

# 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 A PRICELESS GIFT

A young boy was given a candy bar. It was his favorite. All of a sudden, the lesson of sharing went out the window when a friend asked for a bite. The response was, “No, this is my candy bar and you can’t have any.” If, as Americans, we treat freedom as our “candy bar,” and deny a bite to others in our world who yearn for it, indeed, are desperate for it, we cease to be the kind of people who gave birth to this nation with the *Declaration of Independence*.

Throughout our history, we have prided ourselves as being the “Home of the brave, and the land of the free.” No doubt, all of us are familiar with the words of Emma Lazarus, American Poet and native of New York, NY. The words are inscribed on a bronze plaque in the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty.

*Give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore,  
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me:  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door.*

It is difficult for us to imagine the hardships endured by those seeking refuge and freedom in this land. They deserve our compassion, prayers and our hospitality. Normally, I choose not to take sides on political issues, but, as has been pointed out by so many—the current situation is a moral issue.

In reality, the document known as the *Declaration of Independence* is a priceless gift from our forefathers. It is all about freedom and independence. You may not know that Thomas Jefferson, the main author of the *Declaration*, was the youngest member of the Second Continental Congress. Five men were charged with the task of writing the *Declaration of Independence*, but Jefferson was chosen because he was a good writer. If he didn’t do a good job, or present well-developed ideas, his age could have worked against him. For that reason, his age was his first obstacle.

His second obstacle was developing an acceptable draft. He would complete a draft, not like it, and start over at *square one*. Getting it just right was a really big challenge because Jefferson had so many ideas and he wanted to include them all. Finally, the last draft was ready to submit for revision. Both Benjamin Franklin and John Adams had suggestions for changes. Remember now, this was being done in Philadelphia in hot June and early July, without benefit of air conditioning.

With the *Fourth of July* celebration of parades and barbecues, let us remember that our freedom is a priceless gift, and give thanks.

Your friend and *Pastor in the Interim*,

*Tom*



# July

| Sun  | Mon                 | Tue | Wed  | Thu | Fri                 | Sat |
|--|---------------------|-----|--|-----|---------------------|-----|
| 1  | 2                   | 3   | 4<br> | 5   | 6<br>8:30 Exercise  | 7   |
| 8<br>8:30 Outdr Wrld<br>9:45 S. School<br>11:00 Worship                                  | 9<br>8:30 Exercise  | 10  | 11<br>8:30 Exercise<br><br>7:30 Quarterly<br>Business Mtg.                             | 12  | 13<br>8:30 Exercise | 14  |
| 15<br>8:30 Outdr Wrld<br>9:45 S. School<br>11:00 Worship<br><br>6:00 Ice Cream<br>Social | 16<br>8:30 Exercise | 17  | 18<br>8:30 Exercise  | 19  | 20<br>8:30 Exercise | 21  |
| 22<br>8:30 Outdr Wrld<br>9:45 S. School<br>11:00 Worship                                 | 23<br>8:30 Exercise | 24  | 25<br>8:30 Exercise  | 26  | 27<br>8:30 Exercise | 28  |
| 29<br>8:30 Outdr Wrld<br>9:45 S. School<br>11:00 Worship                                 | 30<br>8:30 Exercise | 31  |  |     |                     |     |

# *With Sympathy*

Our Christian sympathy is extended to

Neva Lopez & Roman Martinez in the death of her niece, Teresa Praytor



July is here and that means a vacation for our choir members! We will be having special music each of the 5 Sundays in July! We have several visitors coming to bring our specials! The choir members will be able to sit in the congregation on these Sundays....and see what view the congregation has every Sunday! Choir Practice will resume on August 1st at 6:30! Come join us!

I read this joke in one of my magazines and wanted to share with you!

A preacher ended his Sermon one Sunday with these words...."If I had all the beer in the world I'd pour it in the river. If I had all the wine in the world I'd pour it in the river. And, if I had all the whiskey in the world I'd pour that in the river, too!" He sat down feeling very good about his message. The music director then stood up and announced, with a smile, that the last hymn would be changed to number 365...Shall We Gather at the River!

Happy Fourth of July!

*Laura*

## **PRAYER & Bible Study**



There will be no Prayer & Bible Study during the month of July. Services will resume on Wednesday, **August 1**, at 7:30 P.M.



**Welcome  
to our  
Church  
Family**

We rejoice with Harrison West who united with Littleton Baptist Church on Sunday, May 13. Harrison is the son of Kent and Carol West and brother to Carly. He attends Halifax Academy. Harrison was baptized on Sunday, June 10.



## **LORD'S SUPPER**

On Sunday, **July 1**, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper during the Morning Worship. It is a special privilege God gives to us as believers to faithfully remember the sacrifice our Lord Jesus Christ made for each of us. Additionally, we will be given opportunity to contribute to our church Fellowship Fund for local benevolence.



## Mission Opportunity

Mission opportunities are everywhere. Pray that God will lead you to where you can best serve. One opportunity is helping at the food pantry at the Littleton United Methodist Church. On Friday, **September 28**, we will host the food pantry. There are many in our community that depend on this gift of food, caring and prayer. Remember to mark your calendar and come help your fellow church members that morning from 9:30 A.M. until 12:00 Noon. Your help makes a big difference.



## Ice Cream Social

Our second Summer Ice Cream Social is scheduled for Sunday, **July 15**, 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!



## Quarterly Business Meeting

We will have a Quarterly Business Meeting on Wednesday, **July 11**, at 7:30 P.M. and we will be voting on the following three very important items.

1. Constitutional change in the number and election of deacons
2. Putting security cameras at the church
3. Building a playground

If you have any questions please contact your family deacon and please be present at the meeting.

## OUTDOOR WORLD



*Outdoor  
World  
Worship*

Our Outdoor World Services continue each Sunday through Labor Day weekend at 8:30 A.M. Please pray for this ministry and find a way in which you can be involved. Speak, sing, promote, pray! All are important. For more information contact Mike Crawley.

## DEACONS MEETING



The Deacons will not meet in July. The next meeting will be **August 5**.



What a mission minded church you are. Thanks so much for helping to carry out the Great Commission as you help those close and far away. Every month we help those in our community that need food on their tables. YOUR Food Bank-Littleton Area Churches Together Serving (LACTS) provides a bag with three meals for the family. The faces of those we help are young and old but the smiles and thank yous are ageless. We also reach out to each person by asking if we can pray for them and what concerns they have. It is a very moving and rewarding experience as people ask for things that are close to their hearts and thank us for helping them. Many members in our church have helped fill the bags, pray with the visitors and carry food up the steps for those that need the extra help. Please continue to bring food items for the food box! Thanks!!

You also helped in making the Children's Carnival at the John 3:16 Center a great success. Without your willingness to volunteer and give of your time, the carnival would not have happened. Thank you for sharing lots of warm smiles and hugs! What a special, loving people Littleton Baptist Church members are. Thank you for taking part in a God filled experience.



The following is the flower schedule for the month of July:

- July 1      The Lord's Supper
- July 8      Mary & Earl Spivey
- July 15     Available for Scheduling
- July 22     Available for Scheduling
- July 29     Available for Scheduling

If you would like to place flowers on either of these dates, please contact Carolyn Price - (252-586-3567) or Priscilla Parks - (252-586-4790, priscillaparks@embarqmail.com). When you place flowers in the sanctuary, please contact our church office by a written note or email: littletonbaptist@embarqmail.com to show how you want it to be placed in the bulletin.



### Prayers for Leadership Selection

Though decisions are still more than a month away, it's not too early for each of us to begin to pray. During the month of August our Nominating Committee will be working to nominate officers and teachers for the new church year. Please be in prayer about these decisions as we seek to discern God's way in these matters.



### MISSION TRIP TO LUMBERTON

Hurricane Matthew flooded many parts of North Carolina 2016. Almost two years later people are still displaced from their homes particularly the poor and elderly. The Lumberton area was particularly hard hit. After most of the disaster relief agencies have left town, the North Carolina Baptist on Missions are still trying to help rebuild as many homes as possible. Littleton Baptist Church is organizing a trip to Lumberton **August 7-11** to help spread Christ's love by helping rebuild homes.

Everyone is invited to go, including our youth, where housing, meals, tools, materials, and devotions are provided for free. One does not have to stay the whole time but they would be responsible for their transportation. There are a few forms one must fill out so see Sid Shearin for information. Adults will have to have background checks if they stay overnight with the youth. The deadline for having your paperwork completed is **July 22**.

In order to see the work that is being done in Lumberton, visit the blog: [missiontripadventures.blogspot.com](http://missiontripadventures.blogspot.com).

### DON'T FORGET TO LOG INTO OUR CHURCH WEBSITE [www.littletonbaptistchurch.org](http://www.littletonbaptistchurch.org)



Remember to visit our website! You can check the church calendar, our newsletters (current and past), important church news, key internet links and our Sermon archives. You will be able to link to our church Facebook page, view tons of photos, read our church history, read about our staff and so much more.

Pass this along to others! It's a good way to help prospects and others know more about who LBC is!

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

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| <u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u>  | <u>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</u>  | <u>NURSERY WORKERS</u>  |
|--|---|---|
| 2 Clenel Prevals<br>6 Jim Phillis<br>7 Eric Hockaday<br>13 Matthew Council<br>13 Clyde Johnston<br>13 Roudley Prevals<br>14 Nichole Pitchford<br>17 Bonnie Currin Stallings<br>20 Josh Hall<br>21 Collin Merritt (8 yrs)<br>22 Lee Myrick<br>25 Ethel Hale<br>25 Emily Conner (2 yr)<br>28 Jimmy Kearney<br>29 JoAnn Barnard<br>30 Mary West (Tommy) | 1 James & Virginia Kearney (68 yrs)<br>10 Don & Kay Beaver (24 yrs)<br>14 Earl & Mary Spivey (11 yrs)<br>19 Sid & Betty Anne Shearin (38 yrs)<br>30 Tom & Betty Bodkin (52 yrs) | 1 Elizabeth Hockaday/Brenda Hudson<br>8 Mary Spivey/Earl Spivey<br>15 Jan Myrick/Betty Blanton<br>22 Chris Skinner/Mike Currin<br>29 Kay Tripp/Paula Burton |
|  |   | <u>TRASH DETAIL</u>   |
|  |   | Earl Spivey   |