



A Parable

There once was a man who lived in a cabin next to a field. In the middle of the field was a huge rock – an enormous boulder. One night, God came to the man in a dream and said “I want you to go out in the morning and every morning after that and push the rock with all your heart and all your might.” So, the next morning and every morning after that the man did exactly as God instructed. Every morning, day after day, week after week, month after month – no matter the weather – the man woke up and pushed the rock until he could no longer push it anymore. And day after day, week after week, month after month, the rock never budged a single inch. Some days, he did not feel like pushing the rock, but he did it anyway. Some days, he did not push the rock with all his heart and all his might, giving just a partial effort until he realized this was not God’s command. His task was to push the rock with all his heart and all his might, every

morning. He grew frustrated and prayed, “God, why am I pushing this rock? Day after day, week after week, month after month I have pushed this rock. I have never moved it, and never will!”

God replied, “I did not ask you to MOVE the rock, I asked you to PUSH the rock with all your heart and all your might. You have been an obedient and faithful servant; now look how you have transformed yourself: your shoulders are broad, your arms are strong, your legs are powerful. You are now ready for me to use you for a greater purpose!”

I share this little parable to say, there has been a lot of rock pushing around here and I know God is going to use our efforts in ways we have never dreamed of. When we pushed the rock towards unified worship, when we pushed the rock toward giving and debt reduction, when we pushed the rock about property issues and decisions, we can gain strength and unity and vision and be transformed.

And that’s the kind of church

God wants and can use: a strong church, a unified church, and a church with vision. So be patient friends. Some of the rocks may not be moving as much or as quickly as you would like them to. That is okay. In fact, according to the parable above, God may be using our efforts not to move the rocks but to grow us stronger, more unified, and into a people with a vision for the future.

Keep pushing,

Phillip Reynolds
Senior Pastor



ALL SAINTS

On Sunday, November 1, we will give thankful remembrance for those saints whose homegoing in Christ has occurred since October 2014.

Those members of First Baptist who have died during this time will be included in our worship bulletin. If you have lost a loved one who was not a member of First Baptist and would like to have their name included in the bulletin, please fill in the information that will be included in each Sunday's worship guide during October.

You, and any other family members of the deceased, are invited to a luncheon after the service in the Fellowship Hall. Reservation deadline for the luncheon is October 28.

NEW DEACONS ELECTED

The following six individuals have been elected to serve as deacons for three years beginning in January 2016. Due to a tie, six were elected instead of five. Please be in prayer for these individuals as they prepare to serve: Dee Blackwell, Brenda Bost, Tom Guthrie, Daniel Lucaci, Greg Watson, and Gary Woods.



WORLD COMMUNITY DAY

November 6 at 7:00pm
St. Aloysius Catholic Church
(Hwy 127 - Viewmont)

An annual celebration observed as a community worship experience. For more information please contact Nellie Pruitt.



Burkemon Baptist Church
Morganton, NC
November 16 at 6:45pm

THANKSGIVING WEEK SCHEDULE

The week of Thanksgiving, all regularly scheduled Wednesday night activities are cancelled. We will celebrate Thanksgiving as a church family with a meal on Sunday, November 25, following worship. There is no cost for the meal but donations will be accepted. Please make your reservations today to enjoy a Thanksgiving Feast with your FBC family featuring: turkey and dressing, sweet potato casserole, macaroni & cheese, broccoli casserole, corn pudding, green beans, fruit salad, cranberry sauce, rolls and desserts.

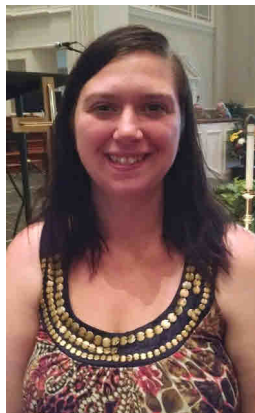
NC BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES

November presents the opportunity to give your financial support to NC BCH. More information and envelopes are available around the church.



WELCOME!

We welcome to our church family Angel Roberson. Angel joined on Sunday, October 11 by transfer. Please join in welcoming Angel and her children to First Baptist.



THE BOXES ARE READY... ARE YOU?

Shoe Box Time is HERE! Fill a shoebox and change the life of a child. Boxes are available now. Our church goal is 400 boxes. Please return your filled box to church by November 15. For more information contact Sandra Moody.

Logo for Hickory Rings, featuring a yellow bell with a red ribbon and the text "Hickory Rings!" in a stylized font.

Thursday, November 19 at 7:30pm
First Baptist Sanctuary
Mike Watson, Director

Special features:
Choral Singing Hickory Rings!
and the
Hickory Rings! "Four Hand" Quartet

Dear First Baptist Church Family,

I have always been told that the older we get, the faster time passes. I have found that statement to be true. It is hard to believe that I have been a part of the First Baptist Church staff since October, 2003. And it is even more difficult to wrap my mind around the fact that it is time for me to retire.

Jan and I have spent many months trying to discern God's direction as we made this decision. Although we are confident we are making the best decision for us and for First Baptist Church, separation is never easy.

We have been blessed to be a part of the First Baptist Church family. We have rejoiced with you in the birth of your children and grandchildren. We have shared your sorrows in loss, in trials, in times of testing and even death. We will cherish your friendships forever.

My last official day will be on Tuesday, December 29th.

Until He comes, be faithful to our Savior, be faithful to your church and faithful to each other.

Blessings,
Jerry and Jan Rodgers



UPCOMING CHILDREN'S CALENDAR

- ◆ Week of Monday, November 23 - NO ACTIVITIES
- ◆ Saturday, December 5 - Christmas Camp, 9:30 - noon, Fellowship Hall
- ◆ Wednesday, December 9 - Family Night at Christmas
- ◆ Saturday, December 12 - Angel Tree gift delivery to Baptist Children's Home
- ◆ Sunday, December 13 - Children's Caroling, 4:00 - 5:30pm
- ◆ Wednesday December 16 - "LoveFeast" Intergenerational Christmas Night, 6:00pm Fellowship Hall
- ◆ Wednesday, December 23 - NO ACTIVITIES
- ◆ Wednesday, December 30 - NO ACTIVITIES



Any man or woman who has served in the military is invited to attend. Please contact the church office with your name and branch of service. All senior adults are also invited to the luncheon. Please contact the church office by Friday, November 6 to sign up. Menu to include: apricot, blue cheese, pistachios and honey salad, pot roast, carrots, new potatoes, green beans and corn bread.

SUMMER SNEAK PEAK

VBS 2016 Dates: Sunday, June 26 - Thursday, June 30

Advent Sneak Peak



November 29	Advent Begins
	Devotionals Delivered
December 5	Christmas Camp
December 6	Hanging of the Green
December 9	Children's Music
	Family Night at Christmas
December 13	Choir Presentation
December 16	LoveFeast
December 24	Candlelight
	Communion Service

This Month's Cover:
Sunday Morning Worship

Sundays

November 1 - 10:30am

All Saints' Day

Good out of Bad: When We Face Death
- Dr. Phillip Reynolds

November 8 - 10:30am

- Chris Gillespie

November 15 - 10:30am

Good out of Bad: When We're Tempted
- Dr. Phillip Reynolds

November 22 - 10:30am

Everything!

- Dr. Phillip Reynolds

Wednesdays

Bible Study & Prayer at 6pm

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

339 Second Avenue, Northwest
Hickory, North Carolina 28601

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Steve Clarke, Minister of Music & Worship
Staff email: (last name)@fbc.cc

«FamilyLabelName»
«Address1»
«Address2»
«City» «State» «ZIPCode»



SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER

Several members of FBC have sensed a need for a Sunday Morning Prayer Time each Sunday. Anyone in the church is invited to attend as often as you can to simply pray for our church, for our worship service, for those who need to make a decision for Christ, for our leadership, for our witness in our community, and for God's will for FBC to be continued to be revealed and acted upon. This informal Prayer Time will be in room 166 (just off the hallway that leads to the Fellowship Hall) each Sunday morning from 8:40 - 9:00am beginning on Sunday, Nov. 1st. Please see Lloyd Bost, Jr. or Kelly Clark for more details, or simply come to join others in a time of dedicated prayer.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

- I Thessalonians 5:16-18

Angel tree

The RA Angel Tree (supporting children at Baptist Children's Home in Thomasville, NC) goes up November 11. Take an angel, purchase the items listed for that youth, and pray for him or her and for the ministry of Baptist Children's Home. All gifts will be delivered to BCH on December 12.



November 2015 - Pull Out & Post

Numbers to Know

MINISTER ON CALL

November 7	Steve Clarke on call (334-332-8171)
November 14	Phillip Reynolds on call (828-455-8678)
November 21	Rendell Higgs on call (828-228-8639)
November 28	Chris Gillespie on call (828-320-2741)

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 7-13

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

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 14-20

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

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 21-27

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

DEACONS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 28-DECEMBER 4

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

Wednesday Night Meals

RESERVATIONS

As our weekly activities continue, we hope you will join us for family supper on Wednesday evenings. Please join us for food and fellowship by calling Amy Moore in the office to make your reservation by Monday of each week. If you are unable to make a meal reservation, please call to cancel. Thank you for helping us be good stewards of the food we prepare.

November 4

Baked Chicken Breast with Feta, Sun-Dried Tomato Couscous
Choose 2 Sides
Corn Chowder Soup cup
Honey Glazed Carrots
Cooked Apples
Green Beans
Tossed Salad
Garlic Bread Sticks and Dessert

November 11

Orange Pork loin
Choose 2 Sides
Grits with Roasted Vegetables
Roasted Red Pepper Soup cup
Warm Cherry Fruit Salad
Green Beans
Tossed Salad
Rolls and Dessert

November 18

Sunflower Seed Crusted Tilapia
Choose 2 Sides
Pumpkin Soup cup
Tomato Basil Lima Beans
Green Beans
Mandarin Orange & Yogurt Fruit Salad
Tossed Salad
Cheddar Bay Biscuits
Dessert

Children's Workers

November 1

Preschool Reception Volunteers:

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

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Debby Cook & Phillip Bumgarner

Walkers & Two's — Jewell Mabery & Susan Mofford

Three's & Four's— Jeanne Davis, Sara Mofford & Becky Icard

Coordinator: Ruth Ann Carreira

Children's Church: Children in Worship

November 8

Preschool Reception Volunteers:

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

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Lauren Bliss & Rene Stilwell

Walkers & Two's — Christy Greene & Jerry Long

Three's & Four's— Aaron Bliss, Kim Buchanan & Brian Bogle

Coordinator: Jennifer Summerlin

Children's Church

Lead Teacher: Beth Watson Shepherd: Adair Bowman

November 15

Preschool Reception Volunteers:

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

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Renea Featherstone & Glenda Foster

Walkers & Two's — Traci Palmer & April Teague

Three's & Four's— Tiffany Hightower, Bob McCormack & Ruth Hastings

Coordinator: Mechele McCormack

Lead Teacher: Fran Ballengee Shepherd: Caroline Trado

November 22

Preschool Reception Volunteers:

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

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Eric Johnson & Mary Elliott

Walkers & Two's — Ashley Dyson & Jason Herring

Three's & Four's— Katie Little, Matt Dyson & Frank Stephenson

Coordinator: Sally Johnson

Children's Church

Lead Teacher: Norma Flores Shepherd: Cody Wingler

November 29

Preschool Reception Volunteers:

9am - TBD 10:15am - TBD

Preschool Worship Care

Infants — Becky Hedrick & Lee Bogle

Walkers & Two's — Rebecca Tanner & Greg Watson

Three's & Four's— Noelle Wachter, Gerry Brown & Evelyn Terry

Coordinator: Sheila Brown

Children's Church

Lead Teacher: Lee Bogle Shepherd: Ruthann Waters

Take Note

Our Special Members This Month

Mrs. Jo Pruitt – Trinity Ridge #201,
2140 Medical Park Drive, Hickory NC 28602

Mrs. Mary Pace - Pinecrest #314,
915 29th Avenue NE, Hickory, NC 28601

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

C A R E

November 1 - Tucker, Faith & Hope, &
Melton/Bost Classes

November 8 - Palmer & Foster Classes

November 15 - Available

November 22 - Blackwell/Woolf & Powers Classes

November 29 - Faith & Hope

