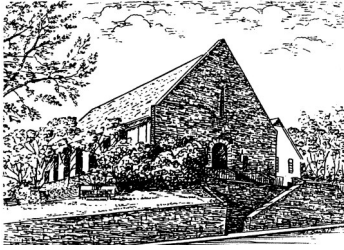


## The Good News



May

2015



## First Baptist Church of Tryon

125 Pacolet Street, Tryon NC 28782

Phone: (828) 859-5375

tryonfirstbaptist@gmail.com

tryonfirstbaptist.org

Jeffrey C. Harris, Pastor

Candace B. Wilson,

Minister of Music and Christian Formation

## Chat With the Preacher

An early word (or two) for graduates (and anybody else who happens to be reading)

“Graduation season” is almost upon us (we’ll recognize graduates during worship on June 7), so I thought I’d pontificate a bit about how the world is your proverbial oyster and whatnot. So if you’ll just nod your head in agreement every once in a while, and maybe even offer a half-hearted chuckle or two, this will be relatively painless.

I like Dr. Seuss, but when he asks, “Will you succeed?” And then answers with, “Yes! You will indeed! (98 and  $\frac{3}{4}$  percent guaranteed).” I’m thinking that number is a bit high.

You have grown up in a world that awards trophies for mere participation, where your parents and people like me try our best to keep you from experiencing failure. But you still know the truth. You know that failure is not an option; it’s a guarantee.

My freshman year in high school my basketball team had a perfect record. Well, almost perfect, we were 0-14. That’s right, zero wins and fourteen losses. When baseball season rolled around, we again achieved the improbable, 0-14. If it’s true that you can learn a lot from losing, then we were geniuses.

But the fear of failure is usually worse than failure itself. In fact, failure can be freeing. For example, what’s worse than having to always be perfect?

I’m not suggesting that you try to fail, but when you view failure from the right perspective it can shape

and mold you in ways that success never can. Nor am I suggesting that failure is fun (trust me, losing 28 straight games is not fun) but it didn’t defeat me or define me. And after losing that many games, you figure there’s nowhere to go but up. So don’t be afraid of failure.

And, don’t be afraid to be “normal.” Our culture idolizes the exceptional, and yet, most of us will never be exceptional. Most of us are absolutely ordinary, and there is nothing wrong with that.

Matthew Kerlin, University Minister at Samford, explains:

“The problem with idolizing greatness is that one day you wake up in your 40s and your life looks relatively ordinary and you think you’ve failed. There is no reason to make that mistake. As a theologian, I would argue that the meaning of life consists not in what you accomplish, but in what God through Christ has already accomplished. This frees you to live with simple gratitude, to be faithful in the small things, to be kind when no one is watching, to be honest when it profits you nothing, and to be hard working when nobody thanks you. Aristotle calls this the virtuous life, the means between the extremes, the normal. So make the virtuous life the normal way that you live.”

The world doesn’t need exceptional people. Instead, what we need are ordinary people striving for the virtuous life. And while this kind of life may not seem glamorous, it is much more truthful than the narcissistic lie that you are the most important person on the planet. When it comes down to it, most of us just aren’t that exceptional or unique, no matter how many twitter followers we have.

-Con’t. on page 5

## WNCBF SPRING GATHERING

**When:** Sunday, May 3, 5pm

**Where:** First Baptist Church, Marion,  
99 North Main Street, Marion, NC

You may register at [www.wncbf.org](http://www.wncbf.org), or contact First Baptist in Marion to register (the phone number is (828) 652-6030).

## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE MAY 18



We'll be sponsoring another Blood Drive Monday May 18 at the Activity Building. Please note the change of date from May 11.

The Blood Drive will be from 12:30—5:00pm, and appointments must be made by calling the Polk County American Red Cross Chapter at 894-2700. Please bring your Red Cross or Photo ID with you.

We're also looking for volunteers to help on Blood Drive days. If you'd like to save a life or serve a cookie, consider being a part of this worthy cause. Your donation may save a life!

**NOTE:** The church office will be closed on Monday, May 25 for Memorial Day.

## THE TALE OF THE THREE TREES, PRESENTED ON MAY 10

The Children's Choir (grades 1-5) of First Baptist will present *The Tale of the Three Trees* by Allen Pote and Tom S. Long during the 11:00 am worship service on Sunday, May 10th. The children have spent many hours learning and preparing the music and the staging. The presentation of this musical is scheduled for Mother's Day in honor of all the people who have loved, nurtured and encouraged the children in their journey. Please make plans now to attend this very special worship service.

## WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS BY BAPTISM



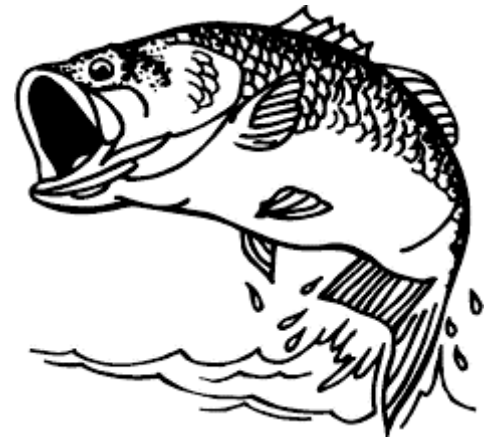
Sunday, April 19, two boys were baptized and welcomed into the family of First Baptist Tryon. They are Luke Miller (son of Leah Justice and Charley Miller, and grandson of Ed and Vicky Justice) and Jack Fox (son of Danny and Erin Fox). Each child was asked questions about his faith and each indicated their desire to be baptized. We are proud of these boys and their decision to follow Jesus. Be sure to welcome them and affirm their walk in faith as part of our church family.

# The Tale of the Three Trees



**Please join us for worship on Mother's Day, May 10, as the Children's Choir presents "The Tale of Three Trees" by Allen Pote, under the direction of Candy Wilson, and accompanied by Kay Greene.**

# Hooked



The David Stillerman Fishing Project of FBC Tryon

First Baptist Parents,

We'd love to have you and your child/ren go fishing with us. You do not need any fishing equipment (you can certainly bring your own if you wish), experience, or license. We will supply fishing equipment, instruction, drinks, and a light dinner. We do ask that at least one parent be present with your child/ren. This is great opportunity for parents and children to spend time with each other, and with others from our community (especially with foster children and those involved with Big Brothers/Big Sisters.)

Here are a few reasons we think "Hooked" is worthwhile:

- Get outside . . . teach kids to enjoy and respect the outdoors.
- Encourage friendships . . . with other children and with adults.
- Learn how to fish . . . fishing is a great hobby, that teaches patience and perseverance, builds confidence, and can be enjoyed for a lifetime.
- Have fun!

We'll go fishing at these times and places, and hope that you can join us:

May 31 Derbyshire/Lake Sandy Plains 4-7pm

June 28 Tryon Estates 4-7pm

July 19 White Oak Mountain 4-7pm

Aug 23 Derbyshire/Lake Sandy Plains 4-7pm

Sept 20 Tryon Estates 4-7pm

If you plan to attend please RSVP, as that will help us provide the correct amount of fishing equipment, volunteers, and food.

## CONCLUSION OF SEE, May 17

Our SEE (Sunday Evening Ekklesia) for adults offered a discussion by Jeff Harris, entitled *We Could be Wrong—Examining Moral and Ethical Issues from a Christian Perspective*.

We've had a series of respectful conversations modeling deep thinking and humility.

Stephen Brady led a study at the same time in the Rock House, using Louie Giglio's *Passion* series.

May 17 is our concluding conversation. After that, we'll have a cookout/game night. We'll have a chance to share food and fellowship, and our annual Wiffleball game.

## JUNE 12-14 SPIRITUALITY AND BACKPACK TRIP

We had a great time backpacking in the Roan Highlands last year, and we're looking forward to another great trip. This year we'll be trekking in the Pisgah National Forest and Shining Rock Wilderness from June 12-14. I hope you'll put it on your calendar.

The purpose of the backpacking trip is to provide an opportunity for Sabbath in a natural environment, and to help participants explore opportunities for prayer and silence. We'll also have a lot of fun! This trip is open to anyone 16 or older who can carry at least 30 pounds on his/her back, while hiking 5 to 7 miles per day in mountainous terrain. If you are under 16, you must be accompanied by a parent.

Participants are required to bring their own back-pack, sleeping bag, sleeping pad, and tent/shelter. If you do not own these items,

Sunrift Adventures in Travelers Rest rents them, or maybe you can borrow these items from someone. Also, many backpacking tents sleep two people, therefore not everyone has to have a tent. Stoves and other cooking gear can be shared as well. If you are interested in this trip, but do not have the equipment, please let Pastor Harris know, and he'll be glad to help.

## CHAT WITH THE PREACHER

*-Con't. from page 1*

David McCullough's 2012 graduation speech titled "You are not special" illustrates this truth:

"The empirical evidence is everywhere, numbers even an English teacher can't ignore.... Across the country no fewer than 3.2 million seniors are graduating about now from more than 37,000 high schools. That's 37,000 valedictorians... 37,000 class presidents... 92,000 harmonizing altos... 340,000 swaggering jocks... 2,185,967 pairs of Uggs. But why limit ourselves to high school? After all, you're leaving it. So think about this: even if you're one in a million, on a planet of 6.8 billion that means there are nearly 7,000 people just like you.... And consider for a moment the bigger picture: your planet, I'll remind you, is not the center of its solar system, your solar system is not the center of its galaxy, your galaxy is not the center of the universe. In fact, astrophysicists assure us the universe has no center; therefore, you cannot be it. Neither can Donald Trump... which someone should tell him... although that hair is quite a phenomenon."

The truth is, you are really not that special, none of us are.

Instead, consider this: You are a child of God, created in the image of God, and so are all of the other 6.8 billion people on this planet. And while you are loved by God, so is everyone else. Which means your real calling is learning to love these 6.8 billion brothers and sisters in your everyday, ordinary life.

Congratulations on your graduations! Blessings on the journey!

Grace and Peace, *Jeff*

## MAY MISSIONS OPPORTUNITY



The Mission Team has established opportunities for First Baptist to be involved in both the community and the world. **Our May Mission Focus** is support for Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina. Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina, Inc. is a church related not-for-profit organization committed to providing quality care and a meaningful way of life for residents and staff. There are envelopes for donations and other information at the entrances to the sanctuary, as well as large medicine bottles to collect your loose change, which will be used to provide medications for those needing assistance. Thank you for helping to improve the lives of our elders who do lack the resources needed for a quality life.

### **ADAM PALMER'S SEE PROGRAM ON APRIL 26**

We had a great turnout to hear Adam Palmer for SEE on Sunday night. Adam grew up in this area and is the grandson of Dr. Robert and Alice Palmer, and the son of Everett and Gale Palmer. It was an emotional and inspirational discussion of his 9 years in active service in the army and his 3 tours of duty in Iraq. He also shared his time in Walter Reed Hospital after nearly being killed by a roadside bomb. Adam was very open and honest

about his many years of being angry and spiritually troubled until his decision to follow Christ. He wants to share his story with other veterans so his current mission trip is called Savebration2015. Starting June 15<sup>th</sup>, he plans to travel to 48 states meeting with both homeless vets and vets staying in VA hospitals. If you would like to donate to his mission trip, you can send it to Tryon United Methodist Church, PO Box 897, Tryon, NC 28782 and mark it for Adam Palmer. You can also make a donation for Adam online at <http://gofundme.com/ltb2lw>.



### **CAROWINDS TRIP, JUNE 18**

We're going to Carowinds! This is a trip for the whole family. We'll depart for the park June 18 at 8:00am (from the Food Lion parking lot) and return no later than 8:00pm. Youth, children, and adults are invited and encouraged to participate! The cost of the trip is \$40, which includes an all-day pass to the park and transportation to and from the park via coachline. (with wifi). The purpose of this trip is to have fun and fellowship together—there will be no worries about parking, cost of gasoline, keeping up with a multi-vehicle convoy (which is dangerous), or back seat drivers. You must sign up and make a deposit of \$20 per person by May 31. Important things to note: we **will not** make use of the waterpark that day, and children who have not completed the third grade must be accompanied by a parent.

# Youth Schedule Spring 2015

Jan 11	6pm, Refuge kick-off (SEE night) <b>Capital Punishment</b>
Jan 18	6pm, Refuge
Jan 25	6pm, Refuge (SEE night) <b>Abortion</b>
Feb 1	6pm, Refuge
Feb 8	6pm, Refuge (See night) <b>War, Violence, and Pacifism</b>
Feb 15	6pm, Refuge
Feb 22	6pm, Refuge (SEE night) <b>Politics, Parties, and the Separation of Church and State</b>
Feb 28	Ski Trip, Wolf Ridge, all-day event (Instead of an overnight ski trip, we're doing a lock-in on March 8)
Mar 1	No Refuge (because ski trip was the day before)
Mar 8	Refuge Lock-in, 6pm to 8am
Mar 15	6pm, Refuge <b>Race</b>
Mar 22	6pm, Refuge (SEE night) <b>Creation Care and the Environment</b>
Mar 29	No Refuge (no activities on fifth Sundays)
Apr 5	No Refuge (Easter Sunday)
Apr 12	6pm, Refuge (SEE night) <b>Christian Sexual Ethic</b>
Apr 19	6pm, Refuge - Sole Hope Shoe-Making
Apr 26	No Refuge
May 3	No Refuge
May 10	No Refuge (Mother's Day)
May 17	6pm, Refuge (final SEE night), cookout and wiffleball
May 24	No Refuge—Memorial Day weekend
May 31	No Refuge—No activities on Fifth Sundays

*There will be one "fun" event each month of the summer. A whitewater rafting trip is in the works for June, we'll go to Carowinds in July, and August's activity will be determined later.*

## 2015 Schedule for First Baptist Church, Tryon, NC

### MAY MISSION EMPHASIS—Baptist Retirement Home

Sun, May 3	WNC Baptist Fellowship Spring Gathering, FBC Marion
Sun, May 10	Mother's Day—Children's Choir presents "The Tale of Three Trees" NO SUNDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES
Sun, May 17	SEE (Last Night) All Church-Cookout and Games
Mon, May 18	Red Cross Blood Drive, Activity Building (12:30-5pm)
Sun, May 24	Memorial Day Weekend—NO SUNDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES
Mon, May 25	Church Office Closed
Sun, May 31	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday "I Love My Church" Offering – NO SUNDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES

### JUNE MISSION EMPHASIS—Stop Hunger Now

Sun, Jun 7	Communion
Fri, Jun 12-Sun Jun 14	Spirituality/Backpack trip
Mon-Fri, Jun 15-19	CBF General Assembly, Hyatt Regency, Dallas TX
Thu, Jun 18	Carowinds trip
Mon, Jun 29-Thu Jul 2	PassportKids! Camp – Converse College, Spartanburg

### JULY MISSION EMPHASIS—Christmas in July

Sun, Jul 26	Quarterly Church Conference
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### AUGUST MISSION EMPHASIS—Back to School

Sun, Aug 2	Communion Sunday
Sun, Aug 2-Thur Aug 6	Vacation Bible School, time TBA
Sun, Aug 16	Scholarship Sunday
Sun, Aug 30	"I Love My Church" Offering
All Church Camp-out at Orchard Lake in Saluda - TBA	

### SEPTEMBER MISSION EMPHASIS—Fall Mission Initiative/GraceltForward

Sun, Sep 13	SEE (5:00-6:30 pm)
Sun, Sep 20	Outdoor Worship at Harmon Field (10:30am)
Sun, Sept 27	SEE (5:00-6:30 pm)

### OCTOBER and NOVEMBER Mission Emphasis—Coat Drive and Shoe Box

Sat, Oct 3	Mission Initiative/GraceltForward
Sun, Oct 4	World Communion Sunday
Sun, Oct 11	SEE (5-6:30 pm)
Sun, Oct 25	Quarterly Church Conference Fall Party for Children (P-S through grade 5) SEE (5:00-6:30 pm)
Sun, Nov 1	All Saints Sunday
Sun, Nov 8	SEE (5:00-6:30 pm)
Sun, Nov 22	Communion Sunday Community Thanksgiving Service
Sun, Nov 29	First Sunday of Advent/"I Love My Church" Offering

### DECEMBER Mission Emphasis—Kathy's Kids

Sun, Dec 6	Christmas Drama and Annual Christmas Meal
Sun, Dec 20	Caroling
Thu, Dec 24	5:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship



**REGULARLY SCHEDULED WEEKLY ACTIVITIES  
(UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED) INCLUDE:**

Sundays            10:00 am Sunday School  
                         11:00 am Worship  
                         5:00 pm Children's Choir (grades 1-5)  
                         6:00 pm Refuge

Wednesdays      10:00am Bible Study  
                         6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal  
                         7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Regularly Scheduled Monthly Activities (unless otherwise noted) include:**

3rd Monday of each month:    6:30 pm Brotherhood  
1st Tuesday of each month:    10:00 am WMU  
2nd Tuesday of each month:    7:00 pm Sisterhood  
3rd Tuesday of each month:    6:50 pm Deacons  
3rd Sunday of each month:    11:00am Food Pantry Collection

*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.*

## May Sunday Schedules

### *Deacons for May*

\*JT Johnson

Rick McCallister

Cheryl Taylor

Sharon Burrell

Mike Greene (balcony)

*\*denotes Lead Deacon*

### *Ushers for May*

Walt & Cathie Gee (front)

Caitlin Britton (hall)

Sharon Burrell (side)

### *Acolytes for May*

5/3 Hayden Blackwell & Harper Harris

5/10 "Tale of the Three Trees" - No Acolytes

5/17 Verae Upton & Wilson Edwards

5/24 Caitlin Britton & Jack Fox

5/31 Elliott Whiteside & Sydney Waldman

### *Children's Church Workers for May:*

5/3 Amber & Ben McEntire

5/10 Cathy & JT Johnson

5/17 Susan Smith

5/24 Keith & Debbie Collins

5/31 Linda & Ellis Fincher

## May Milestones

### Wedding Anniversaries

5/3 Evan & Ashley Gilbert

5/5 Vernon & Raye Dusenbury

5/8 Phillip & Paula Edwards

5/24 Mitch & Gingi Green

5/30 Keith & Alisa Constance

5/31 Franklin & Sadie McKaig

### Birthdays

5/2 Bob Lair

5/3 Chuck Britton, Wynne Morris

5/4 Kay Greene, Cathie Gee, Dustin Bishop

5/8 Charley Raye Dusenbury ('08)

5/14 Christie Collins Morrow, Philip Culbreth, Gary Nobles, Emily McFalls

5/16 Lydia Miller

5/17 Candy Wilson, Cathy Stott, Tiffany Covil

5/18 Joyce Arledge, Brian Durham ('07)

5/19 Lucy Meredith McCallister ('13)

5/21 Keaton McCall, Melinda "Cricket" Walker, Rosemary Iaffaldano

5/23 Phil Feagan

5/24 Kasey McKaig

5/26 Bernice Culbreth, Janet Hudson, Tommy Vehorn

5/28 Maddie Blackwell ('00)

5/29 Ashley Scoggins Gilbert

5/30 Michael Nobles