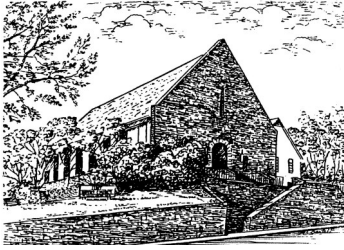


The Good News



February 2016



First Baptist Church of Tryon

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Jeffrey C. Harris, Pastor

Candace B. Wilson,

Minister of Music and Christian Formation

Chat With the Preacher

". . . with glad and generous hearts."

You probably already know this by now, but First Baptist Church of Tryon is turning 125 years old. That's a milestone worth celebrating, and we are going to celebrate all year with the culmination being in worship on October 2—so put that date on your calendar.

We will certainly give thanks for those who have gone before us, and we will no doubt reminisce about days gone by, but our focus will be on God's future—not our past. Who is God calling us to be? In what ways will God continue to use us in Tryon and beyond? This is a time to consider how God is shaping us for a future of faithful ministry.

When I think about the future of the Church, and of our congregation in particular, I do, however, find it helpful to reflect on that earliest community of believers in Acts. This is one reason we are studying Acts during SEE this spring.

It had been a while since I last read Acts in one sitting. It's a wild ride. Those first believers were so full of courage and passion. And in many ways their faith makes ours look anemic.

As I was reading through Acts, this passage especially struck me:

"Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent

much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food *with glad and generous hearts*, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved." Acts 2:43-47 (NRSV)

There are indeed many "wonders and signs" in Acts, but what struck me more than those was how this earliest church shared life together. There was a kinship (*koinonia* is the Greek word for it) that those early believers shared that seems to be lost.

I realize this is a different day and time, and I'm not suggesting we become a monastic community, but I believe that the time we spend with each other—the *koinonia* that we experience together—is one of God's greatest gifts, and the way we most directly experience God's love.

Now, we are not perfect—far from it. But we like each other. And, we like to be together. When First Baptist Church breaks bread together—at least on our best days—we do so in the same spirit of those earliest believers: "*with glad and generous hearts.*"

I think the phrase, "*with glad and generous hearts,*" is descriptive of our life together, and at the same time, challenges us to grower closer in the spirit of Christ.

May we celebrate 125 years of ministry *with glad and generous hearts* by recommitting ourselves to the good news of God's love made known to us in Jesus. May we share this love with each other, and with everyone we meet.

Grace and Peace,

Jeff

WINTER COAT DRIVE

You can already feel the chill in the air as we move from fall into early winter. Our mission for the month of November is to start collecting coats for Thermal Belt Outreach Ministry—all sizes, new or gently used. At this time Thermal Belt Outreach is only accepting coats—no other clothing. Please consider giving the gift of warmth this winter. There is a large collection box in the closet across from the Lair Sunday School classroom. Each time it is filled, we will take the coats to Thermal Belt. We'll continue to collect the coats throughout the winter months.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Your individual offering envelopes for 2016 are located at the sanctuary door in the education foyer.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

2016 Church Committees, it's time to schedule a time to meet for the purpose of choosing a new chairperson. Please contact the church office with the time you'd like to meet. The 2015 Chairpersons should submit yearly reports to the church office by February 5, 2015. If you chose to be on a team, your team leader will contact you.

GROCERY BAGS NEEDED

We collect plastic grocery bags for Thermal Belt Outreach Ministry, as there is a constant need for them at TBOM's Food Pantry. Bring your excess 'baggage' here to help—there's a large receptacle in the closet across from the Lair Sunday School room.

FIRST BAPTIST COFFEE MUGS AVAILABLE



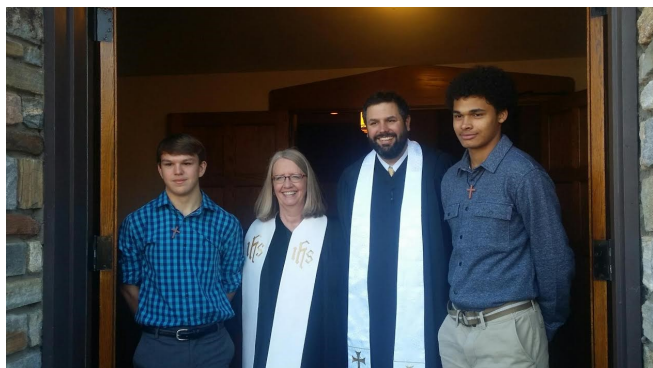
We've got mugs! You can get your genuine First Baptist Church Coffee Mug at the church during Sunday coffee fellowship (9:30-10:00am), or contact the church office. These are big, sturdy mugs that hold a lot of coffee, and they make great gifts. The cups are \$10 each, and the money will go to the GraceItForward Fund to support local mission projects. Promote missions while "getting your java on."

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY



Thanks to your generous financial gifts we ended 2015 with a budget surplus.

HONORING THE BAPTISMS OF WILSON EDWARDS AND MALIK MILLER



Wilson Edwards and Malik Miller joined the First Baptist Church by baptism on January 10, 2016. We are glad that these fine young men have dedicated themselves to Christ, and to the work of this church. Please give them a word of encouragement when you next see them.

SKI TRIP TO WOLF RIDGE PLANNED FOR FEBRUARY 20



The youth group is heading to Wolf Ridge on February 20-21. The price will be a \$100 per person for skiers and \$115 for snowboarders, and includes lodging in a nice 3 story town home, lift ticket, rentals, snow tubing on Sunday morning, Saturday dinner, and Sunday breakfast. Even if you are not a youth, we'd love to have you join us at Wolf Ridge. Pricing is: \$60 to ski and \$75 to snowboard. Please contact Rev. Harris if you're interested in the trip. A \$50 deposit is due by February 1, with the balance to be paid on or before February 20.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated in worship on February 7. There is also a brief Quarterly Church Conference at the end of the service.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE



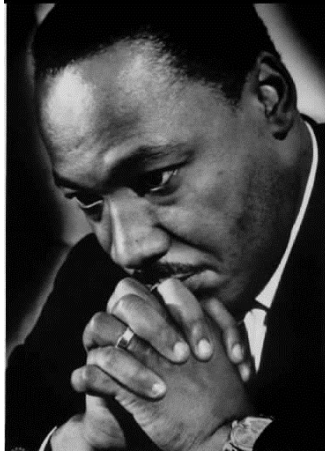
Ash Wednesday Service is at 6pm on February 10. The bell choir will rehearse from 6:30 to 7:15pm, and chancel choir will rehearse from 7:15pm-8:00pm.

ANNUAL HECK-JONES LUNCHEON FEBRUARY 14



You'll want to mark your calendar for this event. Sisterhood and the WMU are sponsoring a luncheon after worship on Sunday, February 14 (Valentine's Day). The menu includes ham, green beans, macaroni and cheese, pineapple casserole, rolls, beverages, and homemade desserts. It's a great meal, and also gives you the chance to contribute to the Heck-Jones Offering, which supports the NC WMU. The NC WMU, in turn supports missions like the support for minister's wives, the Baptist Nursing Fellowship, Red Box Prison Ministry, and Baptist Children's Homes. We hope to see you there!

**Children's Choir to Sing at Tryon Fine Arts Center for the
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration
Saturday, February 13, 2016 at 6:00 pm**



Thirty years ago, the Ku Klux Klan planned to march in downtown Tryon. A group of concerned citizens met to determine an appropriate community response. It was decided that the best response was no response, and the march was largely ignored. The citizens who had come together in this important effort went on to form the Thermal Belt Friendship Council, a loosely organized group of folks who care about bridging the racial divide, promoting racial equity, inclusivity and diversity in the community, and who believe that their lives are enriched by knowing, interacting, and promoting the best interests of one another.

In the Friendship Council's 2016 celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to be held at the Tryon Fine Arts Center, 34 Melrose Avenue at **6:00 pm on Saturday, February 13**, the focus will return to the Ku Klux Klan. Keynote speaker Daryl Davis of Silver Spring, MD, has made it a practice to make personal contact with members of the Klan at every opportunity. What makes this most unusual is that Mr. Davis is African American.

Mr. Davis puts into practice Dr. King's dream that "one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood." We look forward to having him share his remarkable story with our community.

In addition to Mr. Davis, the program will feature musical selections by the Children's Choir of the First Baptist Church of Tryon, and poetry of Della Jackson of Stony Knoll read by her granddaughter Sandra Forney. The Friendship Council's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. scholarship will be awarded and winners of the Creative Contest with entries inspired by Dr. King's work will be recognized. A reception will follow the program.

The program is free and open to the public. No tickets are needed. Please contact Donna Tatnall at dtatnall@yahoo.com or 828-859-7099 for more information. This program is supported by a Free Events Grant from the Polk County Community Foundation, for which the Friendship Council is very grateful.

2016 Schedule for First Baptist Church, Tryon, NC

Regularly Scheduled Weekly Activities (unless otherwise noted) include:

Sundays	Sunday School, 10am Worship, 11am Children's Choir (grades 1-5), 5pm Refuge (grades 6-12), 6pm
Wednesdays	Bible Study, 10am Handbell Rehearsal, 6pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7pm

Regularly Scheduled Monthly Activities (unless otherwise noted) include:

1 st Monday of each month	Mission Team, 5pm
1 st Tuesday of each month:	WMU, 10am
2 nd Tuesday of each month:	Sisterhood, 7pm
3 rd Monday of each month:	Brotherhood, 6:30pm
3 rd Tuesday of each month:	Deacons, 6pm

This is the current schedule for the year. Please note some things may be re-scheduled, added, or changed as needed. If changes occur, you will be notified by email, worship bulletin, newsletter, or announcement in worship. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Thank you.

FEBRUARY MISSION EMPHASIS—Heck-Jones Offering

Sun, Feb 7	Celebration of The Lord's Supper, 11am Quarterly Church Conference No Children's Choir or Refuge (enjoy the Super Bowl!)
Wed, Feb 10	Ash Wednesday Service, 6-6:30pm Handbell Rehearsal, 6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:15pm
Fri, Feb 12	Children's Choir Rehearsal (TFAC), 4:30pm
Sat, Feb 13	Children's Choir Rehearsal (TFAC), 4:30pm Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration (TFAC), 6pm
Sun, Feb 14	Heck Jones Meal (WMU/Sisterhood), following worship SEE, 5pm
Sat-Sun, Feb 20-21	Wolf Ridge Ski Trip
Sun, Feb 21	Refuge will not meet tonight because of Ski Trip
Sun, Feb 28	SEE, 5pm

MARCH MISSION EMPHASIS—Easter Missions (CBF Global Missions/Annie Armstrong)

Wed, Mar 2	Annual Meeting, meal 6pm, business meeting 6:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal, 7pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:45pm
Sun, Mar 13	SEE, 5pm
Fri, Mar 18	CBFNC General Assembly, Hayes Barton Baptist Church, Raleigh
Sat, Mar 19	Super Saturday
Sun, Mar 20	Palm Sunday Egg Hunt, 3:30pm Refuge at the home of Robert & Margot Carter, 6pm
Mon, Mar 21	Noonday Prayer
Tue, Mar 22	Noonday Prayer
Wed, Mar 23	Noonday Prayer
Thur, Mar 24	Maundy Thursday Meal and Worship, 6pm
Fri, Mar 25	Good Friday Community Worship, Noon
Sun, Mar 27	Easter Sunrise Service at TFAC Amphitheatre, 7am Easter Worship, 11am

2016 Schedule for First Baptist Church, Tryon, NC (con't.)

APRIL MISSION EMPHASIS—Stop Hunger Now Haiti

- Sun, Apr 3 Celebration of The Lord's Supper
Children's Choir Rehearsal, 4-6pm
- Sat, Apr 9 Stop Hunger Now food packing (Polk County High School), 8am
- Sun, Apr 10 Dr. Daryl Maxwell preaching as part of our for 125th Anniversary Celebration, 11am
SEE, 5pm
- Sun, Apr 17 HOOKED Fishing Event, 2-5pm
- Sun, Apr 24 Quarterly Church Conference
Children's Choir Rehearsal, 4-6pm
SEE, 5pm

MAY MISSION EMPHASIS—Baptist Retirement Home Offering

- Sun, May 1 Children's Choir Rehearsal, 4-6pm
Refuge, helping on micro-farm at Thermal Belt Outreach Ministry, 6pm
- Sun, May 8 NO SUNDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES (Mother's Day)
- Sun, May 15 *The Lost Son* presented by the Children's Choir, 11am
Annual Wiffle Ball Game and Cookout, 4pm
- Sat, May 21 HOOKED Fishing Event, 9-Noon
- Sun, May 22 Worship and Picnic at Harmon Field, 10:30am
Blue Ridge Ringers Concert at FBC, 4pm
Refuge "End of the Semester" Party, 6pm
- Sun, May 29 I Love My Church Offering (collected on 5th Sundays)
NO SUNDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES

JUNE MISSION EMPHASIS – Food for Thermal Belt Outreach Ministry

- Sun, Jun 5 Graduate Sunday, 11am
- Sun, Jun 12 Celebration of The Lord's Supper, 11am
HOOKED Fishing Event, 2-5pm
- Wed-Fri, Jun 22-24 CBF General Assembly, Sheraton Greensboro, Greensboro, NC
- Sun, Jun 26 Dr. Bill Henderson preaching as part of our for 125th Anniversary Celebration, 11am
- Wed-Sat, Jun 29-Jul 2 PassportKids! Camp – Converse College, Spartanburg
Rafting Trip TBD

JULY MISSION EMPHASIS—Christmas in July Offering (CBF Global Missions/Lottie Moon)

- Fri-Sun, Jul 8-10 Backpacking Retreat
- Fri-Sun, July 22-24 Church Camping Trip to Davidson River
- Sun, Jul 31 I Love My Church Offering (collected on fifth Sundays)
Quarterly Church Conference
- Sun-Thur, Jul 31-Aug 4 Vacation Bible School

AUGUST MISSION EMPHASIS—Back to School (School Supplies)

- Sun, Aug 7 Celebration of The Lord's Supper, 11am
- Thur, Aug 18 Carowinds

2016 Schedule for First Baptist Church, Tryon, NC (con't.)

SEPTEMBER MISSION EMPHASIS—#GraceltForward Mission Day Planning

Sun, Sep 11 SEE (5-6:30 pm)
Sun, Sep 25 SEE (5-6:30 pm)

OCTOBER MISSION EMPHASIS – Mission Initiative, Distribute Shoe Boxes

Sun, Oct 2 125th Anniversary Celebration and Meal
Sun, Oct 9 SEE, 5pm
Sat, Oct 15 #GraceltForward Mission Day
Sun, Oct 23 SEE, 5pm
 Children's Fall Party (P-S through grade 5)
Sun, Oct 30 I Love My Church Offering (collected on fifth Sundays)
 Quarterly Church Conference

NOVEMBER MISSION EMPHASIS – Coat drive; Shoe Boxes

Sun, Nov 6 All Saints Sunday
Sun, Nov 13 SEE, 5pm
Sun, Nov 20 Communion Sunday
 Community Thanksgiving Service

DECEMBER MISSION EMPHASIS—Angel Tree (Thermal Belt Outreach); Kathy's Kids

Sun, Dec 4 Annual Christmas Dinner
Sun, Dec 18 Caroling, 3pm
Sat, Dec 24 Christmas Eve Worship, 5pm
Sun, Dec 25 Christmas Day Worship, 11am

Youth Schedule Winter/Spring 2016

(On SEE nights we begin our time with a meal in the upstairs of the Activity Building, so please drop your youth off upstairs. On non-SEE nights please drop your youth off downstairs.)

Jan 10	6pm, Refuge (SEE night)
Jan 17	6pm, Refuge
Jan 24	6pm, Refuge (SEE night)
Jan 31	6pm, Refuge
Feb 7	Refuge will not meet (enjoy the Super Bowl)
Feb 14	6pm, Refuge (SEE night)
Feb 20-21	Ski Trip to Wolf Ridge (Refuge will not meet on Feb 21)
Feb 28	6pm, Refuge (SEE night)
March 6	6pm, Refuge
March 13	6pm, Refuge (SEE night)
March 20	Refuge will meet at the home of Robert and Margot Carter
March 27	Refuge will not meet because of Easter
April 3	6pm, Refuge
April 10	6pm, Refuge (SEE night)
April 17	6pm, Scavenger Hunt
April 24	6pm, Refuge (SEE night)
May 1	6pm, Helping on the micro-farm at Thermal Belt Outreach
May 8	Refuge will not meet because of Mother's Day
May 15	5pm, Annual Wiffle Ball Game and Cookout
May 22	6pm, End of Semester Party

Here are a few reminders about our youth ministry:

- Refuge is the name of our Sunday evening youth gathering, and it is open to all middle and high school students.
- Refuge meets from 6pm to 7:30pm.
- Youth are encouraged to bring friends.
- We engage in serious Bible study and faith formation.
- We always share a meal (most of the time there is no charge for this meal).
- Occasionally there are special events that require money, if money is ever an issue please let us know.
- We play fun, goofy games.
- If you need help with transportation let us know.
- We encourage youth to think seriously about their faith.
- We welcome questions and doubts.
- When it's time to be serious we collect their cell phones.
- If your youth has special needs (dietary or otherwise) please let us know.

-These are our expectations:

Be Respectful

Do to others as you would have them do to you. Luke 6:31 (NRSV)

No bullying/making fun/leaving folks out, etc. Use appropriate language. Only one person talks at a time. Place your phone in "cell jail" when it's time to be serious. No "smooching!"

Be Faithful

Love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and muscle and intelligence—and love your neighbor as well as you do yourself. Luke 10:27 (The Message)

Act like a follower of Jesus. Be kind, practice forgiveness, welcome strangers. Reflect God's love at church, home, and school. Attend Sunday School, Worship, and Refuge as often as possible.

Have Fun

I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.

John 10:10 (The Message)

February Sunday Schedules

Deacons for February

*Stephen Brady
Elizabeth Burrell
Shelvie Foust
Phillip Pleasants
Jeff Miller

**denotes Lead Deacon*

Ushers for February

Jennifer & Brian Jones (front)
Gigi Covil (hall)
Linda Martin (side)

Acolytes for February

2/7 No acolytes—communion
2/14 Verae Upton & Luke Walker
2/21 Ella Waldman & David Amitrano
2/28 StorieLane Whiteside & Hattie Jolley

Children's Church Workers for February

2/7 Billy & Brett McFarland
2/14 Linda & Ellis Fincher
2/21 Stephanie Mathis
2/28 Brad & Hannah Crawford

February Milestones

February Anniversaries

1 Ed & Vicky Justice
7 Kevin & Christy McCall

February Birthdays

4 Georgia Pace, Eric Walker
5 Carl Pleasants, Kevin McCall, Sam Morrow ('13)
9 Hilda Pleasants
10 Alex Tapp
12 Harper Harris ('07), Adria Harding Denny
13 Frances Wray
18 Mary Goodwin, Jeff Miller
19 Evan Harding
20 Raye Dusenbury
22 Durham McEntire ('09)
25 Leslie Raymond

College Student Birthdays

22 Wes Brady
28 Emily Miller Raines

Military Personnel Birthdays

1 Francisco "Paquito" Dona
8 Ladd Shepard

Military Anniversary

15 Major & Mrs. Randall Stillinger