



My friend and mentor in ministry, Dr. Kirk Smith, Jr., now deceased, once preached a sermon called, "Things I Believe That I Won't Take Back." I thought Dr. Smith was going to blow us away with a rousing, enthusiastic, non-believer bashing sermon like we had never heard before.

But it wasn't what I expected. It was short. It was simple. It did not please everyone. Dr. Smith did not cover the whole moral/ethical agenda. He simply stated the few things that he would stake his life on. The more I reflect on what he did the more wisdom I see in it. And it has led me to consider for myself the things that I believe that I will not, no matter what, take back.

Want to hear a few? Okay, I believe in God. I believe God exists. I believe that God is the Maker and Ruler of everything that is. I believe in God.

I believe in Jesus Christ. I believe Jesus is the Son of God whose death

and resurrection saves us. I believe in Jesus Christ.

I believe that God's Spirit, the Holy Spirit, is alive and at work in the world. I believe that God makes Himself known to us through His Holy Spirit. I believe in the Holy Spirit.

I believe the Bible and I believe that I should live my life according to the clear teachings of the Bible. I believe that the Bible is inspired by God and is trustworthy and true. I believe in the Bible.

I believe that God wants me to love Him and love those around me. I believe that God wants me to be as kind and forgiving and patient with others as He has been with me.

I believe a lot of other things too. I believe in the virgin birth of Christ, I believe in the bodily resurrection of Jesus, the sinfulness of humankind, the reality of heaven and hell and more. This is not an exhaustive list by any means! But it's a good set of beliefs, don't you think? I mean, if people would believe in

God and His Son Jesus, if people would seek the Holy Spirit and let the Spirit lead them, if people would take the Bible seriously and live according to the Bible's clear teachings, and if people would love God and one another and forgive as God has forgiven us, we would be a people that are pleasing to God and good for the world.

We don't have to have a long list. We don't have to have all the answers. But it is good to look at the Big Things, and ask ourselves if we really believe them or not, and if we do, then go live life accordingly.

Phillip Reynolds
Senior Pastor



MUSICAL NOTES

LENTEN SKETCHES PRESENTED ON APRIL 1

The Sanctuary Choir is preparing a moving, worshipful, multimedia presentation entitled, "Lenten Sketches," by Joseph Martin. It will be presented on Wednesday evening of Holy Week, April 1, at 6:00pm. The service will also incorporate the observance of the Lord's Supper. You will want to mark this on your calendar and use it as a time of outreach to your neighbors, co-workers and friends.

OUR ORGANIST WILL BE RETIRING

First Baptist Church has been blessed by the music ministry of Florence Jowers for ten years. She came to the church as an interim organist, a position that morphed into a permanent position on the organ bench. She has provided an average of 150 preludes, offertories and postludes each of those years; accompanied over 50 anthems and 200 congregational hymns annually, and developed our noon Advent Organ Recital series. We will miss her presence and her ministry through music at the organ. We wish her Godspeed and blessings during her retirement and travels. However, the good news is that her last Sunday will not be until May.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER ECUMENICAL WORSHIP

Mark your calendar for the annual World Community Day ecumenical worship service at Exodus Missionary Outreach Church on Friday, March 6, at 7:00pm. This service is prepared by over 12 area churches. Childcare will be provided. Refreshments will be served following service. For more information, ask Nellie Pruitt or call Carole Marmorato at 828-256-8956.

Get involved with...

For more information contact
Adair Bowman or Jennifer Summerlin

Moms On Mission

...that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. Romans 1:12

March

18th - Local Missions Focus
29th - Night Out

April

5th - Flowers
@ the Cross
15th - Dear Abby
for Mothers

May

14th - Help with
80+ Bday Party
20th - Last meeting
before summer



Heck-Jones® Offering WEEK OF PRAYER for WMU of North Carolina

The WMU is happy to announce that we collected \$880 for the 2015 Heck-Jones Offering. Our First Baptist Goal was \$500. Many thanks to those who were able to give to this important local missions fund.

CCM FOOD PANTRY

March is our month to help stock the CCM Food Pantry. Please bring your non-perishable food donations to the collection boxes in the lobbies next to the church office and fellowship hall, or take them directly to CCM. Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

CAROLINA MISSION TEAM 2015

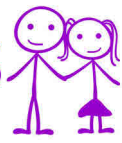
RENT A KID 2015

FEB 7; MAR 7; APR 4; MAY 2

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

FLOWER CALENDAR

There are dates available on the FBC Flower Calendar in 2015. These flowers are placed in our sanctuary and can be in honor or memory of someone special to you, personally, or your Bible study class. A class or one (or two) individuals could sponsor these beautiful additions to our worship space. Contact Nellie Pruitt to schedule a date or for more information.



FBCitykids Easter Celebration
Our annual outreach to our FBCitykids children and families is Saturday, March 28, 11:00 - 2:00 at Taft-Broome Park. Lots of volunteers are needed! Please see Christy Greene to volunteer.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ RA RACE March 7, 4:00pm - 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall.
- ◆ KIDS EASTER EVENT - April 4.
- ◆ FBC VBS - July 6-10.

ACOLYTES

There are still opportunities to serve as an acolyte. If your child is interested and in the third grade or older, please see Ms. Bootsie to pick a date.

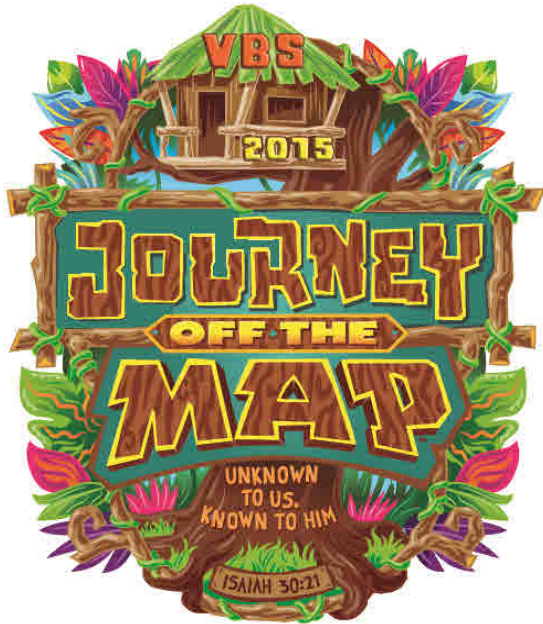
FBCITYKIDS DATES

- ◆ FBCITYKIDS SUMMER CAMP - June 22-26.

FOR OUR CDC

Our CDC does amazing things, From helping kids read, color, and sing! But they need our assistance, on us they rely, so please bring any and all art supplies. Crayons, paper, glue sticks, and such Wipes, non-latex gloves, they can't get too much! Put items in the boxes all around the church. They're in the halls so you won't have to search! Thank you to all that are willing and able. The teachers and children are all very grateful!

Please drop off supplies by April 5, 2015



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



The Moms on Mission shower for the Pregnancy Care Center was a huge success. Baby items were received from women of all ages and donations doubled what we had anticipated, thanks be to God! This generosity will bless many less fortunate women in our community.

BLOOD DRIVE - March 15 1:30-6:00pm. Fellowship Hall. Sign up online at redcrossblood.org.

SABBATH SOUP - March 29
Following worship on March 29, 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 by calling the office.



CALENDAR CHANGE FOR DEACONS AND BAPTIST MEN

For the remainder of this year Deacons will meet on the 3rd Monday of each month and Baptist Men will meet on the 4th Monday of each month.

BAPTIST ON MISSION (Baptist Men)
Our March meeting will be held on March 23. Join us at 5:45pm for a delicious meal and at 6:15pm for our program. Program: Austin Pearce from the Hickory Soup Kitchen will come and share with us their EXCITING plans for the future and how we can become involved. Emphasis: Also, that night we will have an "Unbinding" PRAYER EMPHASIS and a testimony or two. This will be a time of focused prayer for our church and personal FAITH stories that you will not want to miss.

On the cover... Moms on Mission reaching out to our community with a baby shower for the Pregnancy Care Center. For more information about Moms on Mission or to participate contact Adair Bowman or Jennifer Summerlin.

Sundays

March 1- 10:30am
The Converted Community
- Dr. Phillip Reynolds

March 8 - 10:30am
Catalytic Converters
- Dr. Phillip Reynolds

March 15 - 10:30am
Healing and Hospitality
- Dr. Phillip Reynolds

March 22 - 10:30am
Faith Focus
- Dr. Phillip Reynolds

March 29 - 10:30am
Palm Sunday— Building a Healthy Church
Build on a Cross
- Dr. Phillip Reynolds

Wednesdays

Bible Study & Prayer at 6pm

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

339 Second Avenue, Northwest
Hickory, North Carolina 28601

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Return Service Requested

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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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First Friday^{1ST} at First Baptist

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

Meet, Music, Message,
Meal & More

March 6 - 6:30-9:00pm

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



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.

March 2015 - Pull Out & Post

Numbers to Know

MINISTER ON CALL

March 7 - Rendell Hips on call (228-8639)
March 14 - Chris Gillespie on call (320-2741)
March 21 -
March 28 - Phillip Reynolds on call (455-8678)

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 6

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

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 7 - 13

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

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 14 - 20

John Johnson, Coordinator	409-1163
Cliff Moore	312-0120
Cindi Morrison	291-6492
Eddie Icard	234-3783

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 21 - 27

Bob Parlier, Coordinator	312-2881
Steve Palmer	781-1293
Van Pernell	381-0162
Vic Paquin	409-0832

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

Wednesday Night Meals

March 4

Chicken, Broccoli and Rice
Cooked Apples
Salad Bar
Rolls and Dessert

March 11

Potato Crusted Cod
Macaroni & Cheese
Slaw
Salad Bar
Cheddar Bay Biscuits and Dessert

March 18

Rueben Casserole
Parsley New Potatoes
Cooked Carrots
Salad Bar
Dessert

March 25

Fried Chicken
Green Beans
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Salad Bar
Biscuits and Dessert

C A R E

March 1 - Tucker, Faith & Hope, &
Melton/Bost Classes
March 8 - Palmer & Foster Classes
March 15 - Available
March 22 - Blackwell/Woolf & Powers Classes
March 29 - Faith & Hope and Willing Workers Classes

Children's Workers

March 1

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Debby Cook & Paid Worker

Walkers & Twos— Jewell Mabery & Paid Worker

Threes — Jeanne Davis & Harriett Stephenson

Fours - Becky Icard & Sam Mabery

Fives— Family Day

Coordinator: Ruth Ann Carreira

Children's Church: Children in Worship

March 8

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Lauren Bliss & Paid Worker

Walkers & Twos— Lee Bogle & Jerry Long

Threes — Brian Bogle & Kim Buchanan

Fours & Fives— Aaron Bliss, Paid Worker & Alice Long

Coordinator: Jennifer Summerlin

Children's Church Leader: Carolyn Icard

Shepherds: FF— Joe & Ruth Wakefield

FW— Nathan Bowman

March 15

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Robin Parish & Paid Worker

Walkers & Twos— Tiffany Hightower & Traci Palmer

Threes — Steve Palmer & Linda Jones

Fours & Fives— Bob McCormack, Becky Hedrick & Ruth Hastings

Coordinator: Mechele McCormack

Children's Church Leader: Cindi Morrison

Shepherds: FF— Susan Haire FW— Christy Greene

March 22

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Elizabeth Sledge & Paid Worker

Walkers & Twos— Ashley Dyson & Jason Herring

Threes — Katie Little, Sara Mofford, & Matt Dyson

Fours & Fives— Frank Stephenson, Kristin Herring
& Eric Johnson

Coordinator: Sally Johnson

Children's Church Leader: Lee Bogle

Shepherds: FF— Robin Parish, FW— Melanie Wingler

March 29

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Fran Ballengee & Paid Worker

Walkers & Twos— Noelle Wachter & Lydia Gillespie

Threes — Beth Miller & Cody Wingler

Fours & Fives— David Wachter, Paid Worker & Melanie Wingler

Coordinator: Carol Ann Keller

Children's Church Leader: Beth Watson

Shepherds: FF— Scott Sledge, FW— Joy Knuckles

Take Note

Our Special Members This Month

Mrs. Mae Honeycutt - Brian Center #107, 3031 Tate
Blvd SE, Hickory NC 28602

Mrs. Lee Benson - Kingston Residence #339, 904
Second 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
Cooperative Christian Ministries, Hickory Soup
Kitchen and The Pregnancy Care Center.

In Christian Love & Sympathy to...

Jewel Mabery on the death of her father.



Catawba County Regional
Hospice is currently in need of
patient support volunteers to
provide companionship,
support and friendship to

patients and families in our area.

The next training class is in March. If you are interested
in joining the next class please contact Sara Waugh 828-
466-0466.
