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The Reminder



March 21, 2008

Buies Creek First Baptist Church

Volume 53 Issue 3

The Friendly Church

A friendly church is one where worshipers greet one another warmly and sincerely.

A friendly church is one where members seek out newcomers and make them feel welcome and important. Visitors hear that the congregation can help meet various needs: spiritual nourishment, Christian education, fellowship, friendship, service opportunities, support and comfort during difficulties and more.

A friendly church has something for everyone. It becomes a loving home where people desire to return frequently for spiritual, social, physical and emotional support.

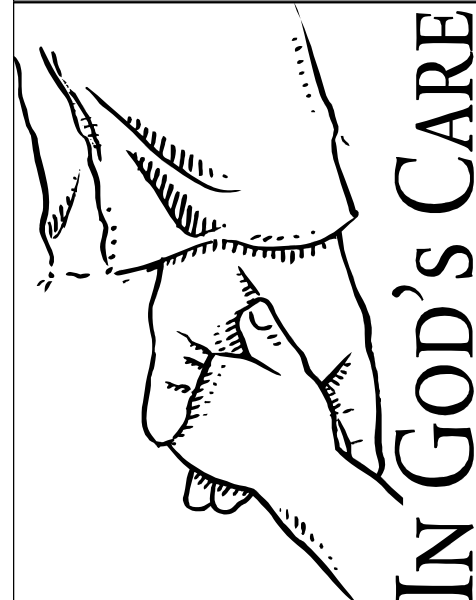


Stepping Stones

It is just a step to the Father's love —
 No farther than the heart,
 No farther than a faith that knows
 God sets each life apart.

It is just a step to the Father's work —
 No farther than a door,
 No farther than the lonely soul
 So easy to ignore.

It is just a step to eternity —
 No farther than the spring,
 No farther than the laws of life
 That govern everything.
 —Peggy Ferrell



WEEKLY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday	Monday	Wednesday
9:45 am Bible Study	7:00 am Men's Prayer Meeting	6:00 pm KISS (Keep It Simple Supper)
11:00 am Morning Worship	7:00 pm Boy Scouts	6:30 pm. Bible Studies and Prayer Meeting
5:15 pm Children's M&M (Music & Missions) Youth Discipleship Training	7:00 pm Cub Scouts	7:30 p.m. Hand Bells
6:00 pm Choir & Praise Team		Thursday
7:30 pm College Music & Message		7:00 am Men's Prayer Meeting



**FROM THE
PASTOR**
PASTOR'S PARAGRAPHS

The following story comes from the January issue of Bits & Pieces.

When Josh received his driver's license, he approached his father about using the family car regularly.

"Driving is a huge responsibility," said his father, "and one that I don't want you to take lightly. But I'll make a deal with you. If you bring your grades up, start helping around the house more, go to church with your Mom and me, and cut your hair, we can work something out about you getting some time with the car."

"Okay," agreed Josh. And for the next few weeks he devoted more time to his schoolwork and chores, and he attended church every Sunday with his parents.

"All B's and one C," Josh boasted as he handed over his grades from the quarter.

"Good effort," his father said. "I'm proud of you."

"So now can we talk about me using the car?"

"Not so fast," said his father. "We had a deal, remember? Grades, chores, church, and hair?"

"Dad, come on. Do I really have to cut my hair? It took me so long to grow it out. Besides, Samson had long hair. Moses had long hair. And Jesus had long hair," said Josh.

"You're right," agreed his father. "And guess what? They walked everywhere they went."

It's true you know; Jesus did walk everywhere he went except for at least one time when he rode a donkey into Jerusalem. Everywhere he went he proclaimed the love of God and ministered to the needs of those about him. He touched a lot of lives traveling by foot. We have cars, motorcycles, trucks, and even some have skate boards. We walk occasionally, but probably not as much as we should. As we take our fast modes of transportation, do we reach out to as many people as Jesus did by walking? The issue really isn't how quickly we can get from one place to another; it's are we willing to take the time to tell others about Jesus and minister in his name.

Easter Sunday is behind us, though we are still in the season of Eastertide. It's not about your hair. It's not even about you. It's about Jesus and his Great Commission for each of us. As you travel along your journey this week, will you take the time to tell someone about Jesus and give a cup of cold water in his name if needed? You may be surprised at the results you'll have.

Have a blessed week. I'll see you Sunday.

Pastor Michael

APRIL BIRTHDAYS!

4	Arlene Brown-Page	20	Larry Stewart
6	Susan Carpenter	20	Peter Dinklage
9	Bob Roberson	20	Thomas Lanier, Jr.
9	Levi Lemons	20	Gerry Gregory
10	Dorothea Gilbert	21	Gayle Stewart
19	Janice McLeod	22	Chris Stewart
19	Elizabeth Mason	26	Christopher Hare



Birthdays

Classified CiA Report: AUTHORIZED EYES ONLY

Specialized Training was a Grand Success:

Nine Jr. Agents & three Sr. Agents attended specialized training on March 15th. Their top secret training grounds - code name Mundo Vista - were some of the best our agency offers in NC. Each agent was given a tour of the facilities, taught to eat foreign foods (African mush & Camp food), how to hike in the mountains, & how to play "bucket ball". Key focus for the day of training was Baptist missions efforts in South Africa. This was especially of interest to our agents since on of our own Sr. Agent - Mary Rhodes - will be on assignment there for two years. There was specialized "coding" taught in the form of camp songs. Each agent passed this level of training & earned their "Missions Camp" badge.

Spotlight Badge of the Month: **Learning Scripture**

Earned when an Agent either (1) earns fifty (50) point on their CiA Scripture Verse list [learning verses & explains how those verses apply to their life] or (2) by participating in a year of Bible Memory Work with participation being defined at learning the verse and completing at least the "church-level" drill. Fifty points of verses equates to about 25 verses learned.

As always, our mission is to equip the Agents for a "life of service" in the "Agency" (the church) and a desire to follow the "Commander & Chief's" (God's) directive - *Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. Matthew 28:19-20.*

Your support is invaluable to our Agent's growth & development. Please continue to 1) Pray for our Agents, 2) Watch for information regarding what they are doing, & 3) Work with then any chance you get! If you have questions, please contact a Senior Agent (Harold/Gina Smith, Alicia Turner or Michelle Daggett) or any of the Junior Agents (children grades 1-6).

This message will self-destruct in 20 seconds.....

Missions Yard Sale-Saturday, April 12th

The Missions Yard sale is approaching fast and we need a lot of help to make this event happen. 1. Clean out your attics, closets & garages because we need your stuff. Don't forget the coat hangers. If you need items picked up, please contact Gina Smith A.S.A.P. to make those arrangements. 2. Plan on volunteering. We start set-up on Wednesday evening, April 9th.

We will work Thursday & Friday nights from 7p.m. until it's done. Saturday will begin at 5:30 a.m. for workers with the event starting at 6:30 a.m. going to Noon. 3. Tell everyone you know to come out & find a bargain. We have lots of great missions opportunities over the next several months & the Yard Sale is a major fundraiser to assist with all of them. So, clean out, donate, tell everyone you know about it & come to buy!!

Church Council Meeting

The Church Council will be meeting on Tuesday, April 1st at 7 p.m. in the church library.

Going Away Party

During the morning worship service next Sunday, April 6th we will be commissioning Mary Rhodes for service in the Journeyman program to South Africa where she will be doing missionary work for the next few years. We will be throwing Mary a party from 3-5 p.m. that afternoon in the fellowship hall to wish her well on her trip. Please contact Gina Smith and let her know if you plan on attending so we know how much food will be needed. Hope to see you there!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Our Nation and its Leaders, our missionaries, all Service Men and Women, Andrew Upshaw (Iraq, Al's nephew), Veronica Stewart, Gilda Blackmon, Donna Turlington, Hazel Weaver, Valeria Lanier, Iva Newton, Mary Rhodes (Volunteer Missionary), Larry Wynns (Joe Wynns brother), Coy Lanier (Coyt & Gladys Lanier's son), Mary Lucas (Brenda Edwards' grandmother), and Ernie Steinmeyer (A.G. Hare's son-in-law), and our homebound: Jill Upshaw, Billy Mason, Doug Johnson, Gerry Gregory, Beulah Stewart, Doris Morgan, Mae Danner, Doris Yates, Ruby Biggs, Juanita Hight, Mildred Harmon, Frances Jones, Sue A. Brown, Mattie Slaughter, Mary Ramer, and Eloise Sheppard.

KidShine

"Let your light shine before men...and praise your Father in heaven."

He has risen...He has risen indeed!! Recently, we had a great time as we began our Holy Week with an Easter Celebration with children and their families. This time of year is a time to reflect and remember what our Lord Jesus has done for all of us. Palm Sunday began with a "parade" as the children and parents participated in worship with their palms and joyful cries of "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" and the day was ended with a time of fellowship and fun together. We enjoyed the reading of "The Best Reason for Easter" by our very own 4th and 5th graders ~ Thank you Anna, Kate, Rebekah, Nicole, Bianey and Nathanael. We then shared in a meal of chicken and rice along with other baked goodies. We appreciated those who cooked and baked the delicious dinner ~ Our compliments to Doug, Renie, Janice, Jennifer S, Brenda and Laura. As always, our egg hunt was a highlight ~ Thank you Maegan, Alicia, Tyffany, Jennifer H, Luke Kyle, Daniel, Tommy, Christopher, and Grace for hiding over 280 Easter eggs! Lastly, the children, youth and college students decorated a puzzle piece that will hopefully form a beautiful Easter egg for our bulletin board. Thank you, Lucy, for taking pictures and making sure every child will be pictured on our "Easter Egg." In John 17:22-23 we find Jesus praying for all believers saying, "I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be **one as we are one**: I in them and you in me. May they be **brought to complete unity** to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me." We are each an important *piece* of God's plan and purpose. Just like the different pieces of a puzzle, we are unique with different abilities, talents and spiritual gifts. As we come together in a unified and fitted way we form a wonderful picture of God's love and design.

Speaking of talents and gifts...preparations have started for **Vacation Bible School 2008!** I am so excited about this year's VBS. It is called **POWER LAB DISCOVERING JESUS' MIRACULOUS POWER!** As the title denotes it will definitely be scientifically amazing. I am currently searching for "Lab Assistants" of all kinds. Please mark your calendars for June 22—26. Be listening, praying and getting ready to experience the miraculous power of Jesus as HE works in and through each of us.

Thanks for being that willing piece of the puzzle ready to "fit" together to form all that God desires for BCFBC this summer!

Because He Lives!

Debbie

OPERATION INASMUCH



Mobilizing Believers In Their Community

Matthew 25:40

When: Saturday, April 19th from 7:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Where: Meet in Fellowship Hall @ 7:30 a.m.

Missions activities for all ages

Nursery provided for children of OIAM workers

Name: Yes I am willing to be on a work team

T-Shirt size

Signed: _____ **Phone #:** _____

**Please fill out form and drop it in the offering plate*



...is on the move! Wow, can you believe that the first 1/4 of this year is already over? So many things are happening within our fellowship as we are *“putting our faith in action”* in 2008. . .

1. Many thanks to **Jim & Brenda Edwards** for leading the North American (Home) Missions Study & to **Ken & Martha Barbour** for fixing our themed dinner of Hawaiian chicken. It was a great time had by all 37+ who attended – especially the puzzles in the dark. If you missed it, ask someone about it. It was great. (Special thanks to all who attended & “paid admission” of items for the food pantry. Items will be helping Harnett County victims of HIV/AIDS.)
2. Many thanks to all the parents & chaperones who made our CiA Day at Camp possible on March 15th. Nine Jr. Agents & three Sr. Agents attended a daylong event at Camp Mundo Vista in Asheboro, NC. The Agents were treated to cabin tours, meetings with Missionaries, chances to learn about Baptist missions efforts in South Africa, making African musical instruments & tribal masks, eating African food & camp food, recreation camp style & vespers in an outdoor chapel. They were inspired to think about how God can use them as missionaries now & as they grow up. It was great fun – even learning the crazy camp songs. If you see a CiA Agent, children grades 1-6, ask them about the “Confidence Song” or “Found a Peanut”. They’d love to share them with you!!
3. **April 6th** – Mary Rhodes’ commission service as a Journeyman during the morning worship service. She will be sharing what she’s learned at her training & what she will be doing for the next two years in South Africa.
4. **April 12th** – Missions Yard Sale – is approaching fast. We need a lot of help to make this event happen. 1) Clean out your attics, closets & garages because we need your stuff. Don’t forget the coat hangers. If you need items picked up, please contact Gina Smith asap to make those arrangements. 2) Plan on volunteering. We start set-up on Wednesday evening, April 9th. We will work Thursday & Friday nights from 7pm until it’s done. Saturday will begin at 5:30 am for workers with the event starting at 6:30 am going to Noon. 3) Tell everyone you know to come out & find a bargain. We have lots of great missions opportunities over the next several months & the Yard Sale is a major fundraiser to assist with all of them. So, clean out, donate, tell everyone you know about it & come to buy!!
5. **April 14th**, 10 am – New WMU Circle will be meeting at Frances Lewis’ house. This is our 4th meeting. Any woman who wants to learn about & pray for missions efforts is invited.
April 19th – Statewide Operation In As Much. We are blessed with so many opportunities to serve. Contact Win Quakenbush for more details.

WOW, 2008 holds all kinds of missions opportunities for Men, Women & Children. Keep your eyes open as you see bulletin boards, bulletins & newsletters over the next couple of months. Be praying for God to prepare your heart for where He wants you to serve. As always...
...Serving an Amazing God Together~
WMU Leadership Team