

Looking toward Fall . . .

If you have ever served as a Deacon at First Baptist Church, you are invited to a **Deacon Retreat** on **Saturday, September 13**. Eddie Hammett, church consultant and clergy coach, will lead the retreat. Lunch is provided. Deacon training will be from 9:00am until 2:00pm, and you can either sign up on the form in the hallway, or contact the office to be registered. You don't want to miss this special event.

S.E.E. and Refuge begin **Sunday, September 14, at 5:00pm**. Our study will be led by Dr. Donald Berry, Professor of Religious Studies at Gardner-Webb University and Director of the Global Missions Resource Center. We will explore world religions, starting with Islam on September 14. Dr. Berry will also cover the topics of Pluralism (Sept. 28), Latter Day Saints (October 12), Jehovah's Witnesses (October 26), and Scientology (November 9). The S.E.E. meal on September 14 will be hamburgers with all the fixin's, provided by Phil and Paula Edwards.

Children's Choir begins **September 21** at 5:00pm. The children will meet every Sunday.

Save the Date! Church picnic and worship on **September 28, Harmon Field**. Bring a lawn chair and a dish to share.

The **Church-Wide Mission Day, Saturday, October 4**, is fast approaching, and many of you *have* volunteered to work. There are tasks for every age and skill level, so prayerfully consider how you can help that day, and sign up.

August 31, 2014

Weekly Budget Giving	\$ 12,066	I Love My Church	\$2,720
Weekly Budget Goal	\$ 6,674		
YTD Budget Giving	\$ 214,774		
YTD Budget Goal	\$ 233,590		

First Baptist Church

125 Pacolet Street

PO Box 1287

Tryon, NC 28782

Email: tryonfirstbaptist@gmail.com

Website: tryonfirstbaptist.org

Phone: 828.859.5375

Pastor's Cell: 828.899.1386

Church Staff

The Reverend Dr. Jeff C. Harris, Pastor

The Reverend Candace Wilson,

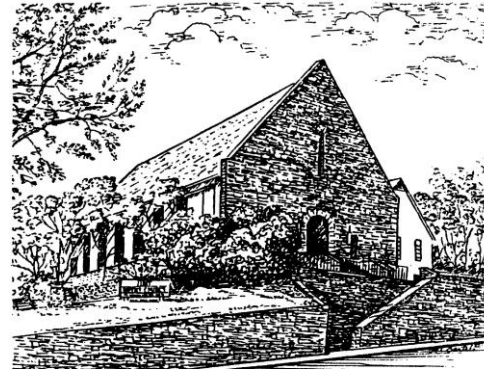
Minister of Music and Christian Formation

Kay Greene, Pianist

E. Leslie Raymond, Organist

Sandy Frady, Handbell Choir Director

John Spinks, Sexton



First Baptist Church

September 7, 2014

Eleven O'Clock in the Morning

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Worship of God

The Music for Gathering Kay Greene

The Words of Preparation Jeff Harris

The Prelude *Voluntary on 'In Heavenly Love Abiding'* -Gordon Young

The Call to Worship Candace Wilson

"Go, make of all disciples."

We hear the call, O Lord.

It comes from our Creator.

The Bible tells us so.

Let us cultivate learning;

Let us teach the Holy Word

Revealing in our witness

The master teacher's art.

-adapted from the hymn *Go, Make of All Disciples* by Leon M. Adkins

The Invocation Katie Cothran

†The Hymn of Praise (see insert) *We Thank You, God, for Teachers* LANCASHIRE

†The Passing of the Peace Jeff Harris

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Recognition of Those Working in Public School Systems Candace Wilson

The Litany for Education and Schools (see insert) Candace Wilson

The Recognition of Christian Education Teachers, Leaders, and Workers Candace Wilson

The Litany of Dedication (see insert) Jeff Harris

The Children's Time "Mr. Skip" Williams
(Kindergartners and preschoolers leave for children's church after The Children's Time.)

The Presentation of Bibles Candace Wilson, Alice Tennant

The Responsive Reading Psalm 143 Dave Graham
Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my supplications in your faithfulness; answer me in your righteousness.
Do not enter into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you.
For the enemy has pursued me, crushing my life to the ground, making me sit in darkness like those long dead.
Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled.
I remember the days of old, I think about all your deeds, I meditate on the works of your hands.
I stretch out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.
Answer me quickly, O Lord; my spirit fails. Do not hide your face from me, or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.
Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning, for in you I put my trust. Teach me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.
Save me, O Lord, from my enemies; I have fled to you for refuge.
Teach me to do your will, for you are my God. Let your good spirit lead me on a level path.
For your name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life. In your righteousness bring me out of trouble.
In your steadfast love cut off my enemies, and destroy all my adversaries, for I am your servant.

The Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer Jeff Harris

†The Hymn of Dedication 601 *Teach Me, O Lord, I Pray* DIADEMATA

†The Offertory Prayer Alice Tennant

The Offertory and Meditation *Music for Children* -arr. Ted Cornell

†The Doxology 253 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD 100th

The Scripture Reading Judges 16:4-6, 18-22, 28-31 (p. 229) Jeff Harris

The Music for Worship *Give Me Oil in My Lamp* -arr. Joseph Martin

The Sermon "Samson" Jeff Harris

†The Hymn of Response 279 *O Master, Let me Walk with Thee* MARYTON

†The Benediction Jeff Harris

†The Congregational Response *May the Spirit Bind Us Together* -Brad Stevens
(*May the Spirit bind us together as we build this house of faith; One in heart and one in spirit may we grow; May we raise our voices in witness; May our lives reflect Thy grace; One in heart and one in spirit as we go, as we go.*)

The Postlude *Fairest Lord Jesus* -David Hegarty
†Standing, if you are able, please.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Today	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship
	12:00 pm	Nominating Committee meeting - parlor
Monday, September 8	10:30 am	Staff Meeting
	7:00 pm	Mission Team Meeting
Tuesday, September 9	7:00 pm	Sisterhood – Lair SS Room
	12:00 pm	Finance Committee – Lair SS Room
Wednesday, September 10	10:00 am	Bible Study starts – Activity Building
	6:00 pm	Bell Choir rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir rehearsal
Saturday, September 13	9:00 am	Deacon Training with Eddie Hammett
Sunday, September 14	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship
	5:00 pm	Acolyte Training - Sanctuary
	5:00 pm	SEE
	6:00 pm	Refuge
Monday, September 15	10:30 am	Staff Meeting
	6:30 pm	Brotherhood
Tuesday, September 16	6:50 pm	Deacons meeting – Rock House
Wednesday, September 17	10:00 am	Bible Study – Activity Building
	6:00 pm	Bell Choir rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir rehearsal
Sunday, September 21	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship
	5:00 pm	Children's Choir starts (grades 1-5)
	6:00 pm	Refuge

Announcements

The acolytes today are Sydney Waldman and Wilson Edwards.

If you are a guest, we offer you a warm welcome and hope you will experience a meaningful time of worship. As your offering today, please complete a welcome card, found in the pew pocket, and place it in the offering plate.

The **Nominating Committee** will meet in the parlor after worship today.

Sisterhood meets **Tuesday, September 9** at 7:00pm in the Lair SS Room. Di Greene will present the program and Barbara Batchler is in charge of refreshments.

Bible Study resumes on **Wednesday, September 10**, at 10:00am. Join us as we study significant passages in the Old Testament. Bring a light dish to share afterward and invite a friend!

There will be **Acolyte training** for 1st - 5th grade children on **Sunday, September 14**. This will take place at 5pm during Children's Choir. Our Youth (grades 6-12) are also encouraged to participate as acolytes; but, this training is for children (grades 1-5) who are currently serving as acolytes and for any child interested in becoming an acolyte.

The **Brotherhood** meets at 6:30pm in the Activity Building on **Monday, September 15**, to hear a program by Paquito Dona and his recent trip to Lithuania as a member of the Air Force Reserve. Bob Scruggs is in charge of the meal (cost is \$5). All men of the church are welcome and encouraged to bring a friend.

A **Chancel Choir Retreat** is scheduled for **Saturday, September 20**. The choir is asked to meet from 10:00am until 3:00pm to rehearse Christmas music. Lunch will be provided. If you'd like to raise your voice in song for Christmas, please join us!

We Thank You, God, for Teachers (tune: LANCASHIRE)

We thank you, God, for teachers who help us learn your way,
Who show by their example how we can serve and pray,
Who find great joy in worship, who listen with concern;
For in their loving witness, they help us want to learn.

We thank you, God, for children and older people, too,
Who value times of learning and want to grow in you,
Who seek your precious kingdom and wisdom from above,
For wise ones of all ages still seek to learn your love.

We thank you, God, for families of every kind and size,
Who keep the vows they spoke when their children were baptized,
Who pray and read the Bible, who love and serve the poor;
They teach, by what they value, the way of Christ our Lord.

We thank you, God, for churches that welcome one and all,
That nurture every person in answer to Christ's call.
So fill us with your spirit, and give us life anew,
That we may help each other live faithfully in you.

Excerpted from Gifts of Love: New Hymns for Today's Worship by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette,
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A Litany for Education and Schools

Leader: Today we recognize those involved in the public education of our children and youth. The call to be involved in this education is a high calling. Those who teach our children and youth help shape the future. We give thanks to a gracious God for the teachers, school administrators, counselors, school volunteers, support staff, cafeteria workers, school bus drivers and all others in our congregation who work in our schools.

People: **We celebrate your calling and pledge to support you and others in our community who are involved in the education of children and youth.**

Leader: Gracious God, we lift up to you all those involved in education in this community and in all the communities in our nation and world. Guide us, great God, that we will know the best way to show our interest and support for our students, teachers, and all those involved in education.

People: **We pray for wisdom and strength to make a positive difference in the lives of those in school. We pray for courage to explore new ways of supporting the people and institutions that teach our children and youth. We pray in the name of the great teacher, Jesus. Amen.**

A Litany of Dedication for Christian Education Leaders, Teachers, Workers, and the Christian Education Committee

Liturgist: I commend to you these teachers and leaders of our children, youth, and adults. They are called and loved by God and seek your support for this vital ministry within this community of faith.

People: **We thank God for your gifts and your willingness to serve. We commit ourselves to pray for you, to assist you in material ways, and to be open to your requests for personal help. We recommit our baptismal vows to uphold this ministry through our own walk of faith.**

Teachers and Leaders:
We also give thanks to God for God's abundant gifts and for revealing and sharing those gifts among us. Together we will strive to guide our community into the ways of God's spirit and leading, and with God's help we will grow as Christian disciples.

ALL: **O God, we rely on your goodness and your desire to be known. Reveal yourself to us with such power and grace that we cannot help but invite and lead others into relationship with you and with one another. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**