

# Good News

## A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

First Baptist Church  
P. O. Box 1287  
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ISSUE 4

## MUSIC

Anne Shu

Help us make beautiful music. Our choir needs new members. Think you can't carry a tune in a bucket? Doesn't matter! Shy? We will be there to encourage and support you.

Practice is every Wednesday evening from 7:00 to 8:15, and we have plenty of time to work on helping you carry that tune or be less shy. The goal is making beautiful music for Sunday worship. As a choir member you will be serving the Lord and building relationships with other like-minded church members.

Please join us! Call 859-6317 or talk to any of the choir.



### In His Footsteps

Helen Steiner Rice

When someone does a kindness,  
it always seems to me  
That's the way God up in heaven  
would like us all to be.  
For when we bring some pleasure  
to another human heart,  
We have followed in His footsteps  
and we've had a little part  
In serving Him who loves us -  
for I'm very sure it's true  
That in serving those around us,  
we serve and please Him, too.



## Super Saturday

Mike Greene

The Children's Theatre Festival's Super Saturday was a good day for our youth. We had lots of involvement from TFB youth and adults. We made \$1,157.00 (less expenses) for upcoming projects. This was especially good since the weather was not great to start the day although it improved as the day progressed.

We had lots of help setting up and serving at lunch, and clean up went well. A big thank you to Franklin McKaig for the pizza. He did a great job as always, and we sold close to 60 pizzas, lots of ice cream and cotton candy.

Thank you to everybody who helped make this fundraiser a success.

Now the youth start looking toward Easter and the egg hunt.



## Hand Bells

Sandy Frady

The Bell Choir will play two songs for the April 5th service. The first one "Our God is an Awesome God" is a praise and adoration song. This song was written under unusual circumstances. The composer, Rich Mullins, was driving across country on his way to a youth conference. He began to doze off and trying to keep himself awake, he began preaching to himself. The sleeper he got, the more exuberant he got with his preaching. By the time he arrived at the youth conference, he had written a new song called "Awesome God." He didn't think it was a great song, but the youth at the conference loved it, and soon its popularity spread across the country.

The second song to be played by the Bell Choir is a well known and loved song entitled "Amazing Grace." After years as a hardened slave trader, John Newton met Jesus Christ, and his life was turned around. Throughout his years of ministry, God's amazing grace remained central to his thinking.

As the Easter season is upon us, let us remember God's wonderful grace to us and give him praise and adoration!



## CHILDREN'S CORNER

**Q:** Why did the candle fall in love?

**A:** It met the perfect match!



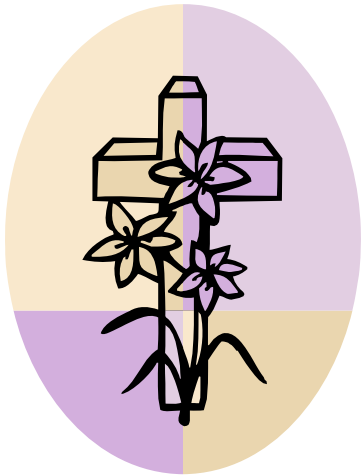
## History

Sadie McKaig

Do you remember June 1, 2008 and the great time we had celebrating our church's history? We always enjoy looking back and the **History** sub-group has preserved the biographies we submitted. The History Committee, under the leadership of Carroll Brady, will include the biographies in our church's archives. They will also be used to help our new minister learn about us.

Many of us submitted our family biographies, but many did not. So that we have a more complete record of biographies, we want to include biographies from all of our church members.

Please send or bring your biography to the church. Include your family's name, when you joined TFB, and any event involving your family and the church such as dedications of children, baptisms and weddings.



## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 21 Harold & Elizabeth Burrell
- 22 Ellis & Linda Fincher
- 28 Benny & Frances Smith



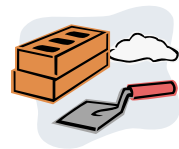
## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Carrie Greene
- 1 Jamie Greene
- 5 Kathryn Smith
- 7 Garland Goodwin
- 9 Todd Constance
- 10 Fred Edwards, Sr.
- 11 Arvilla Smith
- 12 Ervin Gibbs
- 14 Jessa Jackson
- 17 Mary Wall
- 18 Margaret Ballew
- 18 Edna Morrow
- 20 Mildred Bodie
- 21 Brett McFarland
- 22 Kathy Campbell
- 26 Robert K. Constance
- 28 Alex Miller

## Young Adults SS Class

A young Adult

The Young Adult Class is healthy and growing - well, as healthy as parents of young children can be! Our prayer circle encompasses many. We are developing relationships that provide loving support. Our children are learning to love God and church. We are studying The Purpose Driven Life as well as the book of I Samuel. We are using a study guide so if there is someone who has not been in class the last couple of weeks, we have your copy ready for you. We always need help with child care - we have regulars but volunteers are always welcome, especially for special events. We appreciate your prayers as we grow spiritually in the arms of a loving church.



## Spring Break - Guatemala

Gaby Hooker

Spring break I traveled to Guatemala for the second time. It was such a blessing to have the opportunity to return to the location of my first mission trip, and see the wonderful children I had missed so much.

We, a group of 25 from Gardner-Webb, arrived at Agua Viva Children's Home on Friday March 6th. We began work on Saturday on a road going from the home through the local town. This was very hard labor, carrying bricks for the people building the road. The project continued the whole week; however I was very busy sanding and painting tables. These are the tables from the commodore where all the meals and activities of the home take place.

After the children finished school we would slow down our work day, finish up, and get ready to play. We played soccer almost every day. As you can imagine, they ran circles around us. In the evenings we performed various skits and dances for the children. They really liked the "Chicken Dance." We had crafts for them every night as well. The kids loved everything we all did together, even the meals we ate together.

I really enjoyed my time in Guatemala, but most of all I liked seeing how the children had grown, not only physically, but spiritually as well. I would highly recommend going on a foreign mission to anyone who feels called. Thank you all for all the prayers.

# FROM THE PASTOR...

“Pray for us!”

This was the direct way in which one man asked the visiting pastor to return thanks at the table. “Pray for us.” How many times have you heard that request? Do you take it seriously? Do you follow through? If you have ever heard someone praying for you, you will never forget that holy memory, nor the uplift you felt then or later. Pray for your new pastor to come for your church, for lost people, for your pulpit committee, for your family.

R. A. Torrey writes: “Prayer has as much power today, when men and women are meeting the conditions of prevailing prayer, as it ever has had. God has not changed, and his ear is just as quick to hear the voice of real prayer and his hand is just as long and strong to save as they ever were. *‘Behold, the Lord’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save: neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear.’ But ‘your iniquities’ may ‘have separated between you and your God, and your sins’ may ‘have hid his face from you, that he will not hear’* (Isaiah 59:1, 2).

Prayer is the key that unlocks all the storehouses of God’s infinite grace and power. All that God is, and all that God has, are at the disposal of prayer. But we

must use the key. Prayer can do anything that God can do, and as God can do anything prayer is omnipotent. No one can stand against the man who knows how to pray and who meets all the conditions of prevailing prayer and who really prays, “The Lord God Omnipotent’ works for him and works through him.”

These are vitally important times in the life of this great fellowship. We have a key that we must use to unlock the future.

*“Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.”*

(Jeremiah 33:3)

--Your Pastor in Christ

## A GREAT CHURCH

The church is made great not by soft seats and subdued lighting, but by strong wisdom and bright courage in both pulpit and pew.

The church is made great not by sweet tones from the organ but by gentle but strong personalities that reflect Christ.

The church is made great not by tall steeples and bells but by the vision of tall-souled people.

The church is made great not by big budgets but by big hearts in big people who are committed to love and to serve.

The church is made great not by a large membership but by a great God who is present and guiding every step they take.

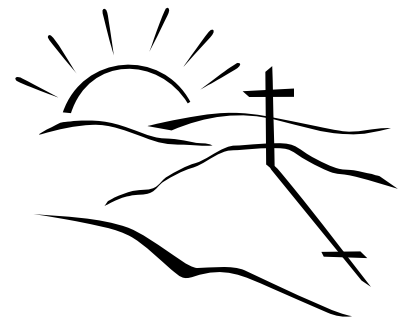


## Peaks and Valleys

Ellis Fincher

For the last three Sundays our Sunday School Class has been studying the 23rd Psalm. The lesson this past week was about "Walking through the Valley". For several months at times I felt as though I was in that valley. After my living on this earth 54 years the one person that provided constant stability and direction and who helped me set goals in my life from day one was gone. Through prayer, quiet time, time alone and time with my best friend I was able to recognize and to clearly see how blessed my life has been. How many people are fortunate enough to have guidance and counsel from one person for so many years? Even though I was in a valley, and the passing of this person was the cause, I still knew that I was blessed.

On February 22nd I went from the valley to the peak! Our fourth grandchild Durham Fincher McEntire entered the world. Maybe I can pass to him some of the wisdom, direction and goals that were passed to me. If only I can pass them to him as well as my father passed them to me! God is good!



## Called to Love ♥

Judy Lair

During the weekend of March 20-22, the WMU of North Carolina led a Missions Extravaganza Conference at Ridgecrest with the theme "Called to Love." Matthew 22:37-39 was our Scripture for the Conference – "Love the Lord your God with all you heart, soul, and mind.... Love your neighbor as yourself." (NIV, adapted)

Among the more than 900 women and men who registered were Kay Greene, Barbara Batchler, Di Greene, Shelvie Foust, Susan Smith and Judy Lair from Tryon First Baptist Church.

We truly had a mountain top experience which was intended to fuel us for valley ministry. We were inspired and challenged by a wide range of Christians involved in Missions – from Mary Caitlin Clark 2009 National Acteens Panelist and high school junior who said being in her school was like living on a battlefield to Mike and Charlene Beasley who have a "Biker Ministry" – taking the love of Christ to bikers who wouldn't really be welcomed in many of our churches.

We were reminded about our rich heritage of missions – "The Legacy of Love – A Living Sacrifice" told by none other than "Ann Judson" (portrayed by Rosalie Hunt who served as a missionary for 32 years and who is currently Alabama WMU President.)

Following are some of the comments about Missions Extravaganza from the Tryon First Baptist Church's SIX women who attended.

One conference I attended was led by a missionary who works in a last frontier country. Because the government of the country is not tolerant of different religions and is very suspicious of foreigners, the missionary has to use her initials rather than her name and does not publish the name of the country in which she lives and works. Despite these conditions, the Lord is working through her and people are coming to know Christ. We have a special interest in this missionary who is from eastern North Carolina. During the week of Christmas, Di Greene's brother, Curtis Chambers, took supplies and gifts to assist in the ministry of M.E.

Another conference session entitled "Winds of Hope" addressed issues of drastic changes in the lives of women

who have faced losses or other tragic events. The open forum agenda enabled participants to vent their special needs, including the loss of spouses, children, best friends, jobs, etc, and ways to cope and seek God's strength. She recommends *Streams in the Desert* as a good devotional, and she advised us to rely on our friends and bond with our children. The workshop was enlightening and comforting to us all.

While attending a conference session called "Women of Grit, Grace and Gumption", I learned about our Baptist heritage and how important it is to pass it along to the next generation; if we don't share our mission heritage, who will?

In a session challenging us to love those living in poverty, we explored practical ways to show God's love by offering a "hand up" rather than a "hand out."

Several of us attended a session led by Chris Hawker (Di Greene's sister and WMUNC Executive Board member). Ideas were shared about how supporting WMU doesn't have to hurt. One idea is to give ourselves a visual reminder: mark a coffee cup and put in the money you save by buying a cup of regular coffee instead of a Starbucks special coffee. Or, use a special container to save your change each day and give this money in a special offering once a week or once a month in an envelope marked for the WMU. This last idea can be modified for children to save for missions—local, national, and international.

Taking the time to go to Ridgecrest was a priority and I'm glad I did it. We were challenged to make time with God a priority including reading our Bibles and learning scripture, listening to Christian music, and doing simple missions for our church and community.

Listening to Phyllis Elvington was an uplifting experience. Through a dynamic, enthusiastic Bible study of Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Phyllis suggested ways of walking in obedience, walking in love and walking in service.

Saturday was a time for reflection, praise and worship, and I was richly blessed by the sessions. I left with a renewed and stronger commitment to my Lord and Savior, and with a refreshed spirit. I also took advantage of the LifeWay bookstore to buy books for our church library!

We learned about human trafficking in NC and our mission work with the victims; we learned about our mission work with Slavic people in Asheville. Our church has taken an active part in this ministry on several occasions. There are several mission trips planned by NCWMU for this year including working with groups in inner city Raleigh, NC.

There's so much more we could share but will close by encouraging you to support NCWMU with your prayers and your gifts as they are now entirely self-supporting.

A final quote: "The greatness of a church is not in its seating capacity but in its 'sending capacity.'" Many thanks to Tryon First Baptist Church for providing financial support to SIX women so we could attend the annual NCWMU Missions Extravaganza!



## Library News

### New Arrivals

Barber, Karen: *Surprised by Prayer*

Chapman, Gary: *Five Signs of a Loving Family*

Graham, Billy: *Answers to Life's Problems*

Helms, Elaine: *Prayer 101: What Every Intercessor Needs to Know*

Howard, Kathy: *Before His Throne*

Jeremiah, David: *Captured by Grace - No One is Beyond the Reach of a Loving God*

Kendall, Jackie: *The Mentoring Mom - Eleven Ways to Model Christ for Your Child*

Morneau, Roger J.: *The Incredible Power of Prayer*

Young, Ed: *Know Fear - Facing Life's Six Most Common Phobias*

Young, William: *The Shack*

We also have a small collection of large print fiction.



# VBS

Shelvie Foust

It is almost that time again! Yes, Vacation Bible School. This yearly event is looked forward to by the young and the mature. Each year presents new challenges and opportunities, and it is always exciting and rewarding.

Our theme this year is Rome; Paul and the Underground Church. We will discover what it was like to be one of the very first Christians. Every day we will visit with first century shopkeepers in a crowded marketplace; learn with the Apostle Paul; tiptoe past Roman guards to a hidden cave to pray with brave Christians.

Our goal is to make God's Word come alive. To accomplish this, we need lots of volunteers to create the first century Roman atmosphere. Please mark June 21-25, 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM on your calendar for your participation. Now would be a great time to tell your friends and neighbors about our Vacation Bible School theme and dates. Grandparents, maybe you can arrange for your grandchildren to visit that week. Parents, tell your children's friends and their parents. Last year our goal was 60 and we had 56 attend. This year our goal is 70.

Let us all seek out the children and bring them to VBS, June 21-25.



## Featuring Student Andrew McKaig

GNs Staff

Andrew is a UNC-Charlotte student in the architecture school. The students studying architecture will tell you that they keep the lights on in Storr's, the architecture building, twenty-four hours a day!

During his senior year of high school Andrew thought he was interested in becoming an architect, so he spent the following year working for Brady/Trakas Architects. At the end of the year he was sure he wanted architecture to be his life's work. In his application for a Tryon Youth Center scholarship he said, "I want to design houses like those in Europe meant to stand for two hundred years."

The demands of his field of study leave Andrew little time to pursue his passion for biking. He rode the *Assault on Mt. Mitchell* 100 plus mile ride six years riding the first time when he was thirteen. When possible he goes to the gym to exercise and do some climbing.

Andrew is the son of Franklin and Sadie McKaig and grew up in Tryon First Baptist Church.

### SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

for new recipients and renewal applications for currently enrolled students are now available in the church office. The deadline for receiving completed applications is May 18. Any questions regarding the application process can be directed to Mary Feagan at [mbfeagan@yahoo.com](mailto:mbfeagan@yahoo.com).

## Summer Mission Trip Anyone?

There will be a brief meeting in the sanctuary with the pastor following morning worship on April 5 for all persons interested in more information on possible summer missions for any week in July or August in Washington, D.C. Youth, families, or adults are needed to take part in intergenerational experiences to aid a historic Baptist church with intercity challenges. These include working with children, the elderly, or the homeless, serving in a soup kitchen, etc.; this project is sponsored and prepared by WNC Network of Baptist Churches.

## Days & Months

Find and circle all of the Days and Months that are hidden in the grid. The words may be hidden in any direction.

