

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

August 2015

www.littletonbaptistchurch.org

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PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH

Wow! Seems such a short while since the moving van was unloading at 115 Johnston Street and my family was the "new" pastor at Littleton Baptist Church. And yet, though the years have flown by I've been so blessed to spend more than half of my years in pastoral ministry here working with you to serve our Lord. 20 Years! Not many pastors are so blessed as I to have such an opportunity.

What do I think of when I think of you?

I think of young children whom I've been blessed to watch grow and mature both physically, mentally and spiritually. Yes from front row children's sermons, to baptism, to youth activities and service, to graduations, to marriage, and to becoming young parents. I think of young adults who like myself have journeyed from young parents to be grandparents. I think of others who have journeyed deep into their senior years with all its challenges and many other saints who've joined our Lord in heaven. What a privilege to share this journey with Christ together.

I think of a small church with a big mission vision. I think of annual mission teams to El Salvador, all while we've

worked with increased diligence to share Christ's love in our own backyard. We've served Christ offering carnivals for children at the John 3:16 Center, through "Lacts" food pantry and Union Mission, through visitation and outreach in love, through Outdoor World Campground ministry, through VBS, and our cooperative ministries with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship partnerships. And that just mentioning some of what God has allowed us to do.

I think of a church in "the little town with a big heart" who genuinely loves one another. I've seen it over and over again as you greet each other on Sunday's, and when I've observed you celebrate each other's joys and share each other's sorrows.

I think of how you've loved me in my personal joys and sorrows as my life and family has experienced the dramatic ebb and flow of change that life takes. I have been blessed through them all to know I am serving alongside a church that knows how to love and care for their pastor, each other, and to "the least of God's children".

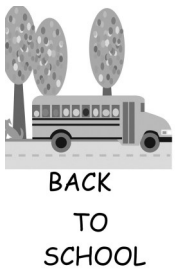
As we reflect a bit in this "milestone" anniversary please

know I thank you with all my heart for being the special, loving, gracious people you have been to me! The apostle Paul expressed very well my feelings in Philippians when he said: *"Every time I think of you, I thank my God. And whenever I mention you in my prayers, it makes me happy. This is because you have taken part with me in spreading the good news from the first day you heard about it. God is the one who began this good work in you, and I am certain that he won't stop before it is complete on the day that Christ Jesus returns."* Philippians 1:3-6 CEV.

What next? Well we never know what the future holds, yet we must remain firmly focused as our Lord leads us down that path. God does have a significant place for us in Littleton as we serve Him. Let's go forward ever committed to being all we can for Him!

For now I simply say, "Thanks for 20 blessed years!"

Mike



AUGUST 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i>
2 8:30 Outdoor Wrld 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Hospitality Comm. Mtg 5:30 Youth 7:00 Deacons Mtg	3 8:30 Exercise	<i>4</i>	5 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>6</i>	7 8:30 Exercise	<i>8</i>
9 8:30 Outdr Wrld 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 6:00 Ice Cream Social	10 8:30 Exercise 7:00 Nominating Committee Mtg	<i>11</i>	12 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>13</i>	14 8:30 Exercise	<i>15</i>
16 8:30 Outdr Wrld 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	17 8:30 Exercise	<i>18</i>	19 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>20</i>	21 8:30 Exercise	<i>22</i>
23 8:30 Outdr Wrld 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship Deacon Nominations	24 8:30 Exercise	<i>25</i>	26 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>27</i>	28 8:30 Exercise	<i>29</i>
30 8:30 Outdr Wrld 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	<i>31</i>					



Once again it is the beginning of the choir year! It was nice having Wednesday nights "off" in July but it is also nice to be getting back in the swing of things once more! Choir rehearsals begin on August 5th at 6:30. If you have been thinking about joining us now is the time!

As I have said in the past, I know there are some church members who would REALLY like to join us! It is a big commitment but it is one that is so important to our worship services! Just imagine our church with no choir! I am not the most knowledgeable choir director and most of our members can't read music but look what we can do with the talent that we have! Come, be a part of our choir and sing to the Lord!

Laura



ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Our third Summer Ice Cream Social is scheduled for Sunday, **August 9**, at 6:00 P.M. Everyone is invited to attend with a hungry appetite, and if you can, please bring a freezer of homemade ice cream or snacks to complement the ice cream. Bring a friend to join the Christian fellowship we will enjoy together!

Jordan Tripp will present pictures and insights from the Campbell University Student Mission Trip to Cuba during the Ice Cream Social.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

The Hospitality Committee will meet briefly following the morning worship service Sunday, **August 2**, to make plans for the 20th anniversary celebration.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee begins their work on the 2015 - 2016 Officers and Teachers on Monday, **August 10**, 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: Kay Beaver, Carolyn Price, Louise Gibson, Jimmy Kearney, Chairperson; Betty Blanton & Sid Shearin Ex-officio members include Melinda Harris & Mike Crawley.



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

August 2	Available for Scheduling
August 9	Available for Scheduling
August 16	Available for Scheduling
August 23	Available for Scheduling
August 30	Available for Scheduling

If you would like to place flowers in the church, please contact Ann Currin (252-586-3370), Sandra Lynch (252-586-1112), or Debbie Keeter. Thank you to all that have helped with flowers this year!

DEACONS MEETING

Our Deacon's will meet on Sunday evening, **August 2** at 7:00 P.M. in the annex.



On FRIDAY, August 14, Rev. Mike Currin will celebrate his 20th 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!



PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY

Mark your calendars for a very special day that will be occurring on Sunday, **August 16**. We will all be joining to celebrate Pastor Mike's twenty-year anniversary as our dear friend, mentor, teacher and pastor. Mike has served the Lord faithfully here since August 14, 1995. So that you may have the opportunity to personally greet Mike to express your love and appreciation a "sit-down" luncheon is being planned for **August 16** immediately following our Sunday Worship Service. The luncheon will be held in the fellowship hall of Littleton United Methodist Church. Our Hospitality Committee is planning the menu for this meal.

EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP POSTPONED



This months previously scheduled El Salvador mission trip has been postponed until a later date due to sickness. While we are not going, plans are for us to send financial support for them to purchase medications to be used through the free medical clinic supported by the churches in El Salvador. If you would like to offer support, please contribute by **August 15** so that they can be distributed in a timely manner. Please designate your gifts for El Salvador Missions. This makes a huge difference to the people and ministries we've been supporting with our trips and ministries over the past 10 years.

Continue to pray for their ministry and that very soon we'll be able to once again continue this vital ministry we share.

DON'T FORGET TO LOG INTO OUR CHURCH WEBSITE

www.littletonbaptistchurch.org

Some of the information to be found on our website includes our current church calendar, schedules, current and upcoming events, tools to share who we are as a church, how to become a devoted follower of Christ, sermons, archived newsletters, a host of suggested and related links, lots of photos and even a direct link to our church Facebook page, and so much more.

This website is designed for your use and for you to share with others regarding Littleton Baptist Church. Hope you will use it often.



On Sunday, **August 2**, 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 23**. 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.

September 5 (Labor Day Weekend)

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

at Littleton Baptist Church

Cleaning out your attic or storage building? The John 3:16 Center is accepting donations of furniture, appliances, electronics, tools/equipment, useful household items, sporting equipment, etc. for their yard sale. Proceeds benefit the community through programs offered at The John 3:16 Center. In order to avoid interrupting their programs donations will be received Monday – Friday through August 7 between 3:00 – 5:00 P.M. and Saturdays 9:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M. Donations will be accepted Monday – Friday, August 10 – September 3 from 9:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M. If this time poses a problem for you, please contact Shannon or Brittany at (252) 586-1800 to work out an alternative.

If anyone would like to help with the yard sale, they will set up on Friday, **September 7**. They will need pricers, sorters and haulers. They can also help during the sale and packing up at the end of the day. If anyone is interested in helping please contact the Center.



SUPPORT UNION MISSION WITH CARDBOARD, CLOTHING AND RAG MATERIALS



While serving as your pastor and serving on the Board of the Union Mission it is clear the needs are great and the ministry invaluable to those in need. The Union Mission continues to offer ministry to homeless men and struggling individuals through it's kitchen ministry which serves a daily meal for the community, feeds the resident men 3 meals a day and offers housing, counseling and life skills. Additionally, it's food pantry serves over 700 food boxes per month. Emergency home items and clothing is a huge part of their ministry. Additionally, it is looking to offer a shelter for homeless women in the very near future. None of this happens without community and church support and prayer. When the needs are greatest is most often when the economy is down and financial support is at its lowest. Of course contributions great and small are appreciated, but not possible for everyone.

But there is something you can do. During the Littleton/Lake Gaston festival in our parking lot we'll also be collecting cardboard and clothing, good clothes which can be sold and not so good which will be sold for rags. All three of these sources help support the ministry of the Mission. You can bring these to our church anytime. A special station will be set up during the concurrent yard sale for the John 3:16 Center. Your help makes a huge difference! Spread the word!

Thank you!

Mike

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 (4 yrs) 6 Jordan Kearney 9 Melinda Harris 9 Elin Conner (2 yrs) 11 Kay Tripp 12 Ann Mathieson 20 Daniel Iles 20 Tom Tremper 21 Virginia Tant 25 Beverly Fussell 25 Roy Spain	No Anniversaries	2 Sandra Lynch/Ryan Hockaday 9 Brenda Hudson/Josie Myrick 16 Betty Blanton/Billy Blanton 23 Brenda Hudson/Eric Hockaday 30 Sandra Lynch/Sarah Iles
	<u>YOUTH MEALS</u>	<u>TRASH DETAIL</u>
	2 Carol West 9 Ice Cream Social 16 To be determined 23 No meeting 30 To be determined	Mike Blanton