



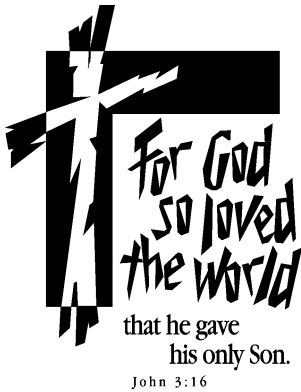
The Courier

A Message from our Pastor...

August 2011

Points of Interest

- Formations Team
- Communion
- Youth News
- Senior Events



Inside this issue:

Children's Team	2
Family Team	
Formations	
Missions Team	
Worship Team	3
Music Notes	
Senior Adults	
Youth News	4
Calendar	5
Birthdays	
Gifts /Memorials	6

PHASES

Justin is starting middle school in a month. That still doesn't sound right. I am going to have a teenager in my household. We have already started to see some of the telltale signs of a teenager boy, namely the amount of food that is disappearing off of the pantry shelves.

I was a youth minister for about 10 years, so I have a little bit of an idea of what life is about to become. Sure, times and technology have changed from when I was a youth minister. Still, there are some things that Amy and I are beginning to prepare for as parents. We already find ourselves saying, "Remember, this is just a phase."

I think we use the language of "phases" a lot with teenagers. But I am not sure we ever stop going through phases in life. They may not be as dramatic or as clearly marked as those we see in our children, but they are still there. Qoheleth, the author of Ecclesiastes, understood this. "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1, NRSV). Qoheleth goes on to talk about "seasons", or phases, when we cry and laugh and fight and make peace and grieve and celebrate. What I find interesting is that Qoheleth understands how frustrated we get by these phases. Listen to his words.

"True, God made everything beautiful in itself and in its time – but he's left us in the dark, so we can never know what God is up to, whether he's coming or going. I've decided that there's nothing better to do than go ahead and have a good time and get the most we can out of life. That's it – eat, drink, and make the most of your job. It's God's gift. I've also concluded that whatever God does, that's the way it's going to be, always. No addition, no subtraction. God's done it and that's it. That's so we'll quit asking questions and simply worship in holy fear. Whatever was, is. Whatever will be, is. That's how it always is with God" (Ecclesiastes 3:10-14, The Message).

Qoheleth reminds us that, as much as some phases of life can be frustrating or painful, there is need for that phase. Sometimes it might be a phase that teaches us something we need for later in life; other times, it may be a phase that simply reveals how much God and other people truly love us. Whatever the case, these phases may pass, but that does not mean they are meaningless. They have their time.

Even as I take life one day at a time, letting today's troubles be enough for today as Christ commanded, I also have to remember that each day and each phase is part of a larger whole of God's work in my life and in the world. As I look at Justin, I realize that his teenage years are a larger part of the tapestry of his life and the tapestry of eternity. That is way too big for me try to make sense of how each day or each phase fits into the whole. Maybe that is part of the reason why Psalm 118:24 says, "This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." No day, no phase, should be written off. I have to see each day as it is and make the most of the day God gives me with Him, with my family, and with His creation. Nothing should be written off as "just a phase"; every moment is a piece of God's work in our life, even if we don't completely understand it.

I know that the coming years are going to bring days, weeks, even months that I will hang my head, throw up my hands, and say, "I can't wait until this phase is over!" When I do, please dig through your file cabinet or search your computer hard drive and find this article and give it to me. I will probably need the reminder.

Mark

Ministry Team News

Children's Team

Nursery Workers Needed!

Our youngest church members need your help! Volunteers are needed 3-4 Sundays a year for the nursery ministry. Please contact Amy Harrison if you are interested.

The Children's Team would also like to thank Paula Harrison & Jennifer Durham for their service on this team.



Family Team

Fellowship Supper News: Paula & I will be setting up accounts for the fellowship supper to help adults who are not always present to cover the cost of the meal for their children & youth. Adults may write a check to cover a period of time & it will be held as a declining balance for their family members. This method will help the fellowship team keep the cost of the meals at the present rate regardless of the increase in food prices. We will continue the meal sign-in that was used during Bible school to help with our records. Adult meals are \$3/person & children \$2/person. Thanks for your support. Stacia Durham

Formations Team



Summer Movie Series

The final installment in the Narnia series will be on
Sunday, August 21 4:00
We will be presenting *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*



Prime Time:

Time Management from a Spiritual Perspective
A 10 Week Sunday School Great Light Seminar

Presented by Deb Spivey

We will look at the life of Jesus and how He mastered time. We will learn from His example, look at our Christian commitment to "seek first the kingdom of God", evaluate our personal use of time, and plan ways we can be good stewards of the time God has given us.

Beginning Sunday, September 11 at 9:45

Sign Up in the Vestibule!



Parents' Night In

They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. -Acts 2:42

Sunday nights beginning September 11, parents are invited to eat, talk, laugh, and pray together while our children participate in music and missions activities. Come hang out and have fun!

Missions Team

Homeless Shelter – Responsible for the meal for the Homeless Shelter for Wednesday, August 3: Larry & Stacia Durham, Milt & Janet Lanphear, Bill & Earline Mann, Garland & Judy Tickle.

Thanks to everyone that provided food & fellowship for the Habitat for Humanity Group from NJ.

Worship Team



**Communion
Sunday, August 7**

**Bring food for local
pantry.**



**"Blessing
of the
Backpacks"**

**Sunday,
August 21st
10:55 AM**

**Please bring
your backpack.**

DEACON ORDINATION



SUNDAY, AUGUST 28 - AM

Music Notes

The following is a posting by Tom Krauter on July 14, 2011 on a blog about worship. I found it quite thought provoking and thought you might also. As you reflect on this blog consider becoming a part of any of our music groups. Your participation will be a blessing. Margaret



Is the Song in You?

Recently I met a woman at one of our Worship Seminars. She told me that when she was young, their family had a pet cardinal. The baby bird had apparently fallen from a nest and been abandoned by the mother. Their family took in the cardinal and raised it as a pet.

The bird had one strange peculiarity, though. It didn't sing. Never. Wild cardinals outside the window sang, but this one didn't. The woman told me she realized the reason. No one had ever taught it the song. No one around the bird knew the cardinal song, so it never learned to sing.

That's sad. A songbird without a song.

But even sadder is a Christian with no song. I'm not talking about someone who is not a good singer. I mean someone with no song coming from inside, no song springing forth because of the goodness and greatness of God.

If you happen to be in that category, I would encourage you to hang around with others who have a song. Let their song filter into your life. Learn the song—for the first time or once again—but, either way, sing it. You might be a bit tentative at first. That's okay. It's not about how prettily you can vocalize. You need to let the praises of the Almighty spring from your lips.

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. So I will bless you as long as I live.
(Psalm 63:3-4)

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES

The Senior Adult Team has been preparing for the upcoming fall schedule by focusing on our existing ministries and discussing new members for our team. We would like to thank Allene Atwood and Doris Kelly for their two years of service on our team. Rotating on this year will be Marie Wills and Mary Roach. We look forward as a team to continue to serve you and alongside of you. The team would also like to share with you a decision in regards to our monthly Bingo Ministry at Blakey Hall. After several years of providing this ministry, the volunteers and leaders have decided to take a break for a few months to reexamine our call and purpose. We want to thank all of you who have participated over the last couple years in this ministry, and our hope is that we will be able to start afresh and anew sometime in the future. If you have ideas or thoughts on future ministries, the Senior Adult Team would greatly appreciate it.

Senior Adult Team Ministries...

Senior Adult Breakfast - Tuesday, August 2 8:30 am Ramada Inn

"Circle of Friends" - Wednesday, August 3 9:30 am

Elon Roundtable - Sunday, August 14 5:00 pm

Fun and Fellowship Trip to Hamrick's - Tuesday, August 16 9:00 am until...

August Birthday Luncheon - Wednesday, August 17 12:30 pm Ramada Inn

Senior Adult Team Meeting - Friday, August 19 10:30 am

Narnia Movie Series - "Voyage of the Dawn Treader" Sunday, August 21 4:00 - 7:00 pm

Deacon Ordination Service - Sunday, August 28



Just a thought...

My family had an opportunity this past week to escape to Myrtle Beach for a family vacation. We love the beach! We are beach people! There is nothing like playing in the waves or taking a long stroll down the sand as you walk towards or away from the pier. Jennifer and I had the opportunity to escape for some evening strolls on the beach, time that I would not trade for anything in the world.

One night, however, we decided to take the boys for a stroll on the beach with us. Let's just say that walking with Samuel and Luke instead of just walking with Jennifer makes for a completely different environment. The boys were quick to run ahead of us or fall back way behind us, examining the creations in the sand, searching for that cherished sea shell, or escaping to the water when mom and dad weren't looking. As we were walking, I turned around to watch the sunset and noticed the numbers of our footprints found in the sand. Of course, we all know that famous poem "Footprints in the Sand", describing our relationship with God and how He often carries us. But on this particular night, I noticed something a little different.

As Jennifer and I were walking hand in hand down the beach, leaving our footprints in the sand, I noticed that both Samuel and Luke were doing their best to walk in our footprints - trying not to make their own, but following every step we took. What a tremendous metaphor for our role as parents in our sons' lives. Just as Samuel and Luke tried to follow in our footsteps, as parents, Jennifer and I are challenged to leave a good "godly" imprint in the sand - a model of Christian living for Samuel and Luke to grow in. While we seek to walk in God's footprints, they seek to walk in our footprints - all pointing back to God.

What a humbling thought and a challenging thought. Not just for Jennifer and me, but for all adults, parents, and grandparents. Are we walking in the footprints of God so those following us can do the same?
David

Upcoming Youth Ministries...

Welcome to Our New Rising 6th Graders!

Sophia Allred
Emily Evans
David Farnham
Savannah Howard
Maddie McCormick
Justin Mofield

Louisville Experience Team Report
Sunday, September 4
10:55 am - 12:15 pm
Don't Miss It!

August Youth Ministries

****Welcome to Our New 6th Graders' Month****

Intensity! - "Finding Jesus in Star Wars"
Session 5 - "The Empire Strikes Back"
Saturday, August 6 5:00 - 8:00 pm

Emerge!
Sunday, August 7, 14, 21, 28
9:45 am

Intensity! - "Finding Jesus in Star Wars"
Session 6 - "The Return of the Jedi"
Sunday, August 14 5:00 - 8:00 pm

Emerald Pointe Trip!
Wednesday, August 17
9 am - 5 pm
Cost - \$20/youth


Hillsong United Concert in Greensboro
Friday, August 19
7:30 pm
(Tickets bought in advance)

Continued on next column...

"New Youth" Family Cookout and Pool Party
The Barefoot's Home!
Saturday, August 20
4:00 - 7:00 PM
(Bring a Dessert or Side Item!)

Blessing of the Backpacks
Sunday, August 21
10:55 am

Youth Lunch Out
Tuesday, August 23
11:30 am - 1:00 pm



Emily Evans August 4
Landon Hines August 12



Ushers/Greeters: NR Franks, Alec French, Kevin Harrington, Mike Harrington, Paul Harris, Dale Harrison, John Jennings, Ronnie Ledbetter, Faye Naylor, Billy Thompson

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
No Children's Church This Month	1	2 8:30 AM Senior Adult Breakfast at Ramada Inn	3 8:30-10 AM Career Net 9:30 AM "Circle of Friends" 6:45 PM Prayer & Praise NO Choir Rehearsal	4	5	6 5-8 PM Youth Intensity Session																																										
7 Communion-AM	8	9 Fellowship Hall reserved 6:30 PM Worship Team	10 NO Prayer Mtg. 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	11	12	13																																										
14 4 PM Church Council 5 PM Roundtable 5-8 PM Youth Intensity Session	15	16 9 AM Fun & Fellowship Trip to Hamrick's	17 9 AM Emerald Pointe Trip 12:30 PM Sr. Adult Birthday Lunch 6:45 PM Prayer & Praise 7:30 PM Choir Reh	18 12 PM Angel Food Order Deadline	19 10:30 AM Sr. Adult Team Mtg. 7:30 PM Hill-song United Concert	20 12 PM Fellowship reserved 4-7 PM "New Youth" Family-Cookout & Pool Party @ Bare-foot's Home																																										
21 Newsletter Due AM Promotion Sunday AM "Blessing of the Backpacks" 4 PM Family Movie Night	22	23 11:30 AM Youth Lunch Out	24 8:30-10 AM Career Net 6:45 PM Prayer & Praise 7:30 PM Choir Reh	25	26	27 8:30-9 AM Angel Food Pickup 6 PM Deacon Family Dinner @ Kimber's																																										
28 AM Deacon Ordination	29	30	31 8:30-10 AM Career Net 6:45 PM Prayer & Praise 7:30 PM Choir Reh	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Sunday Worship Opportunities: 9:30 AM Deacons' Prayer 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:55 AM Morning Worship </div>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> September 2011 <table style="font-size: small;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
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1st Rick Evans
 3rd Angie Miller
 4th Tommy Hill
 4th Emily Evans
 6th April Riley
 6th David King
 11th John Jennings
 12th Landon Hines

12th Eva Jennings
 12th Larry Huffines
 13th Milt Lanphear
 13th Barbara Dawson
 14th Mike Harrington
 15th Taylor Rakes
 18th Keith Russell

21st Nancy Bowling
 21st Katie King
 22nd Carrie Reinheimer
 22nd Nancy Wyrick
 23rd John Justice
 31st John Dawson
 31st Carol Neece



First Baptist Church of Elon

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Rev. David Durham, Associate Pastor

youth@fbc-elon.org

Margaret Miller, Minister of Music

music@fbc-elon.org

Janice Somers, Adm. Assistant

secretary@fbc-elon.org

We're on the Web!
www.fbc-elon.org

Gifts & Memorials...

The church appreciates the following gifts.

Building Fund:

Anne Uzzell

In honor of our Church Families, August Birthdays & Anniversaries. In memory of Mildred Cole, Colleen Russell's uncle, Lou Burrell's sister, Bonnie Kerr's aunt, Jo Gattis' daughter.

Epsie Somers SS

In memory of Mildred Cole.

M/M Garland Tickle

In memory of Patsy Vick's brother, Gary Miller's aunt, Jo Gattis' daughter, Sherri May, Kodell Maney's sister-in-law.

M/M Mike Wilburn

In memory of Mildred Cole.

Bob Scott

In memory of his wife, Lillie Mae Scott.

Music Fund:

Nancy Bowling

In memory of Mildred Cole.



Regular Fund:

FBC, Elon

In memory of Lou Burrell's sister, in lieu of flowers.

FBC, Elon

In memory of Jo Gattis' daughter, in lieu of flowers.

M/M Ed Dupree

In memory of Mildred Cole.

M/M Bobby Roach

In memory of Jo Gattis' daughter & Mrs. Burrell's sister.

Sunday, August 14

4 PM

Church Council Meeting

5 PM

Elon Roundtable Meeting

Business includes the report from the Deacon Nominating Team.