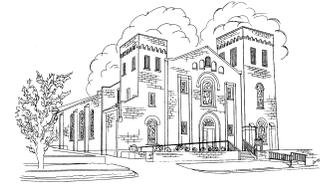


LITTLETON BAPTIST NEWS

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 2016

www.littletonbaptistchurch.org

Vol. 40 No. 4

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH

The past year of Ann and my life have been challenging with her cancer diagnosis yet we have been blessed by the prayers of our church and friends far beyond measure. We thank you so very much and ask you to continue to pray after her recent excellent reports and as she regains strength. Prayer matters - but is often not easy or simple.

I share with you a previous column from some years back that adequately reflects my continued thinking regarding our call to prayer.

Prayer is a life time of discipline and difficult labor. At times it seems despite all our many practical efforts to learn about prayer and a deeper relationship with God, and all our years of praying, we still can but conclude we are mere novices. The following prayer (or portions of a prayer) by spiritual writer Henri J. M. Nouwen from his book [A Cry for Mercy](#), (p. 50) reflects the feelings I often have when it comes to developing a deeper walk through prayer. As I read, I could easily pray the same prayer minus the books written. You too may experience something similar or you may say I'm no where close to being

where Nouwen is, yet I can still relate.

"O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on me, a sinner. I am impressed by my own spiritual insights. I probably know more about prayer meditation, and contemplation than most Christians do. I have read many books about the Christian life, and have even written a few myself. Still, as impressed as I am, I am more impressed by the enormous abyss between my insights and my life.

It seems as if I am standing on one side of a huge canyon and see how I should grow toward you, live in your presence and serve you, but cannot reach the other side of the canyon where you are. I can speak and write, preach and argue about the beauty and goodness of the life I see on the other side, but how, O Lord, can I get there? Sometimes I even have the painful feeling that the clearer the vision, the more aware I am of the depth of the canyon... Sometimes I feel imprisoned by my own insights and "spiritual incompetence." You alone, Lord can reach out to me and save me. You alone.

I can only keep trying to be faithful, even though I feel

faithless most of the time. What else can I do but keep praying to you, even when I feel dark; to keep writing about you, even when I feel numb; to keep speaking in your name, even when I feel alone. Come Lord Jesus, come. Have mercy on me, a sinner. Amen."

Whether you feel a novice, lifelong learner, or both, I suspect you feel inadequate when it comes to your prayer journey. His final words are the most important for us. Keep praying, even when we feel dark and numb. Keep speaking his name even when we feel alone in our prayers. God knows our need and hears us! God alone is merciful to us even when we feel alone in our prayers. Don't give up! Press on to a life of prayer and faith where you spend time with Him, even if you do seem to be "on the other side of the canyon." Never forget, God is everywhere hearing our every need, even when we can't seem to realize it ourselves.

Keep journeying deeper into your life of prayer. God is patient and merciful! And He hears our every prayer!

Mike



April 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 8:30 Exercise	2
3 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Mission Committee Mtg 5:30 Youth 7:00 Deacons Mtg.	4 8:30 Exercise	5	6 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	7	8 8:30 Exercise	9
10 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 5:30 Youth	11 8:30 Exercise	12	13 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Quarterly Business Mtg	14	15 9:00 Set up for Kid's Carnival	16 8:30 Breakfast 11:00 Spring Kid's Carnival
17 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	18 8:30 Exercise	19	20 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	21	22 8:30 Exercise	23
24 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	25 8:30 Exercise	26	27 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	28	29 8:30 Exercise	30



Our Christian sympathy is extended to:

Mike Crawley in the death of his mother-in-law, Mary Davidson



I want to thank the Junior Singers and the Adult Choir for the beautiful music they presented on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. It is such a joy to work with these wonderful singers!

This is the only time of year that we will not be working on some type of holiday music! We are working on several new selections to share with you during worship service in the near future! There are so many types of Christian music out there...old and new! We want to present a little bit of both!

Laura



The Mission Committee will meet following Morning Worship on Sunday, **April 3**, to finalize the plans for the kid's carnival to be held at the John 3:16 Center.



Our Deacons will meet on Sunday, **April 3**, 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.



SPRING MISSIONS INITIATIVE

On **April 15** 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 16**, our church is sponsoring a free children's carnival at the John 3:16 Center. Everyone's help is needed to make this a fun day for our children. There is a GREAT need for new and gently used children's books. This has been a big hit with the children in past years. Our book supply is very low. Please check your closets, bookcases, yard sales, friend's homes or stores for those books. We want to give each child a book. Our goal is 250 books. Also, ask your neighbor or friend if they would like to spend a fun day "playing" with children. We can use everyone from registration, parking, food, game assistants to huggers and encouragers. Remember to pick up a large drink when you are at the grocery store or drug store. Catch them on sale!!

Goodie Bags will be provided for each child and a Health Screening will also be a part of this event.

Please be in prayer for this "**BIG EVENT**" and our church family as we host the Children's Free Carnival! The event begins at **8:30 A.M.** with breakfast in our fellowship hall.

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! Thanks so much for what you have done in the past and for your help and encouragement this year. See you at the carnival!



The following is the flower schedule for the month of April 2016.

- April 3 Available
- April 10 Available
- April 17 Available
- April 24 Available

Flowers are needed for each Sunday in April. If you would like to place flowers on any of these dates, please contact Debbie Keeter (252-676-9941) or Sandra Lynch (252-586-3495). When you place flowers in the sanctuary please contact our church office by email or written note to show how you want it to be placed in the bulletin.



Thank you!

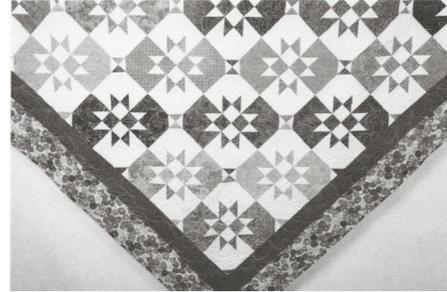
The Flower Committee would like to give their special thanks to everyone that gave the Easter Lilies to grace our sanctuary on Easter morning. Thank you for helping keep our church beautiful during such a special holy season.

Quilt Fundraiser

PLEASE HELP HARRISON WEST FIGHT CANCER!!!

The quilt was made with love and donated by the 6 Bees quilting club.

All proceeds from the sale of the fundraiser tickets will be donated to Harrison West to help with his expenses as he continues to fight cancer!



Tickets are \$2.00 per ticket or 3 tickets for \$5.00 and everyone's support for this fundraiser is appreciated and will make a huge difference.

Thank you for your generous support!

To purchase tickets please see Kay Tripp, Mike Currin or call the church office at (252) 586-5330.



QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

Our Quarterly Business Meeting is Wednesday, **April 13**, 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.

Parent / Child



Dedication

On Sunday, **April 10**, we will celebrate Parent/Child Dedication during worship at 11:00 A.M. Join us for this special day as church and home join hands and hearts to our Christian faith. Join Jim and Monica Phillis (and sister Caitlyn) as they dedicate their daughter Addison Grace Phillis at this time. Grandparents are Larry & Sheryl West and Mike & Ann Currin.



FREE KIDS CARNIVAL

**John 3:16 Center
407 East End Avenue
Littleton, North Carolina
Saturday, April 16, 2016
11:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.**



**Preschool Games, Crafts, Bounce House,
Chowan University Gospel Choir
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 & Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina



Chowan University Gospel Choir



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

Special Standard A U. S. Postage Paid Littleton, NC Permit 3



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 (3 yrs.) 27 Suzanne Pearce 27 Til Tremper 28 Laura Kearney	8 Lee & Jan Myrick (37 yrs) 10 Jimmy & Laura Kearney (34 yrs) 10 Jack & Virginia Tant (68 yrs) 15 Billy & Suzanne Pearce (44 yrs) 23 Larry & Sheryl West (25 yrs)	3 Brenda Hudson 10 Sarah Iles/Brenda Hudson 17 Sandra Lynch/Jan Miller 24 Josie Myrick/Brenda Hudson
	<u>YOUTH MEALS</u>	<u>TRASH DETAIL</u>
	3 Youth 10 Youth 17 No Meeting 24 No Meeting	Thad Harris