

firstLIFE



I had something a little embarrassing happen the other day. I am in a men's exercise group called F3, which stands for Fitness, Fellowship, and Faith. It

started in Charlotte in 2011 and is growing like crazy all through the Carolinas and beyond. F3 Hickory began earlier this year. Workouts are on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturday mornings. After the Saturday workout we all go to Bob Evans Restaurant for a big, well-deserved breakfast. F3 is a good thing. Men are getting fit and becoming better husbands, fathers, friends, community leaders, and followers of Christ. Check it out at F3Nation.com.

The embarrassment occurred last week. The co-founders of F3 came to Hickory to lead our workout. This was a big deal and we were all excited about it. We really talked it up in advance and encouraged everybody to be there and bring guests. I told the Bob Evans staff to expect a large crowd of between 20-25.

The big day arrived, and guess what? Small turnout. Instead of 20-25 we had 13, plus the co-founders. Even though

the group was small we had a great workout. Afterwards, about half of the group headed over to Bob Evans. The manager had set up for the 25 I had told her to expect but there were less than ten of us for breakfast. She said to me, "This is it??? This is the big crowd you told me to set up for??? Gee whiz!" There were empty chairs everywhere. Oh well, it's not the first time I've been embarrassed and it won't be the last. We all got a good laugh out of it then had a great breakfast fellowship time. But, of course it got me to thinking. Our founders came to see us and only about half showed up. Our founders had "eagerly desired to eat this meal" (Luke 22:15) with us, but about one-third stayed for breakfast. See where I'm going with this?

Where will we be when Jesus, the founder of our faith comes? Will he find us present in worship, engaged in His service, and joined in fellowship? Or will we be absent, asleep, or somewhere else? Will those who are present stutter and stammer in His presence as we try to make excuses for the absence of our brothers and sisters?

It has been said,

"showing up is way underrated," and this is so true. You are important to the Kingdom of God. Your presence is required! Let us show up, in worship, in service, and in close fellowship with one another. When our founder Jesus comes, let's all be present to greet Him! We do not want to be embarrassed but much, much more than that, we do not want Him to be disappointed. I cringe at the thought of the look in His eyes if he sees rows of empty chairs at the heavenly banquet in the Kingdom of God. Let's be in our places when He comes.

So, I'll see you Sunday, right?

Phillip Reynolds
Senior Pastor



FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Have you ever thought about "first impressions" at FBC Hickory on Sunday mornings? What do you think first-time guests think when they enter our sanctuary and see the center section mostly empty (and most people sitting in the side sections)? Might it be that they think there's something going on at First Baptist - like the Hatfields and the McCoys. Could they think that there's something wrong with the center pews?

Several years ago, a pastor was sent by his denominational leadership to a once flourishing downtown church with the assignment to "bury this dying congregation." As he entered to lead the service on his first Sunday, he noticed almost everyone was seated on the sides and in the back. He challenged the folks to look around at what he was seeing - a few scattered people and a lot of "wood." He reminded them that when they went to the theater, to a concert, or to an athletic event they would pay good money to get the "front-and-center" seats. So, what about Sunday mornings and the worship of God? Did they expect anything exciting to happen? (Do we expect anything from God?) That day, the remaining members of that congregation pledged to sit together, "front-and-center" from then on.

The following Sundays, as visitors entered their church, they noticed everyone sitting together. There was an atmosphere of expectancy. So, they came toward the front and began to join them. Within a year's time, the congregation grew from 50 people to 200 people in attendance. The church did not die and was not buried. Quite the opposite, it was resurrected by the people committing to sit together and expecting something from God as they worshipped Him.

The book of Revelation talks about the 24 elders worshipping at the throne of the Lamb. I cannot imagine them worshipping the Lamb of God from the side seats or from the back rows. I see them falling on their faces, worshipping Jesus, the Lamb of God, from "front-and-center." And, I want to join them there when I arrive in God's throne room. Why not begin practicing "front-and-center" worship as we gather each Sunday at FBC Hickory.

-Jim Davidson

HONORING THE 2014 FBC GRADUATES

We will celebrate our graduates on Sunday, June 8 with one service in the sanctuary. 'May the LORD bless you and protect you. May the LORD smile on you and be gracious to you. May the LORD show you His favor and give you His peace.' - Numbers 6:24-26 (NLT)

High School

James Cecil Adams, III
Sarah Caroline Booker
Austin Timothy Drake
Harrison Beam Eggers
Nathan Reid Mason
Caroline Lee Miller
Emily Elizabeth Moore
Nathan Scott Surbaugh
Adrianna Marie Wachter
Emily Ann Wright

College

Clyde "Donald" Abernathy
Grace Elizabeth Auton
Johnson Young Bray
Emilee Elisabeth Cox
Allison "Alli" Elizabeth Evans
Robert "Clark" Featherstone
Anna "Katelyn" Keller
Adam David Moore
Sara Elizabeth Nelson
Wallace "Wally" Knight Travis



SUMMER HANDBELLS

For anyone who might want to try playing handbells, or is an "old-time" or "has been" ringer, the music ministry is offering a "drop-in" summer handbell choir - for youth and adults - for those who might have more time during the summer months. No experience is needed (but reading music does help). No regularity in attendance (summer schedules are different.) Come when and as often as you can. Contact Jim Davidson or the church office if you might be interested. No performance goals - just fun ringing. This will occur during the months of June and July, following the Faith Filled worship service. We will ring from 11:45-12:30 beginning with Sunday, June 8, on the 3rd floor.

COMBINED YOUTH CHOIR CONCERT JUNE 1

On Sunday, June 1, at 6:00pm in the FBC - Hickory Sanctuary, the youth choirs of First Baptist Church of Lincolnton and First Baptist Church of Morganton will combine their voices with our Refuge Ensemble in concert. This 40-voiced combined choir will be presenting the anthem which they sang together at the NC Baptist CBF Youth Choir Festival, plus several other works. This will be a wonderful youth-led worship experience. Mark your calendar and plan to support our youth.

HEARTS AND HANDS

The knitting/handwork group is changing its name to better encompass our diverse handcrafts. For our mission projects, we create hats and other needed items for local and district groups. We also create our own personal handcrafted treasures. Hearts & Hands meets each Tuesday from 1:00-3:00pm in the Chapel.



RENT-A-KID THANKS

Many thanks to those who sponsored

Refuge Rent-A-Kid during the month of May. Your support will go to help support our summer mission trip to Baltimore, MD.



Alan & Dana Bennett,
Tony & Lisa Kakassy
Phillip & Betsy Reynolds
Peggy Yancey

SUPPORT OUR CDC

Support the ministry of our Child Development Center by donating: Latex-free gloves, baby wipes, construction paper and art supplies. Bins are located around the building for collection.



Summer Bible Study

Agents In Action
June 8 - August 17
For children who have completed 1st - 5th grades. Learn what it means to be on

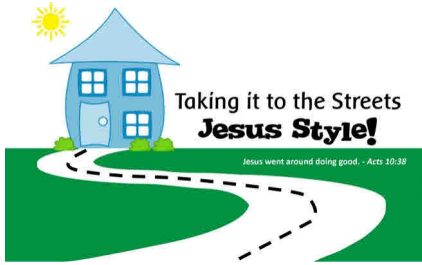


Special Assignment for Christ. Meet in room 228 for music, games, activities, Bible story, and to receive your "special assignments".

Children's Summer Calendar

- ◆ No children's Wednesday Night Activities beginning June 4
- ◆ VBS - July 7-11, 6:00 - 8:15 pm
- ◆ Bo's Bodacious Entertainment, Friday, July 18, 5:30 - 9:30 pm
- ◆ Music Camp, July 28-August 1
- ◆ Family Fun Night (Pizza, Games, Ice Cream) - Friday, August 8, 6:00 - 9:00 pm
- ◆ Promotion Sunday - August 24
- ◆ Music and Missions Kick-off - Wednesday, August 27

IMPACT CHILDREN'S LIVES THIS SUMMER



You don't have to go far to impact lives this summer! Our FBCitykids Camp is right here in Hickory at FBC the week of June 23 - 27, Monday through Thursday, 12:30 - 3:00 pm, and Friday, 10:30 - 1:15 pm. This is local missions at its best! This year, our theme is "Taking It to the Streets, Jesus Style!" Kids at the camp will discover how Jesus took his message to the streets, and we can too! They will learn about

wisdom, compassion, love, second chances, and what it means to follow Jesus. We need your help! Volunteer by calling Amanda in the church office or by contacting Sandra Moody or Rendell Hipps.

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

Below is a list of upcoming activities for members and friends who are 60 and older. Please join us.

Friday, June 13th - Luncheon with special guest singer, Johnny Ellis. Cost is \$5.00. Menu to include Rosemary Chicken, Roasted Carrots, Fruited Couscous Salad, Rolls and Dessert. Call the office to make your reservation.

August 14th - Billy Graham Library in Charlotte. Deadline for sign up is July 18th.

September 27th - (*This is a date change from earlier, it was set to be on the 20th.) The Narrowway Productions to see the play "4th Cross". Deadline for signups: August 1st. Cost: \$28.95 per person which includes a meal.

Sign-up sheets for both trips will be on the Senior Adult board.

BLOOD DRIVE - June 22 1:30-6:00pm. Fellowship Hall. Give the gift of life. Sign up in online to make an appointment to give blood.

SABBATH SOUP - June 30

Following worship on June 30, help us feed a hot meal to our neighbors at our quarterly Sabbath Soup in the Fellowship Hall. We are also taking donations of various "pop-top" non-perishable food items, along with snack bars, peanut butter crackers, bottled water and drink boxes. Donations can be left in the church office or in one of the bins around the church. Sign up to help in Bible study or contact Sandra Moody.

VBS 2014



July 7-11, 2014 from 6:00 - 8:15pm
Visit the land of Egypt where children explore firsthand the world of Joseph. God's Word comes alive as children enjoy traditional Bible-times customs, occupations, food, and games! Mark your calendar now! For preschoolers age 4+ and children through rising 6th grade. REGISTER AT WWW.FBC.CC

On the cover this month...Baptist Men and Women volunteering on a local Habitat for Humanity Project. Reaching Out!

Sundays

June 1 - 10:30am
Children's Sunday - One Service
Up
- Dr. Phillip Reynolds

June 8 - 10:30am
Graduation Sunday - One Service
The Gospel Goes Viral
- Dr. Phillip Reynolds

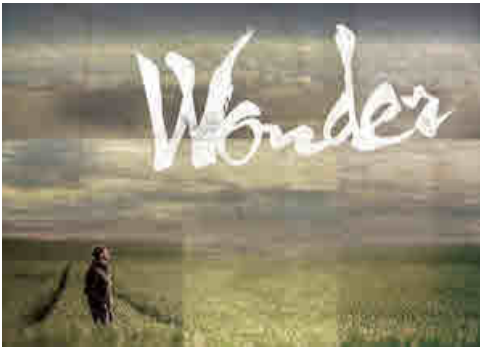
June 15 - 10:30am
The Word is Integrity
- Dr. Phillip Reynolds

June 22 - 10:30am
- David Wachter

June 29 - 10:30am
It's a Matter of Trust
- Dr. Phillip Reynolds

Wednesdays

Bible Study & Prayer
6:00pm



GCBC June 15-20
\$180 per student
www.fbc.cc/students to sign up

We're On Social Media



facebook.com/FirstBaptistHickory

facebook.com/Refuge-Student-Ministry



@DrReynoldsFBC
@ChrisGillespie

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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Phone: (828) 328-2031
Fax: (828) 328-4789
Email: info@fbc.cc
Website: www.fbc.cc

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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Music CAMP July 28 - August 1
Rising 1st Graders - Rising 6th Graders
Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 5:00pm
Friday 1:00 - 6:00pm

CHILDREN'S MUSIC CAMP IS COMING JULY 28-AUGUST 1

The dates have been set for Children's Music Camp 2014 (for children who have completed first grade through fifth grade). It will be held July 28- August 1. The musical will be "Moses and the Freedom Fanatics," It is based on the story of Moses freeing the Israelites from Pharaoh's control. Please include this in your child's summer plans.

June 2014 - Pull Out & Post

Numbers to Know

MINISTER ON CALL

June 7 - Phillip Reynolds on call (455-8678)

June 14 - Chris Gillespie on call (320-2741)

June 21 - Rendell Hipps on call (228-8639)

June 28 - Phillip Reynolds on call (455-8678)

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 31 - JUNE 6

Dee Blackwell, Coordinator	294-3522
Peter Ballhaussen	326-9233
Dana Bennett	326-9187
Brenda Bost	294-0585

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 7 - 13

Jim Elliott, Coordinator	294-4747
Nathan Bowman	324-9166
Ruth Ann Carreira	256-5616
Kelly Clark	729-6793

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 14 - 20

Carolyn Gray, Coordinator	325-0509
Dennis Gaines	874-0158
Wink Gaines	874-0158
Tom Guthrie	256-8266

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 21-27

Cindi Morrison, Coordinator	291-6492
Dwight Hastings	322-5633
Eddie Icard	495-2769
Rick Travis	238-1316

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 28 - JULY 4

Van Pernel, Coordinator	322-5908
Vic Paquin	409-0832
Ken Parish	324-2932
Bob Parlier	328-6712

C A R E

June 1 - Hinson, Faith & Hope, & Melton/Bost Classes

June 8 - Allen & Foster Classes

June 15 - Available

June 22 - Blackwell/Woolf & Powers Classes

June 29 - Faith & Hope Class

MANY THANKS TO THE 2014 REFUGE GOLF TOURNAMENT SPONSORS

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of Newton, LLC

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Hickory Christian Academy

Hinson Bible Study Class

In Memory of Billy Ray Johnson - By: Scott & Candace Johnson

Lisa Kakassy

Lonnie Hagadorn

Servant Level Sponsors

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David Thompson

David Wachter Sr.

Doug Spry and

Scott & Rene Stilwell

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Friendship Bible Study Class

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Henry Burns Construction Co., Inc.

Hickory Mechanical, Inc.

In Memory of Tommy & Audrey Wright - By: Judy Richardson

Industrial Components & Tech

Mark & Joy Knuckles

Ray & George Bumgarner

STUDIO 321

The Compounding Pharmacy

The Palmer Family

Thornburg & Associates

Property Management

UNITS Moving & Portable Storage

Children's Workers

June 1

Preschool Reception Volunteers:

9:00am - Beverly Crosby 10:15am - Betsy Reynolds

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Becky Hedrick & Debby Cook

Ones & Twos— Paid Worker, Kristen Keener & Jewell Mabery

Threes & Fours— Sam Mabery & Ruth Hastings

Fives— Family Day

Coordinator: Ruth Ann Carreira

Children's Church: Children in Worship

June 8

Preschool Reception Volunteers:

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

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Kim Buchanan & Lauren Bliss

Ones & Twos— Lee Bogle & Jerry Long

Threes & Fours— Brian Bogle & Jeanne Davis

Fives— Aaron Bliss & Alice Long

Coordinator: Jennifer Summerlin

Children's Church Leader: Carolyn Icard

Shepherds: FF— Sheryl King, FW-Rene Stilwell

June 15

Preschool Reception Volunteers:

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

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Fran Ballengee & Melanie Wingler

Ones & Twos— Noelle Wachter & Lydia Gillespie

Threes & Fours— Beth Miller & Cody Wingler

Fives— David Wachter & Tera Booker

Coordinator: Sandra Foster

Children's Church Leader: Cindi Morrison

Shepherds: FF— To Be Filled, FW - Thomas Hand

June 22

Preschool Reception Volunteers:

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

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Harriett Stephenson & Kara Wittenberg

Ones & Twos— Ashley Dyson, Jason Herring & Eric Johnson

Threes & Fours— Angela Lawrence & Matt Dyson

Fives— Frank Stephenson & Kristin Herring

Coordinator: Sally Johnson

Children's Church Leader: Lee Bogle

Shepherds: FF - Donna Adams, FW - Mark Peters

June 29

Preschool Reception Volunteers:

9:00am - Beverly Crosby 10:15am - Betsy Reynolds

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Tiffany Hightower & Robin Parish

Ones & Twos— Donna Burns, Paid Worker & Traci Palmer

Threes & Fours— Steve Palmer & Linda Jones

Fives— Bob McCormack & Becky Icard

Coordinator: Mechele McCormack

Children's Church Leader: Beth Watson

Shepherds: FF - Chris Tanner, FW - Lisa Bowne

Take Note

Our Special Members This Month

Mrs. Catherine Binkley - #115 Trinity Village, 1265
21st Street NE, Hickory, NC 28601

Mrs. Jewel Brooks - #223 Trinity Village, 1265 21st
Street NE, Hickory, NC 28601

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

Thank You Notes

Thank you notes have been received from Catawba
Valley Medical Center, Cooperative Christian
Ministries and The Pregnancy Care Center. These
notes have been placed on the board across from the
chapel.

In Memoriam...

Eva Teague - April 24, 2014

Gloria Carowan - May 4, 2014

Julius "June" Shirley - May 8, 2014

Wednesday Night Meals

June 4

Chicken Pot Pie, Warm Fruit Compote
Salad Bar, Rolls and Dessert

June 11

Sesame Pork Loin, Peas & Rice
Salad Bar, Rolls and Dessert

June 18

Chicken Tenders Parmesan
Pasta, Broccoli,
Salad Bar, Rolls and Dessert

June 25

Shrimp & Grits, Tomato Tart
Salad Bar, Rolls and Dessert
