

First Baptist News

a family of faith



Rev. Larry Sawyer will be our guest preacher for Senior Adult Sunday.

Baptist Women's Luncheon May 6, 2019 at 11:45 a.m. In the Activity Building

Lynn Rust will be sharing her Ukraine Mission Trip with us. Please bring a sandwich.

The Baptist Women will be collecting the following items for *Purses with a Purpose* (for Southeastern Family Violence Center) during the month of April. You may bring these items to the church office or to the meeting in May.

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| Lotion | Soap |
| Socks | Washcloths |
| Brushes | Hair-bows |
| Combs | Snacks |
| Chap-stick | Flashlights |
| Toothbrushes | Tissues |
| Toothpaste | Bibles |
| Deodorant | Handbags |



The Glen Flora Circle will have a luncheon at Abigail's Tea Room on May 7th at 11:30 a.m.

Bible Study #3 will meet at 11:45 a.m. on May 7th.



Wednesday, May 8, 2019
Game at 5:00 p.m.
Supper at 6:00 p.m.

Join us at Godwin Heights Park to cheer on the Friends of Jesus Sunday School Class. Hamburgers & Hot Dogs will be served.

This event will take the place of our regular Wednesday activities.



May 9th at 11:00 a.m. in
Cherry Fellowship Hall

The Early Childhood Ministry
4-year-olds will sing for us.

Lunch will be provided!



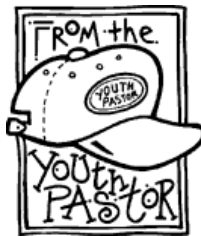
My scripture reading for the day was Psalm 30, a song of gratitude for deliverance. I was especially drawn to verses 11-12 that say *You (Lord) have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.* I like the idea of being clothed with joy and I needed to hear it as I had just received word of the deaths of a couple of acquaintances. I have also recently learned of church members who have lost loved ones. These are not personal losses to me, but the deaths have been numerous of late.

I needed to hear that God clothes us with joy. I am grateful for this promise, but I know that joy is not as easy as getting dressed in the morning. The loss of a loved one is difficult to work through and there are times when we wonder if the joy God wants to clothe us in has gotten lost in the laundry! My devotional reading for the day reminded me that even Jesus had days like this. Jesus experienced the depth of life as we do, but he remained faithful through a steadfast prayer life.

The core question of Jesus' prayers (and ours) is one of trust. When we ask God for anything we are putting our trust in the love and power of God to not only cloth us with joy, but to set the world right, to make things better. Richard Rohr writes that the question "is God to be trusted?" is the great question the human race is asking at the most basic level. Rohr goes on to say that "the answer we hear from Jesus' life, death and resurrection is "yes, God is on your side. Yes, God is more for you than you are for yourself."

I hope you believe that God is more for you than you are for yourself. This idea tells me that while God wants to clothe us with joy, God is also working from the inside out. We can thus grieve the death of a loved one honestly and yet be comforted, joyful even, in knowing that *death has been swallowed up in victory* (I Cor. 15:54). I am sorry for the sting of death that many people carry these days but in the spirit of Psalm 30, I will *not be silent* in my faith that the joy of God being for us is greater than the pain that is presses against us.

Peace,
David



Our Friends of Jesus softball game is one of my favorite church activities. We have been fortunate enough to have good weather most years, enjoyed good food, and the Friends of Jesus have experienced a wonderful time. Turnout could be a little stronger, but it is difficult for folks (especially working families) to arrive by 5:00.

The challenging part of the event, as with most missional events, is collecting enough volunteers to make the game and cookout fun and safe for all. We are tweaking a few things this year, but we still need folks to help set things up, help with the game, help serve food, and help clean up. Please let me know if you would be willing.

Beyond the game, the Friends of Jesus class is in need of help. If you feel you're being led, or if you simply don't have a class you feel at home in, please consider visiting the Friends of Jesus class. You'll be loved and welcomed, which is a large portion of what you likely want in a Sunday School class anyway.

There is also a wonderful opportunity available to work with special needs children. Camp Puzzle Piece, for 1st-6th grade children, is July 1st and 2nd this year and volunteers are again needed for rotations, supervision, and other tasks. Please see Morgan Miller or Quinton Frederick if you are willing to help.

Community Café has openings for the third Saturdays of July, August, November, and December. Our Baptist Women could use help (see Dean Kinlaw). It is almost time to sign up to help with VBS (see Erin).

We as a church do a lot. We could do more but our priority for now needs to be recruiting enough help to handle our current obligations. As Jesus taught, "the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few."

Doug

For the Record

Budgeted 2019.....	\$700,000.00
Weekly Need (2019).....	\$13,461.54
Received April 28, 2019	\$14, 231.51
Need to date	\$215,384.62
Received to date	\$194,696.82
Over (Under) Budget.....	(\$20,687.80)

Sunday School Attendance, April 28—155

CHILDREN'S CORNER

For the past few weeks in the Collier household, we've had a new routine on Sunday and Monday nights: watching American Idol. We hadn't watched the show in years, but when we found

out that Walker Burroughs, son of Passport co-founders David and Colleen Burroughs, would be on the show, there was no way we were going to miss it! Walker is an incredibly talented college student who is genuinely kind and humble. (His response to Katy Perry's declaration that he was top 10 material was "good heavens!")

It was a source of joy to watch Walker progress each week through auditions, Hollywood Week, and beyond. He made it all the way to the live shows and the top 8 before his run ended this past Sunday. (I and many of my Passport/CBF friends agree that it was an unjust end!) I won't protest having more free time on those evenings; still, I will miss tuning in to see Walker on the screen and cheering him on.

At times I briefly felt guilty for making that show a priority. As I think about it, though, I'm glad I did. In a time when turning on the TV results in a bombardment of talking heads, scary news reports, and lots of blaming and pointing fingers, it's been a pleasant change to find JOY in what's on the screen. It's okay to find pockets of joy and seize hold of them. It's okay to appreciate and support a good thing happening for a good person. It's not an escape or denial of some of the more difficult things; rather, it's a way to hold the fullness of life and its complicating and contradictory experiences all together.

It reminds me of a quote from Brian Andreas I have displayed in my office: "Anyone can slay a dragon, he told me, but try waking up every morning and loving the world all over again. That's what takes a real hero."

Let's strive to be heroes – heroes who both slay dragons and embrace joy in life.

Erin

Family Night Supper Menus May 2019

- May 8th**— Hamburgers & Hot Dogs
(Friends of Jesus Softball Game)
- May 15th**— Pork Chops, Scalloped Potatoes, String Beans, Rolls, Salad, Fruit Pies
- May 22nd**— Barbecue, Baked Beans, Hushpuppies, French Fries, Salad, Peach Cake
- May 29th**— Baked Potato Bar

Graduation is approaching!

If you know someone in our membership who is graduating from high school or college, we would like to include them in our June newsletter. Please contact the church office (739-4336 or daphnefletcher@fbclumbertonnc.org) by May 28th, with the full name of the graduate, school where they completed the degree and type of degree received.



Scholarship Applications are now available in the church office. All applications must be submitted by May 15th.

First Sunday Food Drive

The first Sunday of each month we collect non-perishable foods for local charities. Our next food collection is Sunday, May 5th. Place your donations in the collections bins near the entrances or bring them to the church office.

Donation suggestions: Canned vegetables, canned fruits, Vienna sausages, canned meats (such as chicken breast), pork & beans, rice, dried beans, boxed meals, baby foods, bottles of water and juices.



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Vacation Bible School June 17-19, 5:30-8:00 pm

Join us for 3 nights of interactive learning and fun as we explore the Bible and what it means to be a good neighbor. Children age 4-6th grade are eligible to attend, and there is no cost.

Art Mini Camp July 16-19, 9:30 am-12:00 pm

This half-day camp combines art and faith to provide a creative camp experience. For children who have completed K-3rd grade; \$15 per child.



Music Day Camp July 29-August 2, 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Join us for a week full of crafts, games, field trips, and lots and lots of music! Children will learn the musical *Rescue in the Night* and present it at a closing concert on August 2 at 5:00 pm. For children who have completed 1st-6th grade; \$50 per child (cost goes up after June 1!).

Register for Vacation Bible School, Art Mini-Camp and/or Music Day Camp at www.fbclumbertonnc.org or in the church office.

CHURCH STAFF

Contact us at 739-4336 or daphnefletcher@fbclumbertonnc.org
www.fbclumbertonnc.org
Mrs. Nancy Bass — Financial Coordinator
Rev. Erin Collier — Associate Pastor of Families and Worship
Dr. David Elks — Pastor
Mrs. Daphne Fletcher — Administrative Assistant
Rev. Tim Little — Minister of Music and Facilities
Mrs. Kandace Ramsey — Administrative Assistant
Rev. Doug Reedy — Associate Pastor of Youth, Young Adults and Missions

Tuesday Coffee Shop Bible Study 4 Gospels

Tuesdays in May — 3:45 to 5:00 p.m.
7th-12th Graders

This is a more academically structured course for students who want to know more about the gospels. It is a great option for anyone planning to take Bible courses in college. We will have fun (and snacks) but this is for mature youth who genuinely want to learn.