

Candle of Love Newsletter August, 2022



A Message from Pastor Eric

Summer has always been considered a "slow" time at churches. It is when people take vacation, enjoy the lake or beach or mountains, and visit family in other places. Attendance drops on Sunday mornings, and our regular Wednesday night activities take a break in July. Nevertheless, God is still at work, and we have seen some exciting things happening at FBC Creedmoor. Near the end of July, we did an outreach at Harris Park in the neighborhood right behind First Baptist. We had several families from the community join us there, and the exciting thing was that all the families that came were people that we had developed a relationship with through our other ministries and in other places. Some knew us from our Food Mission ministry. Another family was someone that had stopped to talk to us on the sidewalk when we were outside helping others. Another family came because their neighbor attends FBCC and had invited them to this event. It was clear that one of the most effective things we can do to reach our community is to get to know people and establish friendships with them as we do things both through our ministries and as individuals relating to our neighbors. We can hand out invitations to strangers and post signs in public places, but the biggest success comes when someone they know and who cares about them invites them to church. Can you think of a neighbor or friend you could invite to church?

Even though personal invitations are the most effective, we still have people who find us by driving by, looking us up on our website, or on Facebook. It seems that almost every week we have new visitors on Sunday mornings, and we have been making an effort to connect with those visitors so that they become regular attenders and members. Our youth and children's ministries continue to grow, and this final week of July we are hosting our annual Vacation Bible School, and we've seen two thirds more kids this year than we did last year. We've also provided adult Bible studies in both English and Spanish during VBS for parents to stay and connect with us while their kids are at VBS, and we've had several parents and grandparents join us for those. Over the next few weeks, we will be following up with families who joined us at VBS and those who have visited us on a Sunday morning. Please be praying that God would help us care well for people who visit us, and that He would draw those who need to get connected with a church and, more importantly, with Jesus Christ . Pray for our church as we grow because we will need more of our current people to step up and be willing to help with kids and youth ministries, lead Bible studies and Sunday School classes, and be willing to serve one another in the many different ways that we are called to as a Church Family. We are in an exciting season of growth at First Baptist Creedmoor. As we come out of our "slow" summer, we know things will become even more busy and exciting this Fall. Thank you for your prayers and for being a part of what God is doing in us and through us.

> It's here - "Christmas in the Good Old Summertime" celebrated at our August 3 Business Meeting by packing 50 shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse. Our goal for Samaritan's Purse shoeboxes this year is 100. We will be halfway there in August.

Bring any amount of these items before or on August 3rd: bars of soap, toothbrushes, wash cloths, pencils, combs, hairbrushes, colorful adhesive bandages, foam balls, tennis balls, socks, sunglasses, water bottles, stickers, water color sets, yo-yos, small flashlight with batteries, and stuffed animals. Items can be brought to the church office area anytime.

All ages are invited to be involved with this packing. Children and Youth will break off to their areas after the "blitz" of packing concludes. Plan to join us for a time of missions and church business all in the same time - August 3 at 6:30pm.

August Birthdays

OPERATION

Samuel Braxton, 3 Frank Dickerson, 3 Faye Washington, 5 Jack Allen, 7 Tyler Brame, 7 Ron Harrell, 7 Howard Wynn, 9 Laverne Seagroves, 14 Ariel Roy, 15 Bryce Talley, 20 Dean Jackson, 21 Owen Mangum, 24 Kevin Lawler, 25 Kathryn Harrell, 26 Jim Chapman, 27 Robin Newton, 28 Kristin Fischer, 28 Joy Hardee, 28 Toni Anne Wheeler, 29 Hunter Roberson, 30 Debbie Wheeler, 30

August Anniversaries

Ralph & Laverne Seagroves, 6 Peter & Nelda Haines, 7 Hannah & Kenneth Janney, 11 David & Angela Andrews, 11

If your name or someone in your family is not in the list please call the office to update your information. **Upcoming Events for August 2022** August 3, Quarterly Business Meeting August 7, Bumper Crop bags out August 8, Church Council Meeting August 28, Sunday School Celebration August 28. Bumper Crop bags in August 28, Deacons Board Meeting

Wednesday Night Bible Study is Back! August 10th, 6:30-7:45pm *Something for Everyone*

Taking the Gospel to Southern Granville and beyond...



Wednesday Nights: Backyard bible club will kick back off on August 3rd where our kids will have the change to help pack Samaritan Shoe Boxes, play games, sing songs, and study God's word. Summer Camps: Our children and youth spent a week at Gardner-Webb University and Milligan Uni-

versity where they got to spend a week diving into God's word and serving and sharing the Gospel with other people. We took 13 kids Centrikid and 20 students to MFuge.

Vacation Bible School: This year kids learned that God's creativity didn't stop in Genesis. The Master Artist is working to redeem, reclaim, and transform us–His creation–to the design He planned for us. Kids saw the beautiful truth that they are God's workmanship as they learn to use their talents to bring glory to Him. We had over 70 children and youth attend VBS this week.



FBC Academy. The Academy is gearing up for the new school year. We had our annual state consultant visit and received ZERO violations! We are so proud of our staff and all they do for our program and families. We are excited to welcome new families in the coming weeks and hosting our Meet the Teacher on August 28th. Please be on the lookout for information on our upcoming Harvest Day event in October!

Message from our Deacon Chair Toni Anne

"Transformed"

The more we learn about the "Fruit of the Spirit" each week and pray that our lives would be transformed by realizing what Your message is for us that our lives become more enriched and equipped to better to face the challenges of the world around us.

The devotional I have chosen this month, "Joyful Learning" speaks of the renewing of our mind as a way of being transformed. As we read these words let them help us change our thoughts, ways and attitudes to become more like the Holy Spirit.

Team Deacon prayerfully serves with you and for you.

Devotional from Our Daily Bread

In the city of Mysore, India, there's a school made of two refurbished train cars connected end-to-end. Local educators teamed up with the South Western Railway Company to buy and remodel the discarded coaches. The units were essentially large metal boxes, unusable until workers installed stairways, fans, lights, and desks. Workers also painted the walls and added colorful murals inside and out. Now, sixty students attend classes there because of the amazing transformation that took place.

Something even more amazing takes place when we follow the apostle Paul's command to "be transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Romans 12:2). As we allow the Holy Spirit to uncouple us from the world and its ways, our thoughts and attitudes begin to change. We become more loving, more hopeful, and filled with inner peace (8:6).

Something else happens too. Although this transformation process is ongoing, and often has more stops and starts than a train ride, the process helps us understand what God wants for our lives. It takes us to a place where we "will learn to know God's

will" (12:2 nlt). Learning His will may or may not involve specifics, but it always involves aligning ourselves with His character and His work in the world. Nali Kali, the name of the transformed school in India, means "joyful learning" in English. How's God's transforming power leading you to the joyful learning of His will?

Reflect & Pray

Which areas of your thought life are most in need of God's transforming power? How willing are you to act when you clearly understand His will for your life? "Dear God, I invite You to transform me by renewing my mind today. Thank You for all that's possible when I surrender to You."

Prayer Concerns

Debbie Wheeler - loss of her sister David Bailey - recovering from broken hip. Craig Whitfield recovering from knee surgery after a fall. Jacob Pearsall recovering from a vehicle accident Rich and Liz Donohue with health concerns. Nancy Daniel (Susan Haskins' sister) - Health Anthea Hagwood, health concerns. Judy James, health concerns. Mary and LA Veasy, health concerns. Bobby King - undergoing cancer treatment. David Andrews and Pam with health concerns. Laverne and Ralph Seagroves, health issues. Peter Haines' dad, Lloyd Haines, in hospice care. Jim and Patricia Chapman - health concerns.



August Outing for Adults

All are invited for good Food, Fun and Fellowship!

McLean's Ole Time Café – Zebulon NC Family-run restaurant whipping up down-home American plates in a country-style setting. Leave church at 5:00 PM on Thursday August

11, 2022.

Contact Brenda Lawler if interested 919-454-

"Joyful Learning"

By: Jennifer Benson Schuldt