

**Deacon of the Week:**

1st Sunday: Bill Ramsey  
2nd Sunday: Bob Smith  
3rd Sunday: Kelly Coons  
4th Sunday: Eric Parker

**August Wedding Anniversaries**

Harold & Jo Harmon 1  
John & Karen McEntire 2  
Charles & Wendy Gaffigan 3  
Buddy & Katie Martin 6  
Bill & Mary Faw 10  
Phil & Liz Lowery 10  
Kenny & Dawn Campbell 31

**August Birthdays**

Yvonne Hunter ..... 3  
Jeanette Beach ..... 4  
Al Burnette ..... 13  
Ruby Guffey ..... 13  
Lisa Hicks ..... 14  
Lisa Bailey ..... 15  
Susan Hoyle ..... 15  
Jo Shuman ..... 15  
Abbie Brooks ..... 17  
Danna Revis ..... 17  
Ronald D. Harmon..... 24  
Martha McCauley..... 25  
Kristina Kelly ..... 29  
Liz Lowery ..... 29  
Gail Turner ..... 31

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

Old Fort, NC

August 2011

Volume 45, Issue 8

# THE VOICE

**Church Staff**

Duane Caldwell, Pastor  
David Workman, Pianist  
Lori Patton, Minister of Music  
Melissa Parry, Secretary  
Cindy Harwood, Custodian  
Betty Reaves, Organist

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**Offertory Prayer:**

1st Sunday: Ron Arthur  
2nd Sunday: Dena Caldwell  
3rd Sunday: Jimmie Harris  
4th Sunday: Sherry Burnette

**AUGUST EVENTS**

**SUNDAY:**

9:45 - Bible Study  
11 - Worship Service  
5 - Youth  
6 - Evening Worship Service, TeamKIDS

**WEDNESDAY:**

6 - Adult Bible Study, Youth, RA's, GA's, Acteens, Mission Friends  
7 - Adult Choir Practice

Aug 4 - Youth Sliding Rock 9 am  
Aug 6 - Youth Game Night 6:30 pm until 10 pm  
Aug 7 - Lunch Bunch 3pm to 5pm  
Aug 7 - Deacon's Meeting 7pm  
Aug 11 - Senior Adult Rally at 10:30 am at Cross Memorial  
Aug 14 - Youth Council  
Aug 19 - Back to School Splash 5pm to 7pm at Mountain Paradise  
Aug 21 - Lead Team Meeting 7pm  
Aug 25 - First Day of School  
Aug 28 - Deacon Election

**Pastor's Ponderings**

Having just returned from Pennsylvania with our mission team, I am exhausted. But it is a good exhausted. We left Monday morning, July 25, at 6 AM and drove 10 1/2 hours to get to Reading, Pennsylvania. Reading is a city just a little over the size of Asheville. It has a population of 100,000 people. We arrived at Berks Bible Church around 4:30 PM where we were greeted by a loving group of people who took care of us very well for the remainder of the week. They housed us, fed us, entertained us, worked with us and worshipped with us. Tuesday morning we began our work at Oakbrook Public Housing Community. There are approximately 600 families living in this neighborhood. We were in the park area in the center of the housing. We had prepared and planned, and we were ready with a carefully mapped out strategy and agenda. We would do Bible Clubs from 10 AM til noon, eat lunch, and return for Sports Clinics from 2 PM til 4 PM. We arrived at 9 AM to set up. We had a sound system, a registration table with a tent over it, a crafts table, Scripture boards and cards, games, and a group of enthusiastic workers. At 10 AM we had zero kids show up. Flyers had gone out, doors had been knocked on, but no one came. I thought the week was going to be a bust, but we hung in there. We learned the parents didn't think the area was safe for their kids. Many parents weren't out of bed yet to let their children come. The parents who worked sent their children to a day camp that took them somewhere else. We began to pray as to what God would have us do.

We decided to stay and build relationships with the kids who came a little at a time. Eventually we had around 49 children register. We were able at some point in the day to do a mini Bible Camp with balloons, stories, and songs. We invited them back for Wednesday. We decided if we could just build it up enough to have one good day on Friday, it would be worth it. Wednesday was better and

more organized and more kids came. By the end of Thursday's activities, we thought we had it figured out and had a major game plan for Friday. I have heard it said when we make plans God laughs. God was laughing big time on Friday. We planned a big rally at 4 PM with testimonies, songs, balloons, scripture memorization, and a gospel presentation with a decision time at the end. It was to last about 30 to 45 minutes and be followed by recreation time which would give us time to talk with the children one on one about what they had heard. It was a great plan, but it wasn't what God planned. At 3:45, Scott Gaffigan brought a boy to me and told me he had just prayed to receive Christ. As we followed up with this young boy, Pastor Tim and I looked around and our team was sharing the gospel all over the place with children across the play area. We just let go of our plans and let God have His way as we saw children and parents brought into the Kingdom of God. Before the day was over, at least 13 people prayed to receive Christ. With the 4 led to Christ earlier in the week, it brought the total to 17 who were saved. Many more seeds were planted.

An area previously unsafe for children was used by God as a place of worship to bring glory to His name and bring people into His kingdom. I am so proud of our young people who shared Jesus without fear. May we be so bold here in Old Fort. Jesus said in John 4, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work ...Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!" The fields are indeed ready for harvest. Will you join us in the work God has put before us here in Old Fort?

Pastor Duane

**The Voice**  
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Thanks to everyone who was a part of the Pennsylvania Mission Trip. If you went, gave, prayed, or anything else involved in the trip, you will have a reward in heaven for the 17 souls saved as a result of the trip. Many more seeds were planted. We may never know this side of heaven the total results of the trip. The rewards we will be out of this world.



A special thanks to all who helped with VBS this year. It was a huge success. There were over 60 children and youth in attendance every evening.



The Baptist Men will begin meeting quarterly for Baptist Men's Breakfast, starting Sunday, September 18th.



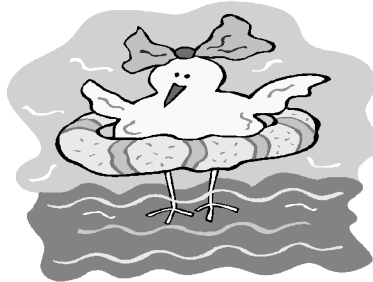
Our youth ministry is on fire! Since going to Centrifuge, our youth are growing spiritually and numerically. During VBS, there were anywhere from 17 to 25 youth here on any given night. It grew every night. Some of our youth went to Pennsylvania on a mission trip recently, and they were evangelism machines. They shared their faith with boldness and led many to Christ though witnessing one on one using the EvangeCube and the EvangeBall. Our youth are learning how to be spiritual leaders. Not only are they learning about Christ, they are involved in fellowship activities with one another. Our Lead Teams are working hard to plan activities to keep them busy. We have some of the best volunteers working with our youth we could ask for. Thank you to all who give of their time to work with the youth of our church. Be sure to look at the calendar for upcoming events, and let's keep the fire going.

The white Baptist Hymnal distribution will take place August 21 and 28. The hymnals will be put on display in the fellowship hall on those days in order for those who donated them to be able to pick up the ones they donated in honor or memory of someone. After these dates, a portion of the hymnals remaining will be put in the fellowship hall for use by groups meeting there. If there are any left after that, they will be donated to another church who cannot afford to purchase hymnals.

**SCHEDULE** Youth Lead Team meetings have been changed from lunch on the third Sunday to after the Evening Bible Study on the third Sunday of each month. We will have refreshments instead of a meal. If you are not on a Lead Team, please come and join us. We can use all the help we can get with our great youth ministry here at First Baptist. The different Lead Teams are Fellowship, Nursing/Rest Home/Homebound, Spiritual Events, and Community Service Projects. If anyone is interested in participating on a Lead Team contact the church office or Pastor Duane. Thank you to everyone who has participated so far, however, we do need more help. Join us and check out what is going on!



There will be a Back to School Splash at Mountain Paradise in North Cove from 5 to 7 PM on Friday July 19. Contact Lori, Shawna, or Terra for more information.

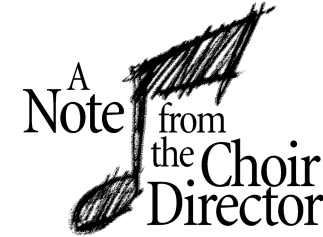


**HERE WE GROW...JULY**  
Avg. Worship Attendance... Avg. 94 General Fund....\$2,577  
Avg. SS Attendance... Avg. 61 Maint/Bldg Fund.....\$236



**Homebound:** Gloria Holley, Marjorie McEntire, Hugh Guffey, Angie Knupp, Mary McEntire, Exam Haney, George Early, Grady & Mildred McCauley  
**Nursing Home:** Carolyn Miller, Francis Morris, Marvin McEntire, Bernice McAfee, Ronnie Harmon

So much excitement in the last couple of weeks has been keeping me awake at night. The home-going of several friends and loved ones, plans building for the fall music with children, adults, handbells, youth, etc., youth momentum is building, VBS, issues with finances across the board. It's a wonder we get any sleep. And yet, I pray for sleep and God delivers. Usually I start with A and go to Z, praying for people and events as I get to each letter. I don't always reach the end of the alphabet. It's hard to find something for Q and X or Z but I always seem to get something from the Lord.



Now, here's what I suggest you pray about. Where can I plug in to use my gifts for the expression and growth of His Kingdom? Are you just going to sit there and think---"somebody will do it---I'll just sit in my seat and appreciate their efforts." In my area of worship, I offer many opportunities and I'm a good teacher, for those of you that don't know that already. Don't be shy. I need you. Our church needs you. More importantly, GOD NEEDS YOU to serve!

Coming soon — Community Children's Choir in the fall August 28<sup>th</sup> - the Moore Brothers Band at 6pm.  
Handbell choir (we need men)  
Adult Choir-preparing for the holidays

See you in worship. Blessings, LLP



Just a reminder that our website has copies of our newsletters, calendars, and bulletins. There are also pages for information about our missions, ministries, youth, other activities.

We will have deacon election on Sunday morning, August 28 during the morning worship service. You may nominate up to three deacons and one alternate. Tim Owen, Phil Lowery, and Bill Ramsey will no longer be active after September. A list of those eligible for election will be available two weeks before the election. Please be in prayer as to whom God would have you nominate to serve for the next four years.



You are cordially invited to attend a retirement reception on Sunday, August 28, 2011 from 2 pm until 4 pm honoring Rev. Sonny Reeves for his years of ministry with the Blue Ridge Baptist Association at Pleasant Gardens Baptist Church. A money box will be available for cards and/or a monetary gift. Please make plans to attend.

The Youth Fellowship Lead Team is sponsoring a Youth Dinner & Board Game Night on Friday, August 5 from 6:30 PM until 10 PM in the church fellowship hall. The theme for the night is "Tacky Hair Contest." The agenda includes a pizza dinner, devotions, card games, checkers, Twister, Wii Fit Tournament, board games, and a judging contest for "Tacky Hair." For more information see Lori, Shawna, or Terra.

This summer's final distribution for Lunch Bunch will be Sunday, August 7. A special thank you to all who have contributed to help feed the children of McDowell County this summer. We have provided food for approximately 100 children in the Old Fort area. Many have contributed money, but equally important are those who have contributed their time to pick up the food, set up for the distribution, box up the food, and carry the food to the cars. There have been around 20 youth and older children helping each week along with the adults who are there to help them at each distribution. Thanks for your mission work here at home.

