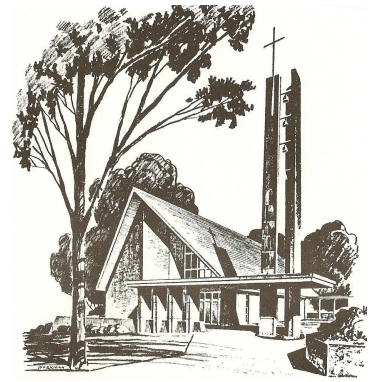


# The Announcer

First Baptist Church—Mount Airy, North Carolina 27030



Volume 47

October 22, 2009

Number 40

## Christmas Already??

Have you started to notice the Christmas displays going up in the stores around town? Of course, they have a marketing goal to push Christmas shopping to the front of our minds. But what about the church? Have we started to do any preparation for the remembrance of the coming of our Savior? We are, after all, only a month away from the start of Advent!

**The Discipleship Committee presents:  
the first Advent Wreath Workshop -  
Wednesday, November 18, 6:30 pm.**



The church recognizes the season of Advent as a time for us to prepare our hearts and minds for Jesus' birth. One symbol we use is the Advent Wreath, and we light a different candle each Sunday from November 29 through Christmas to mark our journey towards this celebration.

The discipleship committee would like to invite you to bring this tradition home and mark the weeks of Advent with your own wreath. We are offering an Advent Wreath Workshop to take place after dinner in the Fellowship Hall on November 18. We will provide the greenery, candles and oasis; you bring a pie or tin plate and \$5. In order to purchase the right amount of supplies, please sign up in Sunday School, at Wednesday night supper or in the church office. Watch for more information over the next couple of weeks to help ease you into the Advent season. We want the church to be a place you visit that also makes you think, "Christmas already?"

There will be a **Budget Vote** during worship service this Sunday, October 25.

## Trunk-or-Treat



**Sunday, October 25  
5:00—6:00pm**

**Come join us for some "not so scary" Halloween fun!!**

## SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST



We will have another great country Sunday School breakfast at 8:45, this Sunday, October 25 in our church fellowship hall. Hope to see everyone there!

## Parent-Child Dedication Ceremony

This Sunday, October 25, during the 11 o'clock worship service we will have a Parent-Child dedication.

## Harvest for Hunger

**This Sunday, October 25 is the last Sunday to contribute food to the Harvest for Hunger.** We've had a good start but we need more canned or boxed food donations to help make a difference here in our community. Leave your donations at the **Harvest for Hunger** display in the breezeway. The items will be given to Yokefellow Ministries, Salvation Army and Foothills Food Pantry. Thank you in advance for your caring generosity.



## PASTOR TO PEOPLE

Matthew 25:35, 40 records Jesus saying, *for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me....Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of the brethren, you did it to me.* Caring for needy people in practical ways is at the heart of genuine faith. The Old Testament prophets as well as the New Testament writers have lots to say about our responsibility to help the hurting. It is easy to talk about it but a lot harder to do. Hunger and poverty is a complex matter. Likewise, how we help is complex. There is a real need for us to become more personally involved, coming to personally know people as real, warm human beings. On the other hand we are often limited in what we can do individually. Sometimes giving support through an organization with expertise and experience in really helping people in tangible and practical ways can make a greater and lasting impact. Both the personal involvement and the monetary support of organizational relief are very important.

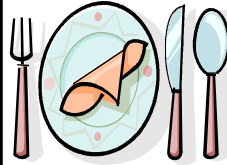
Our church has the opportunity and promotes both levels of reaching out to needy people. Our **Friends Feeding Friends** ministry every Thursday night is a hands-on opportunity for many of us to get involved. Are there some who might be taking advantage of us for a free meal? Of course! But the vast majority of the people who come live on the edge, so that one free, healthy meal a week really makes a difference. One of my observations from this ministry is that the fellowship among those who come for the meal is probably as important as the meal itself. Meeting and getting to know our members and our members getting to know them has also been an important part of personalizing this caring ministry.

**Harvest for Hunger** is an annual emphasis sponsored by our WMU and we are in the midst of this emphasis now. The non-perishable food that you provide is divided between Yokefellow Ministry, Foothills Pantry and Salvation Army, three organizations that help with food, kerosene and other kinds of aid. If you prefer to support this effort with cash, just indicate so on your envelope. Yokefellow Ministry and Salvation Army are also in our budget.

**CROP Hunger Walk** is another annual emphasis that is occurring November 1. CROP stands for COMMUNITIES RESPONDING to OVERCOME POVERTY. It is sponsored by Church World Services, which has compassionate ministry in this country and around the world. One fourth of the money raised will stay locally and be used by Yokefellow Ministries. The way CROP walk works is that individuals gather together to walk a prescribed route. Each walker is encouraged

*Continued...*

## ◆ BULLETIN BOARD ◆



**Please Come to Dinner  
October 28**  
**Menu: Country Ribs w/Pintos,  
Cabbage & Cornbread**

### ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS...

#### ...a cow to provide milk for my family.



For a second year FBC Youth and the BIG Kids (this year for the first time) are encouraging you to make a donation to Heifer International this holiday season. Last year, over \$1000 was donated and we were able to provide a Milk Menagerie for a village. (A Milk Menagerie is a Heifer, Water Buffalo and two goats) We will be collecting through Christmas and would love your support of this fantastic project. More details will come in weeks to follow.

#### ...a shoebox from Operation Christmas Child.



Our WMU is sponsoring shoeboxes for OCC this year. Pick up a brochure on the glass table in the breezeway for gift suggestions and labels. Please leave your shoeboxes on the table in the Fireside Room by **Sunday, November 15**. They will be taken on to a collection site later that week.

#### ...an Angel Tree Gift



FBC Youth will also be sponsoring Angel Tree gifts for children and adults with disabilities. More details at a later date.

### Continued...

to make a contribution and to get sponsors who will make a contribution. Educational information about world hunger is displayed to help educate the walkers and the community. As in previous years, I will join with lots of our members and members of other churches to walk and all of us would welcome any sponsors. Checks are made out to CWS/CROP and given to the person you are sponsoring. Walkers can get a registration form from the church office, Moby's Coffee Shop, Reeves Center, or from Barbara Blood or Angela Stroup. The registration form is also a large envelope in which you collect the sponsor contributions. These will be turned in at registration time, 2:30 p.m. on November 1 at Veterans Park. The walk will begin at 3:30 p.m. Come walk with us or sponsor a walker!

Grace, peace, and hope,  
Roger

## Chris Column

### Hungry

Angela and Amy talked about CROP Walk in worship this week. A pastor friend of mine celebrated Bread for the World Sunday at her church this past week. We are Harvesting for Hunger. The youth and BIG Kids Heifer Project collection is about to gear up...hunger relief is on my mind. On the cusp of the holiday season, I hope you will be aware of the millions of hungry people in the world. I also hope you will DO something about it. We partner with many great organizations and I hope that as the year comes to a close and the work ramps up for our partners, you will support them.

### Team Marathon

The roster is assembled. Runners are taking their marks. But, we are putting together a t-shirt to commemorate our accomplishments and a pasta dinner the night before. If you would like inclusion into either of those things, contact Chris Aho.

### Youth News

y.

We are scheduled for weekly gatherings of y. on Wed. Nights at 7:45 in the basement. Join us each week thorough Nov. 11.

#### *DC\*B Concert*

We have 5 tickets left for the concert on November 18. If you are not yet a fan, you may be after the show, but at least you will have had a great night with some great Mexican food. Please join us.

Angel Tree and Heifer

This year we will be working on these two projects again with a slightly higher level of promotion.

### BIG Kids News

*M-n-M*

Don't miss Missions-n-More each Wed at 6:30. We have great fun as we learn.

*A Christmas Carole*

Lets go to watch the new movie together on November 8. Time TBD, but get your homework done early that week so we can kick off the holidays with some movie magic.

### Book Club

November 4's book will be *A Long Way Gone* by Ishmael Beah. It is available in the office for \$10. Our book for December 2 is *The Last Lecture*.

### intl-2010

Our next meeting will be Sunday November 8 at 5pm. At that time, we will have a prospective project, costs, and begin developing a fundraising plan. If you have input or questions between now and then, contact Chris.

## Grace Notes

We will dedicate two of our precious children, McKennon and Corbin, this Sunday. "We" means all of us. Notice what you promise as you participate in the litany of dedication: to love them, teach them and nurture them. You will also promise to encourage their parents, Brandon, Jennifer, John and Candice. Take your promises seriously and ask God to help you keep them. John Kerley will read Roger's text from Hebrews that describes our "great high priest," Jesus. We are meant to be priests to each other, serving each other with humility, as Jesus did. The nurturing and discipling of our next generation of believers is one of our most important priestly tasks. It is given to all of us, and we fulfill our obligation in various ways: praying, serving as teachers and leaders, caring for children in the nursery and Kid's Korner. The next time you are asked to serve our children, remember that you are being asked to be a priest to them.

We encourage our children to be priests to us as well. When they sing, play, or read in worship, they are taught that they are worship leaders, not just performers. They work hard to lead well, which is a good life lesson for faith in general, isn't it?

I am grateful for the opportunity to learn from our children. I am grateful for the two we will dedicate on Sunday and look forward with you to watching them grow and become followers of Jesus.

Sing to the Lord!

Linda

## Caring and Sharing in Our Church Family

*1 Corinthians 12:14 and 26*

Write a note, make a telephone call, or pay a visit to the following:

### **HOSPITAL**

Joe Simmons—Northern

### **SYMPATHY**

To Forrest Jones in the death of her brother Marvin  
Joseph King

### **HOMEBOUND**

Nadine Bradley

1199 Hayes Forest Dr., Winston Salem, NC 27106-3377

Marvin Driskill

1525 W Wensley Dr., Mt. Airy

### **COLLEGE**

Sarah Brannock

Salem College, 601 S Church St.,  
Winston Salem, NC 27101-5376

Preston Calloway

97 Cottage Hill Rd., #4 Cullowhee, NC 28723-0048

<b>Statistics</b>		<b>Date: 10-18-09</b>
Sunday School Enrollment		365
Sunday School Attendance		142
Worship Attendance		211
<b><u>Tithes and Offerings</u></b>	<b><u>This Week</u></b>	<b><u>To Date</u></b>
Weekly Needs	\$9,558.00	\$401,436.00
Budget Offering	\$7,813.73	\$387,749.86
Amount Needed/Budget	\$1,744.27	\$13,686.14
Designations	\$754.00	\$127,874.75
Total Offering	\$8,567.73	\$515,624.61
<b><u>Designations</u></b>		
Building Fund	\$320.00	
Wednesday Night Meals	\$207.00	
Miscellaneous	\$25.00	
Designated Missions	\$202.00	
<b><u>Loan</u></b>		
Building Fund Bal to Date	\$5,874.00	
Loan Bal as of 10-6-09		
Building	\$260,178.23	
Bus	\$29,842.90	

## Memorials And Honorariums

### Music Fund

In memory of **Cloyce Davis** by:

Jackson-Meeks Mission Group

### Friends Feeding Friends

In memory of **Richard Calloway** by:

Libby and Paul Lanier

Lauren, Erin and Lindsay Tucker

## Friends Feeding Friends Christmas Bags

Please remember the gift bags that will be given to those who come to our Feeding Friends meals. Bags will be given at our last December meal before Christmas. We can use new, small gifts for children or adults, or money. Since there is such a need, we will be including non-perishable food in the adult bags this year. Leave your gifts in the office, or mark your envelope "Feeding Friends Christmas Gift." Thank you.



## Baptist Women's Day of Prayer

**Monday, November 2**

10:00am at the SBA Resource Center

7:00pm at Fancy Gap and Westfield churches

## DEACONS OF THE WEEK

**Nancy Twitty & Ted Watson**

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## The Week Ahead

### SUNDAY, October 25, 2009

#### HARVEST FOR HUNGER food drive ends

**8:45am** Sunday School Breakfast

9:15am Prayer Time—Kudzu Room

9:45am Sunday School

11:00am **\*\*The Church at Worship & Praise**

Child Dedication & Budget Vote during worship service

**5:00pm Trunk—Or—Treat (5:00pm—6:00pm)**

6:30pm Granite City Ringers

### MONDAY, October 26, 2009

12:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

1:30pm PrimeTimers Singers

### TUESDAY, October 27, 2009

11:00am Staff Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, October 28, 2009

5:00pm Children's Choir/Preschool Missions

5:45pm Family Night Meal—Reservations by 4pm Tues

**6:30pm Quarterly Church Conference**

6:30pm Children's Missions, M-n-M for Big Kids

7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

7:45pm y. - Youth Bible study

### THURSDAY, October 29, 2009

5:30pm \*Feeding Friends Meal—Fellowship Hall

7:00pm \*Boy Scouts—Scout Hut

### SUNDAY, November 1, 2009

9:15am Prayer Time—Kudzu Room

9:45am Sunday School

11:00am **\*\*The Church at Worship & Praise**

6:30pm Granite City Ringers

7:00pm Diaconate Meeting w/ Wade Tucker speaking

\*Community Ministry \*\*Hearing Assists / Valet Parking Available upon request - Wheelchair spaces available in the sanctuary for the convenience of those who need to stay in their chair.

## OPEN DATES IN FLOWER CALENDAR FOR COMING YEAR

The following dates are open:

January 24

March 21

May 16

June 6 and 13

If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary for one of these dates please call Inglis Rowe at 789-4854.



**Ministry for Sunday, October 25:** Sermon: Dr. Roger Gilbert; *Scripture: Jeremiah 31:7-14, Hebrews 5:1-10*; **Sunday School Greeters:** David & Chris O'Neal; **After Worship Greeters:** Nancy Twitty & Ted Watson; **Kid's Korner:** Denise Chappell; **Nursery Workers:** Jane Fussell & Buffy Fussell, Mike & Laura Marion; **Sound:** Wes Parker & Andy Webb

**Church Staff:** Dr. Roger Gilbert, Pastor (email: roger@fbcmountairy.org); Rev. Chris Aho, Associate Minister (email:chris@fbcmountairy.org); Linda Denney, Minister Through Music (email: linda@fbcmountairy.org); Joyce Simmons, Accompanist; Heather Sawyers, Financial Secretary (email: heather@fbcmountairy.org); Marie Conzone, Church Secretary (email: marie@fbcmountairy.org); Phone 336-786-5185; Fax: 336-789-3982.