

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. Tom Bodkin, Pastor in the Interim
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THOUGHTS ALONG THE WAY

Today, I want to give you some background for what I plan to do in our service on May 21. For background, I want to take you back with me to my final year in college.

My first two years in college were at Mars Hill College, north of Asheville. This North Carolina Baptist college was, at that time, a junior college. Now, it is a four-year university. In order to finish my college education, I had to enroll in another school. I chose Howard College, now Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. Samford is also a Baptist school. I majored in Sociology, with a minor in Speech and Drama. The founder and head of the Speech and Dramatic Arts Department was Dr. G. Allan Yeomans. Dr. Yeomans was not only an excellent professor, but also a friend and role model for his students. We were very blessed to study under him.

During my senior year, Dr. Yeomans directed a production based on the book, *God's Trombones*, by James Weldon Johnson. The book is a collection of a prayer and seven African-American sermons - each being a composite of the style of the old-time Negro preacher. The production involved my fellow students and I sharing the prayer and sermons.

Our venue for the production was the Dawson Memorial Baptist Church in Birmingham. The church is a very large structure, with the Baptistry located halfway up the wall behind the pulpit. My part in the production was the first sermon, *The Creation*, which followed the opening prayer. A platform had been built in the Baptistry and I stood on that, dressed in a black robe, enveloped in a gold light.

Little did I know at that time that I would act out that sermon scores of times in my adult life. It has been a staple in the programs Betty and I have done for senior adults in North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland and Virginia.

One other part of the presentation is a musical background which Dr. Yeomans selected to go with *The Creation*. The selection is Dvorak's Symphony No. 9 "From the New World." I never cease to be amazed at how well it fits the sermon. It is almost as though Dvorak wrote it to be the background music.


Because I love the sermon and the music, and because I love the Littleton Baptist *Family of Faith*, I wanted to share *The Creation* with you. I hope that you will be able to be present on Sunday, May 21, and invite others. Of course, I want to see you before then, as well.

Your friend and *Pastor in the Interim*,

Tom



May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i> 9:00 Set up for Kid's Carnival	<i>6</i> 8:30 Breakfast 11:00 Spring Kids Carnival
<i>7</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 7:00 Deacons Mtg	<i>8</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i> 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 	<i>15</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i> 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>20</i> 8:00 John 3:16 Center Yard Sale
<i>21</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 5:30 Youth	<i>22</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> 8:30 Outdr Wld 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	<i>29</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i> 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study			



I want to thank the Adult Choir for their performance of Champion of Love. They give so much of their time and talents to make the magic happen! I hope you enjoyed it as much as we enjoyed presenting it to you!

I hope the Junior Singers will be singing on Mother's Day! We always enjoy hearing and seeing them!

Happy Mother's Day!

Laura



DEACON'S MEETING

Our Deacons will meet on Sunday, **May 7**, at 7:00 P.M. in the annex. Please pray for our deacons and their invaluable leadership to our church.



LORD'S SUPPER

On Sunday, **May 7**, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper. At the conclusion of worship, you will be given opportunity to contribute to our church's Fellowship Fund for local benevolent needs.



During our worship service on Sunday, **May 28**, we will recognize all of our High School, College or Post Graduates. Please contact the church office if you are or have a student preparing to accomplish either of these significant milestones.



On Mother's Day, Sunday, **May 14**, we'll take time to honor our mothers, past and present. Be with us as we take time to especially honor Christian Mothers who lift high the banner of Christ.



Outdoor World

Outdoor World Sunday worship leadership begins on Sunday, **May 28**, at 8:30 A.M. and continues through Labor Day weekend. If you are willing to participate, either speaking or assisting with special music, please see Mike Crawley or call the church. Thanks in advance for your prayers and support for this valuable ministry. Over the past few years it has been an inspiration to the campers and beyond.



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



The John 3:16 Center normally has their spring yard sale Memorial Day weekend, however this year it will be held at the Center on Saturday, **May 20**, at 8:00 A.M. Volunteers and "stuff" will be needed on Friday, **May 19** and Saturday, **May 20**. Please call the Center or see Sid Shearin for more information or if you will be able to help. Thank you!!!



I just wanted to take the time to truly thank everyone for their thoughts, meals, cards, prayers and support they provided, not only myself, but Til as well during this past year. Also critical was the handicap ramp the men and women of the Church, along with a few others, built and took down. That was a God-send for me. Thank you so much. As you may or may not know, last May I was admitted to WakeMed for Sepsis (Septic Shock.) Til was told by several doctors that they had never seen anyone as critically sick as I was when I arrived. After two admissions to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), the doctor in charge at one point told Til initially that it looked like I might need surgery and that I may not survive the operation. She suggested to Til that she should call the family post haste before she operated. Sooo, my children received that infamous, dreadful call in the middle of the night to which they immediately responded to be at my bedside. My daughter and her husband drove in from Asheville, and my son made the trip from Seattle. Ironically, the operation was not necessary at that time since my condition had miraculously improved. It did take place a month later but was considered non-life threatening at that point. Well the rest of the story is basically history. I survived multiple operations without any complications, improving daily and back to a 75 - 80% capability. I credit my survival solely to the prayers you offered our Lord. I thank each of you so much. I can't say that I felt the Lord's presence at the time, but reflecting back on it I can clearly see that it was He whose hands I was in. Praise be to God!

Tom Tremper

"TAKE ME OUT TO THE



Ball Game!"

Lakeside Lutheran Church has invited us to participate in a trip to see the Durham Bulls play Pawtucket (RI) Red Sox on Sunday afternoon, **June 4**. The game starts at 5:05 P.M. Tickets are \$10.75. Seats are on the 3rd base line. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. The deadline for signing up is **May 15**. If we want to carpool with Lakeside, we should be in their church parking lot at 2:00 P.M.

**MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING - NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST HOSPITAL
WEEK OF PRAYER - May 7 - 14, 2017**

Since 1923, the Mother's Day Offering has helped patients with serious financial needs pay their hospital bills in the name of Christ's love. Facing burdensome hospital bills, but struggling under financial hardships, they have nowhere to turn for assistance. God's love becomes very real when they receive a letter from Baptist Hospital that says, ***"Your hospital bill has been paid by compassionate and mission-minded North Carolina Baptists in the name of Jesus Christ and His love."*** Your gift makes a life-changing difference. God extends His love through you, lifting the burdens of hurting patients and families, and drawing them closer to Christ in heartfelt gratitude.



Mark your calendar for a trip to Peru for the week of **June 26**. Vacation Bible School is visiting Peru to learn more about Discovering God's Good Gifts. As we travel around Peru, our children will learn more about Jesus' love in our world. It will be a fun-filled week as children explore what daily life is like in Peru and discover God's good gifts for all of us as we study the Bible, play games, sing songs and maybe even taste different foods.

Please come and help. We need loving, caring people to guide our children. There are many places to serve: registration, crossing guards, teachers, musicians, food preparers, and activity directors. There is a place for you and your talents!



SPRING MISSIONS INITIATIVE

On **May 5** 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, **May 6**, 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!

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!



FREE KIDS CARNIVAL
John 3:16 Center
407 East End Avenue
Littleton, North Carolina
Saturday, May 6, 2017
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!

Sponsor: Littleton Baptist Church



The following is the flower schedule for the month of May 2017.

May 7	Lord's Supper
May 14	Mother's Day
May 21	Sarah Iles
May 28	Available for Scheduling

Flowers are needed for May 28. If you would like to place flowers on this date, please contact Ann Currin (252-532-4881, email: anncurrin@embarqmail.com). When you place flowers in the sanctuary, please contact our church office by email - littletonbaptist@embarqmail.com or written note to show how you want it to be placed in the bulletin.

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>
6 Sandra Lynch 6 Carolyn Price 8 Robbie King 8 Indie Parks 10 Mike Currin 12 Ann Currin 18 Josephine Myrick 21 Memphis Crews (7 yrs) 24 Jordan Tripp 26 Annie Hilliard 27 Greg Fussell 28 Elizabeth Hockaday 28 Gerleen Pitchford 29 Billy Blanton	17 Mike & Betty Blanton (26 yrs) 17 Robbie & Beth King (9 yrs) 21 Nicolas & Emily Pulliam (1 yr) 23 David & Kay Tripp (30 yrs) 24 Daniel & Stephanie Iles (9 yrs)	7 Sarah Iles/Brenda Hudson 14 Brenda Hudson/Carly West 21 Eric Hockaday/Mary Beth Labreque 28 Paula Burton/Kay Tripp
	<u>YOUTH MEALS</u>	<u>TRASH DETAIL</u>
	7 No Meeting 14 Mother's Day - No Meeting 21 Youth (Carol West) 28 No Meeting	Jimmy Kearney