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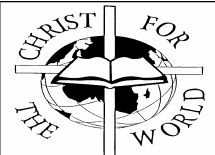
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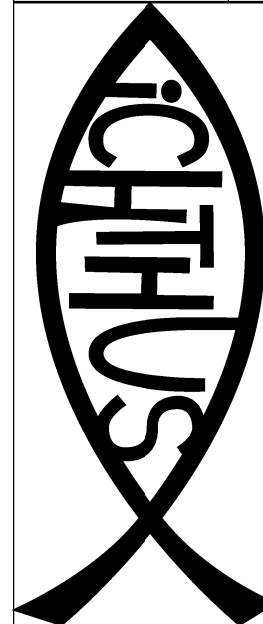
The Reminder



February 18, 2008

Buies Creek First Baptist Church

Volume 53 Issue 2



Why a fish?

One of the most significant statements the early Christians used was “Jesus Christ, God’s Son, Savior.” Because Greek was the universal language then (the New Testament books were written in Greek), Christians often said and wrote, “Jesus Christ, God’s Son, Savior” in Greek.

That phrase, if printed as an acrostic (using the first letter of each word), looks like this:

I = Jesus
 CH = Christ (anointed)
 TH = God
 U = Son
 S = Savior

The acrostic forms the word ICHTHUS, which is Greek for fish. If Christians needed to know where to gather for worship, they could look for a fish and perhaps an arrow pointing in the right direction. Persecuted Christians, seeing a fish on the door of a home or business, knew it was a safe place occupied by fellow Christians.

Why Palm Sunday?

Palm branches are mentioned in only one of the four Gospels (see John 12:12-15). So why do we call the first day of Holy Week Palm Sunday?

Tradition plays an important part in church history. During Jesus’ time, Rome was the world’s leading power. Whenever the Romans were victorious in battle, citizens traditionally threw palm branches in the returning heroes’ path.

This was the accepted custom of reception. So when Jesus rode into Jerusalem, it was appropriate that he receive a hero’s welcome. One week later, he would be victorious over death.



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



The following was written by Erma Bombeck after discovering she had terminal cancer.

If I Had My Life To Live Over

I would have gone to bed when I was sick instead of pretending the earth would go into a holding pattern if I weren't there for the day.

I would have burned the pink candle sculpted like a rose before it melted in storage.

I would have talked less and listened more.

I would have invited friends over to dinner even if the carpet was stained, or the sofa faded.

I would have eaten the popcorn in the 'good' living room and worried much less about the dirt when someone wanted to light a fire in the fireplace.

I would have taken the time to listen to my grandfather ramble about his youth.

I would have shared more of the responsibility carried by my husband.

I would never have insisted the car windows be rolled up on a summer day because my hair had just been teased and sprayed.

I would have sat on the lawn with my grass stains.

I would have cried and laughed less while watching television and more while watching life.

I would never have bought anything just because it was practical, wouldn't show soil, or was guaranteed to last a lifetime.

Instead of wishing away nine months of pregnancy, I'd have cherished every moment and realized that the wonderment growing inside me was the only chance in life to assist God in a miracle.

When my kids kissed me impetuously, I would never have said, "Later. Now go get washed up for dinner." There would have been more "I love you's." More "I'm sorry's."

MARCH BIRTHDAYS!

1	Frances Johnson	14	Brigett Humphrey
9	Roger Tankersley	17	Logan Stewart
9	Shannon Wade	19	Hazel Hare
10	Jacob Melvin	20	Joyce Stewart
10	Sarah Lemons	20	Anna Bain
11	Gene Lewis	21	Joel Penny
13	Betty Stewart	27	Jeremy Melvin
13	Caleb Smith	29	Annette Hood
14	Demery Austin	31	Savanna Matthews



Classified CiA Report: AUTHORIZED EYES ONLY

Recent Developments:

- Agents are progressing at a great pace. We are seeing great personal growth as well as an expanded knowledge of missions. Our agents are learning how to apply the scripture they learn & the missions stories they hear to their lives. They have put action to their knowledge by helping with the "set-up" of the playground & by assisting with getting materials organized for our local VBS & the missions team trip to Vermont's VBS.
- Spotlight Badge of the Month: **Disaster Relief** – in order to earn this badge, the Agent must interview 4 Disaster Relief Trained Members of our Church. (Do you know who the 8 Disaster Relief trained members are?) There are nine questions on their interview sheets that help the Agent come to understand 5 things:
 - What is Disaster Relief?
 - Who can be a Disaster Relief volunteer?
 - Who trains Disaster Relief teams?
 - What do Disaster Relief teams do?
 - Why do people volunteer for Disaster Relief?
- Agents will be attending a specialized "training" at our "best kept secret" site in Asheboro – Camp Mundo Vista – on March 15. They will have the opportunity to see what camp is like including worship, crafts & site tours.

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 them 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.....

Church Family,

Greetings from the youth department! We recently returned from skiing in the mountains of West Virginia and I am happy to report that out of fourteen skiers and tubers there were no injuries! All of our youth skied very well, even those who were first-timers. During the weekend we were able to join other youth groups from across the state in Saturday night and Sunday morning worship. It was a really great time for everyone. A special thank you to all the parent chaperones that helped out a great deal!

I look forward to many more activities with the youth, including a service trip to the Beacon Rescue Mission in Dunn, a Sunday youth group movie night to watch *Facing the Giants*, and a few other surprises along the way. For any youth or parents of youth who are not currently active with our group, we meet Wednesday nights at 6:00 for a church-wide supper and then youth group from 6:30-7:30. On Sunday nights we meet from 5:15-7:00 and dinner is included.

I welcome anyone who would like to help out with our youth. If you have any skills at all (and I know you do!) we can use you! We can always use people to chaperone trips, teach Bible studies on Wednesday or Sunday nights, or lead games on those nights. If you can do any of those things, please send me an e-mail. I have included my e-mail address at the bottom of this letter.

As always, the youth are here to serve. If you have any around-the-house projects to do, errands to run, or someone you think could use a visit, please e-mail me as well. Our youth group is here to serve you.

One last, very important thing. My time with the youth will be coming to and end in May. I will finally be graduating from Campbell University Divinity School! The church staff is praying for one or two people to serve as youth leaders. We have an amazing group of kids and it's a blessing to work with them. Please e-mail me or let Pastor Michael know if you would like to be a part of our youth ministry.

I hope you have a wonderful month of March and I look forward to seeing you in the weeks ahead.

God Bless,

Rebecca

rebeccalee782@yahoo.com

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Our Nation and its Leaders, our missionaries, all Service Men and Women, Andrew Upshaw (Iraq, Al's nephew), Coy Lanier (Coyt & Gladys Lanier's son), Ernie Steinmeyer (A.G. Hare's son-in-law), and Angela Buchholz (Pamela Yates' sister), and our homebound: Jill Upshaw, Billy Mason, Gerry Gregory, Doris Morgan, Mae Danner, Ruby Biggs, Juanita Hight, Mildred Harmon, Frances Jones, Sue A. Brown, Donna Turlington, Hazel Weaver, Iva Newton, Beulah Stewart, Winifred Stewart, Valeria Lanier, Mattie Slaughter, Mary Ramer, and Eloise Sheppard.

But mostly, given another shot at life, I would seize every minute...look at it and really see it.. live it and never give it back. Stop sweating the small stuff.

Don't worry about who doesn't like you, who has more, or who's doing what.

Instead, let's cherish the relationships we have with those who do love us.

Let's think about what God has blessed us with and what we are doing each day to promote ourselves mentally, physically, emotionally. I hope you all have a blessed day.

The truth is that we all have our "if only's." There are things all of us would do differently if given the chance. Those "if only's" would be reduced if we lived each day to its fullest following the principles given in God's word. Trust God. Believe all things are possible through him.

Live in his strength. Do unto others as you would that they do unto you. Then, the regrets become fewer and the praises more. Have a blessed day. I look forward to seeing you Sunday.

Pastor Michael

Easter's Coming!

As you read this newsletter, it will be nearly Easter, the time of celebrating the glorious resurrection of our Lord. Peter Larson writes in Prism (January/February 2001), "Despite our efforts to keep him out, God intrudes. The life of Jesus is bracketed by two impossibilities: a virgin's womb and an empty tomb. Jesus entered our world through a door marked 'No Entrance' and left through a door marked 'No Exit.'" Nothing could

keep Jesus from entering our world and our lives; and nothing could keep him from exiting death and reclaiming life for himself and for all who believe in him. Yes, Easter is coming. With it comes the message of forgiveness, life, and hope. This Easter, don't

let the season pass you by or become just another holiday. Rejoice! Praise and thank God. Let the message of Easter and the joy of our Risen Lord make the season a time of celebration indeed! You'll be glad you did.

Pastor Michael

KidShine

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

I hope you all had a wonderful Valentine's Day with those that you love! This time of year reminds us to say "I love you!" to those that we care about. The children and I also wish to say we love you and appreciate our Church family. Recently, I decided to ask the children for thoughts about that which our Church family has graciously and generously provided for them. We specifically focused on the playground and the Children's Beach retreat. Here are some of the comments and excitement that they shared with me:

- ☺ **Ian Smith** ~ "Lots of fun! My favorite part is the slide and the tires. I also think the red staircase is really COOL" (he likes the handles.)
- ☺ **Caleb Smith** ~ One word... "PLAY!!!" Caleb likes the bumpy slide and the red curly stairs!
- ☺ **Eli Lemons** ~ "Thank you for building the playground! I like the FAST slide. I feel happy on the playground."
- ☺ **Kaitlyn Melvin** ~ "Good Builders... it is FUN. I like the Slides and the colors are great!"
- ☺ **Rebekah Jones** ~ "Totally Awesome!!" Loved the retreat... "Our yellow knight, at Medieval Times, was soo cute!"
- ☺ **Kate Upshaw** ~ "So Cool...off the cha'zang!!!" "Great time and loved the Yellow Knight!"
- ☺ **Anna Bain** ~ "Thank you for all your help on getting the playground." "A great experience for us to learn about God and the Pool was fun, too!"
- ☺ **Bianey Baptista** ~ "Colorful" "CRAZY time at the beach!"
- ☺ **Nathanael Rhodes** ~ "Very Cool!" Beach Retreat was "Awesome & Fun!!"
- ☺ **Tyson Messer** ~ "Spectacular" "Retreat was Superdeduper!"
- ☺ **Lea Stewart** ~ "AWESOME!!"
- ☺ **Lillie Hood** ~ My favorite part is the slides!
- ☺ **Hunter Hood** ~ He specifically likes the middle slide.
- ☺ **Caroline Upshaw** ~ Likes to climb the tires!
- ☺ **Samantha Baptista** ~ "Fun and exciting"

All the kids talked about the "shocking experience" that the Thunder Slide provided. (The Static electricity is abundant!)

The kids wanted to share with you all their "Battle Cry" during our bible study time of the Armor of God...Hallelujah!! God Rules!!

Final thoughts would be THANK YOU and we love ya'!!!! Please take time to check out our "visual memory" from the Myrtle Beach trip on the large bulletin in the back hallway.

Gratefully,
Debbie



...is on the move! Wow, what an amazing year for Missions Action & Education in our church. So many things are happening within our fellowship as we are "putting our faith in action" in 2008. . .

1. By the time you read this, our Women's Conference & Baptist Women's Day will have happened. Blessings will have been shared by all who heard Joani Tabor. Many thanks to everyone who made these two events happen.

2. **March 10th**, 10 am – New WMU Circle will be meeting at Frances Lewis' house. This is our 3rd meeting. Any woman who wants to learn about & pray for missions efforts is invited.

1. **March 12th**, 6 pm – North American (Home) Missions Study led by Jimmy & Brenda Edwards. This year's theme is "**Live with Urgency**" and focuses on how Southern Baptists are doing just that, with some excellent examples taken from the lives and ministries of a few of the 2008 Week of Prayer missionaries. Missions efforts in Hawaii, Oklahoma & Montana will be highlighted. Admission to the meal & the study is two (2) items per person for the food pantry. (Hint: Canned foods, Cereals, Rice, Pasta & boxed dinners are great!) Our themed meal will be Hawaiian Chicken with all the trimmings & "all American" desserts. Mark your calendar & invite your friends.

2. **March 15** – State CiA Day at Camp Mundo Vista. Our CiA (Children in Action) Agents will be attending a day camp especially created for them. They will get to tour the camp, have worship, do crafts & get to meet other Agents from all over the state. Please pray for them as they continue their missions to learn about, pray for, give to & do missions.

3. **April 12th** – Missions Yard Sale. Spring Cleaning should be happening which means the Yard Sale must be close. Mark you calendars for April 12th & clean out your attics, closets & garages. The Missions committee needs you stuff! 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!!

April 19th – Statewide Operation In As Much. We are blessed with so many opportunities to serve. Keep you eyes & ears open for more information about this event.

WOW!! We aren't even through the 1st quarter of the year yet! 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