

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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MARCH 2023

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PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH

March is finally here. There are so many things going on in March it is hard to pinpoint what is the most important. You have Daylight Savings Time (SPRING YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD), Spring begins, and even St. Patrick's Day. March is a full month of so many things. Each one of these is important in their own right.

So do I talk about moving our clocks back? Do I talk about our eternal spring? Or even the luck of the Irish with St. Patrick's Day? Or none of these? For as we enter March, we are also in the midst of Lent. Lent began with Ash Wednesday on February 22nd. And Lent will continue all the way until Easter in April.

Lent is to Easter as Advent is to Christmas. It is the time of the year where we prepare our hearts to remember the cross and the death of Jesus. It is a time to meditate on the things that we have done in our lives that cause us to stumble and fall.

As we journey together in Lent, we will be continuing our series on what it means to wander. We began last week by looking at the Israelites wandering through the desert wilderness. This week as we come to the table of Holy Communion, we look at how the Israelites wandered in silence. For 400 years, God did not send a prophet. What was it like living during those 400 years? What was happening?

March 12th, we then jump backwards a little to look at the Israelites as they wandered through the Babylonian exile. This was a hard time for them, but yet God continued to give them hope even during the tragedy. What can we learn through their time of wandering?

On March 19th we look at a time when Jesus was alone and wandering in his own thoughts as he prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane. What does this mean for us?

And we conclude our series by looking at the Prodigal Son to discuss our own times of wandering. We have journeyed with others during their own wandering and trying to put it into context for ourselves, but as we journey with the Prodigal Son, it makes us truly examine our own times of wandering away from God.

So I hope you join us as we examine what it means to wander in the wilderness, wherever that wilderness may be for you. I hope this series prepares your own heart during this season of Lent as we prepare ourselves for Holy Week as we remember the death resurrection of Jesus.

Grace and Peace,

David



MARCH 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1</i> 8:30 Exercise 12:00 Lenten Lunch 6:00 Young Family Bible Study 6:15 Adult Choir 7:00 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>4</i>
<i>5</i> 9:45 S School 11:00 Worship	<i>6</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> 8:30 Exercise 12:00 Lenten Lunch 6:15 Adult Choir 7:00 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i> 9:45 S School 11:00 Worship 5:00 Youth	<i>13</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> 8:30 Exercise 12:00 Lenten Lunch 6:00 Young Family Bible Study 6:15 Adult Choir 7:00 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>18</i> 10:00 Tree Planting
<i>19</i> 9:45 S School 11:00 Worship	<i>20</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> 8:30 Exercise 12:00 Lenten Lunch 6:15 Adult Choir 7:00 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> 8:30 Exercise 8:30 Church Workday	<i>25</i> 8:30 Church Workday
<i>26</i> 9:45 S School 11:00 Worship 5:00 Youth	<i>27</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i> 8:30 Exercise 12:00 Lenten Lunch 6:15 Adult Choir 7:00 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i> 8:30 Exercise	



Spring is almost here! I can almost smell it in the air! As I am writing this the sky is blue and it's 78 degrees! When you read this there could possibly be snow on the ground...after all, it is North Carolina!

The Adult Choir catches me saying that we will be working on music that is a little more somber because we are in the season ofAdvent....oops, I mean Lent. We will be singing hymns that reflect the nature of the season, songs that bring to mind repentance, mercy and the life and death of Christ. Let us focus on the "reason for the season" during this Lenten season. Remember why we are singing the hymns about Christ's suffering and death. Sing them with love in your heart for Christ....who died so that we might live.

Laura



Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour on Sunday, **March 12th**, so you will not be late for Sunday School or Worship!



Young Family Bible Study

Our Young Family Bible Study will be held on **March 1st** and **15th** at 6:00 PM. This is a wonderful time for children and young families to gather together to study God's word.



Deacons will not meet in March. They will meet Sunday, **April 2nd**, following Morning Worship. Please continue to pray for our deacons and their invaluable leadership to our church.



FROM THE
Pulpit

**THIS
MONTH IN
WORSHIP**

Join us for our Sunday Morning Worship Services. If you can't be with us at church then join us online for our Virtual Sunday Worship Service on Facebook Live at 11:00 A.M.

MARCH 5

Wandering In The Silent Wilderness

Amos 8:11-12

Second Sunday of Lent/Communion

MARCH 12

Wandering In The Babylon Wilderness

Jeremiah 29:1-11

Third Sunday of Lent

MARCH 19

Wandering In the Garden

Matthew 26:36-46

Fourth Sunday of Lent (WS)

Hymn request - in the garden

MARCH 26

Our Wandering In The Wilderness

Luke 15:11-32

Fifth Sunday of Lent



**ANNIVERSARY
TREE PLANTING**

Our young people are invited to plant two trees on our church grounds in commemoration of our 150th year Anniversary. Please be at the front of the Annex on Saturday **March 18th**, at 10:00 AM. Call Sid Shearin with any questions.



HISTORY OF THE LITTLETON BAPTIST CHURCH FACILITIES



Each time Littleton Baptist Church gathers in its current facility there is a marvelous history of faith and dedication worthy of our thanksgiving.

The first building, located on Church Street (near the Hardware store) was completed during the year 1878, and dedicated on the second Sunday in August of that year some five years after the church was founded. Previously she had met in the upper room of a store owned by two of its founding members. On August 4, 1907, Rev. J. P. Bowers initiated a movement to build a new house of worship. During his pastorate a lot was purchased on Mosby Avenue from Captain J.L. Leach and the foundation for the new structure was laid. Much time past in difficult years and the new church building was then completed during the pastorate of Rev. H. Reid Miller and dedicated on Sunday, May 16, 1920. The stained-glass windows are a testament to the beauty and witness of this facility.

In 1954, the first sanctuary was fully renovated and “turned around” and the present education building of classrooms and fellowship hall were added. The first service was held December 12, 1954. Since that time the church has been remodeled several times, the latest in 1995.

On July 2, 1948, the church dedicated its parsonage on 115 Johnston Street. In March of 1963 the parsonage was enlarged and remains in use today by our pastor. Over the years it has served as a beautiful and practical home by 10 of its pastors, including this former pastor for over 17 years.

In 1999, the church purchased the Newsom property adjacent to the church and added a paved lot with driveway and parking for 60 cars. This addition greatly added to the visibility and usability of our facilities. In 2007 the church was blessed to purchase the corner property and house, having previously served as the Methodist Parsonage. This facility is used to house our church office with space for small group meetings and provide space for storage for the Living Nativity and so much more.

In 2008, the church completed an Accessibility Building Project which included the addition of two new handicapped bathrooms near the vestibule, new handicapped accessibility from the parking lot, new carpet throughout the church, and complete handicapped accessibility from the sanctuary to the fellowship building.

As the church continues its ministry, the building serves as a reminder to the community that we are here. The building continues to change and update. In the last year we have added new technology to allow our worship services to be streamed online. We have also added a wonderful new playground so the children of the current and future generations have a wonderful place to play. The playground will be dedicated later this year.

Give thanks to God as He continues to bless LBC with marvelous facilities and the church continues to upgrade and maintain them for his glory into the future.

Mike Currin



March is here. Daylight Savings Time begins March 12th. The first day of Spring is March 20th.

It is time to start thinking about Easter and Easter Lilies for our sanctuary as we celebrate the resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ. This year Easter is on April 9th.

If you decide to place a Easter Lily in our sanctuary please let us know as soon as possible! The price is \$17.50 for a single stem, \$27.50 for double stem, and \$55.00 for triple stem. Make your check payable to Littleton Baptist Church and label it - Easter Lily. The order can be given to a member of the flower committee, church office, or mailed to P.O. Box 216, Littleton, N.C. 27850. Don't forget to let us know who your lily is in memory of or in honor of.

If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary this month, **March 19th** & **March 26th** are available.

Don't forget about the flower sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the hallway or you may contact a member of the Flower Committee by phone or email: Sandra Lynch, (252) 578-3495, sandralynch337@gmail.com or Kay Beaver, (252) 586-2014, dbeaver10@gmail.com. You can also contact the church office by email: office@littletonbaptistchurch.org.

We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful church family! Thank you for all you do to keep the sanctuary so beautiful.



CHURCH WORKDAYS

As always our church building needs cleaning and repairing. Please join us on **Friday, March 24th** and/or **Saturday, March 25th** from 8:30 A.M. to noon for our annual spring cleaning and repairs. There are a variety of jobs that need doing so come even if you can only spend an hour or two helping. THANKS!



LEGO CHURCH ON DISPLAY

As we celebrate our 150th Anniversary a replica of our church has been built out of Legos. Our Lego church building will be on display at the Littleton Town Library for the month of March. The library is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.



Youth will meet **March 12th** and **26th** at 5:00 P.M. for dinner and Bible Study. During this month the youth will be looking at the season of Lent and what it means to them. We look forward to studying with such amazing youth. It will be a wonderful time of fellowship and learning.

Community Lenten Lunch and Devotion Series

Each Wednesday

March 1 – March 29

12:00 Noon - 1:00 P.M.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location*</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
March 1	Littleton Baptist Church	Rev. Scott Benson, Lakeside Lutheran
March 8	Littleton Baptist Church	Rev. Timothy Edwards/Roanoke Chapel
March 15	Littleton UMC	TBA
March 22	Littleton UMC	TBA
March 29	Littleton UMC	Rev. David Little/Littleton Baptist Church

** Host church will provide music for each luncheon!*

They begin at Noon and conclude at 1:00 P.M. Each person should bring a bagged lunch. Dessert and beverage will be provided by the host church. The devotion will begin by 12:30 P.M.

Come as you are and invite someone to join you for a time of community fellowship and devotion!

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



<u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u>	<u>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>
2 Carol West 5 Lowell Lee 9 Connor Pitchford (11 yrs) 15 Sara Council 15 Don Lanser 19 Emily Pulliam 20 Ray Holloman 22 Paula Burton 24 Colvin Iles 25 John Skinner 25 Brandon Stansbury 27 Destiny Hilton (10 yrs) 28 Beth King 31 Stephanie Iles	26 Kent & Carol West (29 yrs)	5 Jan Myrick/Sara Council 12 Melinda Harris/Sandra Lynch 19 Amanda Coffman/Bob Thompson 26 Lynne Skilton/Jim Skilton
		<u>GARBAGE DETAIL</u>
		Perry Myrick