

Good News

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

First Baptist Church
P. O. Box 1287
Tryon, North Carolina 28782

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
TRYON, NC
Permit No. 8

MARCH 2009

ISSUE 3



Anne Shu

What makes a Sunday worship service come together? Teamwork! The pastor, minister of music and pianist work together to plan each worship service to ensure everything runs smoothly and in harmony. Sometimes however a member of the team may lose focus. Just such a thing happened recently. I wasn't paying close enough attention. I started the introduction to the first hymn in the wrong key! Horrors! If Kay, our pianist, had not caught my mistake our hymn would have sounded about as lovely as fingernails on a blackboard. Thankfully, Kay's quick thinking and musical ability allowed her to pick up my mistake, change the key she was playing in and save an otherwise embarrassing moment



Prayer

Sadie McKaig

Did you know if you pray regularly you may add ten years to your life? Besides all the other benefits of prayer, this is a nice one. It gives us more time for praying!

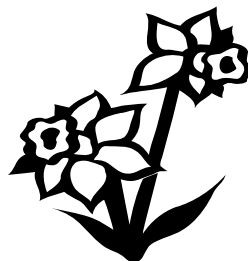
Sisterhood

Judy Lair

On February 10, **forty-nine** women from Tryon First Baptist Church and Midway Baptist Church gathered to reflect on Balcony People -- a book by Joyce Landorf Heatherley. The evening was sponsored by our Sisterhood.

Balcony People is about discovering the Affirmers in our life and about being an Affirmer for others. The ladies participated enthusiastically and were ably lead by Rena Henderson.

Pam DeRuvo of Midway Baptist Church spoke for the 24 women who joined her in visiting with us. She extended an invitation to the women in Tryon First Baptist Church to join them at Midway on Saturday, May 2 for a special luncheon featuring a "festival of tables." More details will be shared closer to the May event.



"Yesterday is history,
tomorrow a mystery.....**today is a gift.**
Anonymous

Bereavement Committee

Shirley Edwards

The Bereavement committee has met and begun organizing and planning for 2009. We are pleased to have seven (7) new people added to our food preparers groups giving a total of forty-six (46).

We also have five (5) added to the occasional food preparers and others who have offered to help with serving or clean-up duty on an as needed basis.

Thanks to each of you who has so willingly and lovingly dedicated your time for this Christian Mission.

The committee is here to assist so if there is a death in *your* immediate family please contact the church office or any one of the Bereavement committee members.



Children's Corner

Q: Why didn't the hot dog star in the movie?

A: Because the rolls weren't good enough!

Q: Why was the archaeologist upset?

A: His job was in ruins!



Hand Bells

Sandy Frady

The hand bells had been rehearsing an early American tune entitled "Brethren, We Have Met to Worship" and a more contemporary tune entitled "Worthy of Worship". These two hymns are strong and powerful, and since the worship service February 22 was centered around the worship experience we were asked to play these.

Brethren, We Have Met to Worship" tells that we are blessed with "Holy Manna" which is bread from Heaven. "Worthy of Worship" begins with the words "Worthy of worship, worthy of praise", and certainly it is true that God is worthy.



Children's Choir

Kay Greene

The children's choir's theme this year is *Passport to Adventure*. We have been singing songs about sharing God's Love with other people in the world and about God's Presence with us wherever we go. Also, we have been learning the choruses of our church's hymns of the month.

One of our favorite things to do is to play the melody bells. With each rehearsal the boys and girls improve. They are really beginning to sound good! We hope to share our music with our church family in a Sunday morning worship service in March.



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Phil & Marian Corn
- 8 Howard & Mary Greene



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Keith Constance
- 6 Sandy Frady
- 10 Billy McFarland
- 11 Kaya Bishop
- 11 Gigi Covil
- 12 Howard Greene
- 12 Darryl Maxwell
- 13 Sadie McKaig
- 14 Charles Stafford
- 14 Wilson Edwards
- 15 Barbara Batchler
- 15 Bennie Goodwin
- 16 Jenny Bradshaw
- 16 Kate McFarland
- 16 Jan Perry
- 18 "Skip" Williams
- 19 Jean Bolus
- 19 Jonathan Edwards
- 19 Dan Kimble
- 20 Cale Burrell
- 24 Chase Constance
- 24 Wendi Jordan
- 24 Marcus Prince
- 26 Sharon Burrell
- 26 Judy Lair
- 27 Franklin Williams
- 29 Joe Wray
- 31 Tommy Burrell
- 31 Phillip Pleasants
- 31 Mary Margaret Smith



CONGRATULATIONS!

Alex Leake (grandson of Paul and Ruth Cantrell)- placed 3rd - TES 2009 Geography Bee

PCMS - Honor Roll - Grade 6 Alex Miller: Grade 7 - Wes Brady, Jamie Greene, Rebecca Mitchell, Mary Smith: Grade 8 - Emily Miller, Brooke Scoggins

TES - Honor Roll - Grade 3 Sophie Maxwell: Grade 4 - Carl Campbell: Grade 5 - Christian Leake, Caitlin Britton, Lydia Dona

Polk Central - Honor Roll - Grade 4 - Malik Miller

Trey Dusenbury and Robert Carter - elected to Tryon Country Club board

Fred Edwards, Jr. - Tryon Country Club Match Play Champion

Savannah Mitchell - track meet - placed 5th, pole vault with 6 feet 6 inches

Mary Kathryn Hemphill - signed to play soccer at Converse College. Converse offered her both an athletic and an academic scholarship.

Fincher and McEntire Families - Ben, Amber and Verae - baby Durham - born 2-22 - 7 lb.

ANNUAL MEETING & DINNER

First Baptist Church of Tryon, Inc.
Wednesday, March 4, 2009
6:30 P. M.

Activity Building

Meat, bread & beverage furnished;
church family please bring a covered dish
(vegetable/salad/dessert).



Preschool Choir

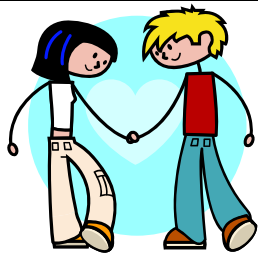
Kay Greene

The preschool choir now has an enrollment of 11 children with an average attendance of nine. What a joy it is to watch these boys and girls! The first rehearsals began with some entering the room clinging to mom and dad and sitting rather nervously during the musical activities. Gradually, we are seeing big smiles, sparkling eyes and little lips softly singing the words of the songs.

Since February is the month of Valentine's Day, we have sung songs about God's Love. One song talks about the "little love notes" in the B-I-B-L-E. In another we sing about loving God with all our heart, soul and strength (with appropriate motions!)

Another musical activity we have done has been to march to loud music and tiptoe to soft music. Last time we tapped our spoons to different rhythms.

We look forward to learning more about God and about music in March. All children who are 2, 3, and 4 years old are invited to join us.



Youth-Led

Worship Service

assisted by Blanton Cottage Girls
Sunday Evening, March 29, 2009
6:00 P.M. Activity Building

Mission Committee

Di Greene

The Mission Committee met January 25 for the first time in 2009. We welcomed new members Kathy Ashley and Linda Ligon. Our committee took a look at what we did last year and opened the floor for new suggestions for 2009.

Our three mission organizations for Tryon First Baptist are represented by Brotherhood, Sisterhood and WMU. We also welcome any suggestions concerning missions from our congregation.

March will be a busy giving month concentrating on the Annie Armstrong Offering, the Heck Jones Offering and the NC Baptist Retirement Homes Offering. We encourage you to pray about your giving to these missions.

Super Saturday is March 21, and you will be getting more information about how you can help and be a part of this church mission.

If you have any questions about missions please contact Di Greene or Kathy Ashley (co-chairs). Our next meeting is March 29. Please mark your calendars.

Congratulations also to

Casey Brooke Collins

UNC-Charlotte
Chancellor's List,
2008 Fall Semester
Nursing student

Reed Phillips

Appalachian State University
Dean's List,
2008 Fall Semester
Major: Biology



Brotherhood Valentine Celebration

Rick McCallister

The Brotherhood of the Tryon First Baptist Church met on Monday evening, February 16 in the activity building. The meeting was a Valentine's celebration hosted by Frances and Joe Wray, and Brotherhood members brought their "sweethearts" to join in the celebration. In a beautifully decorated room, the guests feasted on lasagna, salad, and cheesecake and cherries! The program, "My Favorite Love Stories" was presented by Rena Henderson, and each couple present was given the opportunity to tell about how they met and how their romance has blossomed over the years. What a delightful evening!

A special "thank you" is extended to the Wrays and to Rena for their part in this celebration.

A hearty invitation is also extended to ALL the men of the church to become a part of Brotherhood. Monthly meetings are held on the third Monday of each month in the activity building with dinner beginning at 6:30.



FROM THE PASTOR...

FEBRUARY HAS BEEN A GOOD MONTH for

fellowship! One of the things I enjoy about this congregation in the midst of her seriousness about responsibilities is your sense of humor. If you can laugh together when all others around you are loosing their heads, there is a pretty good chance you will keep yours!

This is an especially trying time with the uncertainties of our economy, and that's no joking matter for most people. We as God's family can strengthen each other through our commitments to fellowship as the scripture says, *"Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together as some do. But let us encourage each other..."*

That is not something we are accustomed to asking for, but God knew in His infinite wisdom how indispensable we are to each other. God calls for the congregation as a body to witness to His goodness and grace.

We all hated to loose the dear companion and sturdy partner to Ernest Glass, Marjorie. Together their ministry included raising 4 boys and spanned 2 continents in over 60 years together. As he shared in the strong elected leadership of the North Carolina Baptist Convention of the past, she shared every step of the way. Their tenderness in these last years has been an

inspiration to all who have had the privilege to share with them.

Where would we men be without our sweethearts? At the Brotherhood Sweetheart Supper we had a chance to introduce our sweethearts as we first met them. I thought the comments were worth repeating. Phil Pleasants who met Hilda on a blind date and reportedly said, "Whew! Yeah!" and wiggled his eyebrows in amazement! Bob Lair said he had never heard Judy say an unkind word about anyone! Howard Green agreed about Mary, but added, "Except about me!" Skip Williams said Reva took his breath away... "and that was magic!" Ed Justice said he ran into the back of Vicky's car when he first met her. He got out to examine the damage and eyed Vicky saying, "She don't look that bad!" to which his buddy said, "And she can cook pretty good, too!" Harold Taylor was grinning about their 66 years of marriage and his good fortune. "When I asked her to be my Valentine, it was forever. Not like it is today!" He went on to tell of their agreement for him to make all the major decisions in their marriage. Lo and behold, they haven't had a single major one in 66 years!

Rick McCallister said if it hadn't been for Beth, he probably wouldn't be here today! They met on a blind date but, assuming Tryon girls didn't have much use for Landrum boys, he just laid low! In his always

inimitable words, "Then she thumped me like a bug, and here we are! Praise God! What perseverance!" And in the words of one of our newer friends, Dominic Sciacca who has been married to Janet just 4 months, "Just one word, PERFECT!"

And the stories go on. I think a boy can meet a good girl at church quicker than you can say, "BOO!" Rena and I met at her home church which had a revolving door at the entrance. We met in that revolving door and we've been running around together ever since!

.....See you at **CHURCH!**



ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS

Eleven attended our "Western NC Network" meeting for its quarterly Mission and Fellowship gathering at host church The First Baptist of Black Mountain last Monday! We enjoyed classes on discovering and supporting mission opportunities, strengthening Youth Ministry, and local efforts at homelessness and prison ministry. Twenty-one churches of our 34 members attended on a cool night of freezing temperatures. The supper was delicious and worship followed with our church providing organ accompaniment (Anne Shu) and preaching (Dr. Henderson).

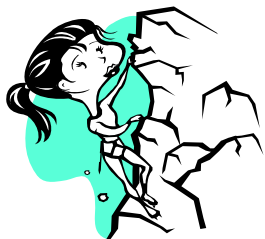
Featuring Student Hannah Raines

GNs Staff

Hannah is a busy student at UNC-Charlotte and her projected date for graduation is 2010. As you will see, Hannah is another selfless young person whose work now and her plans for the future include helping others.

After graduation Hannah hopes to work with at-risk teens or juvenile delinquents through wilderness therapy for a few years, then return to school to get a masters in social work and work as a school social worker. When not in class or studying she stays busy working for the outdoor education program at UNCC called Venture. She leads outdoor adventure activities for students including backpacking, caving, kayaking and rock climbing. She also works at the indoor climbing wall on campus and at the ropes course facilitating groups ranging from at-risk teens to corporate employees. Hannah says she can hardly call this work because she enjoys it so much. *When* she has time she enjoys reading, knitting, scrap booking and playing wii.

Hannah is the daughter of Mary Raines and Keith Raines and has two brothers Matt and Andy. Matt, Andy and Hannah are Tryon First Baptists kids having grown up in Tryon and TFB. Matt and Andy are roommates and living and working in Raleigh. Matt graduated from NC State in 2007 with a double major in electrical and computer engineering and a minor in religious studies.



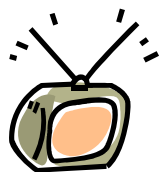
Refuge

Gaby Hooker

As you are sitting in your warm living rooms on Saturday, February 28, a large group of 27 youth and adults will be freezing on the ski slopes of West Virginia!

Please keep us in your prayers as we travel to and from the ski retreat, and pray for our safety as we embark on this great adventure, since many of us have never skied. All of us have been very excited about this trip. I believe it will be a lasting memory for this youth group.

We would like to thank the church for being so supportive in allowing us to participate in this special weekend. Also, without the great help of Stephen Brady, Jeff and Julie Miller this trip would not have been possible. Thank you all so very much.



Is It *Really* That Bad?

Ellis Fincher

When is the last time you watched the news and came away with a good feeling? If you really think about the question your answer would probably be never. Our society thrives on bad events and that is

pretty much all that is reported. Does anyone remember the television interview with Seth Vining, Jr. probably twenty years ago? He said that at the *Tryon Daily Bulletin* the focus was on good news. In those days very rarely did you ever see bad news in the TDB. Why can't more reporters be like Seth Vining, Jr. and find a good side to report? Truth is the reporters probably wouldn't have much of an audience. How sad it is that someone or all Americans face great hardship before the viewing public's hunger is satisfied.

Life is not all bad! At our church many good things are happening, and there is much good news to report. Think about our teenagers who meet, eat, fellowship and learn more about how to serve the Lord almost every Sunday night with Gaby Hooker in *Refuge*. What about the young adults who are studying The Purpose Driven Life two times a month on Sunday evening with Stephen Brady. At the same time Kay Greene has her music time with the Preschool and Children's Choirs, Linda Fincher and Jennie Bradshaw are leading Mission Friends, and Ethan and Renae Waldman and Xan and Suzanne Anagnos are leading the RAs and GAs. Approximately seventy-five people are participating in these programs.

Look for and read the other articles reporting good news. Our church is alive, well and growing in our walk with the Lord. How blessed we are!

