

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."

Rev. Michael O. Currin, Pastor
www.littletonbaptistchurch.org



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PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH

Recently I've noticed more and more internet articles which are numbered, for example "Ten things to know for your Monday" or "Six planning tools for retirement" or "Five facts about your social security." Seeing so many prompted me to think about the New Year and what keys are vital to our spiritual health both individually and as a church. Thus I've written an article titled "Seven Keys to LBC's Spiritual Wholeness in 2015." I have chosen seven because it is the biblical number for perfection and/or wholeness.

Number One: "Vital Worship." The Bible encourages us to not forsake assembling ourselves together. When Christians gather desiring and expecting to encounter the Almighty God who is the center of worship, we are changed and God works among us. As pastor, I encourage you to make worship a central priority. During the week, pray diligently for God's presence to move us. Pray for our choir, your pastor, our musicians and all who will lead in worship. Please arrive early, arrive prayerful, arrive expecting good things to happen through worship.

Number Two: "Faithful Bible study." At LBC we have dedicated bible study leaders who love teaching the Bible. I encourage you to prepare the lessons, pray for the teachers, and come seeking to understand the truths to be taught on Sunday. Don't forget other opportunities for study as well. Our Annual Winter Bible Study begins this month and our regular Wednesday night gatherings are excellent chances for concentrated Bible Study. We learn from one another as we gather. If you are already a part, encourage others. If you've not taken full advantage, why not begin now?

Number three: "Invite Prospects." Do you know people in our surrounding area not in church? Have you invited them to service? Told them about our church? Invited them to learn more about us by checking out our church webpage at littletonbaptistchurch.org? People are reached as we take an active interest in encouraging others. Take time to share what God is doing in your life and what your church means to you. And of course pray for them, especially those who don't know Jesus.

Number four: "Enthusiastic Service". Church is not just about us. It's about caring for the lives of others. Consider ways you can serve God by investing in the lives of others. Listen for ways God can use you to better serve others this year. Our LBC ministry is community based to serve in ministry and love. Where is God calling you to better serve him?

Number five: "Regular Stewardship." Vital to our spiritual health is our financial giving. Yes God needs our regular faithful tithes and offerings. Prayerfully consider giving your best to the master. Remember however, it's not just about meeting our financial needs at church. First and foremost, generosity as believers brings us joy, is a significant act of worship, and enables us to grow in faith and faithfulness to our God who generously supplies all our needs.


Number six: "Daily Prayer." Pray daily for your church to grow in number and in faithfulness to our God as we love and serve within and beyond the walls of our building. Take our weekly prayer list and pray for those needs. Make prayer a priority in your day. Pray for one another daily that we will each grow more spiritually alive in Christ!

Number Seven: "Love one another." Just keep doing what you do best, loving one another. Consider even more ways to express that love! My prayer is for us to grow more and more alive in Christ and for 2015 to be our best year ever!

Mike



January 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<i>1</i>  NEW YEAR'S <i>Day</i>	<i>2</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>3</i>
<i>4</i> Food Box 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 5:30 Youth 7:00 Deacons Mtg.	<i>5</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>8</i> 7:00 Mission Committee	<i>9</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>10</i> 7:00 Christian Men at Work
<i>11</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	<i>12</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i> 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Quarterly Business Mtg.	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>17</i>
<i>18</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 3:00 Winter Bi- ble Study 5:30 Youth	<i>19</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>24</i>
<i>25</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 3:00 Winter Bi- ble Study 5:30 Youth	<i>26</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>



Our Christian sympathy is extended to:

Sid Shearin family in the death of his uncle, Ransom Journigan.
Mike Blanton family in the death of his aunt, Cinderella Camara.



I am not one of those people who love New Year's Eve. It is a sad time for me because I just think of it as Christmas being over and another whole year before it comes around again! I don't make resolutions and enjoy spending it quietly at home! I hope some of you have made a resolution to do something new and exciting in 2015! A suggestion from me would be to come join our Adult Choir! We will begin working on Easter this month so now is the perfect time!

I want to thank the Junior Singers for sharing with us in December! I also want to thank the Adult Choir for another job well done on December 21! I want to thank them for adjusting to my crazy choir schedule while rehearsing for the Cantata! They were always willing to change nights or stay after church! What a great group we have! Thanks to Moira Underwood and Charles Wilson for joining us!

I do wish that 2015 is good to all of you!

Happy New Year!

Laura



LORD'S SUPPER

On Sunday, January 4, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper. At the conclusion of worship, you will be given opportunity to contribute to our church's Fellowship Fund for local benevolent needs.



INCLEMENT WEATHER

On Sundays in which inclement weather renders it unsafe to conduct Sunday School and Worship Services, our deacons will contact you if our services are postponed in any way.

DEACONS MEETING



Our Deacon's will meet on Sunday evening, January 4 at 7:00 P.M. in the church annex.



QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

Our next Quarterly Business Meeting is Wednesday, January 14 at 7:30 P.M. These quarterly meetings are vital to the church and her ministry as we report, discuss, plan and consider the ongoing needs that will strengthen us as the people of God. You are encouraged to be present and to always be prayerful about our church's ministries!



CHRISTIAN MEN AT WORK

The Christian Men at Work will meet on January 10 at 7:00 A.M. at Olive Grove Baptist Church. All men and boys are invited to participate.



Happy New Year!



Thank you!

How thankful we are to be part of a group who find so many ways to show their love. From the pat on the shoulder and a quiet "great job" to the financial gift you presented at the Christmas breakfast, you find many ways to encourage us. We are so blessed!

Many thanks!

Laura, Kay, Ashby and Bill



Thanks to everyone who has contributed to our church ministry this past year! Your contributions enable us to minister in numerous ways throughout our community and world. The 2015 offering envelopes are in the vestibule to be picked up and have been prepared for all who contributed in 2014. If you need envelopes for children or if you cannot locate yours, please contact the church office or Gladys Pegram, and we will happily provide them for you.



THANK YOU!

The Flower Committee would like to thank everyone who put poinsettias in our church during the Christmas Holidays. They were beautiful and added so much to our worship services.

Thanks for Your Kindness



HAPPY NEW YEAR to each of you! Thank you for your many expressions of love, support, prayers and gifts! You are each special to our family, and you have proved this in so many wonderful ways to us , among our church family, and in the community. Thank you for the financial love gift from the church for Christmas. We thank you for your many remembrances this Christmas and always. We wish each of you a Christ-filled 2015!

**Love,
Mike and Ann**



The following is the flower schedule for January:

January 4	Lord's Supper
January 11	Frances Walker
January 18	Open
January 25	Open

Thank you to all that helped make our sanctuary even more beautiful with flowers in 2014!

If you would like to place flowers in the church for a Sunday in 2015, please sign up as soon as possible on the calendar on the bulletin board in the hallway or contact one of the Flower Committee members - Sandra Lynch (252-586-1112), Debbie Keeter (252-676-9941) or Ann Currin (252-586-3370, anncurrin@embarqmail.com). Also, please let us know the information you would like placed in the bulletin for the flowers.

Thank you!!

The Flower Committee



WINTER BIBLE STUDY

Join us for our study of the book of Ezekiel using the Study Book: *Ezekiel: God's Presence in Performance* by William D. Shiell. This four week study will be held from 3:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. on Sundays beginning January 18. Study books will be available. Refreshments will be served each week.

Ezekiel: God's Presence in Performance study guide interprets the book of Ezekiel as a four-act drama to be told to groups living out their faith in a strange, new place. The book encourages congregations to listen to God's call, accept where God has planted them, surrender the shame of their past, receive a new heart from God, and to allow God to breathe new life into them. As they do, God shows them a vision of another place that God builds called "The Lord is There." This vision inspires them to rehearse the kind of life they will have in this new place that God is building. Instead of viewing Ezekiel as an interpreter of today's world events, this study guide challenges readers to take Ezekiel's vision of God's presence into their daily lives and perform it to their community.



CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR THE MILITARY

A big thanks to all the folks who sent their warm wishes for a Merry Christmas to Mr. Frank (Steve) Laras who was away from his family for Christmas. Mr. Laras is stationed in Afghanistan and is the son-in-law to friends of Thad and Melinda Harris. Since our church family signed four cards but only received the request to send a card to Mr. Laras, we sent the three extra cards to Mr. Laras and asked him to give them to people who needed to be cheered up at Christmas. Our Youth also sent a care package to Mr. Laras.

Sid Shearin

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Return Service Requested

<u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u>	<u>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</u>	<u>NURSERY WORKERS</u>
17 Barbara Topping 17 Daniel West 20 Brenda Holloman 24 Mike Conner 25 Jack Mathieson 26 Betty Ann Shearin 28 Sandra Felts	22 Tony & Pam Morris (26 yrs)	4 Melinda Harris/Eric Hockaday 11 Sarah Iles/Louise Gibson 18 Betty Blanton/Jan Miller 25 Carol West/Carly West
	<u>YOUTH MEALS</u>	<u>TRASH DETAIL</u>
	4 Carol West 11 No Meeting 18 Nora Labrecque 25 Ann Currin	Jimmy Kearney