

# 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

email: littletonbaptistchurch@embarqmail.com

(252) 586-5330



NOVEMBER 2016

Vol. 40 No. 11

## PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH

The following was shared by me with the church at the conclusion of worship on Sunday, October 9.

*I thank my God every time I remember you, In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Jesus Christ.*

(Philippians 1:3-6)

There have been no truer words from the Bible than these that express my wonderful relationship with Littleton Baptist Church ever since that first day, August 14, 1995, until now. God has spiritually blessed me and my family immeasurably in our time together. For this I express my sincere thanks for allowing me to serve these days as your pastor.

After much prayer and preparation, with God's leadership and direction, I am announcing a change in this relationship. At the conclusion of worship and the Lord's Supper on Sunday January 1, 2017, I will begin my retirement from ac-

tive pastoral ministries. In retirement I plan to begin a new ministry of volunteerism. On January 3, I will begin to serve as Volunteer Program Director of the Union Mission, This will, among other things, allow me to give spiritual direction and counseling with the homeless men in residence. God has called me to this ministry where there is presently a great need.

As for the church and her ministry, I am very convinced God has good and significant plans for her future. I have no doubt God is preparing the right leadership to serve Littleton Baptist Church in the future. I believe our church's best days are still on the horizon. This will happen as we each dedicate to a more deeply committed life of prayer and give our best for God's service. I invite and encourage you this day to begin to pray regularly about this process of seeking a new pastor and the future ministries of this church.

As for me and the church, it is not my intention to relocate my residence or my church membership. I look forward in the days ahead to serve with

each of you and the new pastor who is to be called with prayerful and energetic support. For a time, as this transition takes place, I will need to be less involved in order for the church and newly called leader, to be given the rightful place of leadership so necessary and deserved.

While I will no longer serve as the pastor of Littleton Baptist Church as I have these past 21 plus years, I will remain friend and fellow member of this local body of believers as we pray and work to fulfill God's kingdom purposes.

Ann and I covet your prayers during this time of change and I assure you, my prayers will be constant and faithful, and though this relationship as pastor and congregation changes, our friendship will never change.

Thank you for the great privilege you have given me to spend well over half my public ministry as your local pastor!



May God richly bless each and every one of you!

I love you!!!

*Mike*



# NOVEMBER 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>5</i>
			6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study		6:45 Youth at Camp Willow Run	Youth at Camp Willow Run
<i>6</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Youth return from Camp Willow Run 7:00 Deacon's Mtg	<i>7</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>12</i>
			6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study			
<i>13</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Homecoming Worship 12:00 Homecoming Meal	<i>14</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>19</i>
			6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study			
<i>20</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship Parent/Child Dedication Service 5:30 Youth	<i>21</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
				 thanksgiving		
<i>27</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	<i>28</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> 8:30 Exercise			
			6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study			



Our Christian sympathy is extended to:

Thad & Melinda Harris in the death of his brother, Rev. Charles Harris



A college friend, who is also an organist and music director for a church outside of Charlotte, once told me, "Consider yourself lucky if your pastor has no musical knowledge...that way they can't tell you how to do your job!" Well, I consider myself very lucky!

I feel very blessed to have worked with Mike over the past 21 years. He has always supported whatever sane or insane music ideas I have had! I'm not looking forward to having to "train" a new pastor! I just ask that the pastor search committee find me someone with limited musical knowledge so that I can continue the way I do my job! Even though it wouldn't hurt if the new pastor had a great singing voice....something I have teased Mike about many times over the years!

Mike, you will be missed as my pastor and "boss!" But, you will continue to be my friend and hopefully a future choir member! When you do come back to LBC after a short hiatus I might not recognize you in the congregation. After all, I've only seen the back of your head all of these years!

Laura

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



The first Sunday of Advent is **November 27** as we prepare to celebrate our Lord's birth.

SPREAD CHRISTMAS CHEER



Our church will be sending cards and photos to cheer up people who will be away from home Christmas. If you know of anyone in the community that have family or friends that will be away from home such as military personnel or missionaries, please give their name and address to Sid Shearin or Brenda Hudson by **November 27**. The cards will be in the vestibule for you to sign on **November 27, December 4 & 11**. Sid wants to remind everyone you are not allowed to sign for your spouse or children. Everyone needs to sign individually.

Deacons Meeting



Our Deacons will meet on Sunday, **November 6**, at 7:00 P.M. in the Annex Conference Room.



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

- November 6 Lord's Supper
- November 13 Josie Myrick
- November 20 Available for Scheduling
- November 27 Advent/Poinsettia

Flowers are needed on November 20. If you would like to place flowers on this date please contact Sandra Lynch, Debbie Keeter or Ann Currin. When you place flowers in the sanctuary please contact the church office by email or written note to let us know how you want it placed in the bulletin.



Super High Youth Retreat  
November 4 - 6, 2016  
Camp Willow Run

Eight Youth and two adults will be participating from LBC. Pray for our youth and this Friday night through Sunday lunch retreat experience.



Daylight Savings Time ends **November 6**. Be sure to set your clocks back on Saturday night so you'll arrive for Sunday services at the correct time!



## JOHN 3:16 CENTER TOY DRIVE & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



The John 3:16 Center will again be doing a Toy Drive for children at Christmas as well as collecting winter hats and gloves for children who do not have them. Some specific needs are items for babies/toddlers (items marked for those that are under age 2 & 3) and for those 11 - 16 (jewelry, makeup kits, watches, art sets, music, inexpensive MP3 players, etc.) They also need books, games (card & board, ethnically diverse dolls, puzzles, balls, craft & model kits, and cars/trucks (standard & remote control). Any of these can be left at the church for distribution.

Another option is to support our youth in their project. For many years our youth have collected money and have done the toy shopping for our church members. If you'd like to contribute to the "shopping spree," they will be collecting after the worship service at the door on **November 27** and **December 4**. Your support of these projects will be greatly appreciated by our youth, the center and the children who receive your gifts. We'll be shopping on **December 4** and we thank you in advance for your support.

The Center could really use your help with several volunteer opportunities! (Please call or email [bsinka@john316center.org](mailto:bsinka@john316center.org) to sign up)

- Help by answering the phone and welcoming/directing families coming to apply for the program in November.
- Shop with Shannon for the clothing for the children (more people with carts and lists means she can get more done in fewer trips).
- Wrap presents/help set up for the parties December 12 -16 (16th should be more set-up related)



## NOTES FROM THE FLOWER COMMITTEE

We are so excited to have this opportunity to serve our Lord! The new flower chart for 2017 has been placed in the fellowship hall. If you wish to place flowers on the altar please call or email one of us with the date you would like. A big thank you to those who have signed up already!

Poinsettias will once again grace our sanctuary for the celebration of our Savior's birth. The deadline for ordering the poinsettias is **November 12**. The cost is \$19.00 for 8" pots and \$8.50 for 6" pots. Make your check payable to Littleton Baptist Church and label it - poinsettia. Please bring your order & check to a member of the flower committee, church office or mail it to P.O. Box 216, Littleton, N.C. 27850 with in honor of or in memory of information so orders can be placed.

Thank you for adding to our LBC worship experience!

Sandra Lynch  
Debbie Keeter  
Ann Currin

phone: 252-578-3495  
phone: 252-676-9941  
phone: 252-532-4881

[sandralynch337@gmail.com](mailto:sandralynch337@gmail.com)  
[anncurrin@embarqmail.com](mailto:anncurrin@embarqmail.com)



On **November 6**, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper during worship. Join us for this special service of remembering the sacrifice of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As you leave the service, you will be given opportunity to contribute to our Fellowship Fund for local benevolence.



Littleton Baptist Church is proud of our heritage and faith and once again we will have the opportunity to celebrate this heritage with Homecoming. This year will mark 143 years of ministry and service to the community of Littleton. This will be celebrated on Sunday, **November 13**, at 11:00 A.M.

We will be honored to have The Rev. Tom Bodkin as our guest speaker. Reverend Bodkin, a native of Raleigh, served Warrenton Baptist Church as *Pastor in the Interim* for one year, then served as pastor for a little over two more years, concluding his ministry there at the end of 2015. Prior to coming to Warrenton Baptist, he was *Associate Pastor for Congregational Care* at Hayes Barton Baptist Church in Raleigh for 12 ½ years. Before coming to Raleigh he served Rosemary Baptist Church in Roanoke Rapids for 18 ½ years.

During his ministry he has served churches in Alabama, Georgia and North Carolina. Active in the work of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina he has served on numerous committees and was elected Vice President of the General Board. He has served two terms on the Board of Directors for the NC Baptist Foundation. For one term he served as President of the Board.

Reverend Bodkin is married to the former Betty Stanford of Kinston, who is a retired piano teacher. On July 30 they celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary. He is the nephew of the late Rev. Herbert and Ruth Baucom. Rev. Baucom served as a former pastor of Littleton Baptist Church (1974-1978).

Plan now to join us for this special day in our church. A covered dish meal will be served Homecoming Style after the service!

## **I AM ... GOD'S CHILD**

### **Thanksgiving Offering - Baptist Children's Homes**

Each year, North Carolina Baptists show their love and support for children by participating in the annual Thanksgiving Offering for Baptist Children's Homes.

The vision for 2016 is "**I AM GOD'S CHILD**" Children and families receive the blessings of Christ every day through Baptist Children's Homes. Children, who are ministered to through our 19 locations across the state, often come from heart-breaking situations of family dysfunction, abuse, neglect and abandonment. Because of the care of dedicated house parents and staff, and the love shown by our churches and supporters, children and families are discovering new hope.

Our statewide offering goal this year is \$1,500,000. The annual offering empowers Baptist Children's Homes to offer hope to children. Baptist Children's Homes depend on the prayers and support of North Carolina Baptist. Giving to BCH's Annual Offering is not only important in helping to meet the tremendous needs of boys and girls. It's essential! You'll find envelopes and more information in your LBC November 6 bulletin.

***I AM the light of the world. - The words of Jesus from John 8:12***

## **John 3:16 Center**

### **Annual Fundraising Banquet**

The Annual Fundraising Banquet for the John 3:16 Center will be held on Friday, **December 2**. It will be held at the Mystique located at 1652 NC Hwy 125, Roanoke Rapids. The silent auction and hors d'oeuvres begin at 5:30 P.M. and dinner is at 6:30 P.M. Please contact the Center if you know of any business, organization or individual that would sponsor a table or donate silent auction items. Dinner is free but this is the Center's biggest fundraiser and it keeps it operating for the coming year. Our church and Roanoke Valley Insurance are jointly sponsoring a table and there is room for you. Donations are greatly appreciated! Contact Sid Shearin by **November 28** if you think you can attend. Thank you!

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

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

Return Service Requested



# November

<u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u>	<u>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</u>	<u>NURSERY WORKERS</u>
1 Ann West 2 Priscilla Parks 5 Betty Neville 10 Jim Sineath 11 Mary Virginia Kearney 19 Morgan Barnes 20 Harrison West (14 yrs) 20 Arlene Merritt 21 Chris Skinner 22 Bentley Iles (5 yrs) 24 Larry West 25 Thad Harris 28 Brenda Hudson 29 Mary Lois Spivey 30 Andrew Crawley	6 Matthew & Sara Council (6 yrs) 7 Sidney & Louise Gibson (51 yrs)	6 Sandra Lynch/Sarah Iles 13 Melinda Harris/Brenda Hudson 20 Sarah Iles/Jan Miller 27 Kay Tripp/Paula Burton
	<u>YOUTH MEALS</u>	<u>TRASH DETAIL</u>
	6 Return from Camp Willow Run 13 Homecoming 20 Youth (Ann Currin) 27 No youth	Greg Fussell