

Salt and Light

First Baptist Preschool/Afterschool Ministry Still Going Strong

One of the great blessings of serving as Senior Minister for the past fourteen years has been the joy of daily encounters with children of all ages and their parents here through our Preschool/Afterschool program.

On any given weekday, children from a few weeks to four years old bring these hallways to life with their smiles, their laughter, their music, and their joy in learning through the Preschool. And then, each afternoon, school-age children from 6 to 13 are bused or driven here and then edified and entertained through the Afterschool.

For over 40 years, this dynamic ministry, first begun in the mid-1960s by Martha Campbell, Margaret Sellers, and several other highly dedicated ladies, has impacted the lives of local children and their families.

I am deeply grateful to Becca Moon, our Preschool/Afterschool Director, and to her wonderful staff for earning again recently a 5-star rating (the highest possible) from the North Carolina Division of Early Childhood Education.

I thank our very dedicated Preschool/Afterschool Committee, currently chaired by Susan Rhodes, for their excellent, ongoing oversight and guidance.

And I am thankful to the people of Morganton and Burke County who voted the program "Best Preschool" for the News Herald's recent "Best in Burke" edition.

I am thankful for Vicky Lyday, who recently retired from our Preschool/Afterschool after many years of dedicated service.

Each day, Becca and her staff meet the daunting challenge of providing a licensed, safe, secure environment in which young children receive excellent preparation for school and, in the process, some wonderful grounding in the Christian faith.

Through both the Preschool and the Afterschool components of the program, the staff provides the students with various age-appropriate opportunities for learning about the Bible and about Jesus, all the while attaining the high standards for educational excellence that are identified by the state and by other professionals.

I am always tremendously inspired by these children when they sing Christian songs for their parents and others at various fundraising suppers.

And I am invariably pleased with the great quality of instruction and guidance that these children receive through this program.

Meeting all of the standards set by the state, especially in these hard times economically, is no easy task.

Many churches, for many reasons, have closed their preschool/afterschool programs in recent years.

But by God's grace we press on, striving each day to fulfill what Becca and her staff (and I) view as a great calling and a vitally important ministry.

The Preschool/Afterschool could always use some extra help, though, especially in the form of monetary donations and participation by the church family in fundraising efforts.

Toward this end, the Preschool/Afterschool will hold a "Really Rocking Rummage Sale" here at the church from 7 a.m. until 12 noon on Saturday, October 10. There will be food, music, games, as well as the opportunity to purchase any number of useful items.

I pray that this wonderful ministry will remain strong and continue to fill a great need in our church and community.

Love,

Tom

JOIN US FOR CHURCH FAMILY NIGHT

This Wednesday, October 7

Don't miss out on this wonderful Mid-Week Opportunity
for Spiritual Growth and Christian Fellowship.

Children's Choirs start at 4:30 (see schedule on the front page) followed by delicious
FBC Food Service Ministry supper served from 5:30 until 6:00.

After celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, and guests,
adults, youth, and children have the following experiences:

ADULTS

A New Center for Spiritual Formation Study
led by Dr. Tom Bland Begins -

Reclaiming the Goodness of the Good News

This study will ask questions shared by many longtime Christians: Wouldn't we do almost anything to sense the presence of God anew in our lives? Wouldn't we pay almost anything to get the wonder back? *Wonder* is that fuel that keeps Christians going, the element that makes our faith contagious and alive - and it is the greatest need in our churches today. With so many of our spiritual tanks running low, we need to splash around in grace awhile and come out laughing.

Ready to hear with new ears the sweet, undistilled melody of the gospel?

Join us on this four-week series based on the popular book by Judson Edwards!

Women's Bible Study - Beth Moore's
Esther: It's Tough Being A Woman

Led by Wanda Noyes in room K101 (In progress)

YOUTH

❖ YOUTH NEWZ in room 306A followed by:

❖ GRAPPLE for Middle Schoolers - 300

❖ SPECTRUM for High Schoolers - 306A

❖ Dessert Fellowship

CHILDREN

Faithweaver Friends - Preschool 4' & 5's - 302

Children's Discipleship - Grades 1 - 5 - 304

NURSERY For Children Three Years Old
and Younger

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

MISSIONARY PARTNERS

Nunzio Loiudice - Italy

Annette Hall - France

Robert Dunlop - Ireland

New Pastor at Brannockstown

Mark Hamblen

Janos Katona - Romania

SERVICE MEMBERS IN ACTION

Eric Duckworth Erienne Davidson

Shawn Graham Veronica Graham

Roland Berger Mark Scannell

Ryan Moya P. J. Chapman

Joshua Davidson James Gillon

Zack Maye Mark Shell

Jacob Durden Wes Shuffler

Pat Morrison Johnny Franklin

DEACON OF THE WEEK

October 4 - Chuck Benfield

Just 4 YOUTH

Sunday, October 4

9:44am - Bible Study

5:00pm - Youth Choir

5:45pm - Youth meal

6:15pm - Super Session

Hello Friends,

Thanks for the many ways you are participating with Jesus to reconcile, renew, and restore the world back to what God originally had in mind for it. Recently, I have been inspired to fall more in love with Jesus than I already am. When we love someone/something, we will sing songs, traverse rapids, climb mountains, and maybe even love people. Fall more in love with Jesus this week; it's what really matters!

Jeff

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Patricia and Terry Spangler** on the birth of a grandson, **Jordan**, born September 27 to Ginger and Rusty James.

CHURCH FAMILY NIGHT MENU

October 7, 2009

Citrus Glazed Ham

Pinto Beans/Cole Slaw/Cornbread

Dessert - \$1.00

Salad Bar - \$1.00

Veggie Meal - Baked Potato/Sauteed Veggies/Salad Bar & all other veggies from serving line

Child's Meal - Spaghetti/Roll & any other veggies from serving line

Serving Team - Karen Mull

OCTOBER ONE DAY TRIPS

Oct 13th: Tour the Asheville area, visit the Asheville Arboretum which has over 65 acres of cultivated gardens and over 300 acres of forests which we hope will be full of color. Lunch at Ryans restaurant followed by a visit to the Folk Art Center.

Cost: \$15

Lunch on your own

Call 437-2544, x16 to sign up

Oct. 22: Lunch @ Shatley Springs
- Cheese Factory, fall in Ash

County

Leave: 8:45am

Lunch time @ 1:30

Return: by 5:00pm

Cost: \$30 (includes lunch,
tax, tip & bus)

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Offering Received Sept. 27.....\$16,601

Budget Required to Date..... \$693,966

Received to Date \$643,482

Under Budget \$50,484

TURNING DREAMS INTO DEEDS

Pledged \$807,000

Building Fund Rec to Date \$769,114

Building Fund Expenditures ... \$666,561

Building Fund Balance \$102,553

MEMORIALS

Memorials have been received to honor the memory of Gross Waters.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

It is again time to prepare your gift of a shoe box for a child this Christmas. Last year, First Baptist Church's generosity prepared approximately 270 boxes. This is a ministry for children through Samaritan's Purse. These boxes give all of us an opportunity to be missionaries and reach out to the Lord's precious gifts. The shoe boxes are a valuable tool for explaining to them who Jesus is and to share the Gospel. Please help and build a shoe box of love, faith and joy.

Boxes will be provided by Debbie Burleson and will be located at the drop off table. If you would like just to provide the material and not fill the box, then place your bag on the table and a youth will prepare it for you. Please include your check and the label marked for the age and sex of the child.

Labels will be in your Sunday school room, halls, office and drop off table. If you need any further information, please call me at 584-6316. Dates for drop off are November 16th through the 20th.

Blessings, Debbie Franklin

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS LEADERSHIP MEETINGS

All Sunday School officers are urged to attend these brief, but very important gatherings on Sunday mornings from 9:30 - 9:45 beginning October 11.

Let's be intentional in allowing the Holy Spirit to take our classes to another level in life-changing studies, outreach, fellowship, and ministry.

❖ October 11 - Class Presidents

❖ October 18 - Class Secretaries

❖ October 25 - Class Outreach

Leaders

❖ November 1 - Class Fellowship
Leaders



REALLY ROCKIN' RUMMAGE SALE

The Preschool/Afterschool will hold a rummage sale on Saturday, October 10. If you have any trash at your house that might be someone else's treasure, please consider donating it to our fall fund raiser. We will take anything other than adult clothing. Please call the Preschool/Afterschool office (433-1018) about bringing in your donations. Thanks for your support of this church and community ministry to families.

COMING NEXT WEEK

◆ Sunday, October 4

8:30 a.m. - Deacons' Meeting
 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
 10:55 a.m. - Worship
 4:00 p.m. - Devotional Knitting
 5:00 p.m. - Youth Choir
 Youth Leaders Meeting
 5:45 p.m. - Youth Snack Supper
 6:10 p.m. - Super Session

◆ Monday, October 5

9:45 a.m. - Women's Bible Study

◆ Tuesday, October 6

4:00 p.m. - Mission Morganton
 Coordinating Team
 7:00 p.m. - Men's Prayer

◆ Wednesday, October 7

Church Family Night

4:30 - 5:30 p.m. - Music Makers
 (Grades 1-3) Room 208B
 4:30 - 5:45 p.m. - Young
 Musicians Choir and Handbells
 Grades 4-5) Room 304
 5:00 - 5:30 p.m. - Preschool
 Choir (Ages 4-5) Room 302
 5:30 p.m. - Serving Line Opens
 6:05 p.m. - Blessings &
 Celebrations
 6:15 p.m. -

• Youth Newz 306A

• Faithweaver Friends - 302

• Children's Discipleship - 304

625 p.m. - Adult Center for
 Spiritual Formation studies

• Grapple - 300

• Spectrum - 306A

7:15 p.m. - Chancel Choir
 Rehearsal

◆ Thursday, October 8

7:00 p.m. - Adult Handbells



WORSHIP WITH US THIS SUNDAY!

October 4, 2009

Sermon: "Up and Out" (Matthew 5: 21-24)

Dr. Tom Bland, Jr. will be preaching.

*We will celebrate the Lord's Supper with Christians
 throughout the world.*



COMING THIS MONTH...

◆ FBC 130th Anniversary Homecoming
 with Pastor Emeritus Bob Shepherd
 preaching in worship and our bountiful
 dinner-on-the-grounds feast – Oct. 11

◆ FBC Fellowship Day Trip "Autumn in Asheville"
 - Oct. 13

◆ FBC Fall Round-up Cowboy Songfest – Oct. 21

◆ FBC Fellowship Day Trip to Shatley Springs -
 Oct. 22

◆ Reformation Sunday – Oct. 25

◆ Great Pumpkin Party – Oct. 31