



Easter is the Ultimate Unbinding Experience! We have talked about, prayed about, and practiced Unbinding our hearts to let loose our stories of how God's love has changed us and blessed us. The stories we have shared are powerful. On Easter Sunday we will celebrate the most powerful Unbinding story of all. Jesus went to the cross to unbind us from the burden of sin. Jesus rose from the grave to unbind us from the chains of death. The joy of his resurrection unbinds us from sorrow and despair. If our Unbinding series were to end next week what a way it would end; with the gladness of Easter!

But we have no intention of Unbinding ending around here. We have been fashioned into a church that is Unbound, a church that prays together constantly, shares the gospel freely, and grows in faith continually. So, oh no, we are not through, and I hope we will never be through, with Unbinding. Here

are some ways Unbinding can continue: Unbinding will continue to be a part of worship. We will talk about Unbinding in sermons and include your testimonies on Sunday mornings. Let me know if you have a story you would like to share.

Gather a small group and work through the next book in the Unbinding series, *Unbinding Your Soul*, by Martha Grace Reese. These books will be available through the church office by April 12. Form your own group and continue the journey.

Share your testimony via our website. So far I have heard some very powerful stories, but not enough of them. Follow this link http://www.fbc.ccunbinding_stories



to our website and write your story. I can't wait to read what you write, so write!

Continue praying with your prayer partner and small group. You may have had a great experience in prayer during the last

six weeks but think of how much deeper and richer your prayer life can become in the next six weeks. Six months. Six years. Keep praying and you'll keep unbinding this church.

Keep telling your story of what Christ has done for you. Pray to see those "divine appointments" that God puts before you to talk with others about how real God is to you because of Jesus Christ.

When the power of God moved in the tomb to free Jesus from the grip of death we were all included in that act of unbinding. We move forward as a church, continually and freely unbinding our hearts to a world that needs Jesus.

Phillip Reynolds
Phillip Reynolds
Senior Pastor



firstLIFE
April 2015

MUSICAL NOTES

RECEPTION FOR OUR ORGANIST

First Baptist Church will be honoring Florence Jowers, organist for over ten years, on her retirement with a reception, Sunday afternoon, April 19, from 3:00 - 5:00pm in the Connection Center. Come and share your expressions of gratitude.

FIRST BAPTIST BELLS TO FESTIVAL

Our First Baptist Handbell Choir will be attending the North Carolina Baptist PraisRing 2015 at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, April 17-18. This is a once in every five year event, when the East and West Adult Festivals come together. Leading 50+ handbell choirs will be Tim Waugh and Ed Tompkins, directors of the Charlotte Bronze, who will also be performing and leading classes for our ringers. Pray for our ringers as they seek to improve their skills for service to the Lord and our congregation.

THE FLOWERING OF THE CROSS

On Easter Morning, the family of First Baptist Church is invited to bring fresh cut flowers from your own yard or ones you have purchased, to place on the Easter Cross. The wire cross will be at the main sanctuary entrance on 2nd Avenue.



GRADUATION SUNDAY

Sunday, June 7, 10:30am in the Sanctuary. Graduation time is quickly approaching. If you have a child graduating this year from high school OR college, please call Amanda in the office at 328-2031. Please give FULL name, date of graduation, the degree and school. This information is needed by May 3. We will have a special recognition time during the service on Sunday, June 7.

EASTER SUNDAY Missions Offering

Easter Sunday, April 5 brings the opportunity to support missions with the Easter Missions Offering. Our goal for this offering is \$5,000. Envelopes to support the Annie Armstrong North American Missions Offering and the CBF Global Missions Offering are around the facility and will also be in the pews on Easter Sunday.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH GOLF TOURNAMENT
MONDAY
MAY 4
12:00 LUNCH; 12:30 TEE TIME
CATAWBA COUNTRY CLUB
\$55 PER PERSON

PROCEEDS GO TOWARD YOUTH ST. LOUIS MISSION TRIP

Contact Amanda in the church office to register your team. Player brochures are available around the church.

SENIOR ADULT *Sunday* Sunday, May 3 - Faith-Filled Worship

Senior Adult Sunday is May 3 in our Faith-Filled Service. All Boomers and Senior Adults are invited to celebrate lunch together following the worship service in the Fellowship Hall. Cost for the lunch is \$5. Call the office to reserve your place at the luncheon.

QUARTERLY CHURCH CONFERENCE

Wednesday, April 22, we will hold our Quarterly Church Conference at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.



SPRING BREAK

There will be no children or student activities on Wednesday, April 8 due to Spring Break. We will have regular supper, prayer meeting and Bible study. Preschool childcare will be provided.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ Music & Missions Finale – May 20, 6:00pm Fellowship Hall
- ◆ Children's Choirs rehearse for Children's Sunday, 6:00pm – 6:45pm in Sanctuary – May 27
- ◆ Children's Sunday – May 31, 10:30am in the Sanctuary
- ◆ Children's Summer Bible Study – Beginning Sunday, June 7 at 9:15am all children who have completed 1st - 5th grades are invited to Big Wave Discovery. For twelve weeks children will be invited on a beach adventure to discover biblical answers to their big questions about God, Jesus, the Bible, Prayer, the Church and more. Meet in room 228 for music, games, activities, Bible story, and more as we jump in the Big Wave of God's love!
- ◆ FBC VBS - July 6-10.

A great time was had by all who participated in the our Annual RA RACE on March 7. Below are the 2015 race results. Congratulations to all the racers.

Best of Show

RA Lad- Cole Summerlin
RA Crusader- Justin Paulsen
GA- Callie Bumgarner
Adult- Jaquille Johnson

RA Crusaders

1st- Justin Paulsen
2nd- Raul Flores
3rd- Jonathan Bennett

Adults

1st- Chris Paulsen
2nd- Jeffery Summerlin
3rd- Jaquille Johnson

RA Lads

1st- Cole Summerlin
2nd- Logan Johnson
3rd- Jacob Gillespie

GAs

1st- Emma Brown
2nd- Chloè Johnson
3rd- Callie Bumgarner

FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR RONNY SKINNER

The church family is invited to share good wishes and congratulations to Ronny Skinner and his family on Wednesday, April 1 from 7:00 - 7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall following the Holy Week Communion Service. Ronny's last Sunday with First Baptist will be April 12.

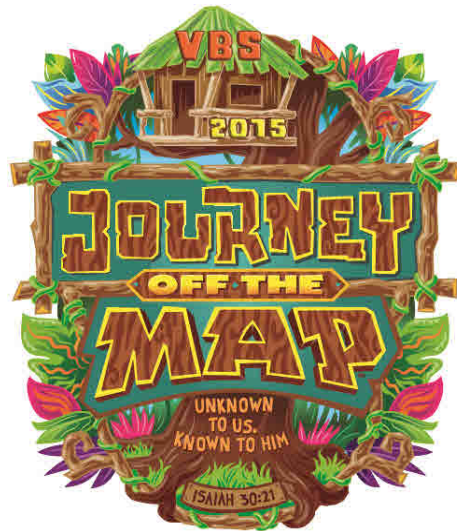
FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

The Future Development Committee has begun meeting to determine our future needs concerning worship, facilities and properties . The committee will be discussing with the church what we think our needs may be for future growth and reaching people with the life changing gospel of Jesus Christ. Please pray for this committee as we seek His guidance.

FACE OF A CHILD

Thanks to all those who sponsored children in the Moldovan Orphanage of Straseni. Together we have shown these children that God loves them specifically - He even knows their name and needs. God bless you!

"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world." James 1:27



SAVE THE DATE
VBS 2015 - July 6-10
6:00pm to 8:15pm Nightly



- ◆ FBCITYKIDS SUMMER CAMP June 22-26.
- ◆ Partnership Ministry - Partner with a child through this ministry! More FBC partners are needed.

On the cover... Reaching In
Our GA's (Girls in Action) made beautiful flowers to give to the widows in our church family to share God's love.

Sundays

April 5 - 10:30am

Easter Sunday

Building a Healthy Church:

Build on Hope - Dr. Phillip Reynolds

April 12 - 10:30am

Building a Healthy Church:

Build on a Mission - Dr. Phillip Reynolds

April 19 - 10:30am

Faith-Filled - Logan LaBo

Freedom - Dr. Phillip Reynolds

April 26 - 10:30am

Building a Healthy Church:

Build on a Bond - Dr. Phillip Reynolds

Freedom Worship - Geoffrey Johnson

Wednesdays

Bible Study & Prayer at 6pm

First Friday^{1ST} at First Baptist

**A Monthly Gathering of Single
Adults in their 20's and 30's**

**Meet, Music, Message,
Meal & More**

May 1 - 6:30-9:00pm

**www.fbc.cc/firstfriday to register
Meal is \$6.00 per person**

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

339 Second Avenue, Northwest
Hickory, North Carolina 28601

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Phillip Reynolds, Senior Pastor

Jerry Rodgers, Minister to Senior Adults and Church Administration

Chris Gillespie, Minister to Students

Rendell Hipps, Minister of Discipleship

Jim Davidson, Minister of Music

Ronny Skinner, Minister of Worship Arts

Florence Jowers, Organist

Staff email: (last name)@fbc.cc

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FAMILY EASTER EVENT

Saturday, APRIL 4

10:30am - 12:15pm

Children through 6th Grade

This Children's Easter Celebration will feature dramatic storytelling, awesome snacks, fun activities, music, and egg hunt.

We are collecting monetary donations to purchase candy for the eggs this year due to an increase in food allergies among children. If you would like to donate towards this you may do so on your offering envelope or by dropping your donation off in the church office. Lots of volunteers are needed. Please see Cindi Morrison to volunteer.

April 2015 - Pull Out & Post

Numbers to Know

MINISTER ON CALL

April 4 - Chris Gillespie on call (320-2741)

April 11 - Rendell Hipps on call (228-8639)

April 18 - Phillip Reynolds on call (455-8678)

April 25 - Chris Gillespie on call (320-2741)

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 28 - APRIL 3

Chris Tanner, Coordinator	381-8943
Rebecca Tanner	381-1924
Rick Travis	514-3642
Jack Pressly	381-6015

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 3-10

Allen Wittenberg, Coordinator	320-9456
Bernie Whitmer	781-9283
Marvin Smith	381-0654
Eddie Icard	234-3783

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 11-17

Lloyd Bost, Coordinator	320-1485
Nathan Bowman	302-9689
Dana Bennett	244-1944
Ed Auten	302-0739

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 18-24

Tom Foster, Coordinator	781-3409
Dennis Gaines	302-5669
Kelly Clark	729-6793
Jim Elliott	461-0162

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 25 - MAY 1

Dwight Hastings, Coordinator	244-8708
Jason Herring	381-8257
Carolyn Gray	446-9434
David Haire	244-4417

Wednesday Night Meals

April 1

Open Faced Turkey, Bacon, Cheese
& Tomato Hot Brown

Your Choice of 2 Sides:

Garlic Smashed Potatoes/Gravy, Baked Asparagus,
Fresh Fruit Salad, Green Beans, Salad

Dessert will be served at a Reception for Ronny Skinner
following the Holy Week Communion Service.

April 8

Lasagna

Your Choice of 2 Sides:

Roasted Carrots, Green Beans, Corn, Salad
Garlic Bread Sticks & Dessert

April 15

Pot Roast

Your Choice of 2 Sides:

New Potatoes, Green Beans, Onions & Carrots,
Cooked Apples, Salad
Biscuit & Dessert

April 22

Herb Baked Chicken Breast with Mushroom Gravy

Your Choice of 2 Sides:

Rice Pilaf, Broccoli & Cheese Sauce,
Green Beans, Salad
Rolls & Dessert

April 29

Baked Tilapia with a Creamy Dill Sauce

Your choice of 2 Sides:

Cup of Roasted Red Pepper Soup,
Confetti Corn, Green Beans, Slaw, Salad
Cornbread & Dessert

Beginning April 1, We will be offering more selections
for the Wednesday Night Family Dinners.
More information can be found on our website
www.fbc.cc/Wednesday_evening_meal

Featured Items Will Include:

Hamburger, Cheeseburger & Hot Dog Meals, 10 piece
Chicken Nugget Meal, Chicken Salad on Croissant Meal,
along with Entrée Salads. (At Additional cost)

We will also feature an expanded
Kids Meals Menu.

Children's Workers

April 5

Preschool Reception Volunteers:

9:00am - Vonda Paquin 10:15am - Dana Woods

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Rene Stilwell & Vonda Paquin

Walkers & Twos— Melissa Rhodes & Phillip Bumgarner

Threes — Carla Ingram & Brian Rhodes

Fours - Kelly Clark & Matt Ingram

Fives— Family Day

Coordinator: Fran Ballengee

Children's Church: Children in Worship

April 12

Preschool Reception Volunteers:

9:00am - Sara Moore 10:15am - Sara Moore

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Clay Buchanan & Paid Worker

Walkers & Twos— Allen Wittenberg & Adriane Oxford

Threes — Susan Tallent & Linda Meares

Fours & Fives— Kara Wittenberg, Paid Worker & Evelyn Terry

Coordinator: Terry Starnes

Children's Church Leader: Fran Ballengee

Shepherds: FF— Kim Buchanan FW— Ruthann Waters

April 19

Preschool Reception Volunteers:

9:00am - Jan Rodgers 10:15am - Lydia Gillespie

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Pam McCall & Paid Worker

Walkers & Twos— Beth Watson & April Teague

Threes — Jill Pernel & Christy Greene

Fours & Fives— Mary Elliott, Rachel Paquin & Dana Bennett

Coordinator: Shellie Bumgarner

Children's Church Leader: Norma Flores

Shepherds: FF— Kelly Clark FW— Mara Peters

April 26

Preschool Reception Volunteers:

9:00am - Kristin Herring 10:15am - Betsy Reynolds

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Glenda Foster & Paid Worker

Walkers & Twos— Mara Peters & Paid Worker

Threes — Mara Peters & Paid Worker

Fours & Fives— David Moore, Paid Worker & Gail Ford

Coordinator: Mechele McCormack

Children's Church Leader: Carolyn Icard

Shepherds: FF— Lee Bogle, FW— Rene Stilwell

Take Note

Our Special Members This Month

Mrs. Betty Hewitt - Trinity Terrace #202, 1265 21st Street NE, Hickory, NC 28601

Mrs. Gladys Knuckles - Trinity Village #1011, 1265 21st Street NE, Hickory, NC 28601

Please keep these special members in your prayers. Send a card or visit them.

In Memoriam

Lena Robbins, March 16, 2015

Congratulations to

Robert & Stephanie Durham on the birth of their daughter, Catherine. Proud grandmother, Denise Poe.

C A R E

April 5 - Tucker, Faith & Hope, & Melton/Bost Classes

April 12 - Palmer & Foster Classes

April 19 - Available

April 26 - Blackwell/Woolf & Powers Classes



WELCOME

New to our church family: As you see our NEW MEMBERS around FBC, be sure to welcome them to our family.

Shirlene Crowl - Awaiting Baptism

NEW IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY



A copy of "Behind Grandma's Apron Strings: Stories of God's Grace and Mercy" has been donated by the author, Robert Ford to

our church library. Robert says, "The stories are taken from some of my experiences as a hospital chaplain for 24 years and a chaplain in the Army for 21 years, as well as, some of my experiences growing up."

Please check this book out in our library or purchase a copy on amazon.com.