

# Good News

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

First Baptist Church  
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Tryon, North Carolina 28782

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ISSUE 11

## BIBLE CLASS

Sadie McKaig

October 1 the Bible class met at Harmon Field for a picnic and devotion. It was a windy day but the group enjoyed a different setting for our weekly gathering.

Dr. Henderson made friends with other folks braving the winds and invited them to join us for our picnic lunch. Proving that it is a "small world after all" one of those invited to lunch is a friend of Jan Perry. Not only that, she goes to the Lutheran Church in Hendersonville where Ricky Duckett is the Minister of Music. Dr. Duckett was Tryon First Baptist Church's Minister of Music about twenty years ago! Among our new friends were two young children, their mother and their great-grandmother. Well, it is indeed a small world. The children's mother graduated from Furman, Dr. Henderson's alma mater.

Dr. Henderson set a wonderful example for us that windy day by reaching out to these folks. They were unknown to us when we gathered, but when they left our table they were friends.



## MISSIONS

Judy Lair

### **October activities:**

Operation Christmas Child was sponsored by the Mission Committee and was concluded on Sunday, October 19. Rick McCallister led in this project; 85 shoeboxes were delivered to Polk Baptist Association.

The Mission Initiative took place in Rutherford County on October 24-25. About 40 people from our church made the commitment to help as construction crews for home repairs and renovations and with a children's festival. Joe and Frances Wray led us in this involvement with needs in a neighboring county.

### **November activities:**

Sisterhood is sponsoring a soup, salad, sandwich and dessert lunch after worship on Sunday, November 2. The fundraiser will benefit "Kathy's Kids" (needy children at Tryon Elementary School). Suggested donation is \$5 per person or \$20 maximum per family.

Coat Drive: coats for children and adults will be collected during the first three Sundays of November.

Christmas in Bosnia will

provide a hot meal at Christmas for a family. The amount needed per family in Bosnia is \$20. We hope you will consider this opportunity to minister in Christ's name in a land far from Polk County.

The WMU will sponsor the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The collection will begin Sunday, November 30.

Angel Tree: will be provided by Outreach Ministry and will be placed in the vestibule as soon as it is made available.

Stocking Tree: will be sponsored by Sisterhood to minister to the 60+ needy children at Tryon Elementary. Kathy Ashley is our contact at Tryon Elementary and works with the school counselor.

November is a month when we are reminded about our many blessings and these mission projects are opportunities to share our thankfulness. We encourage you to participate in all these projects if you are able.



## Children's Corner

GNs Staff

"Whatever you are, be a good one."  
Abraham Lincoln



## Featuring Ladd Shepard

GNs Staff

We want to introduce you to Major Ladd Shepard. Major Shepard is an infantry officer in the U. S. Marine Corps. He has "completed one Western Pacific deployment with the 13<sup>th</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit, one deployment as a United Nations observer in Ethiopia and Eritrea and three deployments to Iraq with 2<sup>nd</sup> Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion in support of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Divisions".

Ladd, his parents Jim and Libbie and brothers Art and Brian were members of TFBC when the boys were young and Ladd calls Tryon his hometown. Ladd and Donna have been married 11 years, have a Labrador Retriever, love horses, miss the South and hope to move back to the East Coast after this tour.

Major Shepard has been in the Marines for 17 years and has served in Quantico, VA; Camp Pendleton, CA; Parris Island, SC; Camp LeJeune, NC and Portland, OR. His assignment in Portland is Commanding Officer, Recruiting Station Portland and he is responsible for the Officer and Enlisted accession mission in Oregon, SW Washington and Alaska.

Ladd said, "Thanks to all who remember us in their prayers. They truly do work. I am honored to serve this great nation and its people. I am grateful for all the support I have received from the community in Tryon over the years and it will always be the place that I call home."

## Report of Pulpit/Pastoral Search Committee

Bob Lair

In January of this year the Committee recommended that the Church enter into covenant with an intentional interim pastor. Bill Henderson was recommended, and the Deacons and the congregation approved the recommendation. This action gave the congregation an opportunity for reflection, self-examination and preparation for new pastoral leadership.

Over fifty resumes have been received since I contacted key denominational leaders and the several seminaries, divinity schools and schools of theology.

I have had correspondence, emails, and telephone conversations with several applicants, and I have been available to speak with any and all applicants.

Initial screening has been done; however, every applicant's resume will be reviewed by every member of the committee.

Members of the committee are open to hearing from any member of the congregation; however, internal committee deliberations will be confidential until we are ready to make a recommendation to the Deacons and the congregation.

We are looking for a spiritual leader with appropriate academic preparation and experience. We are looking for someone who has abilities to preach, teach, counsel, and organize. Pastoral care of all age groups is important.

We solicit your prayers as we examine the gifts and graces of the applicants. And, we ask for your patience and understanding as we work through this process.

Committee: Bob Lair, Chairman; Elizabeth Burrell, Vice Chairman; Renae Waldman, Secretary; Keith Collins, Phil Feagan, Shelvie Foust and Ron Frady



## REFUGE

Gaby Hooker

On Saturday, October 18, 2008, the youth group from First Baptist Church of Tryon traveled to Harmon Field, where they acted as the overnight security crew for an arts and crafts festival. The youths, consisting of about 25 young men and women, spent the night at the field as they enjoyed building relationships with one another through food, fire and fun in the great outdoors.

In addition to building relationships with one another, the youth also seized the opportunity to grow in their faith in Jesus Christ through worship, songs and a Scripture reading by the youth intern Gaby Hooker. The teens also enjoyed several fun games, led by Hooker and some of her friends from Gardner-Webb University (Boiling Springs). The youth would like to thank (among others) the Miller family for their contributions to the campout in the form of (but not limited to) providing food and planning a scavenger hunt. While many of the teens stayed up all night enjoying fellowship, some were able to catch a few precious hours of sleep, despite the frigid conditions. Thanks to all who participated.





## Are We Truly Thankful?

Ellis Fincher, Jr.

This morning while enjoying breakfast I was watching the 5:00 AM news on channel 7 from Spartanburg. They were highlighting a food pantry that had only a one day food supply left to distribute. The lady that was interviewed for the story stated one of the reasons for their lack of food was because the requests for food were from many families who had never before had to ask for help from them.

This is another story of the continuing economic crisis that our country is facing. More than likely the same families will return to ask for assistance with home heating, gas or money to pay their electric bills.

Sure we all face decisions as to how to spend our resources, but for the majority of our congregation it is not a matter of having enough money to buy the bare necessities but whether we will purchase steak or ground meat.

What can we do? We need to continue to pray for our leaders and our nation as well as the many who seek the assistance from these food pantries. We need to support the many charities that help the ones who need it most during these hard economic times.

We need to remind ourselves that no matter what we are told we live in the greatest nation on earth. We need to be thankful because our Lord has given us the ability to help others when their need arises. We need to step up and make a difference when it matters the most. If we are truly thankful, now is the time to show it.



## Featuring Student Gaby Hooker GNs Staff

Gaby Hooker, who is working as the TFBC youth leader, is a student at Gardner-Webb University. Gaby's major is Psychology with a minor in Spanish. She plans to work in a children's home or with "at risk" children when she graduates.

The most interesting thing Gaby has done was live in a children's home in Costa Rica for three weeks. No one there spoke English and she learned to rely on God more than she had ever done. Gaby works with the GW Campus Police and when she has time she enjoys painting and spending time with friends.

Gaby's parents are Paul and Heidi Hooker. They live in Madison, North Carolina where her father is the pastor at New Vision Fellowship and her mother is a "stay-at-home mom".

A quote from Gaby: *I would like to thank FBC of Tryon for allowing me to serve in their church and be a part of their wonderful youths' lives.*

### COAT COLLECTION

through Sunday, November 21  
(Box on Lower Level)

To be distributed to:

- Tryon Elementary School
- Polk Co. Middle School
- Social Services

Children: Ages 5 and up  
Adult: All sizes

**PLEASE**—Gently used and  
**CLEAN!**



## CONGRATULATIONS

Tryon Elementary honor roll, First six weeks - **Sophie Maxwell**, Third Grade; **Christian Leake**, **Caitlin Britton** and **Lydia Dona**, Fifth Grade.  
**Alyssa Fincher** - nominated to PCHS Homecoming Court  
**Carrie Greene** - Division Grand Champion Drum Major  
**PCHS Band** - Division Grand Champion - Band Competition

## **BROTHERHOOD**

### *"An Insight into Gangs"*

John Spinks

The Brotherhood and Sisterhood had a combined meeting in October where we enjoyed a delicious meal (prepared by the Sisterhood) and heard an interesting program on "Gangs in Polk County" presented by Robert Randolph of the Juvenile Prison System of Western NC. Actually, the program was more on the "absence" of gangs in Polk County. Mr. Randolph wanted us to be aware that even though we have very little actual gang activity, the potential is there. Many gangs do exist in all of the larger, more metropolitan counties surrounding Polk, and basically it is only a matter of time before they infiltrate Polk County. He wanted to make sure we knew what to look for and what signs to recognize in order to thwart any potential gang activity before it gets a foothold. He shared with us a few concepts other churches are using to reach out to the at-risk youth. Some of the programs we could possibly emulate.

Julie Miller, Kevin Blackwell and a few others also shared a program they're working on in the school system and court system to reach troubled kids in our area through after-school programs and activities. Their team is looking for volunteers from our church to help get this program up and running. If you would like to make a difference in a young person's life and help keep gangs out of Polk County, contact Julie Miller. She and Kevin and their team will more than appreciate your involvement.

We wish to thank Joe Wray for arranging this program



## Featuring Student Casey Collins

GNs Staff

Casey Collins is the daughter of Keith and Debbie Collins and younger sister of Christie. Throughout her growing up years Casey has been active in Tryon First Baptist Church.

As a student in UNC Charlotte, Casey is majoring in Nursing with a minor in Interdisciplinary Health Studies. She plans to work as a registered nurse after graduation and possibly go back to school for her master's degree. Occasionally Casey works at Foothills Gymnastics in Tryon. She enjoys gymnastics, reading and school.

Casey contributes to her community by volunteering at the Mecklenburg County Health Department.



## Intergenerational Musical

Anne Shu

There's still time for you to join our cast and crew for *The Legend of the Christmas King*. Rehearsal is from 5 till 6 each Sunday evening in the activity building, followed by a light supper for a suggested \$2.00 donation. There is a need for singers as well as crew who might like to be behind the scenes. Performance will be Sunday evening, December 14, 2008.

"Sometimes in the winds of change we find our true direction."

Unknown



## Hand Bells

Sandy Frady

The Bell Choir is planning to play for the worship service on November 2. The songs we will be playing are both well known. I want to share the story of how one of the hymns came to be.

Anna Warner and her sister Susan grew up near West Point Military Academy, where they became known for leading Sunday School Services for the young men there. After the death of their father, the two sisters supported themselves with their various literary endeavors. Susan became known as a best-selling novelist. Anna also wrote novels and published two collections of poems. She wrote a simple hymn in 1860 to be included in one of her sister's novels. In the story, it was a poem of comfort spoken to a dying child. Today millions of voices around the world sing, "Jesus loves me this I know, For the Bible tells me so."

This profound yet simple truth is certainly worth singing about and the Bell Choir looks forward to sharing an arrangement of this beautiful song.



## Christmas Cantata

Anne Shu

The choir has begun rehearsal on a Christmas cantata, *Born a Savior, Born a King* by John Purifoy. Our presentation will be during worship on December 21, 2008. We welcome singers who would like to join us to learn the cantata.



## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 10 Tommy & Edith Vehorn
- 19 Tommy & Sharon Burrell



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Jimmy Campbell
- 1 Brooke Scoggins
- 3 Olivia Whiteside
- 4 Donna Littlefield
- 5 Jerry Barnette
- 5 Vicky Justice
- 5 Ethan Waldman
- 7 Marjorie Glass
- 8 Casey Collins
- 8 Matthew Covil
- 8 Joyce Scoggins
- 9 Estella Hanson
- 11 Edith Vehorn
- 13 Ruth Ann Arledge
- 13 Katherine Garrett
- 19 Edward Culbreth
- 24 Charles Huneycutt
- 24 Frank "Boat" Williams
- 25 Trey Dusenbury
- 25 John Spinks
- 29 Conner Dusenbury

[The birthdays and wedding anniversaries are now listed on the church's web page.]



## Children

### The Future of the Church

Marian Corn

We are delighted to see the growth in numbers of our Preschool Class. These children are the future of the church and their Christian education is a priority. Planning for the new church year starts now and we welcome suggestions from these young families in ways we can meet their spiritual needs.

# PASTORAL REFLECTIONS...

I have been very pleased and grateful for all of your recent congregational responses to **chores, choices and challenges.**

## **Among the chores**

have been the fine responses to the nominees for your **Annual Nominating Committee.**

The team is in place and has chosen Gigi Covil and Lou Rossi as Co-Chairs to give good combinations of abilities to lead the team. All that remains is your prayerful and willing spirit to look over the needs of our church ministry and step up when asked to serve.

Another **chore** was the official sending forth of the **Pastoral Search Committee.** I have assigned each of you the very important partnership of prayer FOR them and FOR the congregation as the work of diligence and duty is carried out.

**Among the choices** are your desire and dedication to **worship, Bible study and giving** which are the heart of your witness and your church's ministry. I love to see the church full, and you have made 3 out of 4 Sundays in October full and exciting. And hasn't our **music been wonderful** during this month! I hope you will make a special effort to tell all our musicians and leaders how much their

service to Christ means to us all.

Another **choice** has been your attendance to and careful deliberations during the **talks of your offering designations.** Yes, it is always a touchy subject, and we run the risk of being misunderstood. Our **Baptist affiliations** should still represent your choices, and they do. An affiliation is established by mission dollars given through the church to any Baptist body. Any amount, \$1 or \$1000 given through a Baptist congregation toward the SB-Convention or CB-Fellowship or NCB-Convention constitutes our affiliation. What is also most important is our participation in any larger Baptist life to which we say we affiliate. As our mission dollars go, so should our personal commitments go as well. Investment in the Kingdom is more than talk and writing checks.

**And for the Challenges!!** What a great turn out for all the **mission needs served** through community and Western NC areas. 40 people from FBC joined over 300 others from **WNC last Saturday** to serve the needs discovered in one of the poorest areas of Rutherford County. The 85 shoeboxes we sent off to **Operation Christmas Child** were added to nearly 500 from other churches in our county!

The joy of joining in with Christ in His mission is thrilling.

I am so glad to be serving among a congregation who sees their greatest opportunity in the Lord as being where Christ is reaching forgotten people! I believe you are making the difference that Christ intends. Invite someone else to come share in your church!

Your Pastor in the Interim.



Shelvie Foust

As this year rushes toward the beginning of a new year, our WMU ladies are planning our holiday giving. This is such a wonderful time of the year when we all reach out to those less fortunate.

Our project for November is feeding a family for Thanksgiving. Each member will bring food items, and we will purchase a turkey. We look forward to this each year. We all feel so blessed that we are able to help someone.

The WMU-sponsored Lottie Moon offering starts November 30. All monies collected for this offering are used to support Southern Baptist missionaries as they share the Gospel overseas. Our Angel Tree from Outreach Ministry will be in the foyer in early December. These opportunities to spread God's word and to help our local families will give our church family a way to share our blessings with neighbors both near and far.

In addition, our WMU ladies are planning to provide for several children at Christmas and to take presents to the women and men at Benson Hall.

This year God has called home two of our members. We will always remember Doris Scoggins and Adella Ballew for their loving giving ways, and they will be with us in our hearts this season as their WMU continues to share and love one another

