

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

THREE LITTLE WORDS

I remember the song quite well, *Three Little Words*. The month of February seemed a good time to shine the spotlight on those words: *I love you*. Wikipedia provided me a lot of information that I didn't know. The music was written by Harry Ruby and the lyrics by Bert Kalmar. It was published in 1930, and was recorded by *The Rhythm Boys* (including Bing Crosby), and accompanied by the Duke Ellington Orchestra on August 2, 1930. In 1950, it was the title of a movie starring Fred Astaire, Debbie Reynolds and Red Skelton.

When I was a boy, my mother would ask me the question: *How much do you love me?* My standard response became: *A whole space full!* This was said with hands extended as far as possible on either side. At a very early age, we learn to sing such words as, *Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so; Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world; and O how I love Jesus.*

In the English language, we have one word to express the emotion of *love*. In Greek, there are four: *agape, eros, philia, and storge*. We say, *I love desserts, I love to sleep late, I love to watch basketball, I love to watch the snow fall, I love my wife, I love my children, I love the smell of a new car.* I could go on, but you get the point. We use the word *love* in countless ways to express countless types of love.

Valentine's Day is fast approaching. On this day, we try, by some card, gift, or special dinner, to express our love for someone. It is the way that we express, in a tangible way, what we feel in our heart.

One of my favorite passages in the New Testament is found in I John 4:7-8.

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

Not only is God love, and the Source of love, but love is the true test of a believer.

It does not take long to discover that love permeates the Littleton Baptist *family of faith*. Not only do you share it among yourselves, but you give it to others. We know, and we love you. **HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!**

Your friend and *Pastor in the Interim*,

Tom



FEBRUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>3</i>
<i>4</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 4:00 Deacons Mtg	<i>5</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>10</i>
<i>11</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Soup & Sandwich Lunch/ Sharing time	<i>12</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i> 8:30 Exercise 12:00 Lenten Lunch 6:30Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>17</i>
<i>18</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	<i>19</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> 8:30 Exercise 12:00 Lenten Lunch 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>22</i>	<i>243</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>24</i>
<i>25</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	<i>26</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> 8:30 Exercise 12:00 Lenten Lunch 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study			



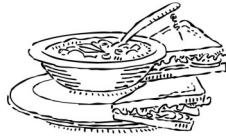
Singing, as with all other outward expressions of our worship, will never save us. But singing will help lead us to the One who will. The command to sing leads us to Christ with joy to praise and follow Him. How kind of God to command us to do something so wonderful!

These words did not come from me, but from Keith and Kristyn Getty. They wrote a book entitled, "SING! How Worship Transforms Your Life, Family, and Church". We all share in the unique privilege and responsibility of singing....yes, this includes the hymn singing on Sunday mornings! This book is filled with biblical, practical insight that, understood and taken to heart, will help you with congregational singing! I enjoyed the book so much that I gave a copy to the choir members for Christmas. If you are ever compelled to read it and find out why singing plays such an important part of our worship services I am sure any choir member would love to share their book with you!

Never worry about what your neighbors think about your singing! What happens in LBC stays in LBC!

Singing comes from your heart...whether you can carry a tune or not....SING!

Laura



SOUP AND SANDWICH LUNCHEON

On Sunday, **February 11**, "Share Our Love Sunday" will focus on demonstrating our Christian love. The worship will be followed by a "Soup and Sandwich Luncheon" served with love by our Hospitality Committee. If you would like to help with the luncheon please contact Betty Anne Shearin. This annual event is always an enjoyable time for all. Consider ways you can share your love with someone - a visit, a card, a gift, or time spent with someone you'd not ordinarily spend time with in the course of your week. (Don't forget the HELLO Ministry as a possibility at this time.)



On Sunday, **February 25**, we will be celebrating Baptist Men's Day where our men will be conducting the morning worship. Our guest speaker will be Richard Brunson, Executive Director of the North Carolina Baptist Men now referred to as Baptists on Mission because almost half of the participants are women. This will be the start of the promotion for our annual offering for the Baptists on Mission. Our church has participated in the Disaster Relief and the Rebuild part of Baptists on Mission but Richard will be sharing with us all the many other mission opportunities provided by the organization.



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

On Sundays in which inclement weather renders it unsafe to conduct Sunday School and Worship

Services, our deacons will contact you if our services are postponed in any way.

Deacons Meeting



The Deacons will meet on Sunday, **February 4**, at 4:00 P.M. in the annex.



SAVE THE DATE!

March 23 - 24

Spring Cleaning at LBC

Ladies, come have fellowship with your sisters in Christ while sprucing up our church building. Come for an hour or as long as you can, either day or both. Lunch will be provided.



LITTLETON AREA CHRISTIANS TOGETHER SERVING (LACTS)

The December Food Pantry helped people in our community have several meals during the Christmas Season. We tucked a Christmas card and candy canes for each family member. A big hug to everyone that helped stock the pantry and fill the bags. It is such a blessing to be able to help the families that are struggling to provide food for their families.

Mark your calendars! Littleton Baptist Church will man the food pantry on Friday, **March 25**. Come join us for a morning of fun and fellowship as we give to those that need help. There is a need for sugar-free items and protein rich foods that include peanut butter and tuna fish.



Spring MISSIONS INITIATIVE APRIL 14, 2018

Don't forget to mark a very important date on your calendar! The John 3:16 Center Kid's Carnival will be held on Saturday, **April 14**. We need your help on that date so we can provide a fun, God filled day for area children. We have some needs that can be fulfilled now. Books are always a big hit with the children. Please donate books that children from one to thirteen would enjoy reading. New or gently used books are needed for approximately 225 children. Keep your eyes open for low prices on two liter drinks and donate some for the carnival. Please keep the carnival in your prayers. Thank you for your support!



Making "small" **BIG**

Partnership Projects that Change Lives Making Life for Older Adults The Best of Times

The 2018 Offering for Older Adults emphasis will be held during the month of February and will look at the Baptist Retirement Homes efforts to keep institutional care both exceptional and affordable...making it accessible financially to as many frail Older Adults as possible through the use of technology and the generosity of North Carolina Baptists. Baptist Retirement Homes are one of the few organizations in North Carolina dedicated to nurturing senior residents in body, mind, and spirit, and the chaplains in each community are the heart of that ministry.

In addition to this year's "Offering" Emphasis, the Baptist Retirement Homes organization is trying through a special project (*Medicine from the Heart*) to help frail Older Adults (85 years of age and older), with very limited financial resources, pay for medications. There are campaign cards and visuals in the vestibule to use if you would like to make a special donation to the "Medicine from the Heart Campaign".

Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina, Inc. operates facilities at the following locations: Brookridge Retirement Community, Winston-Salem; The Taylor House, Albemarle; The Gardens of Taylor Glen, Concord, NC; and Western NC Baptist Home, Asheville.

During February you will be able to contribute to this vital ministry and to engage in faithful prayer for its leaders and their ministry with older adults.

Community Lenten Lunch and Devotion Series

Each Wednesday
February 14 – March 21
12:00 - 1:00 P.M.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location*</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
February 14	Littleton United Methodist Church	Rev. Stan Lewis Littleton United Methodist Church
February 21	Littleton Presbyterian Church At Littleton United Methodist Church	Rev. Tim Edwards
February 28	Littleton Baptist Church	Rev. Tom Bodkin Littleton Baptist Church
March 7	Roanoke Chapel	Rev. Wendy Bishop Lake Gaston Charge UMC
March 14	South Street Baptist	Rev. Wil Tabron
March 21	Open	Rev. Robert Faulcon South Street Baptist

** Host church will provide music for each luncheon!*

They begin at Noon and conclude at 1:00 P.M. Each person should bring a bag type lunch. Dessert and beverage will be provided by the host church. The devotion will begin by 12:30 P.M.

*Come as you are and invite someone to join you for
a time of community fellowship and devotion!*



The Flower Committee is just dropping in to say "Hello" and to Thank You for YOUR part in making our Christmas Holidays Special.

LBC was beautiful with the poinsettias that you so gracefully gave to celebrate our most Holy season, the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Thank you!

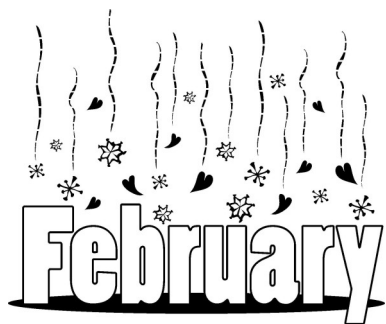
And just to let you know, Easter is April 1, 2018. The choir is already practicing their cantata. The Flower Committee is thinking ahead and we will post more information about our Easter Lilies in the March newsletter.

Every Sunday in February is available for scheduling. If you would like to place flowers on any of these Sundays please contact a member of the Flower Committee: Carolyn Price - (252) 586-3567, or Priscilla Parks - (252) 586-4790, priscillaparks@embarqmail.com. 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.

Thank you!

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>
1 Bob Thompson 11 Don Beaver 20 Lib Crawley (Charles) 21 Louise Barrett 24 Sydney Merritt (5) 27 Roman Martinez	14 Charles & Priscilla Parks (58 yrs) 17 Julian & Indie Parks (67 yrs) 24 Mike & Ann Currin (11 yrs)	4 Kay Tripp/Paula Burton 11 Nichole Pitchford/Josie Myrick 18 Mary Beth Labrecque/Elizabeth Hockaday 25 Mary Spivey/Earl Spivey