



Contact



Let The Church Arise

Newsletter Date

Volume 43, Issue 3

Special points of interest:

- **Lenten Services Begin—**
Wednesday, March 12th
@ 12:00 pm at Sparta
United Methodist
Church
- **Women's Ministry**
Weekend—
Women's Brunch,
Saturday, March 15th @
10:00 am.
Women's Ministry
Emphasis Sunday, March
16th @ 10:00 am
- **Spring Revival—**
Sunday—Wednesday,
March 23—24th Nightly
@ 7:00 pm

From The Pastors Desk

“Arise and be doing, the Lord will be with you.” These were the words King David gave to his son, Solomon, regarding the building of the temple. The message is that we are to be obedient to the commands of God. We are to arise and be doing the work of God to build the church of Jesus Christ. When we are obedient to this command we have this promise that the Lord will go with us. Jesus said, “...lo, I am with you always...” Let the church arise and be doing!!

We have scheduled revival week for March 23-26. Pray for the power of the Lord to come down upon us. May He move us in a

way we have never seen! May the Spirit of God overcome us, and empower us! May souls be renewed! May souls be saved! Please, pray for the speakers: Jonathan Lotz and Rev. Tom Wagner. Pray for the music worship leaders: The Birdsongs. Pray for good attendance. I would like to introduce Rev. Tom Wagner to you: He has been the lead pastor for 30 years Central Baptist Church in Dunn, NC which has over 1,000 regular attendance. He preaches around 20 revivals each year across the country. Recently he and his son, Steven, were guest speakers at the state evangelism

conference in Raleigh. We have the Lenten services beginning Wednesday, March 12 in preparation to Easter. The services are a community event and are being held at Sparta United Methodist Church every Wednesday at noon until Easter. Hope you will join us. Local pastors will be leading the services. The services last only 30 minutes and a light meal afterwards. Donations at the meal go to the Alleghany County Ministerium. Looking ahead, April 6 will be Scout Sunday. We hope to recognize the scouts for special achievements they have made through the year.

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Notes of Interest

Bulletin Information:

Announcements and information for the Weekly Church Bulletin needs to be in the church by each Wednesday afternoon.

Newsletter Information

—Keeping the church informed is a big responsibility. If your group, committee, or organization has information that the church needs to know about, please have your information ready by the 20th day of the month. You can email the church office with your info a abc_sparta@skybest.com or there are forms

located outside the church office to fill out and place in the box outside the office door. Please consider placing your information in the monthly Contact.

Newsletter Folding Party

—Would you be interested in helping get the newsletter assembled & ready to mail on Friday, March 28th @ 9:30am? If you would like to volunteer, please contact the church office at 372-8446.

Transportation

—If anyone is in need of transportation to church on Sunday Mornings please contact the drivers for the month of March. They are Jim Trosino @ 372-4625 and David

Hicks @ 372-7180 or 352-346-7178.

Attention Nina Crouse—WMU—

Study Group—The study Group will meet on Monday, March 10th @ 1:30pm.

Family Night Dinner

—The Family Night Dinner will take place on Sunday, March 23rd @ 6:00 pm. The Dinner will take place before the Sunday night Revival Service at 7:00 pm. Come and enjoy this time of fellowship.

Daylight Saving Time

—Begins On Sunday, March 9th. So spring forward 1 hour on Saturday Night, March 8th.



“Ashes to Ashes”

*Oh, divine Fire,
burst aflame in my life —
spontaneous combustion
to turn all that traps or
crushes growth ...*

*laziness
busy-ness
self-preoccupation
worries and doubts
indifference ...*

*to turn all that traps or
crushes growth ...Into ash.*

*Rendered to ashes by way of
a Cross, The world will know
I've been graced by the Fire.*

*And finally, oh Fire divine,
I will come to know your light
and warmth in the sooty
depths of my soul.*

—Heidi Mann

Anniversaries for March

March 19, 1977

John & Sandy McCray

March 30, 1963

Don & Brenda Wall



Birthdays for

- | | | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|------------------|----|-------------|
| 1 | Eloise Schultheiss | 14 | Wendy McClung, | 30 | David Hicks |
| 3 | Lewis Bobbitt | | Randy Andrews | | |
| 5 | Bill Blevins | 15 | Sue Cunningham | | |
| 6 | Judy Billings | 19 | Jaclyn McCann | | |
| | Sylvia Jackson | 20 | Brian Shaw | | |
| 7 | Paul Edwards, | 21 | Rondal Farmer | | |
| | Carolyn Lovill | 22 | Barbara Patrick, | | |
| 10 | Sabrienna Edwards | | Carla Collins | | |
| 12 | Travis Leftwich | 23 | Susie Gambill | | |
| | Kodia Leftwich | 26 | Jerad Poole | | |
| | Sandra Busic, | | Marissa Walker | | |
| 13 | Matthew Braxton | 29 | Penny Stoker, | | |
| | Amanda Phillips | | Brandon Halsey, | | |
| | Joyce Walker | | Lisa Brady | | |



Revival— March 23—26 Nightly at 7:00 pm

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Jonathan Lotz—
Will begin our revival services on Sunday, March 23 at the 10:00 am service as well as the 7:00 pm service. A Family Night meal will be at 6:00 pm that night. So come and meet Jonathan.



The Birdsong Family will be presenting the gospel with music and song through out the week. If you haven't heard them please come out and listen.



Rev. Tom Wagner, senior pastor at Central Baptist Church of Dunn, NC will begin speaking at Revival on Monday, March 24th — Wednesday, March 26th, nightly at 7:00 pm. Come prepared to be Blest.



Choir Notes



The Adult Choir has begun working on the Easter Cantata. Do you love praising God? Then join us on Wednesdays at 6:45pm. We would love to have you there! Also, we are looking for a few people to do monologues for the cantata. If you

are interested, please let us know. The Children's Choir and Youth Bells are still meeting. However, our numbers are down. If you know anyone who is interested, send them our way. The Children's Choir meets on Monday nights at 6:30pm and our Youth Bells are meeting on

Wednesdays at 6:00pm. The Adult Bell Choir is having a blast learning to ring and to read music. We are in need of one more ding-a-ling. So, if you think it could be you, we are meeting on Monday nights at 5:30pm!

In His Service,
Laura Epps :)

*Friday, March 7th
Christ Episcopal
Church @ 6:00 pm
Refreshments will be
served following the
service...*

World Day of Prayer:

The ecumenical World Day of Prayer will be held at the Christ Episcopal Church on Friday, March 7 at 6:00pm. (Heavy refreshments will be

served). Egypt will be the focus this year and all of the churches that will participate will have a part in the program. This is an

opportunity to come together with other believers in the community and pray and fellowship together.

Contact



News

Well finally we were able to get a fundraiser in and it was a good one. We raised a little over \$850. Thank you so much for all your help and support. We were able to go to winter jam last month and it was great. The youth were excited and got to here some great Christian music. This month we are planning on going March 23rd to watch

the release of "God's Not Dead" in the theaters. We are also planning to have another meal at the end of March. More details will come in the future. We have made a decision to go to Washington, D.C. this summer for our mission trip. We will be helping the homeless, children's home, and elderly while we are there.

Please keep this in your prayers so that we are able to go do God's work for his glory. I would like to thank Brett Jarrett for coming and sharing his experience with the youth about his trip to Haiti. Once again I want to thank everyone for your support and prayers.

Mitchell Reedy

YOUTH Meeting

Youth Meeting
Schedule
Sundays @
4:00 pm
Wednesdays
@ 6:00 pm

Solid Rock Food Closet

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to work at the Solid Rock Food Closet for the month of March. If you have not yet volunteered, please contact Brenda Taylor (372-8641) as soon as possible. There may be a spot just waiting for you. We will be supplying at least four people each Monday, Tuesday, and

Wednesday for the entire month of March. We have a lot of fun and fellowship as we reach out to help feed the hungry in Alleghany County!

We received the good news from the World Hunger Fund through the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina that we have been awarded a grant of \$2400 for our Solid

Rock Food Closet for 2014 to purchase food. We were awarded this because we participate in the World Hunger Offering/Global Hunger Relief Fund through the Cooperative Program. So thank you for contributing to World Hunger through our yearly church budget so we can continue to help those in need in our county.



Lilies for Easter

To decorate for our Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday worship services, we will be using Easter Lilies around the

sanctuary. If you would like to purchase one or more of these in memory of or in honor of someone, please contact the Church Office @ 372-8446 by

Monday, April 7th. The cost will be \$9.00 per lily. You may take your lily home with you after the services on Easter Sunday.

Our Inasmuch United planning committee has set the date for our one-day ministry blitz for Saturday, April 12 with the rain date set for April 26. We plan to have projects for all age groups—children through older adults. If you cannot physically help with a project, then we need you as a Prayer Warrior to pray for the planning committee, for many people to volunteer for that day, and for the work, the workers, and the recipients on project day. Please let us know if you are willing to be a Prayer Warrior.

All volunteers will meet together that day for breakfast—time and place to be announced later. Some projects we plan to do include making thank you cards for service personnel in our community, gathering school supplies for our schools, making Fidget Aprons or Vests for Alzheimer’s, dementia, or traumatic brain injury residents, visiting homebound residents, doing yard work, supplying and installing smoke detectors in homes, visiting nursing home residents, and building ramps.

If you know of someone who needs a

project done at their residence, please let us know. Soon you will be asked to sign up to help on a project. Remember that Jesus said, “Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these..., you did it to me.” Matthew 25:40. Our church theme for the year is “Let the Church ARISE!”. This is your chance to “arise” and reach out to our community and follow Jesus’ example and command to help others in need. Remember, as Christians, while we are here on this earth, we are **Jesus with skin on!** So Let’s be His hands and feet too!



Bible Quiz:

Moses was a prophet and lawgiver for God’s chosen people, the Israelites. What does the name Moses mean in Hebrew?

- A. “Out of the water”
- B. “Giver of the Law”
- C. “Prophet”
- D. “God is good”

Answer: A (See Exodus 2:10.)

Leadership / Calendar Meeting



There will be a meeting of the Leadership/Calendar Committee (this committee is comprised of all chairpersons and ministry leaders in the church) to plan the calendar for April, May,

and June. If you need to schedule something for this quarter of the year, please come and put it on the calendar. If you know your schedule, bring your information by the church office by Thursday, March 6th,

so it will be placed on the calendar before the meeting. We will also be discussing plans for our Revival as well as many other topics. Please plan to attend this meeting on Tuesday, March 11th @ 7:00 pm.

Thank You

Thank you so much for all you have done for our family: visits, cards, food, calls, and prayers. Your love and support has given us

great comfort through this difficult time. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

With Love,
The Hattalene Evans Family,
Edith & Ted
Janet & Bob
Beulah & Cecil

Contact



Unconditional love

"No matter what sin we have committed, no matter how terrible it may be, God loves us."

—Billy Graham

As the cold weather gives way to warmer days (hopefully), keep an eye out for sales on the following items and bring them in to add to our collection in the Christmas boxes located at the bathrooms. Our Operation Christmas Child items for the month of March are **HATS, GLOVES and SCARVES.**

I would like to invite all ladies to join us in the fellowship hall on Saturday morning, **March 15 at 10:00** for a brunch. Matthew and Andrea Boyd, Harold and Susan Jones' nephew and his wife, will be our special

guest speakers that morning as well as for the service Sunday morning. Make plans now to come and bring your mother, sister, grandmother, daughter, friend, or neighbor and join us for some fun, food, and fellowship. We will have a planning meeting on **Tuesday, March 4 at 6:30** in the room behind the choir loft.

During a church service last fall we heard from the Baptist Children's Home (Mills Home in Thomasville) and had the opportunity to eat lunch with them. On

Saturday, May 31 we have the opportunity to visit them for a "work day". We would like this to be an opportunity in which the whole church can be included...so we are asking for all men, women, or youth who aren't afraid of a little work and fun to join us! We could be doing anything from painting to washing windows. After working that morning, they will feed us lunch. Please be praying about joining us and being blessed by the opportunity to serve.



Annie Armstrong Easter Offering



The week of prayer for the Annie Armstrong North American Missions offering will be March 2 through 8th. This is the offering that supports the

missionaries that do church planting as well as outreach to those who need the gospel. The theme is **FIRMLY PLANTED...ROOTED IN THE GOSPEL.** These are people called

to go where most of us fear to tread into the drug culture and human trafficking that is spreading like wild fire. Can we give sacrificially to send more into the field.

Ladies Bible Study

There will be a ladies bible study beginning on Monday, March 3, at 6:30 P.M. The book we will be studying is **STRONGER** by Angela Thomas. "God is greater than every struggle you will ever

face. Because of Christ, you can live stronger. This is a 7 session study that will guide you into biblical truth so you can live a confident, transformed Christ-radiating life marked by HIS

strength". If you have an interest in attending please call the church office, 372-8446 or Eva Rice, 372-2990, so that materials can be ordered.



Deacons Minutes

Jim Cox called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and opened the meeting with prayer. The devotion was presented by Warren Taylor.

The Deacon Family Ministry list was updated and prayed over.

The minutes from our November 11th meeting were reviewed, a motion to approve was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The financial report for November & December 2013 was reviewed. There was a motion made to approve the financial report and seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Gary Murphy shared that Hope Carpenter expressed her appreciation for the church recognizing her birthday on Sunday, January 12th.

Old Business: Jim read a Thank You Card from Front Street Baptist Church in Statesville for the contribution we sent them.

Elevator update: Ricky Royal reported that the elevator is completed and is working fine with the exception of a minor problem with the temperature setting which keeps the fluid warm enough to operate. This problem was resolved. The final financial status of the elevator fund and payment due dates were discussed.

Kitchen update: The roughed-in plumbing and electrical work along with sheetrock installation is complete. The application of the wall panels and flooring along with painting should be complete in the next 7-10 days. The cabinets have been delivered and are scheduled to be installed on 1/20. The goal is to be 90% complete by 1/31.

New Business: Jim informed us that Eldon Joines and other scout leaders will be with us at the February meeting.

Tim Caudill presented a request. No action was taken and the board will

discuss that at a later date.

Jim shared that the material cost for the 2nd floor ramp of \$211.33. The Baptist Men's group had discussed this project earlier and that it could be paid for using the Brotherhood fund. A motion to use the Brotherhood fund was made and seconded. The motion carried.

The procedures for handling donations and memorial gifts to the church were discussed and passed issues have been addressed and the process for handling future donations and gifts has been put in place.

The process for how visitor cards are processed was discussed.

The need for dedicating the elevator and kitchen was discussed and plans will be made to have a dedication at a later date when warmer weather returns.

Pastor/Staff: The status of background checks for the individuals that work with our children and youth was updated.

“Jesus, please open my eyes to people around me. Help me see the unique situation of someone to whom I can be a friend in your name.”

AWANA

15 kids and counting! AWANA is growing. Our numbers have been in the double digits for a couple of weeks now. More kids means there is a need for more workers. Our

biggest need is for a Cubbies (pre-K) or Sparks (K-2nd) leader. Right now, Hannah has been doing both classes, and those classes are showing the most growth. Please

take a minute during the week to prayerfully consider being an AWANA volunteer.

Thank you,
Chris Miller-
AWANA Commander

Let The Church Arise



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202 South Main Street
Sparta, NC
336.372.8446

Fax: 336.372.8446

Email: fbc_sparta@skybest.com

Website: SpartaFirstBaptist.com

**Sunday School Attendance
In February, 2013**

| Date | Attendance |
|--------------------------|------------|
| 2 | 72 |
| 9 | 75 |
| 16 | 67 |
| 23 | 83 |
| Sunday School Enrollment | 119 |
| Average Attendance | 74 |

Contact

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Sparta, NC 28675

Monthly Newsletter



Committees And Special Services For March

Deacons 2014

Gerald Leftwich
Mike Rowe
Ricky Royal
Ben Royall

2015

Jim Cox
David Gambill
Doug Murphy
Aaron Tompkins

2016

Brett Jarrett
Gary Murphy
Gary Poole
Warren Taylor

Nursery Schedule

Barbara Lyon (372-4565)

2 Sylvia Jackson
9 Barbara Murphy
16 Paula Carson
23 Michelle Tompkins
30 Robin Bugielski

Ushers

R.B. Ridgeway
Oscar Reeves

Van Drivers

Jim Trosino
@ 372-4625
David Hicks
@ 372-7180
or 352-346-7178

Family Night Dinner

Sharon Leftwich (chair)

Lisa Edwards,
Shelley Higgins,
Kaye Royall,
Debbie Rowe,
Margaret Royal,
Michelle Tompkins

Heat & Air Controller

Santiago Reales

Brotherhood

Breakfast

**No Breakfast
This Month**

*The day the Lord
created hope was
probably the same day
he created Spring.*

Bern Williams

