



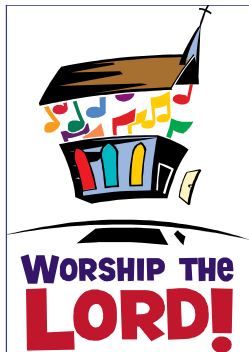
The Courier

A Message from our Pastor...

October 2011

Points of Interest

- Communion
- Homecoming
- Brunswick Stew
- Youth News
- Senior Events



Inside this issue:

- Children's Team 2
- Family Team
- Formations
- Missions Team
- Stewardship Team
- Worship Team 3
- Music Notes
- Senior Adults
- Youth News 4
- Calendar 5
- Birthdays
- Gifts /Memorials 6
- Announcements 7

10

"1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10". This is usually the limit of our counting when we are children. We count the number of fingers on our hands or toes on our feet. 10 is the finish line, and when we reach 10, we have accomplished a significant feat. That accomplishment, though, is one that lays the foundation for more learning, more development that is still to come. Even though 10 marks the end, it is the end with a beginning.

"10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1". Why is it that when we are counting down to the beginning of a new year or to the lift off of a space ship, we begin with 10? Maybe it is a trait left over from our childhood – 10 marked a significant achievement, and so it seems appropriate to count down to something significant by starting at 10. In this case, though, we are not only counting down to the beginning of something, but we are also counting down the end of something else. 10 is a beginning, but it also points us to what is coming to an end.

10 years ago this month, I began my service to First Baptist Church of Elon as Senior Pastor. I have been spending some time in recent days reflecting on these last 10 years. I have found myself drawn to those moments that marked beginnings and endings in our journey together. I think we sometimes assume an association of joy and excitement with beginnings and sorrow or pain with endings, and certainly that is sometimes the case. I remember how much excitement there was the morning of May 5, 2002 as we began our "Get Out of the Boat" services at Lake Mackintosh by gathering for fellowship around the table for breakfast. At the same time, the pain of endings confronts me every time I open my left hand desk drawer and see the thickest file I have, the one that contains the funeral services I have preached in the last 10 years. Certainly I am thankful I will see them again when we meet in eternity with Christ, but it sure would still be nice to have them here and now.

At the same time, I have come to realize that not every beginning is a reason for rejoicing and not every ending is painful. When I look through my notebooks of past sermons, I occasionally come across those messages that God put on my heart because of hurtful or destructive attitudes that might have started to develop in our community at times. Such things always happen whenever you put people together – just look at the stories of the disciples and the early church. Still, those sermons were never easy to preach and never easy to hear, yet I always have felt like everyone heard those sermons, and we grew together. Such beginnings were painful, yet perhaps necessary. At the same time, I think about the fact that we are ending our support of Community in Christ Baptist Church at the end of this year at a time when the Hispanic congregation of the church is asking for autonomy. Our involvement with this mission has been a blessing to them and to our congregation, and the ending of our support of the mission provides an opportunity to begin a new relationship with the congregation as a sister church. Like I said, some beginnings are not necessarily moments of joy and some endings are not necessarily moments of sorrow.

Jesus says in Revelation 1:8, "I am the Alpha and the Omega". As you continue reading John's revelation, you find a lot of beginnings and endings, and you see this same mixture of joy and sorrow associated with each. However, through it all, behind it all, and over it all, is Jesus Christ, the Beginning and the Ending. As I look back, I can see the presence of Christ in these last 10 years, especially in every beginning and ending. And as I look ahead, I wonder what beginnings and endings are still to come, but I know that Christ will be with us through it all, He will be advocating for us behind it all, and He ultimately triumphs over all.

Thank you for the honor and privilege of serving with you for the last ten years. You are a blessing to me and to my family, and we thank God for you. Let us cast our eyes ahead to what God has in store as we seek to follow our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Beginning and the End.

Love,
Mark

Ministry Team News

Children's Team



Mark October 30 from 4:30 - 5:30 pm on your calendars for Trunk or Treat! We will have lots of trunks for our children to visit and games for them to play in between visiting cars. We do need people to volunteer their trunks and candy for our children. A sign up sheet will be in the vestibule. Those providing a trunk need to arrive at 4 pm.

We will also have a cake walk to conclude the event. Instead of cookies, cakes, and cupcakes, we will offer each winner a Little Debbie cookie and a juice box. If you would like to donate a box (or two) of Little Debbie cookies or juice boxes, please let Amy Harrison know.

Family Team



Book Discussion Group

Thursday, October 20 – 7 PM Barnes & Noble Café

“Love Wins: A Book About Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived” by Rob Bell

Formations Team

Great Light Seminars:

4-8 week studies designed to explore new topics and ideas during the Sunday school hour.

Going on Now: Prime Time: Time Management from a Spiritual Perspective led by Deb Spivey

Coming in January: Fit 4: Heart, Soul, Mind, and Strength, a study of Christian wellness led by Janie Brown and Alec French

Any ideas? If there is a topic you would like to see explored as a Great Light Seminar, please see Jennifer Durham!

Missions Team

Homeless Shelter – Responsible for the meal for the Homeless Shelter for Wednesday, October 5: Jeff & Sharon Brenner, Tammie Ferguson, Susan Reinheimer, John & Colleen Russell.

Brunswick Stew - Friday, October 14 \$6/quart

Proceeds from our stew provide monies for Christmas Cheer, Loaves & Fishes or other mission projects in our community. Please help support this project.



Stewardship Team

Budget Planning - Members of the Stewardship Committee have distributed 2012 budget worksheets to Team Leaders for discussion at their next meeting. Please consider the actual expenses you have incurred during 2011 in projecting your needs for 2012. We ask that you continue to be fiscally responsible as you plan for the upcoming year. Completed forms should be returned to a member of the Stewardship Committee no later than October 17. Cathy Johnson, Kathy Hines, Bobby Roach, NR Franks, Bill Mann, Eules Wyrick

Capital Campaign – Debt-Free in '13 - We continue to make progress as we complete the first year of our “Moving Forward in Faith” Capital Campaign. As of September 18, \$55,585 has been given toward our first year goal of \$70,000. This is 79.4% of our goal. The current loan balance is \$160,268. Thank you for your continued support of this project.

Our fall fundraising projects for the Capital Campaign will include selling Christmas cards with a picture of our Chrismon Tree on the front, and selling live Christmas trees and wreaths. Trees and wreaths will be pre-sold with orders being taken later this fall. And, don't forget your change for the Sunday school "Silver Piggy" contest. Truthseekers are currently in possession of the piggy.

Worship Team



COMMUNION

Sunday, October 2

Bring food for local Pantry.

HOME COMING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

10:30 AM

No Sunday School

Speaker: Rev. Norman Harris

Covered Dish Meal following worship

Please invite your friends, family,
and former members for a wonderful
day of worship and fellowship!

Thanksgiving & Advent Schedule

Nov. 22 Community Thanksgiving
Service at Shallow Ford - 7:00 PM

Nov. 27 First Sunday in Advent

Dec. 18 Choirs present "A Song in
the Air" - 6:00 PM

Dec. 24 Candlelight Christmas
Communion - 5:00 PM

Dec. 25 Carols and Scripture
Service - 10:00 AM

Music Notes

HAPPY HEARTS will rehearse on Oct. 4 and Oct. 11 this month. Our ministry is to Retirement Homes and Nursing facilities. Anyone is welcome to join this music group and share a ray of sunshine with our older folks in the community.

Rehearsals will begin soon on our Christmas music. We will present a brand new musical "A Song in the Air" on Dec. 18 at 6:00 PM. We welcome singers to help during this season to tell the good news of Jesus Christ to all. God's Son is born! It is the greatest story ever told! Attention parents!! The kid's choirs and youth will be a part of this presentation. Please mark your calendars for Dec. 18.



SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES

The Senior Adult Team met during the month of September and are eager to share two new ministries that will be taking place soon. First, the Coupon Club will begin on Sunday, October 2. This is a ministry that has been in the team's heart for sometime. This new ministry is for our church members to use, but also to contribute to. Bring your "extra" coupons that you may not use and drop them off at the table in the Communications Center. Look through the category boxes to see if there might be any coupons that you might need. Second, the Senior Adult team will be working with the College team in the near future to set up a "Free Coffee" day for the Elon students that pass our church on a daily basis. We are going to set one or two days a month to set up a table at the road to hand out free coffee and breakfast items to the college students as they pass by. If you would like to help with this ministry, please see a member of the Senior Adult team for more details.

Senior Adult Breakfast - Tuesday, October 4 8:30 am @ Ramada Inn
"Circle of Friends" - Wednesday, October 5 9:30 am
Fun and Fellowship Trip to Lexington! - Friday, October 7 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Homecoming Sunday! - October 9 Worship begins at 10:30 am!
(No Sunday School or Sunday night ministries)
Brunswick Stew Day - Friday, October 14
"Heart 2 Heart" Kickoff Luncheon - Sunday, October 16 12:00 pm
Birthday Luncheon - Wednesday, October 19 12:30 pm @ Ramada Inn
"Trunk or Treat" - Sunday, October 30 4:00 pm - Trunks arrive!
4:30 - 5:30 pm - The Kids Arrive!
Next Senior Adult Luncheon...Tuesday, November 15!
Coupon Club starts Sunday, October 2! Check out the table in the Communications Center!



Just a thought...

It is amazing how God uses people to impact our lives. Whether it be our family members or our friends, each person helps shape us into who we become, how we approach life, and how we cherish things around us. To deny that God has a role in this is to be blind to His continuous work on us and around us.

These thoughts have been circulating in my mind this past week as we approach Sunday, September 25. To many, this date might not have much meaning. But for many in our church, this date has played a significant part in our lives. September 25 this year will mark the 10 year anniversary of the passing of one of my dear friends and a very active member in our church, Tony Coble, Jr. If you did not have the honor of meeting Tony, let me share what you missed out on. First, Tony had a smile that could light up a room. Everyone knew when Tony was around because of his joy for life. Second, Tony had a mischievous side to him as well! I can remember one summer retreat with the youth group where Tony brought a water balloon catapult and sent water balloons flying over two rows of beach houses! (Youth - don't get any ideas!) Third, Tony had a love for life, especially his family. So many times I remember talking to Tony about his love for his little brother Brandon and how much his mom, Sandy, and dad, Tony Sr. meant to him. Finally, Tony had a love for God. This love could easily be seen in his compassion and care for people and his dedication to his church, especially the youth group.

God has a plan in shaping who you are by the people that he places in your life. Tony had a big part in shaping who I am today. Tony's love for Christ and the youth program continues in the establishment of the Tony Coble Jr. Scholarship fund here at First Baptist Elon, designed to help youth in financial need get to experience Christ's love through trips and ministries. You may have never met Tony, but God has put people in your lives to shape who you are. Make a donation to the scholarship fund in their honor today. - David

Upcoming Youth Ministries...

YOUTH WEEK 2011

A Week of Outreach!
October 2 - 8

Sunday - Kickoff with CF and Yozone! - 5:30 - 8:00 pm

Monday - Bowling at Country Club Lanes - 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Tuesday - Laser Tag at Lazer X - 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Wednesday - Scavenger Hunt! - 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Thursday - Dinner Out at Blue Ribbon - 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Friday - Football Game - Williams vs Western + a Late Nite run to IHOP
6:30 pm - 12:00 am

Saturday - YW Finale - Olympics - 3:00 - 5:00 pm

**SIGN UP!
INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!
IT WILL BE A BLAST!**

October Youth Ministries

Task Force Project: Alamance County CROP Walk
Saturday, October 1
8:30 am - Registration Walk begins at 9:30 am.

Emerge!
Sunday, October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
9:45 am
(E! to Biscuitville on October 2!)

Consuming Fire!
Sunday, October 2, 9, 16, 23 (HS only), 30
5:30 pm

Youth Week 2011!
October 2 - 8
See Ministry Box for Details!

"The Breakfast Club"
Wednesday, October 5 and 26
6:45 am @ The Biscuitville on Huffman Mill

Homecoming Sunday!
October 9 Worship 10:30 am
(No Sunday School or Evening Ministries)

Continued on next column....

"Heart 2 Heart" Ministry Kickoff Luncheon

Sunday, October 16
12:00 pm - Fellowship Hall

Middle School Fall Retreat
"Loving the Unlovely"
October 21 - 23

Trunk or Treat
Sunday, October 30
4:30 - 5:30 pm
(CF will meet after!)

Upcoming Events...

High School Fall Retreat
November 11 - 13

A "Christmas Carol Dinner"
A Youth Fundraiser
December 10

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Worship Opportunities 9:30 AM Deacons' Mtg. 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:55 AM Morning Worship 5:00 PM Fellowship Meal 5:30 PM Youth/Children's 5:45 PM Adult Study 6:15 PM RA's GA's	Music & Missions					1 8:30 AM CROP WALK at Holly Hill Baptist Sanctuary Reserved PM
2 Communion 4 PM Church Council Mtg. Youth Week Oct. 2-8	3 2-4 PM Flu Shot Clinic – FH 6:30 PM Joyful Ringers	4 8:30 AM Senior Adult Breakfast at Ramada Inn 10 AM "Happy Hearts" Rehearsal	5 8:30-10 AM Career Net 9:30 AM "Circle of Friends" 6:45 PM Prayer & Praise 7:30 PM Choir Reh	6	7 10 AM-5 PM Fun & Fellowship Trip to Lexington FH reserved PM	8
9 No Sunday school 10:30 AM HOMECOMING LUNCH No PM	10 6:30 PM Joyful Ringers <i>Columbus Day</i>	11 10 AM "Happy Hearts" Rehearsal	12 NO Career Net 6:45 PM Prayer & Praise 7:30 PM Choir Reh	13	14 Brunswick Stew	15 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast FH reserved -4pm
Fellowship Hall in use for Election						
16 12 PM "Heart 2 Heart" Kickoff Luncheon	17 6:30 PM Joyful Ringers	18	19 8:30-10 AM Career Net 12:30 PM Sr. Adult Birthday Lunch Ramada 4:15-9 pm FH reserved 6:45 PM Prayer & Praise 7:30 PM Choir Reh	20 7 PM Book Discussion Group at Barnes & Noble Café	21 Sanctuary Reserved	22 1 PM Sanctuary Reserved
Middle School Fall Retreat Oct 21-23						
23 <i>Newsletter Due</i> 9 AM Deacon's Mtg. Children's Church	24 6:30 PM Joyful Ringers FH reserved 6pm	25	26 8:30-10 AM Career Net 6:45 PM Prayer & Praise 7:30 PM Choir Reh	27 FH reserved	28	29 5:30-7:30 PM Spaghetti Dinner - FH (Fundraiser for Pediatric Cancer)
30 Children's Church 4:30-5:30 PM Trunk or Treat 5:30 PM Roundtable Mtg.	31 <i>Halloween</i>					(FH-Fellowship Hall)

1 st Harold Davis	13 th Irene Bradsher	19 th Stephen Owens
8 th Tyler Watkins	13 th Evan Rehrauer	19 th Steve Bryant
8 th Bob Scott	14 th Adam Andrews	21 st Rebecca Crawford
8 th Rhonda Fender	16 th Helen Apple	22 nd W.H. Bryant
9 th Cathy Craver	17 th John Brammer	24 th Tony Roof
11 th Michael Allison	18 th Dale Harrison	27 th John Hines
11 th Garland Tickle	19 th Mary Lou Burrell	31 st Deborah Neece
11 th Steven Olson		

First Baptist Church of Elon

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Margaret Miller, Minister of Music

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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, October Birthdays & Anniversaries. In memory of Rob Johnson's uncle, Jane Crabbe's aunt, Susie Lowder's brother-in-law, Reggie Vick's brother-in-law, Steve Cole, Jeff Prichard's stepfather, April Riley's mother, Dreama Howard's uncle.

M/M NR Franks

In memory of April Riley's mother.

M/M Garland Tickle

In memory of Susie Lowder's brother-in-law; April Riley's mother & Reggie Vick's brother-in-law.

Shirley Holland

In memory of April Riley's mother & Jo Gattis' daughter.

Music Fund:

M/M N.R. Franks

In memory of Doris Thompson.

M/M James Allison

In memory of April Riley's mother.

Nancy Bowling

In memory of April Riley's mother.

M/M Dave Harris

In memory of April Riley's mother, Reggie Vick's brother-in-law.

Regular Fund:

Nina Harrison

In memory of April Riley's mother & those who died on 9-11.

Tony Coble, Jr. Scholarship Fund: In memory of Tony, Jr.

Rob & Cathy Johnson

Dale & Paula Harrison

Larry & Stacia Durham

Alec & Sandy French

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Come out and join me, Emily Swing, for a **FREE** Spaghetti dinner in the Fellowship Hall to help raise money for Pediatric Cancer Awareness! It will all be donations only and will be held October 29th, 2011 from 5:30 to 7:30. All proceeds are going to *Ronald McDonald House*®! Come out and have a great time with a wonderful meal for a good cause! If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me, I'd love to answer them!

RSVP by October 22nd with the total number of people attending. You can contact Emily either by calling (336) 264-9287 or by email at ekswing730@access.alamance.edu. Thank You!!





A "Christmas Carol" Dinner - A Youth Fundraiser
Saturday, December 10
6:00 - 8:00 PM
A Night of Carols, Food, and Fun!



Flu Shot Clinic
Monday, October 3
2:00 - 4:00 pm



FBC Elon Fellowship Hall

****Please bring your insurance card and license with you.****

COUPON Club

Starts Sunday, October 2!

Drop Your Coupons off in the Communications Center!

Check through the boxes for coupons you might need!

(This ministry is being promoted by the Senior Adult Team)

Children's Ministry Conference

Saturday, October 1

9:00 to 11:30 AM

(Doors open at 8:30)

Join us for this exciting event as we welcome Childhood Ministry expert Janice Haywood. Learn about the essential ingredients for a strong Children's Ministry.

Please call 226-0249 or email mtzionassociation.com to let them know you are coming to help in their planning. There will be handouts and snacks to enjoy.

This is a great opportunity for all pastors and church leaders to come together and learn what needs to be done to improve ministry to children. It takes the church body working together to accomplish this, which begins with the leadership of the church.

Where:

Ramada Conference Center, Alamance Room
2703 Ramada Rd., Burlington

Free Event by the Mt. Zion Baptist Association