

THE BUILDER

The Newsletter of the First Baptist Church of Dunn, N.C.
September 01, 2009

From Your Pastor...

“Attending a business meeting is one of the most Baptist things one can do!” the statement took me back; I had to think about it a while. It wasn’t long before I saw the wisdom. I have to agree, participating in a business meeting affirms one of the defining characteristics of the Baptist form of Christian faith. Participating in a business meeting insures the health of the local church for Baptists. To avoid Business meetings is to silence the voice of the Holy Spirit within; it denies the church the combined God-inspired wisdom of the membership. To avoid the business of the church is to fail to develop a spirit of discernment not only for the church but also in our private lives. Where better to practice prayer in practical matters than in the fellowship of believers in a business meeting?

Under an ecclesiastical rule that forced them to do church in ways that may or may not have made sense to them, our Baptist ancestors chaffed. They believed that God empowered each believer with the presence of the Holy Spirit to exercise faith not only in matters of decisions regarding worship, pastoral care, doctrine and leadership, but also what color should be the carpet and who would purchase the candles or bring in the wood for the pot-bellied stoves. These early believers discerned that God was active and present in their congregation so much so that God could lead local believers to make decisions about the local church that made it, and not Rome or Canterbury, the place where God’s presence was primary to them. In other words, God was not far removed but very present and active in their lives. They practiced what they believed about God being everywhere by establishing that God was just as concerned with what went on the local church as God was concerned with what happened to the larger church in the world. The doctrine of the Autonomy of the Local Church became their way of living out their faith that God knew their needs and was working in the local congregation to provide for its members; it was foreign to their thinking that strangers were better versed to discern God’s answers than were the people who were praying for God’s direction for their church and community. For our ancestors, the privilege of participating in the business of the local church was God given and should not be ignored.

When I ask folks why they don’t attend business meetings I get a bucket full of answers. Mostly those answers range from memories of an unpleasant past experience where the unwelcomed spirit of disunity and anger prevailed to the pain of being on the losing end of a vote. These answers are rightly painful. A Baptist church business meeting should always be one of mutual respect and prayerful guidance. Both sides lose when decisions are made without prayerful attention or in the absence of respect for differing opinions. And, in honesty the church loses too when its members stay away. We are at our best when we are together. We are most wise when a larger number of members exercise their faith in seeking a solution. Let us not give up this God given gift of seeking direction together. Let us not lose the Doctrine of the Autonomy of the Local church. Let us seek God’s will together. It is what Baptist’s do!

(Next month concludes our study of Baptist traits. Next month we will look at a characteristic of Baptist life that is deeply connected to the Autonomy of the Local Church but not often listed in Baptist traits, that is the inner-connectedness of Baptist churches.)

WOMEN OF FAITH

The 2009 conference is just around the corner and you need to reserve your ticket today before it’s too late. The dates are set for Nov. 6-7 and we will be staying at the Sheraton Greensboro Four Seasons. The total cost ranges from \$151 to \$183 depending on the number of people in a room. This includes room, 2 day ticket and 2 lunches. A \$50 deposit is due before September 10th with the balance due October 15th. We will enjoy a Friday night dinner of our choice and breakfast at the hotel or we can make a McDonald’s run. Of course, the fellowship of one another and love of our Savior, Jesus Christ, will be plentiful. This event is open to anyone who wants to gain a new perspective and enthusiasm for life. For the itinerary and other info. contact Dawn Glover @ 891-1442 or Ashlyn Thompson @ 892-4900.

ENCOUNTER A LOVE THAT IS LIFE CHANGING!

Deacon Nomination

Enclosed with this newsletter is a list with the names of members eligible for deacon nomination. Please prayerfully review this list and begin to think about your choices and who you would like to nominate. On September 6th, you will be asked to choose up to 20 names for consideration to serve for the upcoming church year.

SPREAD THE JOY

JOY Group News

The JOY luncheon for August was cancelled due to funeral plans of a church member. The next luncheon will be on September 8th at Western Sizzlin Steak House. Reverend Jesse Waugh will present our program. Make plans to come and enjoy lunch with friends and hear Jesse.

◆ Tour of Homes and Tea—July 23rd

One of the nicest things about living in a small town is the spirit of cooperation among friends and neighbors. When we began planning our Tour of Homes all of our requests were granted with enthusiasm and the end result was a wonderful summer afternoon touring local homes and enjoying a Tea at Simply Divine Bed & Breakfast. Gracious hospitality was extended to our group at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cannady, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Thompson, Mr. Robbie Tart, Mrs. Edith Johnson (Robbie's aunt) and Mr. and Mrs. Rob Forrester at Simply Divine. All of the homes were very beautiful and each exhibited a different style and character. We enjoyed seeing six grazing deer behind the Cannady home, watching Patrice hold onto Jester, her dog, as we stepped off the bus, listening to Robbie describe his role in decorating his and his Aunt Edith's homes, and hearing Carmen Forrester talk about her life in Romania and about how she discovered Dunn. We had a great time and could not have done it without local friends and neighbors.

◆ Hudson Bay Restaurant—July 31

We seniors are undaunted when food is our goal. So it was on Friday afternoon when we were planning to drive to Fayetteville to Hudson Bay Restaurant for some of their delicious seafood. Thunder rolled, lightning flashed, rain poured, but by 5:00 the bus held 20 seniors whose spirits had certainly not been dampened by the rain. We waited patiently for those who were hindered by the downpour and once all were aboard, we headed out. The storm moved quickly and we had a nice drive to Fayetteville where our reserved table awaited us and it was not long before heaping plates of hot seafood were set before us. It was worth the trip and surely worth being a part of such a wonderful group who supports planned activities and have so much fun doing it.

JOY Group Trips



Thursday, September 24 @ 10:00am

Butler Chapel, Lundy Fetterman Museum at Campbell University with lunch at Marshbanks Cafeteria (\$6.90)

Saturday, October 10 @ 6:00pm

Dinner Theatre at Northwood Temple in Fayetteville (\$20.00 dinner and play)

Call Faye Bleacher @ 892-3903.

Sign up early. Space is limited.

Our Vitals

2009 Weekly Budget:	\$ 7,625.29
Rcvd. 07/26/09	\$ 6,081.40
Rcvd. 08/02/09	\$ 8,153.05
Rcvd. 08/16/09	\$ 6,097.16
Rcvd. 08/23/09	\$ 3,708.47
2009 YTD Variance	(\$ 26,272.69)



Sanctuary Choir Practice Resumes!!

The Sanctuary Choir has resumed their regular Wednesday night rehearsals. I hope to see all choir members back and ready to work. This is also the time for any "want to be" choir members to come and join us. If you have ever sung in a choir or wanted to sing in the choir now is the time to come and join us. Rehearsals will begin at 7:45 every Wednesday night. It will not be long before we will begin working on our Christmas music, so, why not join us now?

Children's Choir

Our Children's Choir will not begin until after school begins. The first rehearsal will be on Wednesday night, September 9th. This choir is for children who are in kindergarten through the 5th Grade. Why not bring your family to our Fellowship dinner and then the children will be here for choir at 6:30? Parents, the children depend on you to get them to choir each week!

Handbell Choir

Our Handbell Choir will resume rehearsals on the second Sunday in September at 5:00 pm. We are in need of several ringers for this year. If you would like to play the bells, contact Jesse. If you can count and keep a beat then you can play the bells. Why not try? We have a good time practicing and it is fulfilling to play for a service several times during the year.

The Youth Corner

Upcoming Youth Events!

Picnic and Hike at Ravenrock State Park (September 20, 2009). This is open to all ages and will include a short introduction in hiking as a way to listen to God.



























Busch Gardens (October 24, 2009). Although this is primarily for youth, families are also encouraged to attend. Cost: \$35 to \$40 per person plus meals and snacks.

Missions Weekend at Red Springs (November 13-14, 2009). Our youth and adults 13 years of age and older are invited to go to the North Carolina Baptist Men's facility in Red Springs where we will spend a day on a short-term mission project (construction and clean-up) to help residents there. Cost: \$15 to \$20 per person (includes meal and lodging at Red Springs).

Youth Scavenger Hunt and Christmas Party (December 11, 2009). Teams of youth and chaperones will compete in finding items in Dunn that relate to Christ and Christmas.

Each of these events will be discussed in the upcoming Youth and Parent's meeting September 2nd at 7:00 p.m. Please plan on attending and providing input for these exciting dates!

SEPTEMBER EVENT AND BIRTHDAY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
REGULAR ACT. 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship 5:00 Handbell Practice 6:30 Evening Worship, Youth, Kids & Missions			ACTIVITIES - Starts 09/09 5:45 Baptist Dining 6:30 Youth 6:30 Children's Choir 7:00 Bible Study 7:45 Sanctuary Choir			
		1  Glynn Jernigan Lynn Jernigan	2 **REGULAR ACT.** 7:00 Youth & Parents Mtg.	3 Sharon Waugh 	4  Kate Avery Taylor Emory	5  Krystal Jordan
6 **REGULAR AM ACT.** DEACON NOMINATION **No PM Activities**  Claire Herring Macie Knox	7 **OFFICE CLOSED** 10:30 Worship/Senior Cit.	8 11:30 JOY Group Lunch  Joedi Jordan	9 **REGULAR ACT.** **Fall Schedule Begins**  Edna Cannady Garrett Wood	10  Shirley Wilkins	11  Rob Jones Anthony Weeks Victoria Wilson	12  Joe Casey Mary Morgan Stegall Sarah Yopp
13 **REGULAR ACT.** 5:30 Children's Council  Mary Devers	14 10:30 Worship/Senior Cit. 10:30 WMU 7:00 Deacon's Meeting 7:00 Circle of Friends	15  Vickie Weaver	16 **REGULAR ACT.** Church Conference  Don Ella Drew Jacob McCall	17  Myra Youngblood	18  Elizabeth Emory David Reece Addie Young	19
20 **REGULAR ACT.** DEACON ELECTION  Taylor Wells	21 10:30 Worship/Senior Cit. 10:30 Elizabeth Green Cir.  Judy Humphrey Leon Kittrell	22  Vara Lee Thornton Michael Weaver	23 **REGULAR ACT.**  Tense Eldridge Rob Ruark	24 10:30 JOY Group trip to Chapel /Museum-Campbell  Bradley Tart Phyllis Weeks	25  Carl Barbour	26  Mary Lassiter Loye Yung
27 **REGULAR ACT.** DEACON ORDINATION  Phyllis Lawrence	28 10:30 Worship/Senior Cit.  Jared Kerney David Lawrence	29  Whitney Guthrie Terry Hardison	30  Jeannie Jones			

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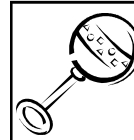
Personnel

Pastor	Dr. Len Kever, Jr.
Music Min./Assoc. Pastor	Rev. Jesse Waugh
Administrative Asst.	Angela Jones
Organist	Mary Sue Godwin
Custodian	Maria Wadzinski

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the thoughts, visits, calls, prayers, cards, and gifts for Gracie and us during the last weeks. Gracie's hospital stay was quite trying but was tolerable thanks to your love and support. Every phone call, card, and gift brought an extra sparkle to Gracie's eyes, and every word of encouragement and prayer helps to give us peace and understanding. Although juvenile diabetes is life changing, Gracie is a trooper and has adjusted well.

Thank you again,
Jackie and Sharon Byrd



CONGRATULATIONS TO

Nancy and Brother Clifton on the birth of their grandson, Cole Addison Holland, on August 11th and to Bo and Angela Jones on the birth of their grandson, Landon Matthew Smith, on August 16th.

WMU NEWS

Ladies of the church! WMU will resume their meetings on Monday, September 14th @ 10:30. Peggy Jones and Patrice Thompson would like to invite ALL ladies who are available at that time to join them for a great time of fellowship filled with lots of interesting information and the opportunities of giving back to your church and the community. All other regular meetings will be on the first Monday of each month @ 10:30am. Make plans to join us!!!! You will be receiving important information soon.

Circle of Friends

We will resume our monthly meetings on September 14 @ 7:00. All other meetings will be on the first Monday of each month. Please plan to join us as we share, pray, study and support each other. All ladies are invited and encouraged to attend. For more information, call Jennifer Dixon @ 892-3003.

Our Volunteers

Sept. 6	Nursery: Julie Mason & Karen Watson Radio: Harvey Eldridge
Sept. 13	Nursery: Joy Weeks & Pat Miriello Radio: Bob Jones
Sept. 20	Nursery: Ricky & Vickie Weaver Radio: Bo Jones
Sept. 27	Nursery: Terrill & Carla Brown Radio: Boyd Dixon

Nursery Coordinator for September—Angela Jones
Children's Church for September—Angela Jones