

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."



AUGUST 2013

Rev. Michael O. Currin, Pastor

Vol. 37 No. 8

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH

It's true and my heart is heavy! One of every four children in America will go to bed hungry tonight. Sorry to bring that up. If you are like me, somehow it would be easier if we could just look the other way and pretend this is not true. If you're not willing to face this stark reality, you'd better stop reading this column now.

The fact still remains: 1 of every 4 of America's children will go to bed hungry every single night. As Christians we can't ignore the facts as if they were not so. The U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Department of Agriculture reported that in 2012, 29.2 percent of households with children are food insecure. That is confirmed in other reports as well.

In our area the statistics are even more startling. In Halifax County, 36.1 percent of all children live in poverty. Of those, 75 percent of the households are headed by women. That's the statistics, but we can't get bogged down in comparative statistics. Remember all of these children and families are creations of God and people He genuinely loves. Food insecurity is one of the clear ways the impacts of poverty show up for families. The high cost of food, lack of accessibility and other competing financial pressures leave families with difficult decisions to make and stark realities to face. The causes are many, but let us not be mistaken, children should never suffer for the misfortune or mistakes of parents.

The above facts are hard ones to absorb. And they can be overwhelming for people who've never really been hungry. We wonder why so many have such great needs. Good questions and the answers to such are difficult and time consuming if we dare invest in seeking to understand them and be a part of the solution. Truthfully, there is no quick fix. I truly wish there was. Getting involved will demand our time and investment in people's lives. While money and resources are needed, education and building healthy relationships are even more crucial. That's where we come in to play. Are we willing to invest ourselves in this great need or will we just sit on the sidelines or maybe just contribute some cash dollars?

While this subject of children and poverty in our community can be depressing, I would say there are things we can and must do to be a part of the solution; one person and one family at a time.

- We must pray! I pray to God regularly for individuals I know in poverty and this huge social problem. Every time I seem to hear His answer, *"just what are your plans Mike to become a part of the solution?"* And yes, God keeps putting before me some answers. Get involved. Will what I do totally fix totally the problem? No. Will they make a difference for some of these children and families trapped in poverty? Absolutely!
- One of the best ways we can help is to support the many individuals and groups that are already working within our own communities! Advocates for children include: The John 3:16 Center, Union Mission, Pregnancy Support Center, Hannah's Place, Angel's Closet, Littleton ACTS, and many others.
- Become involved with new opportunities. *"Room At the Inn"* is a new program being developed in collaboration with churches and Christian agencies to address the growing problem of women and children who are homeless. I can't imagine having no place to sleep at night. (see further info elsewhere in newsletter)
- Get involved in our local schools as a volunteer to assist in their programs to help the children in their schools who are in poverty and those who are going to bed hungry. (Book Buddies, etc.)
- Become better informed and seek to better understand the issues. On Sunday, September 22 an ecumenical seminar is planned in Littleton called *"Understanding Poverty."* I/we have much to learn. This is a good place to start as we determine to become a part of the solution.

I'm going to keep praying and then listen to where God leads me. Can we do anything less for the sake of the children? In the name of Christ, we will strive to make a difference for the children among us. What part of the solution do you intend to be?

Mike

AUGUST 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Food Box 8:30 Outdr Wrld 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 5:30 Youth 7:00 Deacon's Mtg.	5 8:30 Exercise 7:00 Nominating Committee	6	7 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	8 6:30 P.M. Room at the Inn Meeting	9 8:30 Exercise	10
11 Food Box 8:30 Outdr Wrld 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 6:00 Ice Cream Social 7:00 Church Council	12 8:30 Exercise	13	14 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	15	16 8:30 Exercise Mission Team leaves for El Salvador	17 Mission Team in El Salvador
18 8:30 Outdr Wrld 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 4:00 Youth Mission Team in El Salvador	19 8:30 Exercise Mission Team in El Salvador	20 Mission Team in El Salvador	21 8:30 Exercise Mission Team in El Salvador 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	22 Mission Team in El Salvador	23 8:30 Exercise Mission Team returns from El Salvador	24
25 8:30 Outdr Wrld 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	26 8:30 Exercise	27	28 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	29	30	31



Now that the school year is rolling back around I am beginning to feel retired! What a wonderful feeling!

I hope all of our choir members have enjoyed their "July" summer break! Choir Rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, **August 7** at 6:30 P.M. Now is the perfect time to join us! The Adult Choir is open to all interested men and women....of all ages! We would love to have you!

Laura



DEACONS MEETING

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



Our third Summer Ice Cream Social is scheduled for Sunday, **August 11** at 6:00 P.M. Everyone is invited to attend with a hungry appetite, and if you can, please bring freezers of homemade ice cream or snacks to complement the ice cream. Bring a friend to join the Christian fellowship we will enjoy together!

CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Council will meet at 7:00 P.M. on Sunday, **August 11** in the annex.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee begins their work on the 2013 - 2014 Officers and Teachers on Monday, **August 5** at 7:00 P.M. and will continue their work this month. You are asked to prayerfully consider your places of service as you are contacted and seek to discern God's way. If you have a particular interest or area of giftedness, contact a member of the committee and make them aware of that interest. Members of this committee include: Sarah Iles, Suzanne Pearce, Mike Blanton, Greg Fussell, Kay Beaver & Carolyn Price. Ex-officio members include Melinda Harris & Mike Crawley.



On Sunday, **August 4**, we'll be distributing the Resident Membership list so you can begin to prayerfully consider your deacon nominations for the coming year. Nominations will take place on **August 25**. You will be asked to nominate four persons to serve a four-year term. In September the top four nominees agreeing to serve will then be placed on a ballot to elect two persons to serve a four-year term each.

ROOM AT THE INN

On Thursday, **August 8** at 6:30 P.M. you are invited to a forum of church and community leaders to discuss a plan for community churches to address the growing need of homeless women and children in our community during the winter. Our mission committee and other interested persons are encouraged to attend this meeting at the Rosemary Baptist Church in Roanoke Rapids.



**Our Pastor's
18th
Anniversary**

On WEDNESDAY, August 14, Rev. Mike Currin will celebrate his 18th anniversary as pastor of Littleton Baptist Church. Thank you, Pastor Mike, for the many ways you show your love to us. We love you for all you do for us and our Lord!

El Salvador Mission Team

August 16 - August 23

Ahuachapán, El Salvador

Team Members

**Mike and Ann Currin,
Brenda Hudson, Clyde Johnston,
Jan Miller**

Mission Projects

**Support of the Free Medical Clinic
Needs and Visitation and Food distribution in extreme poverty areas.**

Ways To Support This Ministry

Pray for our team members and the others participating as we provide financial support for the projects to help with food for the poor, home construction, and Prescription and OTC medication. Your contributions designated for this ministry are greatly needed and most appreciated!



The following is the flower schedule for the month of August 2013.

August 4	Susan Conger
August 11	Lollie Johnston
August 18	David & Sarah Iles
August 25	Roy Spain

If you would like to place flowers in the church, please contact Priscilla Parks, Josie Myrick or Sandra Lynch. Thank you to all that have helped with flowers this year!



**Save the Date:
Church Directory Photography
September 5, 6 & 7**



HOMECOMING

Our Church Homecoming Service is scheduled for November 10 at 11:00 A.M. We will be celebrating 140 years of ministry! Rev. Charles Wilson will be the featured speaker. We hope you will make every effort to join us for this special day!



Proposed Itinerary for the El Salvador Mission Team 2013

Friday, August 16	Littleton Baptist Group will depart RDU Airport at 6:00 A.M. on Delta 1456, connect through Atlanta, and arrive at El Salvador on Delta 403 at 11:48 A.M. They will be met at the airport by church representatives and taken to Ahuachapán to the hotel where they will be staying. Supper will be at the hotel followed by orientation.
Saturday, August 17	Breakfast, 7:30 A.M. Prayer and team devotional follows breakfast. Leave for work projects at 8:30 A.M. Lunch will be served in the community. They will return to the hotel at 4:00 P.M. Dinner will be at 6:00 P.M.
Sunday, August 18	Breakfast, 7:30 A.M. Prayer and team devotional follows breakfast. Board bus for sight seeing in the morning and then return to Church in Ahuachapán in the afternoon. Dinner to follow at hotel.
Monday, August 19	Breakfast, 7:30 A.M. Morning devotional follows breakfast. Leave for work projects at 8:30 A.M. Lunch will be served in the community. They will return to the hotel at 4:00 P.M. Dinner will be at 6:00 P.M.
Tuesday, August 20	Breakfast, 7:30 A.M. Team Devotional follows breakfast. Leave for the work projects at 8:30 A.M. Lunch will be served in the community. Return to the hotel at 4:00 P.M. Dinner will be at 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday, August 21	Breakfast, 7:30 A.M. Morning devotional follows breakfast. Leave for work projects at 8:30 A.M. Lunch will be served in the community. Return to the hotel at 4:00 P.M. Dinner will be at 6:00 P.M.
Thursday, August 22	Breakfast, 7:30 A.M. Morning devotional follows breakfast. Leave for work projects at 8:30 A.M. Lunch will be served in the community. Will return to the hotel at 2:30 P.M. to shower and pack. They will board the bus at 4:00 P.M. to travel to San Salvador. Check into the hotel, then dinner at a restaurant.
Friday, August 23	Breakfast at 7:30 A.M. at the hotel. The bus will leave at 8:45 A.M. They will stop at the Artisan's Market, then on to the airport. They will depart SAL airport at 12:43 P.M. on Delta 374. Will connect through Atlanta. Will arrive at RDU airport at 10:19 P.M. on Delta 889.

**Please pray daily for our Mission Team as we serve
as your missionaries in El Salvador!**

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

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Return Service Requested

<u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u>	<u>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</u>	<u>NURSERY WORKERS</u>
4 Eleanor Conner (2 yrs.) 6 Jordan Kearney 9 Melinda Harris 11 Kay Tripp 12 Ann Mathieson 14 Treva Neville 20 Daniel Iles 21 Virginia Tant 25 Beverly Fussell 25 Roy Spain 29 Willie Felts	No Anniversaries	4 Kay Tripp/Paula Burton 11 Josie Myrick/Sara Council 18 Betty Blanton/Billy Blanton 25 Brenda Hudson/Mary Beth Labrecque
	<u>YOUTH MEALS</u>	<u>TRASH DETAIL</u>
	4 Ryan Hockaday 11 Ice Cream Social 18 Betty Anne Shearin (4:00 P.M) 25 No Youth	David Iles