

# 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



APRIL 2015

[www.littletonbaptistchurch.org](http://www.littletonbaptistchurch.org)

Vol. 39 No. 4

## PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH

Wow, the season of Lent has quickly come and gone. Easter and all the joy and triumph that come with this joyful celebration are upon us. After Maundy Thursday Communion, Good Friday Service, Easter Egg Hunt for Kids, and our Easter Sunrise Service, our Adult Choir will present *"The King is Coming"* as we celebrate Easter worship together.

But let's not move too quickly. Let's take some time to think about the cross and its personal meaning for us. Without the cross, Easter would have no meaning at all. Recently I was in Charlotte attending the annual CBFNC General Assembly of Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Churches. It was a spirit filled meeting from beginning to end. It makes me proud Littleton Baptist Church is part of this special group of Baptist Christians so focused on serving God, sharing Christ, and serving humanity in His name.

Near the end of that meeting which was filled with a variety of music types, we were led by a bluegrass band singing and leading us in some of the traditional hymns. I loved the bluegrass tint. It invited me to revisit some of the old favorites. The Band, Westmont Drive Bluegrass Band from Fayetteville began to sing the traditional *"The Old Rugged Cross."* It took me by surprise. The Spirit of God allowed me to hear those words with renewed understanding and vigor. Words like the cross

having a wondrous attraction to me and the chorus: *"So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, Till my trophies at last I lay down; I will cling to the old rugged cross, And exchange it someday for a crown."*

I truly worshipped then and since on those words from this old favorite I've heard sung all my life.

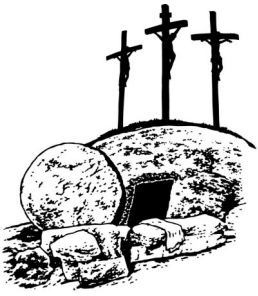
**The cross: A wondrous attraction?** Yes! We are again and again drawn to the cross as Christians. Yet it is something so horrible, so gruesome, and so absolutely awful. Jesus suffered the most violent form of capital punishment. It's certainly not the violence which attracts me. Rather it's my redemption and the hope I'm given because of Christ's voluntary willingness to go there and die, suffering the penalty I deserve. He clearly could have chosen life and yet He chose death. I deserve death yet because of Christ's willing and sacrificial gift, my penalty for my sinfulness is paid in full. Before we get to Easter, I invite you to consider again this wondrous attraction. Give thanks for Christ and His willing sacrifice.

Christians keep going to the cross, because we again need to cherish it, *"Till my trophies at last I lay down."* We all have our life trophies. They range from sport's victories to life trophies. Many of which are good and great: our life's work, our financial resources, our stuff we've accumu-



lated, our families including kids and grandkids, our successes and so much more. The cross is our constant reminder that as important as they are and seem in these short days we call our earthly life; we can't take any of these with us. What matters most is what we have done and are doing until that day we meet Jesus face to face. We must keep cherishing the cross and Christ's sacrifice so we keep our focus on what ultimately matters most. What might you need to lay down as we journey through the cross to Easter?

We keep clinging to the cross with the triumphant hope that will **"one day be exchanged for a crown."** Just like the cross ultimately became Christ's crowning glory, His crown of thorns would be exchanged for a crown of glory. Like Jesus, we too because of the cross, will have the same victory when death becomes eternal life. So Easter's coming, but don't forget to journey through the gruesome and horror of the cross. It's a wondrous attraction. Our victory follows only as we go to the cross and celebrate Christ's victory! Reflect on this before you gather for Resurrection Sunday!

Mike



# April 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 8:30 Exercise  6:30 Adult Choir No Prayer & Bible Study	<b>2</b>  7:00 Maundy Thursday Ser- vice	<b>3</b> 8:30 Exercise 12:00 Good Friday Service	<b>4</b> 10:00 Easter Egg Hunt  
<b>5</b> Food Box 7:00 Sunrise Service 8:30 Outdoor World 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship  <i>Easter</i> 	<b>6</b> 8:30 Exercise	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 8:30 Exercise  No Adult Choir or Bible Study	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 8:30 Exercise	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Food Box 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship  5:30 Youth 7:00 Deacons Mtg.	<b>13</b> 8:30 Exercise	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 8:30 Exercise  6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Quarterly Business Mtg	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 9:00 Set up for Kid's Carnival	<b>18</b> 8:30 Breakfast 11:00 Spring Kid's Carnival
<b>19</b> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	<b>20</b> 8:30 Exercise	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 8:30 Exercise  6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 8:30 Exercise	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship  5:30 Youth	<b>27</b> 8:30 Exercise	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 8:30 Exercise  6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<b>30</b>		



Our Christian sympathy is extended to:

Thad Harris & Family in the death of his sister, Joyce Erizkson.  
Elizabeth Hockaday & Family in the death of her husband, Jimmie Hockaday.  
Josie Myrick & Family in the death of her brother, Acey Smith.  
Julian Parks & Family in the death of his brother, Bennie Parks.



Imagine it's the year 1970! Eighteen year olds were given the right to vote. The Baltimore Orioles won the World Series. Kellogg's introduced the Eggo Waffles. Love Story was the country's top grossing film. And I was a wee toddler....well, not quite! It was also the year that Russell Maudlin wrote the beautiful song, The King Is Coming. In 2010 he decided to dedicate an Easter Cantata to this uplifting song.

The Adult Choir will be performing "*The King Is Coming*" during our Easter service on April 5th. We hope you plan to be with us as we share the story of the days leading up to the crucifixion of Christ and his glorious resurrection.

The King is coming! The King is coming! Praise God he's coming for me!

Happy Easter!

*Laura*



### SPRING MISSIONS INITIATIVE April 18, 2015

On **April 17** at 9:00 A.M. we will begin set up for the Carnival. All volunteers should meet at the church, then travel to the John 3:16 Center.

On Saturday, **April 18** Littleton Baptist Church will host the Spring Missions Initiative. The event begins at 8:30 A.M. with breakfast in our fellowship hall.

Please be in prayer for this "**BIG EVENT**" and our church family as we host the Children's Free Carnival!

Goodie Bags will be provided for each child.

A Health Screening will also be a part of this event.

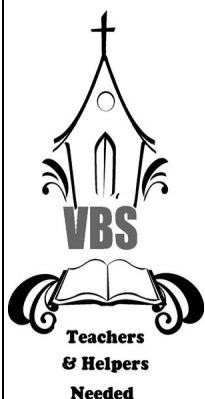
Volunteers are essential to the success of this mission. If you have not signed up yet we will still be able to use your help! Please come help us!

### EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP August 20 - 28, 2015

Contact pastor if interested in participating.

### DEACONS MEETING

Our Deacons will meet on Sunday, **April 12** at 7:00 P.M. in the Church Annex Conference Room. Please continue to pray for our deacons as they pray and consider the spiritual welfare of our church and her ministries.



### 2015 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The dates for this year's VBS will be **June 22-26** from 9:00 A.M. - 12:15 P.M. It will be hosted by Lakeside Lutheran Church. Volunteers are needed to teach, assist, crafts, recreation and many other assorted roles. See the pastor to volunteer. Be sure to put these dates on your summer calendar!



## Holy Week Worship Schedule

**MAUNDY THURSDAY** - Join us on Maundy Thursday, **April 2**, at 7:00 P.M. in the sanctuary as we celebrate the Lord's Supper and meditate upon our Lord's last hours with his disciples.

**GOOD FRIDAY** - Lakeside Lutheran Church invites our congregation to participate in a special Good Friday Service, **April 3** from 12:00 - 3:00 P.M. The service will feature special music from local churches as well as our pastor and six other ministers giving messages on the "Seven Words of Christ from the Cross." Our pastor will speak during the 1:15 P.M. segment. You can come for all or any portion.

**EASTER EGG HUNT** - All children 6th grade and under are invited to an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, **April 4**, at 10:00 A.M. Participants will meet in the fellowship hall for donuts and juice. The Egg Hunt will follow on the church grounds around 10:30 A.M. Children may be picked up at the around 11:30 A.M.

**SUNRISE SERVICE** - This year our Easter Sunrise Service will be held at 7:00 A.M. on **April 5**, at the rear of our church near the three crosses that have been constructed there. We hope to make this a witness to the community and invite others to join us. A fellowship breakfast by our Mission Committee will be served inside the fellowship hall immediately following the service.

**EASTER WORSHIP** - Join us on Easter, **April 5**, at 11:00 A.M. as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord through worship and our Adult Choir's presentation of the cantata "The King is Coming".



There will be a Mission Yard Sale on **May 2** from 7:00 A.M. until 12:00 noon at the Union Mission located at 1310 Roanoke Avenue, Roanoke Rapids. The yard sale will be sponsored by Littleton Baptist Church Mission Volunteers.

This yard sale with LBC mission volunteers will help the Union Mission meet its mission funding goals and provide needed resources to fund the Men's and future Women's Shelter, food distribution and many more programs for those in emotional, spiritual and economic need in our community!

If you can assist, please let the pastor know and/or show up to work. You will enjoy the fellowship! We will be assisted by the men's residents of the Union Mission who will do most of the heavy lifting!

### Quarterly Business Meeting



Our Quarterly Business Meeting is Wednesday, **April 15** at 7:30 P.M. All members are encouraged to be with us. Committee and organizational leaders should bring reports of their work to be shared at this time.



**FREE KIDS CARNIVAL**  
**John 3:16 Center**  
**407 East End Avenue**  
**Littleton, North Carolina**  
**Saturday, April 18, 2015**  
**11:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.**



Preschool Games, Crafts, Bounce House,  
100 ft. Obstacle Course, Face Painting,  
Health Screenings for Children and Adults,  
Free Hot Dogs, Drinks,  
Cotton Candy, Goodie Bags

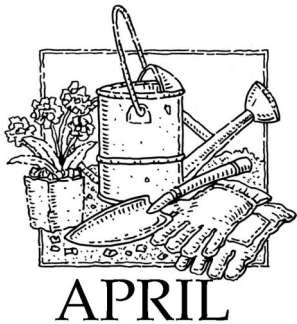
**Invite your friends and join us for this free fun day together!**

*Sponsors: Littleton Baptist Church and Cooperative Baptist Fellowship North Carolina*



Littleton Baptist Church  
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Return Service Requested

<u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u>	<u>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</u>	<u>NURSERY WORKERS</u>
1 Billy Pearce 8 Jan Miller 9 Wyatt Pegram 12 Claude Lynch 26 Peggy King 27 Caitlyn Phillis (2 yrs.) 27 Suzanne Pearce 27 Til Tremper 28 Laura Kearney	8 Lee & Jan Myrick (36 yrs) 10 Jimmy & Laura Kearney (33 yrs) 10 Jack & Virginia Tant (67 yrs) 15 Billy & Suzanne Pearce (43 yrs) 23 Larry & Sheryl West (24 yrs)	5 Brenda Hudson/Ryan Hockaday 12 Sarah Iles/Brenda Hudson 19 Sandra Lynch/Billy Blanton 26 Josie Myrick/Brenda Hudson
	<u>YOUTH MEALS</u>	<u>TRASH DETAIL</u>
	5 Easter 12 Youth (Ann Currin) 19 No Youth 26 Youth (Ryan Hockaday)	Billy Pearce