

Buies Creek First Baptist Church  
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<http://www.bcfbc.org>

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**WEEKLY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

<p><b>Sunday</b>          9:45 a.m. Bible Study          11:00 a.m. Morning Worship          5:15 p.m. Children's M &amp; M          (Music &amp; Missions)          6:00 p.m. Choir Practice          6:00 p.m. Youth Discipleship</p>	<p><b>Monday</b>          7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Meeting</p> <p><b>Tuesday</b>          7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts</p>	<p><b>Wednesday</b>          6:00 p.m. K.I.S.S.          (Keep It Simple Supper)          6:30 p.m. Bible Studies and Prayer Meeting          7:30 p.m. Hand Bells</p> <p><b>Thursday</b>          7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Meeting          6:30 p.m. College Group Bible Study</p>
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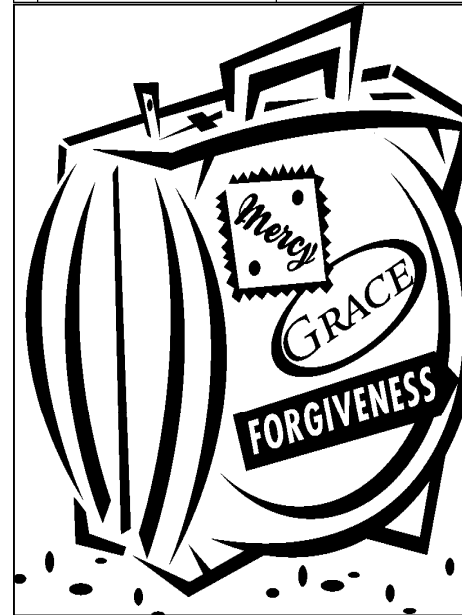
*The Reminder*



January 25, 2012

*Buies Creek First Baptist Church*

Volume 57 Issue 1



**Pack Well**

During Lent, as we focus on Christ's journey to the cross, let's also examine the journey of our lives. The first task when leaving on any adventure is packing. What have you placed in your bag? Are you weighed down with temptations, self-doubt, money worries, relationship troubles? Have you overlooked any important items? Maybe your bag feels too empty for the challenges ahead. Remember to pack mercy, grace and forgiveness. Thanks to Easter, we know that our journey in Christ continues, even when the road becomes difficult. So as you prepare for Lent, carry with you the hope made possible by Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf.  
 —Based on the "Journey to Hope" sermon series, [www.rethinkchurch.org/len](http://www.rethinkchurch.org/len)

**Refocus for Lent**

- Give up complaining — focus on gratitude.
  - Give up harsh judgments — think kind thoughts.
  - Give up worry — trust God to provide.
  - Give up discouragement — be full of hope.
  - Give up bitterness — turn to forgiveness.
  - Give up hatred — return good for evil.
  - Give up anger — be more patient.
  - Give up pettiness — become mature.
  - Give up jealousy — pray for trust.
  - Give up gossiping — control your tongue.
  - Give up sin — turn to virtue.
  - Give up giving up — persevere.
- Author unknown



**Pastor's Paragraphs**

In the January 2012 issue of Bits & Pieces, William Arthur Ward writes: "Enthusiasm and persistence can make an average person superior; indifference and lethargy can make a superior person average." Which best describes you? Some people are satisfied with being average. After all, C is passing, but it is certainly not the grade most of us want to receive in life. When the Teacher (Jesus) places a grade on how we have done with life, do we really just want a C? I suspect most of us would not want our Lord to say of us: "Pretty well done, fair and average servant. You have done enough to get by in life. Come on into the joy of your Lord." It is a good thing, heaven and salvation are not based on our merits, but on the work of Jesus. Most of us would much rather hear: "Well done, Good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your Lord." I would much rather receive an A than a C, wouldn't you? Our entrance into heaven is not the issue. That matter was decided at the cross and our faith response to Jesus. What is at stake is whether or not we praise and please God with our lives or cause him to shake his head at us and ask, "What are you thinking?" I learned long ago that anything worth doing is worth doing right the first time. I try to claim the biblical promise that I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Phil. 4:13). What will our church family and you as part of the family accomplish for Christ this year? Will it be enthusiasm and persistence or indifference and lethargy?

Let me suggest a few things we can work together on with our Lord to accomplish for his glory. (1) Spend time daily with the Lord. (2) Be regular in Bible Study and Worship Service each week. (3) Share your faith and invite others to join you in worship at your church. (4) Pay off the church debt so that we can put more funding into ministry and missions. (5) Be personally involved in as many mission projects and ministries as possible. (6) Pray for your church leadership. (7) Volunteer to serve on committees and leadership teams. (7) Give generously to support of the total church program (budget). (8) Always be ready to encourage and help those in need. (9) Visit, call, or send cards to our homebound members and those who are ill. (10) Listen for the voice of God as he speaks to you. Pearl Baily once said: "People see God every day. They just don't recognize Him" ( Bits & Pieces, January 2012). My challenge is not only to see God but to recognize him; not only to hear God but to know his voice and obey. Will you accept the challenge?

I hope you have a blessed week. I am looking forward to seeing you Sunday.


*Pastor Michael*



**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 3 Rue Stewart
- 6 Bonnie Larche
- 7 Christopher Rhodes
- 7 Frank White
- 10 Rufus Turner
- 10 Nancy Bales
- 10 Christopher Penny
- 11 June Simmons
- 11 Don Annis
- 11 Donald Strother
- 16 Ashley Stewart
- 20 Dorothy Mullins
- 20 Becky Wimberly
- 22 Michael Simmons
- 27 Kimberly McBrayer
- 28 Jim Edwards

Anniversaries  
in  
February

**Celebrating** 

*An Anniversary That Matters*

9 Oscar & June Simmons

**Food Pantry Spotlight**

**\*Food Pantry Changes**

Effective immediately the food pantry is only accepting canned food donations. We are no longer able to accommodate boxed or packaged foods. It seems they are attracting little four-legged furry critters. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and if you have any questions or would like more information about the food pantry please contact Brenda or Sumer Edwards.

**Financial Outlook 2012**

Budget amount needed to date as of  
1/22/12 =\$23,208.16  
7% of annual budget

Budget amount received to date as of  
1/22/12 = \$18,094.63  
6% of annual budget

### WMU News for February 2012

Thanks for your continued donations to our church's yard sale items and food pantry. WMU of LRBA had as our mission project for January the collection of suitcases for foster children of Harnett Co. These will be stored in our church and taken to the social workers as more are needed. Thanks to all who helped with this project.

The February mission project is to collect contributions to the Heck-Jones Offering. This goes to WMU of NC and helps support statewide mission activities.

**Baptist Women's Day at our church will be February 19 with Beverly Johnson of Harnett Co. bringing the message based on our theme "Unhindered". We look forward to hearing her!**

Our mission activity for March will be to help with the Literacy Project for children who are patients at Womack Army Hospital at Fort Bragg. We will collect new or very gently used books that are for toddlers through age ten. These can be secular or Christian themed books. The large, red plastic boxes will be in the usual places for collection.

**Exciting news for our women: The LRBA WMU one day Prayer Retreat is planned for Saturday, March 24 at Linshire by the Pond with Joyce Rogers (formerly of our church) as the retreat leader! The day starts with registration and a continental breakfast at 8:15 and ends at 3:00. The \$20 cost includes lunch.**

**See Anne Quakenbush for more information.**

A working mission opportunity is coming our way for one or more days during March 26-31 for women and men. Camp Mundo Vista is in need of "sprucing up" such as yard work, painting, roofing, windows, inside cleaning, etc. See Anne Quakenbush for more information.

Thanks to all of you for supporting WMU and our mission projects!

### Remember in Prayer

Our Nation and its leaders, members of our Armed Forces, and our missionaries

**Our Homebound:** Hazel Weaver, Mattie Slaughter, Ashley Stewart, Betty M. Stewart, Mae Kuhns

Joyce Stewart, Eloise Shepherd (Harnett Woods), Ruby Biggs (Brookfield), Kenny Moore (Tower Nursing & Rehab, Raleigh), Doris Yates (Riverpoint Crest Nursing & Rehab, Washington), Gettie Lewis (River Trace Nursing & Rehab, New Bern), Sue Ann Brown (Universal Health Care), May Marshbanks (Harnett Woods)

**Our Members:** Veronica Stewart, Joyce Harmon, Lisa Johnson, Hazel Hare

**Others:** Janie Tripp (Debbie Persinger's Mother) Patsy Matthews (Eric Matthews' Mother), Carolyn Lucas (Brenda Edwards' Mother), Billy Gross (Terry Potter's Grandson), Edwin Kendrick (Ron Kendrick's Father), Jane Strother (Donald Strother's Mother), Ruby Harris (Carolyn Johnson's Sister), Alvin Robinson (Charles Robinson's Father) Mechell Turner (Rufus & Martha Turner's daughter), Erica Ford (Kristy Simmons' sister)

*"Do everything you do to the glory of the One who made you...To do every little thing that you do to bring a smile to His face...And tell the story of grace with every move that you make." Written by Steven Curtis Chapman and based on 1 Corinthians 10:31.*

It is time for our Winter Beach Retreat and I covet your prayers for the time of spiritual renewal for our 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. We will be going to Myrtle Beach the week-end of January 27-29. Let me share with you those who will be attending so that you may be praying more specifically for us ~ Doug, Debbie, Addison, Caroline, Cole, Hannah, Kaitlyn, Lillie, Logan and Sarah. This year our study will center around *Finding Our Places* as followers of Jesus. Each session will challenge us to actively live out our faith in the world where God has placed us. Our topics are as follows: **FAITH WORKS!** ~ *Faith in Jesus saves us & our good works demonstrate our faith.* **ACTIONS TALK** ~ *Do we live what we believe?* **THE CH\_RCH NEEDS U!** ~ *U are not the church of tomorrow...U are the church of today!* **YOUR SERVE!** ~ *It's not about me...what can I do for others.* I know that God will use these lessons to speak to our hearts and lead us in a more productive walk with Jesus. As always, we are looking forward to a great time of study, fellowship and fun! Thank you for you love, support and prayers!

Let me share with you a special opportunity of training and learning. On February 25 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon, we will have a conference entitled *Understanding Exceptional Children*. While, we are focusing on our teachers and parents to participate, anyone who would like to be better informed as to how to minister and teach our children are invited to attend as well. Our conference leader is Brenda Monforti, a parent educator. She comes to us from the Raleigh office of ECAC (Exceptional Children's Assistance Center.) This organization is one of the oldest federally funded parent training and information centers in the country; **ECAC** has a network of collaborative partners at the national, state and local levels. They strive to create effective advocates for the children with special needs and challenges. One of the goals of the conference is to equip parents, teachers and church leaders to effectively assist our children with whatever challenge they may face each day. We will be providing snacks and lunch. If you are interested in being apart of this very important training opportunity, please contact the church office.

Again, thank you for your prayers and support of this ministry to our children and their families.

In His Service,  
Debbie



**Classified CiA/Acteen Report: AUTHORIZED EYES ONLY**

All Agents - CiA & Acteen - important information follows.

We are continuing our focus on our “gaming” skills. Our theme of **GAME ON!** is forcing us to look at various skills needed to reach people. Skills that need to be practiced and coached just like athletes work to improve their performance.

Over the last 2 months we have been putting *action to our studies*. We helped raise much needed funds for the worldwide “Agency” enterprises via our Christmas cards delivery service. We delivered 400+ cards. At \$ .42 each card that should have helped raise \$ 170.00+ for mission endeavors world-wide. Thank you so much for the opportunity not only to help raise the money but to get to know so many of you better! We have also assisted in organizing the yard sale collection room. Since November we have been able to help three needy families because we could “find” what they needed. Please keep cleaning out and donating. Your items help far beyond what we can ever imagine. The goal, as always, is to open a door to share Jesus’ love with one more person.

Spotlight Badge of the Month: **WMU - Woman’s Missionary Union**



- Earned when an Agent has learned & recited the information on the “WMU Fact Sheet” and has given an offering to the WMU ministry or to the WMU Foundation.

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 opportunities to assist in their training!! This message will self-destruct in 20 seconds.....



Gina Smith

**Spotlight on Shut-ins**

Our Sonshiners Group will be featuring one of our shut-ins each month in an effort to introduce them to the church family. Many of us have not had the opportunity to meet these wonderful people. As we introduce you to a shut-in each month, please shower them with cards, notes and/or phone calls. They would enjoy birthday, holiday, get well cards or even a hand written note.

Our featured shut-in this month is Mattie Slaughter. Mattie was born September 1, 1914, and was raised in DeKalb, Georgia the daughter of Ella Mae and John Morgan Smith. Mattie attended school through seventh grade and was married at age 18 to Robert (Bob) Lee Slaughter, on October 2, 1932.

Mrs. Slaughter attended Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Alichonia, Georgia and worked approximately eight years in a sewing factory.

When asked about some of her favorites, her daughter, Vaniece Johnson said she loved the color red, she loved flower gardening and worked actively in the garden well into her early nineties. At age 97 Mattie still enjoys word puzzles, and reading, but does not watch much television. Mattie has always taken pride in her home, in her cooking and in gardening. When asked what her favorite food was, the reply was all southern cooking. Vaniece said her mother could make the most wonderfully light, fluffy pound cake. Mattie was kind enough to share her recipe for pound cake with us and if anyone is interested in that recipe copies are available from the church office.

Mattie has two daughters, Vaniece Johnson and Gloria Blankenship, of Georgia. She has four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. This shut-in has lived in North Carolina for 13 years.

Please shower Mrs. Mattie with notes and cards at her address below.

Mrs. Mattie Slaughter  
75 Gregory Circle Ext.  
Lillington NC 27546

BCFBC Sonshiners Group