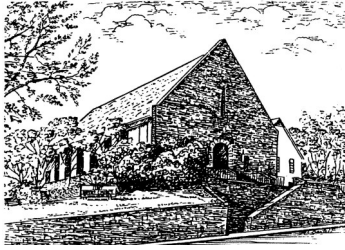


## The Good News



July 2015



## First Baptist Church of Tryon

125 Pacolet Street, Tryon NC 28782

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tryonfirstbaptist@gmail.com

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Jeffrey C. Harris, Pastor

Candace B. Wilson,

Minister of Music and Christian Formation

### Chat With the Preacher

Water is thicker than blood for those who seek to follow Jesus.

This is what St. Paul means when he writes: “As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus” (NRSV, Galatians 3:27-28).

The primary identity for Christians is found in the waters of baptism, not in ethnicity, social status, or gender.

Like many of you, I am still grieving the loss of the nine brothers and sisters in Christ who were murdered at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church on the evening of June 17.

I wish I could say that I am surprised by such evil and racism, but unfortunately I am not.

The Southern Baptist Convention, the denomination in which I was reared, is itself the result of schism over slavery. Many white Christians of the era used poor readings of Scripture to justify the evils of slavery. Years later many white Christians in the south used poor readings of Scripture to support segregation and to oppose civil rights for African-Americans.

Even today, I occasionally hear racial slurs from those who consider themselves Christian.

It saddens me.

It angers me.

There are difficult ethical and moral issues that continue to divide Christians, but race shouldn't be one of them. This should be as simple as remembering the song that I learned in church as a youngster, “Red and yellow, black and white, All are precious in His sight.”

The waters of baptism are intended to wash away these

walls of division, but at times the pace is glacial.

If you want to see what it looks like when the walls are washed away, then take a look at the good folks who make up Emanuel AME church. They welcomed a stranger into a small, intimate Bible study, and were so kind to him, that he said, “I almost didn't go through with it.”

And when family and friends of the slain addressed the killer at a bond hearing, they offered gospel words to him:

“We have no room for hate. We have to forgive. I pray to God for your soul.”

“Although my grandfather and other victims died at the hands of hate, this is proof—everyone's plea for your soul—is proof they lived in love and their legacies will live in love, so hate won't win.”

“I forgive you. You took something really precious away from me. I will never talk to her ever again. I will never be able to hold her again. But I forgive you and have mercy on your soul.”

Forgiveness is not forgetting, condoning, or excusing such atrocious acts, but it is a step toward reconciliation. The young man, however, who carried out this act of racial terrorism must face the hard work of repentance if the forgiveness offered to him has any chance of freeing him from the bonds of racism and hatred.

But he is not the only one who has work to do.

The Episcopal priest, Barbara Brown Taylor, writes, “True repentance calls whole communities to engage in the work of repair and reconciliation without ever forgetting their own culpability for the way things are.”

May God have mercy upon us for “the way things are.”

And may we live courageously until the waters of baptism wash away every last wall that divides.

Grace and Peace, *Jeff*



# PASSPORT CAMP PICTURES

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AUGUST 2-6

Vacation Bible School for 2015 is scheduled for August 2-6 (Sunday-Thursday). The theme is *G-Force: God's Love in Action*. It is a mission-focused VBS in which children will explore putting their faith into action. If you are interested in helping in any way with VBS planning or helping during the week of VBS, please contact Candy Wilson.

A meeting for Vacation Bible School teachers and leaders is scheduled for 11:00am on Sunday, July 19, after Sunday School. Lunch will be provided.

## LEAVING FOR PASSPORT KIDS CAMP JUNE 29



And they're off! We hope that Verae, Katie, and Miss Candy have a super time at camp!  
-Photo by Amber Fincher-McEntire



# Hooked



The David Stillerman Fishing Project of FBC Tryon

First Baptist Parents,

We'd love to have you and your child/ren go fishing with us. You do not need any fishing equipment (you can certainly bring your own if you wish), experience, or license. We will supply fishing equipment, instruction, drinks, and a light dinner. We do ask that at least one parent be present with your child/ren. This is great opportunity for parents and children to spend time with each other, and with others from our community (especially with foster children and those involved with Big Brothers/Big Sisters.)

Here are a few reasons we think "Hooked" is worthwhile:

- 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!

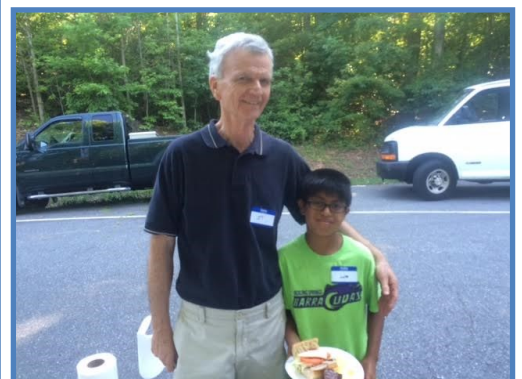
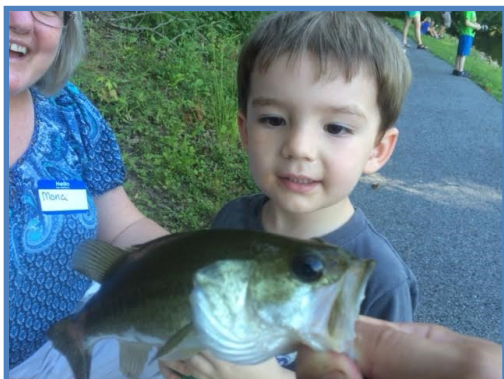
We'll go fishing at these times and places, and hope that you can join us:

July 19 White Oak Mountain 4-7pm

Aug 23 Derbyshire/Lake Sandy Plains 4-7pm

Sept 20 Tryon Estates 4-7pm

If you plan to attend please RSVP, as that will help us provide the correct amount of fishing equipment, volunteers, and food. For more information or to RSVP please call: First Baptist Church of Tryon at 828.859.5375 or by emailing [tryonfirstbaptist@gmail.com](mailto:tryonfirstbaptist@gmail.com) . Here are some shots from our second outing at Tryon Estates.

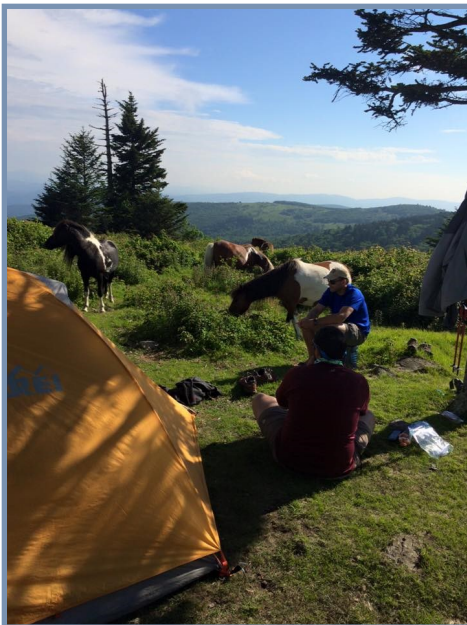
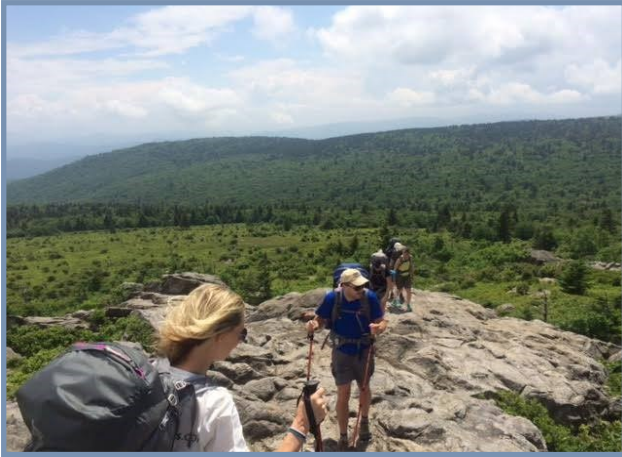


# MORE HOOKED! PICTURES FROM OUR JUNE 28 OUTING AT TRYON ESTATES



## JUNE 12-14 SPIRITUALITY AND BACKPACK TRIP

We had a great time backpacking Grayson Highlands area of Virginia. Here are some photo highlights of our time there. (Photos by Erin Fox and Jeff Harris).



## JULY MISSIONS OPPORTUNITY



July's Mission is "Back to School." We'll be collecting supplies for Tryon Elementary School. Supplies needed throughout the school year are: wide-ruled notebook paper, #2 pencils, two-pocket folders with no rings but with punch holes, non-spiraled composition books, glue sticks, highlighters, tissues, and disinfectant wipes. The number one need throughout the year is notebook paper. Boxes for collections of the supplies will be located in the Lair Sunday School room during the month of July.

## COMMIT TO THE MISSION INITIATIVE DAY OCTOBER 3

We are asking our congregation to make a commitment to help our extended community on October 3 of this year. The Mission Initiative Project and GraceItForward represent a time to put hearts and hands toward the mission of reaching out to those who may be hungry, who may not be able to do their own yardwork, who may need a construction project or who may need a helping hand in other ways. Last year, we handed out change for folks to do their laundry; gave away McDonald's gift cards; sang, played games, and did craft projects with local nursing home residents, as well as pulled weeds,

chopped wood, built a ramp, collected food, and tried to make a difference in our county. We're asking for your help again this year. Please consider giving a few hours of your time—we can use your help in the morning or the afternoon. Prayerfully consider how you can help, and commit today!

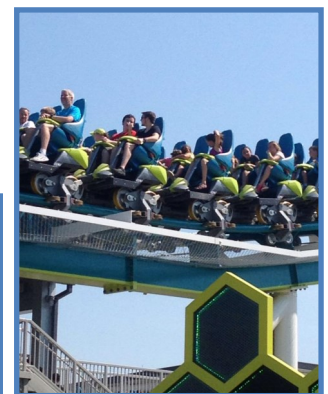
## SAY HELLO TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER!

First Baptist Church welcomes the newest member to be received into our church family. Luke Walker has expressed his desire for baptism. Luke is the son of Eric and Melinda ("Cricket") Walker, and the grandson of Darrell and Kathy Ashley.

## CAROWINDS TRIP JUNE 18



*Lots of fun in the hot, hot sun!*



*Be sure to come with us next time!*

## 2015 Schedule for First Baptist Church, Tryon, NC

### **JULY MISSION EMPHASIS—Back to School**

Sun, Jul 19                      Hooked! Fishing at White Oak Mountain, 4-7pm  
Sun, Jul 26                      Quarterly Church Conference

### **AUGUST MISSION EMPHASIS—Christmas in August**

Sun, Aug 2                      Communion Sunday  
Sun, Aug 2-Thur Aug 6        Vacation Bible School, time TBA  
Sun, Aug 9                      Scholarship Sunday  
Sun, Aug 23                     Hooked! Fishing at Derbyshire/Lake Sandy Plains, 4-7pm  
Sun, Aug 30                     "I Love My Church" Offering

### **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)  
   Hooked! Fishing at Tryon Estates, 4-7pm  
Sun, Sept 27                    SEE (5:00-6:30 pm)

### **OCTOBER and NOVEMBER Mission Emphasis—Coat Drive and Shoe Box**

Sat, Oct 3                      Mission Initiative/GraceltForward  
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 (10:15 in July 2015)
	11:00 am Worship (9:00am in July 2015)
	5:00 pm Children's Choir (grades 1-5)
	6:00 pm Refuge
Wednesdays	10:00 am Bible Study (resumes September 16)
	6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal (no bell choir in June, July, August)
	7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (no choir in July)

**Regularly Scheduled Monthly Activities (unless otherwise noted) include:**

3rd Monday of each month:	6:30 pm Brotherhood
1st Tuesday of each month:	10:00 am WMU
2nd Tuesday of each month:	7:00 pm Sisterhood (does not meet in summer)
3rd Tuesday of each month:	6:00 pm Deacons
3rd Sunday of each month:	11:00 am Food Pantry Collection

*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.*

**JULY SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE**

Join us in the Activity Building at 10:15am during the month of July, as we dialogue around these topics:

<b>July 5</b>	<b>Resident Aliens</b>
<b>July 12</b>	<b>No Creed But the Bible?</b>
<b>July 19</b>	<b>Spiritual But Religious</b>
<b>July 26</b>	<b>What Should a Church Require of its Members?</b>

Our Christian love and sympathy are extended to the family of Georgia Screven Pack, who died June 5, 2015.



## July Sunday Schedules

### *Deacons for July*

\*Di Greene

Sandy Frady

Keith Collins

Ron Frady

David Thompson (balcony)

*\*denotes Lead Deacon*

### *Ushers for July*

Gigi Covil & Linda Martin (front)

Ashlyn Green (hall)

Susan Smith (side)

### *Acolytes for July*

7/5 StorieLane Whiteside & Jonathon Edwards

7/12 Hayden Blackwell & Harper Harris

7/19 Verae Upton & Wilson Edwards

7/26 Caitlin Britton and Jack Fox

### *Children's Church Workers for July:*

7/5 Cathy & JT Johnson

7/12 Susan Smith

7/19 Keith & Debbie Collins

7/26 Linda & Ellis Fincher



**The church office will be closed on  
Monday, July 6, for the holiday.**

## July Milestones

### Wedding Anniversaries

- 1 Jimmy & Kathy Campbell, Harold & Ruth Taylor
- 8 Ethan & Renae Waldman
- 12 Geoff & Alice Tennant, Jeff & Jodi Harris
- 16 Jerry & Lorraine McAtee
- 18 JT & Cathy Johnson
- 23 Skip & Reva Williams
- 24 Phil & Joyce Scoggins
- 26 Mark & Laura Smith
- 28 Billy & Kim McFarland
- 30 Charles & Dee Huneycutt
- 31 Hub & Joyce Arledge

### July Birthdays

- 3 Evelyn Bradley
- 5 Ruth Taylor, Jerry McAtee, Tilly Harris ('13)
- 6 Ashlyn Green ('01)
- 7 Kayla Tennant ('99)
- 9 Jarret Culbreth, Ron Frday, David Thompson, Jordan Stratford, StorieLane Whiteside ('06)
- 10 Evan Maxwell ('95)
- 11 Jeff Harris
- 12 Ellis Fincher, Jr., Oliviah Miller ('08)
- 13 Nancy Britton, Justin Covil
- 14 Matthew Denny
- 17 Alice Tennant
- 18 Brent Scoggins
- 19 Shelvie Foust
- 20 Annette Stafford
- 21 Pat H. Brown
- 22 Jordan Covil
- 23 Trish Culbreth
- 25 Louise Radford
- 26 Donna Ziegler-Barnette
- 31 Belle McFarland, Keith Collins, Gingi Green, Oakley Whiteside ('09)

### Military Personnel Birthdays

- 2 Randy Stillinger