

LITTLETON BAPTIST NEWS

A Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Congregation

"Our mission is to make Christ known, by providing spiritual nourishment, ministering to physical needs, and sharing the Gospel."



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IN MEMORY

Mrs. Elizabeth Faulkner Crawley

*For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son
that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16*

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH

March 11, 2020. It seems like so long ago. Yet it was only a year ago. It was the day everything changed. We had heard about this thing called COVID-19 on the news. We knew it was out there. Yet this is the day that everything seemed to change. That afternoon it was announced that the NC CBF Annual Gathering would meet virtually, but had hopes that we would meet in person during the National CBF Annual Gathering during the summer. Yet that night, it seemed everything changed in the US. That night we learned an NBA player had contracted the disease, and over the next few days the entire sports world shut down. And soon enough, the entire country shut down.

March 15, we met for the final time in-person until July. Right in the middle of the season of Lent. Right in the middle of the time we were focused on remembering the death of Jesus and what that meant for us. It was meant to be a time of reflection, yet as the world we knew around us was changing, it made it difficult to focus on it. Yet we reflected anyway.



As we come to one year later, we again are in that reflection time. A time to reflect on what Jesus did for us by way of the cross. Yet there is reflection about other things going on. So I guess the word of the month would be reflection. Reflection of where we have been, where we are, and where we are going. But the most important reflection, where is Jesus leading us as the church. The season of Lent is a great time for reflection.

So as we are in the midst of Lent, I encourage our entire congregation to reflect. I encourage our congregation to spend some time practicing spiritual disciplines. Whether that is fasting, prayer, studying, or any other discipline. Pick one that allows more time for reflection. Reflect on who you are as a Christian, and how this past year has made you stronger. It has been a dark time, but there is light at the end of the tunnel. The season of the cross is a dark time as well, yet that Sunday brought a light. And there will be a light for us.

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March 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:00 Exercise	2	3 9:00 Exercise 7:00 Virtual Prayer & Bible Study	4	5 9:00 Exercise	6
7 11:00 Worship  7:00 Virtual Deacons Meeting	8 9:00 Exercise	9	10 9:00 Exercise 7:00 Virtual Prayer & Bible Study	11	12 9:00 Exercise	13
14 11:00 Worship 	15 9:00 Exercise	16	17 9:00 Exercise 7:00 Virtual Prayer & Bible Study	18	19 9:00 Exercise	20
21 11:00 Worship	22 9:00 Exercise	23	24 9:00 Exercise 7:00 Virtual Prayer & Bible Study	25	26 9:00 Exercise	27
28 11:00 Worship	29 9:00 Exercise	30	31 9:00 Exercise 7:00 Virtual Prayer & Bible Study			

As we worship in March, we will continue spending time reflecting on Jesus's final week. Over the month we will be looking at Judas' betrayal, Jesus washing the feet of his disciples, the cross, and finally the grief that the disciples felt after his death. And through these moments we can better appreciate what Jesus did for us. And then from that, we can reflect on where we are because of him. So as we are in the midst, spend time on your own in reflection as we then come together and reflect as a corporate congregation.

Grace and Peace,

David



As we settle into the season of Lent, our music for our worship service naturally takes on a more reflective nature. It is a time about reflection in our lives and a time for preparation for the remembrance of Christ's dying on the cross for us.

There are an abundance of hymns written about the cross. There are probably more hymns that talk about the cross than about any other aspect of the Christian faith. You can probably name at least 10 right off the top of your head!

Take time during this Lenten season to explore some Lenten hymns. YouTube is a wonderful place to listen to some old and new songs about the cross. Listen to the words and let them lead you to the foot of the cross. Remember that these more somber hymns lead us up to Christ's resurrection!

P.S. Those who know me know that I am a huge Harry Connick, Jr. fan! During the pandemic he felt driven to make an album entitled *Alone with My Faith*. He has some old favorites along with some he wrote. He arranged all of the songs, played every instrument, and sang every part! It comes out on March 19th! I can't wait!!! I hope you give his music a chance!

Laura



THIS MONTH IN WORSHIP

Join us for our Sunday Morning Worship Services

March 7

Wednesday – Plotting & Betrayal

Luke 22:1-6

Communion

March 14

Thursday – Foot Washing

John 13:1-17

March 21

Friday – At The Cross

Mark 15:33-39

March 28

Saturday – Silence Is Deafening

Matthew 27:62-66



The Deacons will meet virtually on Sunday, **March 7**, at 7:00 P.M. Please continue to pray for our deacons and their invaluable leadership to our church.



MISSION MOMENTS

March is here! Warmer days - with sunshine - are on the way. God has been with us through the wet, cold winter. His presence is always warm and inviting. Our call is to share that warmth with all. In a recent Sunday School lesson we studied God's promise to Noah. Remember the

Sunday School lessons from your youth. The ark filled animals and one family. God chose Noah to carry out His plan. Noah walked with God, he obeyed God and he trusted God. That trust gave Noah the courage and faith to do what God asked him to do. Build a BIG boat on dry land!! What a show of faith. What is our BIG boat? What is God calling you to do for Him? He promises He will always be with us, even when the world laughs and makes fun of Christians.

Build your boat. Show your faith, obey your calling and trust that GOD is right beside you. Each one of us has a special place in God's plan. Missions starts with us knowing that plan and following it.

Enjoy the springtime. Enjoy each other. Enjoy God's love.



Dear God,

In this season of Lent, we're reminded of our own difficulties and struggles. Sometimes the way has seemed too dark. Sometimes we feel like our lives have been marked by such grief and pain, we don't see how our circumstance can ever change. But in the midst of our weakness, we ask that you would be strong on our behalf. Lord, rise up within us, let your Spirit shine out of every broken place we've walked through. Allow your power to be manifest through our own weakness, so that others will recognize it is You who is at work on our behalf. We ask that you would trade the ashes of our lives for the beauty of your Presence. Trade our mourning and grief for the oil of joy and gladness from your Spirit. Trade our despair for hope and praise. We choose to give you thanks today and believe that this season of darkness will fade away. Thank you that you are with us in whatever we face and that you are greater than this trial. We know and recognize that you are Sovereign, we thank you for the victory that is ours because of Christ Jesus, and we are confident that you have good still in store for our future. We thank you that you are at work right now, trading our ashes for greater beauty. We praise you, for you make all things new.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen.



THE LORD'S SUPPER

On Sunday, **March 7**, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper during worship. Be present for this special time as we remember once again the sacrifice of our Lord for you and me. Remember as you depart you will be given opportunity to contribute to the Fellowship Fund for local benevolence.



Don't forget to set your clock forward one hour on Sunday, **March 14**, so you will not be late for Worship!



Can you believe that March is here? It has been cold and rainy! Thank goodness we have each other to keep us smiling and warm!

Daylight Savings Time is March 14. Spring begins on March 20.

It is time to start thinking Easter and Easter Lilies for our sanctuary as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Easter is April 4th this year.

If you would like to place an Easter Lily in our sanctuary please let us know as soon as possible! The price is \$15.00 for a single stem wrapped with bow, \$25.00 for double stem wrapped with bow and \$55.00 for triple stem wrapped with bow. Make your check payable to Littleton Baptist Church and label it - Easter Lily.

Please bring your order, check or cash to a member of the flower committee, church office or mail it to P.O. Box 216, Littleton, N.C. 27850.

Let us know if your lily is in memory of your loved one or in honor of someone special.

The following is the flower schedule for March:

March 7 - The Lord's Supper
March 14 - Earl & Mary Spivey
March 21 - Available
March 28 - Available

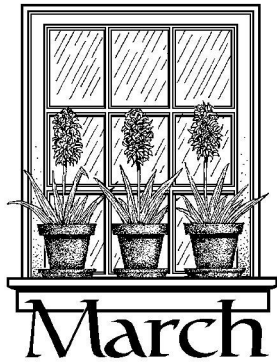
Don't forget about the flower sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the hallway at church. If you would like to place flowers in church, please contact a member of the Flower Committee by phone or email:

Sandra Lynch, (252) 578-3495 or sandralynch337@gmail.com,
Kay Beaver, (252) 586-2014 or dbeaver10@gmail.com.

You can also contact the church office by email: office@littletonbaptistchurch.org.

Our church family is such a blessing! Thank you for all you do to keep the sanctuary so beautiful.

Littleton Baptist Church
P. O. Box 216
Littleton, NC 27850



<u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u>	<u>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</u>	<u>GARBAGE DETAIL</u>
2 Carol West 5 Lowell Lee 9 Connor Pitchford (9 yrs) 15 Sara Council 19 Emily Pulliam 20 Ray Holloman 22 Paula Burton 25 John Skinner 25 Brandon Stansbury 26 Jay Koef 27 Destiny Hilton (8 yrs) 28 Beth King 31 Stephanie Iles	26 Kent & Carol West (27 yrs)	Sid Shearin