

# THE INFORMER

MONTHLY

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH SHELBY, NC



AUGUST 2017 | VOLUME 37, NO. 8

## Spotlight on Service

Prayers for Revival!

*Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?  
Show us your unfailing love, Lord, and grant us your salvation.  
Psalm 85:6-7, NIV*

We are thankful for the prayers of God's people as we approach, in humility, days of renewal that we anticipate in September through the Lay Led Renewal Weekend. Please set aside the dates of September 22-24 for these special days in the life of our church. I am thankful now for the way I hear of Sunday School classes and other groups praying for God's renewal in our lives. One of our classes shared with me the stimulus that has compelled them to pray for our church. It is the story of one of the greatest revivals in the history of the United Kingdom which took place in Hebrides in 1949. There, seven men and two women had decided to pray for revival. One night, gathered in a barn, this verse was read from the Psalm: "Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in this holy place? The one who has clean hands and a pure heart." The reader asked God to reveal to him the condition of his hands and heart! That night, God helped them to see that revival is related to holiness as God's power shook the congregation from 'center to circumference.' Four miles away, two sisters (aged 82 and 84) had a vision from God in which they saw the churches crowded with the youth of the community flocking into churches. Duncan Campbell was invited to come and speak to these "pray-ers." When he arrived, the church building was packed out with hundreds waiting outside. No one could explain where the people had come from. There was such a sense of God's presence that a visitor to the island said, "the moment I stepped ashore I was suddenly conscious of the presence of God." God was meeting with his people to renew their walks of faith. How can we, the members of First Baptist Church, meet with God? The same way those folks did in Hebrides. Pray a humble prayer desiring to see God's presence to move anew in our lives as we submit them to him in honesty, holiness, and humility. Thank you for praying for revival!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Wednesday, August 2

**6:15 PM**  
Prayers for Revival and Missions Night

**6:00 PM**  
Youth Game Night with Hope Community Church

### Sunday, August 6

**9:30 AM**  
Prayers for Revival

**2:00 PM**  
Jail Annex Ministry

### Monday, August 7

**8:00 AM**  
Youth to Carowinds

### Wednesday, August 9

No evening activities at church. Wear your FBC Baseball t-shirt to the ALWS Host City Welcome festivities Uptown which begin at 5:15 PM.

### Thursday, August 10

**AM & PM**  
Welcome to the American Legion World Series "Ask Me What I'm Doing This Weekend!"

### Sunday, August 13

**9:30 AM**  
Prayers for Revival

### Wednesday, August 16

**6-8 PM**  
Kids End-of-Summer Pool Party, Ruby Hunt YMCA

**6:15 PM**  
Prayers for Revival

### Sunday, August 20

**9:30 AM**  
Prayers for Revival

**6:00 PM**  
Churchwide Picnic and Talent Show

### Tuesday, August 22

**11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**  
GWU Church and Club Day to Welcome Students

### Wednesday, August 23

**6:00 PM**  
Wednesday Schedule Promo Day with Intergenerational Game Night

**6:15 PM**  
Prayers for Revival

### Thursday, August 24

**6:00 PM**  
Weekday Ministries Orientation in the Gym

### Friday, August 25

**6:00 PM**  
Singles' Monthly Bible Study & Fellowship

Youth leave for Back to School Retreat - Camp Awanita

### Sunday, August 27

**9:30 AM**  
Prayers for Revival and Blessing of the Backpacks

**10:15 AM**  
Quarterly Church Conference

**10:45 AM**  
Kids and Family Back to School Brunch

Youth return from Camp Awanita

### Wednesday, August 30

Prayers for Revival and Faith and Health Ministry Night, "How Dense Are You?"

### Every Sunday Morning

**9:30 AM** Worship  
**10:45 AM** Sunday School for All Ages

# Pastor's Corner



## Little Things!

*"Don't despise the day of small things."*  
Zechariah 4:10



Beginning this month and leading up to our Lay Led Renewal Weekend, September 22-24, I will be preaching a series of sermons inspired by the aforementioned verse of Scripture. The series will be titled *One Small Step Toward Revival* and it will be designed to encourage each of us, whoever we are and whatever we do, to realize the promise of God to be at work in the small steps we take every day in the direction of his will for our lives! Many of our long-time members remember Nora Mauney who encouraged children, and others, in our church by painting rocks and giving them away after Sunday School as invitations to children to continue to think about the theme for the day. Pictured here is a basket full of the rocks she painted and that one person collected across the years. Just imagine how many of those little rocks she painted and distributed -- one little rock at a time. But, little by little over the years, Ms. Nora is remembered for those little gifts of love and inspiration she worked hard to produce one stroke of the brush at a time. She was Christ's ambassador using those "little things." These days around Shelby there are a lot of folks following in Ms. Mauney's footsteps by painting rocks with brightly colored designs and encouraging words and scattering them about town for folks to find and then post on Facebook. Cleveland County Rocks is the name of this movement and folks are taking time to pay attention to hidden messages in flower beds and against trees in Uptown Shelby. The rocks are little things but they seem to be bringing joy to our town. So, what if? What if, alongside the rocks we may paint and leave along our town's streets, we accompany those little messages with genuine expressions of trust in the Lord in our conversations with folks we meet. What if, like a stone painted with our church logo that sends the message of First



Baptist's love for our neighbor, we accompany the message with acts of service, sacrifice and compassion. Each of our lives is but one little thing in the scheme of human history but they are each part of God's desire to send a message of love and grace to a world in need. Jesus gave up his "one solitary life" by submitting to the cross for our sins. Cleveland County will definitely "rock" if our time of renewal leads us to submit in deeper ways to bearing our cross in following him. Kyrie Eleison!



Remember you can make your plans to give financially to the church online by going to the church website ([www.fbcshelby.org](http://www.fbcshelby.org)) and clicking on this symbol at the bottom of the page or click on "Giving" at the top right corner of the homepage.

# Community

## Marion Elementary Partnership



Our ministry with Marion resumes this month. Pray about where you can be involved, and contact Perry Holleman and let him know where you want to serve.



"We would like to spruce up the front of the school a little before school starts - things like put out pine needles, plant a few bushes/shrubs, weed and tidy up any trash/leaves/etc. If you would be willing, join us on Wednesday, August 2nd, starting at 9:00 AM. Bring your shovels, gloves, whatever you think you might need. We'll take all the help we can get! Thanks to everyone who volunteers to help beautify the school!" ~ Heather Self, Principal

## Solo Flight Singles' Ministry

**Friday, August 25:** Singles' Friday Night supper at 6:15 PM. Following supper will be a Bible Study and fellowship.



Solo  
Flight

A Community of singles at First Baptist Church Shelby  
But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.  
-Isaiah 40:31

## “How Dense Are You?”



Find out the answer to this question on Wednesday night, August 30, for the quarterly Faith and Health Focus night. The speaker will

be Brian Emerson, Physical Therapist. He will be sharing information about Osteoporosis, which is a bone disease that occurs when the body loses too much bone, makes too little bone, or both. Osteoporosis is often called the silent disease because one can't feel bones weakening.

## New Members



Anna & Allie Jones



Minnie Ball



Susan Linkous

## Stewardship Principles

At the heart of our church's stewardship future, (with thanks to Joel Mikel, *Crafting a Theology of Stewardship*):

- **Stewardship** is about our faith before it is about our finances.
- **Stewardship** is not an end – it is a means to an end. People and ministry are the end.
- **Stewardship** is about funding mission and ministry. Mission and ministry is about making disciples of Jesus.
- **Generosity** transforms peoples' hearts.
- **Stewardship** involves sacrifice as a response of gratitude for the greatness of God.



**Stewardship**  
*a way of life*

## Insight From Our Summer Youth Ministry Intern Holly Strother...

...following a day with two shootings in east Shelby near homes of folks we love: “You know it really does matter which window of First Baptist Church you look out of. Out one side you see the business district of Shelby with all the exciting things going for it. Out the other side you see a neighborhood that regularly witnesses danger. What happens each week in our youth Bible studies is flavored by the struggles all our young people face. Don't stop praying for them!”



Holly serves with smiles in Belize 16'



## FBC Kids End of Summer Party

Our FBC Kids End of Summer Party will be at the Ruby Hunt YMCA on August 16. We will serve supper, we will have our fall calendar available and have a devotional time. We would like invite all FBC kids and their families to join us for this fun time of fellowship!



## Wacky WEDNESDAYS

Our preschool age children have had a wonderful time on Wednesday mornings this month learning about the world that they live in and how much God loves them.



## South Mountain Baptist Camp Report

Our children had a wonderful time growing in the Lord at South Mountain Baptist Camp. We had four children began their relationship with the Lord at camp this year and several others made various commitments. Thank you for supporting our children in all that they do to grow closer to our Lord.



## Our Back Pack Dedication

We would like all children to bring their back packs for a special dedication of their school year on August 27 during our 9:30 AM worship. Also, plan to stay for a special Sunday School time, where all FBC Kids and their families are welcomed to join us for brunch and Sunday School time together in the gym.



# WACKY WEDNESDAYS



Our elementary age children have been able to enjoy adventures to several locations like nature centers, museums, and outdoor parks while learning about Biblical truths as they go.



# Awanita Back to School Retreat

August 25 – 27

You will not want to miss this! This is a time when we welcome the 6th graders to the Youth Group. The Cost is \$150 per person. 9th graders and up, if you are interested in being on the planning team, please see Carol Ann.



## Testimony of thankfulness for prayers and encouragement – by Chloe Thomas



On the third day of Passport, me and another member of our youth group, Will Hoard, were doing our morning devotion outside of the auditorium. The theme of the day was, "Love Kindness" and we had just read the theme verse for the day, Ephesians 4:32, that says, "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving to each other, in the same way God forgave you in Christ." Some staff members were sorting mail in an office nearby when Cole Peeler recognized my name and handed me a letter. I received a letter from a lady at my church, Sue Lutz and she wrote, "Kindness of the heart is very important, I hope you and your friends will experience this at camp." Receiving this when I did put me in awe of God's works. This moment really helped me see what loving Kindness could do by bringing me tears of Joy. I pray that everyone had at least one moment at Passport like this because that is all it takes to begin a stream of overflowing joy. I am thankful to be able to go to Passport and to move forward with my relationship with Christ and be able to put my faith in action.

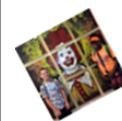


## Testimony of my Digital Sabbath – by Allie Graves

Every year at passport, a time comes at the end of our bus ride when Carol Ann passes around ziploc bags and asks all of us youth to put our phones in them until the end of the week. There also comes a time, in the next 24 hours or so, where I (and many others) habitually and consistently reach in my pocket to try and find something that is no longer here. I reach for my phone in an attempt to fill the voids when conversation slows down or I find myself alone, uncomfortable, or bored. During passport, when I no longer have that option, I find myself filling those voids with laughter, genuine conversation, and even quiet times of thinking that are so often after-thoughts when they should be priorities. Although at surface level, a simple scroll through Instagram or Twitter seems innocent, it is becoming increasingly evident to me that the constant comparison I expose myself to through social media is damaging to my own self-image and self-worth. By the end of a week at passport, I am no longer reaching for my phone in my pocket. I am no longer filling hours of my day telling myself that someone has a cooler life than me or that someone is prettier than me or that someone has their life way more put together than me. After a week of passport, I get a taste of life to the fullest. Life that is filled with true joy (but also true sadness) and real relationships (but also real struggles) not the false perfection that is fed to me through my phone screen, a false perfection that should not be what I strive towards. A "digital Sabbath," while seemingly simple and even annoying at first, is a **breath of fresh air** that reminds me just how worthwhile it is to strive for justice and kindness and humility instead of allowing those opportunities of joy to be overlooked because of a phone.

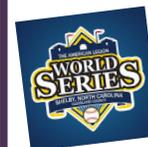


## Youth Event Calendar



**August 1:** Mission Day at Ronald McDonald House. Meet at the bus parking lot at 8:30 AM.

**August 2:** Hope Community Game Night.



**August 6:** We will be volunteering with the American Legion World Series. We need 20 youth to come and help. You will get a ticket for the games. Meet in the gym at FBC at 4:30 PM. Supper will be provided.

**August 7:** Carowinds! You must sign up by August 2. Cost is \$30 per person. We will be meeting FBC Anderson for a fun day together. We will leave at 8:00 AM from the bus parking lot.

**Calling all rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders:** Come to CA and Joel's house on Thursday, August 3 at 6:00 PM for dinner and a time of fellowship. Bring your parents with you!

## Passport 2017 – DO LOVE WALK

This year our young people got to experience my favorite verse. What does the Lord require of you but to DO justice, LOVE kindness and WALK humbly with God. I watched our young people play, laugh, cry, dance and grow in their relationship with Christ. I am thankful for Passport and for the opportunity we have to be able to attend. Every night our pastor gave this benediction and it is our prayer as we return home and to school.

*Christ has no body now but yours.  
No hands, no feet on earth but yours.  
Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world.  
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.  
Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world.  
Go, doing justice, loving kindness and walking humbly with God as you go. Amen.*



**SAVE THE DATE  
September 22-24th  
Renewal Weekend!**



## Talent Show and Church Picnic!

**Sunday evening, August 20**, we'll celebrate the talents of our Brothers and Sisters in Christ, in conjunction with the Church-Wide Picnic in the Dover Activities Building at 6:00 PM!

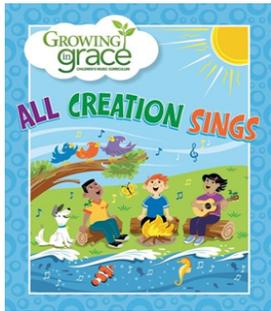
### You can:

- Sing a song
- Play the piano or another instrument
- Share a dance
- Read a poem (yours or someone else's)
- Share a dramatic monologue
- Display your visual artwork
- Show us some of your handmade crafts
- Share your cooking skills (**Like your favorite dessert hint, hint...**)

**Sign up** on the bulletin board in the Breezeway or contact Andy Roby at [music@fbcshelby.org](mailto:music@fbcshelby.org).



## FBC Music Ministry Focuses on Children and Youth



### Preschool and Elementary HeartSong groups begin on Wednesday, September 6 at 6:00 PM!

Parents, your children need to build a SoundTrack for life that will be a continual source of biblical truths and reminders of God's love for them. They need to express themselves through art and singing. They need to praise the Lord with other boys and girls. Don't let them miss out on this significant opportunity for spiritual and musical formation!

We have groups for

- \* Preschoolers (3 yrs.-PreK)
- \* Younger elementary (K-2nd grade)
- \* Older elementary (3rd-5th grades)



### Jubilate Student Choir and Worship Team (6th-12th grades) begin on Sunday, September 10 at 4:45 PM!

For ALL youth, including those who don't think they can sing. We are preparing for choir mission project/tour for summer 2018, as well as outreach experiences in Shelby/Cleveland County and leading in worship with our own congregation several times each semester, including the beautiful Hanging of the Green on December 3.

### Jubilate Handbells (youth, grades 6-12), also start on Sunday, September 10 at 4:00 PM!

**FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS:** Do you play an instrument? We need you in our church instrumental ensemble! Rehearses and plays in worship twice per month. Contact Andy Roby ([music@fbcshelby.org](mailto:music@fbcshelby.org)) for details.

**ADULTS:** Sanctuary Handbells resume on Wednesday, September 6 at 6:15 PM. Sanctuary Choir each Wednesday at 7:15 PM.

## Audio, media and video volunteers are needed!

**FBC needs** additional sound, multimedia, lighting and video equipment operators for Sunday services and some occasional rehearsals. Experience not necessary!

We will train you! For more info call or email Andy Roby, Minister of Music.

\*Phone and email information located on the back page of the Informer.





# Sunday School Spotlight

Kathryn Wall – 62 plus years of teaching!

A LESSON ON INFLUENCE - Kathryn's message is one of the tremendous influences those who teach have on others. 2 Timothy 2:2 reads, *And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.*

"I joined First Baptist Church 3 weeks after Glenn and I were married. I joined a class taught by Inez Conner. She was a very young mother at that time and I was so impressed by her excellent teaching and her interest in every one in the class. This was my new church and I felt so welcome. Back then, we had promotion the first of September and classes were grouped by age. In two or three years, I was promoted to Beverly Price teaching the Melody Class. Beverly began an intensive Bible study in her home and challenged us to start serving in some capacity to put into practice what we were learning. So, in 1955 I began teaching Sunbeams. Mrs. Laura Lawrence recruited me and really planned my lessons for me. In 1957, Jim Horn and I were Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of the High School age juniors and seniors. In 1964 I taught the Lydia Class, and 1965-1967, taught the Bethany Class. It was during these years that I began intense Bible study mentored by my dear friend, Sue Hudson. She made sure my lessons were well-prepared and ready to deliver. We studied together either in person or on the phone. She literally spoon fed me the Bible and my lessons. I was mentored as well by Mrs. Lois Leath, Dr. Stephen Morrisett, Dr. Wayne Stacey and Dr. Robert Canoy. In 1968, another special Bible group started out of Beverly Price's group. Rachel Schenck started inviting us to Blowing Rock for 4 days each summer for Bible Study. Her friends became curious asking if this was a club, or what, she was hosting. Her answer was "My Christian Friends", so the name stuck. This group continued meeting for 35 years. There have been some very special classes I have taught over the years, and the longest term was the Love Class for 12 years. These were very special senior adult ladies with only one still living today. My favorite verses are Proverbs 3:5-6: *Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight.* Nothing can be more special than 62 years spent studying God's precious word. I hope you, too, will make it your life's work. There is a special place for you to serve. Thank you.



## First Baptist Church Weekday Ministries



The new year for our Child Care Center and Mother's Morning Out gets revved up with the August 24th **Orientation Night**. We pray for the families whose children we will be blessed to know. This past year, as one family graduated their young one on to the public schools, a parent made these comments about our Child Care Center: *"I never had to worry about my child being well-cared for at First Baptist. You could tell at pick-up how conscientious they were regarding supervision of the students from the checklists to making sure they had the ratio of adults to children correct....this school is not a daycare where someone just watches your child while you work. This is a true preschool. Every daily activity provided skills and learning opportunities. Family members are amazed how much my child knows about certain topics because his teacher did a thematic study on it for a week.... The most rewarding experience is the spiritual development I have seen in my child. Through weekly chapel services and daily lessons in the classroom you have poured God's Word and love into my child's heart."* Answering the question, "Why did you withdraw your child from our Child Care Center? The parent wrote: *"Unfortunately, you do not have a school for K-12, so I have to send him to regular school."* We thank God for his work through our Weekday Ministries!

## Foster Grandparents

We would like to thank our Foster Grandparents that were with us for the Summer!

**Back row, left to right:**

Mattie Wilson, Ruth McDermet, Edna Wright, Edna McCluney

**Front row left to right:**

Marilyn Griffin, Cathy Oliver

(PS -- Foster Grandparents is also a United Way agency which you support through your contributions at work!)



## Join Us for Wednesdays at FBC

- August 2: Hamburger macaroni, salad bar and lemon bars.
- August 9: No Evening Activities at the church.
- August 16: Hamburger and fixings, french fries, chocolate cookies.
- August 23: Chef salad, coconut cake.





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Community + Compassion + Service

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### CHURCH INFORMATION

Office Hours: M-F 8:30 AM -5:00 PM

Find us on Facebook and Twitter!

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