrift Adventures in Travelers Rest rents them, or maybe you can borrow these items from someone. Also, many backpacking tents sleep two people, therefore not everyone has to have their own tent. Stoves and other cooking gear can be shared as well. If you are interested in this trip, but do not have the equipment, please let me know, and I'll be glad to help.

Grace and Peace, Jeff

FBC LENTEN SCHEDULE



- Sun, Mar 29 Palm Sunday Worship 11am (no evening activities)
- Mon, Mar 30 Noonday Prayer

Tue, Mar 31 Noonday Prayer

Wed, Apr 1 Noonday Prayer

Thu, Apr 2 Maundy Thursday service 6pm

(covered dish, followed by Seder meal at 6:40pm)

Fri, Apr 3 Community Good Friday (Tryon Congregational Church, 12pm)

Sun, Apr 5 Easter Sunrise Service 7am Light Breakfast following No Sunday School

Easter Worship 11am

THE TALE OF THE THREE TREES, PRESENTED ON MAY 10

The Children's Choir (grades 1-5) of First Baptist will present The Tale of the Three Trees by Allen Pote and Tom S. Long during the 11:00 am worship service on Sunday, May The children have spent many hours 10th. learning and preparing the music and the stag-The presentation of this musical is ing. scheduled for Mother's Day in honor of all the people who have loved, nurtured and encouraged the children their in iourney. Please make plans now to attend this very special worship service.

MAUNDY THURSDAY MEAL and TRADITIONAL SEDER SERVICE



On Maundy Thursday, April 2 we'll meet in the Activity Building to share the Passover Seder. Passover is the oldest and most important of Jewish religious festivals, commemorating God's deliverance of the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt and his creation of the Israelite people. On the night before his death. Jesus shared a similar meal with his disciples, and from this meal Jesus initiates our practice of Communion. We'll begin the night at 6:00pm with a covered-dish meal, at 6:40pm we'll share the traditional elements of the Seder, and we'll conclude with Communion. It's a great way for us to remember Jesus' last night before his Crucifixion. This service is kid-friendly, and a great way to teach our children about these important traditions.

NOTE: The church office will be closed on Monday, April 6, for the Easter Holiday. Happy Easter!

Christian Education Happenings at First Baptist

SEE—Spring 2015

This Winter/Spring our SEE (Sunday Evening Ekklesia) offering for adults will offer a discussion by Jeff Harris, entitled *We Could be Wrong—Examining Moral and Ethical Issues from a Christian Perspective.*

Contentious issues continue to divide churches and communities, but is there another way to approach these complex dilemmas? Can the church offer a better way forward than our tired binary (right/left) thinking? Join us for a series of respectful conversations modeling deep thinking and humility.

Stephen Brady leads a study at the same time in the Rock House, and will be using Louie Giglio's *Passion* series.

Apr 12 Homosexuality

Apr 26 TBD

May17 Concluding Conversation

We'll also have a cookout/game night for the last night we gather together—a chance to share food and fellowship, as well as our annual Wiffleball game.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE

Please note: If you are applying for a college scholarship or scholarship renewal, all forms MUST be returned to the Scholarship Committee or Joyce Scoggins by April 8.

SISTERHOOD SPREADS SOME CHEER



Sisterhood met on March 10, and nine of the group made carnation bouquets. Sixteen were made, and the Sisterhood group delivered them to our shut-ins. We are grateful for their ministry at First Baptist Church.

-submitted by Judy Lair

"WANNA GO FISHIN'?"



We want to:

-Get outside . . . teach kids to enjoy and respect the outdoors.

-Encourage friendships . . . with other children and with adults.

-Learn how to fish . . . fishing is a great hobby, that teaches patience and perseverance, builds confidence, and can be enjoyed for a lifetime.

-Have fun!

We'd love to have your help as we share God's love with children and youth in our community through our fishing project. We are currently accepting donations of fishing gear and supplies.

EASTER EGG HUNT PHOTOS

The children of First Baptist Church enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt and games, held on the church grounds on March 22. Here are some highlights as the children scrambled for their goodies. Many thanks to all who helped make this afternoon a success.

-Photos by Olivia Whiteside







APRIL MISSIONS OPPORTUNITY

The Mission Team has established opportunities for First Baptist to be involved in both the community and the world. For the month of April, we'll be collecting the Easter Mission Offerings. Envelopes for donating to CBF Global Missions or the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering are provided in your envelope box, or you can find envelopes at the entrance to the sanctuary.

COMMUNITY CHORUS CONCERT APRIL 26

The Community Chorus is presenting a Spring Concert at Polk County High School Auditorium on Sunday, April 26, at 3:00pm.

The title of the program is "The Song Has Just Begun," with Candy Wilson directing the chorus. Several of our choir members are singing in the chorus again this year, with ticket sales benefiting Rotary Scholarships. The tickets are \$10 each, and are available from Bob and Judy Lair. Come hear a great concert, while supporting Candy, our choir members, the Community Chorus, and the Rotary scholarship program.

WNCBF SPRING GATHERING

When: Sunday, May 3, 5pmWhere: First Baptist Church, Marion, 99 North Main Street, Marion, NC

You may register at www.wncbf.org, or contact First Baptist in Marion to register (the phone number is (828) 652-6030.

PHOTOS FROM CHURCH WORK DAY, MARCH 14



Thank you to all the folks who braved the rain and helped spruce up both Activity Building and the church grounds.





SKI TRIP PHOTOS, WOLF RIDGE, FEBRUARY 28



Youth Schedule Spring 2015

Jan 11	6pm, Refuge kick-off (SEE night)
	Capital Punishment
Jan 18	6pm, Refuge
Jan 25	6pm, Refuge (SEE night)
	Abortion
Feb 1	6pm, Refuge
Feb 8	6pm, Refuge (See night)
	War, Violence, and Pacifism
Feb 15	6pm, Refuge
Feb 22	6pm, Refuge (SEE night)
	Politics, Parties, and the Separation of Church and State
Feb 28 (SAT)	Ski Trip, Wolf Ridge, all-day event
	(Instead of an overnight ski trip, we're doing a lock-in on March 8)
Mar 1	No Refuge (because ski trip was the day before)
Mar 8	Refuge Lock-in, 6pm to 8am
Mar 15	6pm, Refuge
	Race
Mar 22	6pm, Refuge (SEE night)
	Creation Care and the Environment
Mar 29	No Refuge (no activities on fifth Sundays)
Apr 5	No Refuge (Easter Sunday)
Apr 12	6pm, Refuge (SEE night)
	Christian Sexual Ethic
Apr 19	6pm, Refuge
Apr 26	No Refuge
May 3	6pm, Refuge
May 10	No Refuge (Mother's Day)
May 17	6pm, Refuge (final SEE night)

There will be one "fun" event each month of the summer. TBD.

2015 Schedule for First Baptist Church, Tryon, NC

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Wed, Apr 1	Noonday Prayer
Thu, Apr 2	Maundy Thursday Service, 6pm (covered dish dinner in Activity Building, Seder meal to follow at 6:40pm)
Fri, Apr 3	Good Friday Community Service—Tryon UCC Church 12pm
Sun, Apr 5	Easter Sunrise Service, TFAC Amphitheatre, 7am; breakfast afterward in Activity Building,
	No Sunday School—Easter Worship at 11am, no evening activities
Mon, Apr 6	Church Office Closed
Sun, Apr 12	Communion Sunday
	Refuge (6pm)
Sun, Apr 19	Quarterly Church Conference 12pm
	Children's Choir Special Rehearsal (4-6pm)
Sun, Apr 26	SEE (5-6:30pm)
	No Refuge

APRIL MISSION EMPHASIS—Easter Missions Offering

MAY MISSION EMPHASIS—Baptist Retirement Home

Sun, May 3	WNC Baptist Fellowship Spring Gathering, FBC Marion
Sun, May 10	Mother's Day—Children's Choir presents "The Tale of Three Trees"
	NO SUNDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES
Mon, May 11	Red Cross Blood Drive, Activity Building (12:30-5pm)
Sun, May 17	SEE (Last Night) All Church-Cookout and Games
Sun, May 24	Memorial Day Weekend—NO SUNDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES
Mon, May 25	Church Office Closed
Sun, May 31	5th Sunday "I Love My Church" Offering – NO SUNDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES

JUNE MISSION EMPHASIS—Stop Hunger Now

Sun, Jun 7	Graduation Sunday, Communion
Fri, Jun 12-Sun Jun 14	Spirituality/Backpack trip
Mon-Fri, Jun 15-19	CBF General Assembly, Hyatt Regency, Dallas TX
Mon, Jun 29-Thu Jul 2	PassportKids! Camp – Converse College, Spartanburg

JULY MISSION EMPHASIS—Christmas in July

Sun, Jul 26 Quarterly Church Conference

AUGUST MISSION EMPHASIS—Back to School

Sun, Aug 2	Communion Sunday
Sun, Aug 2-Thur Aug 6	Vacation Bible School, time TBA
Sun, Aug 30	"I Love My Church" Offering
All Church Camp-out at Orchard Lake in Saluda - TBA	

SEPTEMBER MISSION EMPHASIS—Fall Mission Initiative/GraceltForward

Sun, Sep 13	SEE (5:00-6:30 pm)
Sun, Sep 20	Outdoor Worship at Harmon Field (10:30am)
Sun, Sept 27	SEE (5:00-6:30 pm)

-con't. on next page

2015 Schedule for First Baptist Church, Tryon, NC (con't. from previous page)

OCTOBER and NOVEMBER Mission Emphasis—Coat Drive and Shoe Box Sat, Oct 3 Mission Initiative/GraceItForward Sun, Oct 4 World Communion Sunday Sun, Oct 11 SEE (5-6:30 pm) Sun, Oct 25 Quarterly Church Conference Fall Party for Children (P-S through grade 5) SEE (5:00-6:30 pm) Sun, Nov 1 All Saints Sunday Sun, Nov 8 SEE (5:00-6:30 pm) Sun. Nov 22 Communion Sunday Community Thanksgiving Service Sun, Nov 29 First Sunday of Advent/"I Love My Church" Offering

DECEMBER Mission Emphasis—Kathy's Kids

Sun, Dec 6	Christmas Drama and Annual Christmas Meal
Sun, Dec 20	Caroling
Thu, Dec 24	5:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship

Regularly Scheduled Weekly Activities (unless otherwise noted) include:

Sundays	10:00 am Sunday School
	11:00 am Worship
	5:00 pm Children's Choir (grades 1-5)
	6:00 pm Refuge
Wednesdays	10:00am Bible Study
	6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal
	7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Regularly Scheduled Monthly	Activities (unless otherwise noted) include:
3 rd Monday of each month:	6:30 pm Brotherhood
2. Tuesday of each months	10:00 cm \/////

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2 nd Tuesday of each month:	10:00 am WMU
	7:00 pm Sisterhood

3rd Tuesday of each month: 6:50 pm Deacons

This is the current schedule for the year. Please note some things may be re-scheduled, added, or changed as needed. If changes occur, you will be notified by email, worship bulletin, newsletter, or announcement in worship. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Thank you.



April Sunday Schedules

Deacons for April

*Elizabeth Burrell

Shelvie Fo	ust
Keith Colli	ns
Jeff Miller	
Pat Feagan	(balcony)
*denotes Lead	Deacon

Ushers for April

Elizabeth Burrell & Mary Goodwin (front)

Linda Martin (hall)

Gary Nobles (side)

Acolytes for April

- 4/5 Katie Cothran & Wilson Edwards
- 4/12 Communion—No Acolytes
- 4/19 Ella Waldman & Laney Littlefield
- 4/26 StorieLane Whiteside & Jonathon Edwards

Children's Church Workers for April:

- 4/5 Linda & Ellis Fincher
- 4//12 Beth & Rick McCallister
- 4/19 TBA
- 4/26 Erin & Danny Fox

Our Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy and payers for the families of Marie Pearson, who passed February 15 and Iola Brock, who passed February 25.

April Milestones

Wedding Anniversaries

- 4/2 Kevin and Buffy Blackwell
- 4/6 David and Diane Cothran
- 4/15 Brian and Jennifer Jones
- 4/16 Justin and Andrea Lay
- 4/21 Harold and Elizabeth Burrell
- 4/22 Ellis and Linda Fincher
- 4/28 Benny and Frances Smith

Birthdays

- 4/1 Carrie Greene 4/7 Garland Goodwin 4/9 **Todd Constance** 4/10Fred Edwards, Sr. 4/11Arvilla Smith 4/13 Dawn Campbell 4/14Jessa Jackson ('00) 4/16 Cathy Arnold 4/18Margaret Ballew, Edna Morrow 4/20Mildred Bodie 4/21 David Cothran, Brett McFarland 4/22 Tanner Garrett ('97), Kathy Campbell 4/23 **Bob Scoggins** 4/26 **Bob** Constance
 - 4/27 Alex Miller ('97)
 - 4/29 Lauren Edwards (*10)

Student Birthdays

- 4/1 Jamie Greene
- 4/5 Kathryn Smith

Military Birthdays

- 4/18 Emily Dona
- 4/19 Erin Stillinger ('05)
- 4/26 Michelle Santa