

# LITTLETON BAPTIST NEWS

A Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Congregation

*"Our mission is to make Christ known, by providing spiritual nourishment, ministering to physical needs, and sharing the Gospel."*

*Rev. Tom Bodkin, Pastor in the Interim*  
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March 2018

Vol. 42 No. 3

## THOUGHTS ALONG THE WAY

In the Gospel narratives, the parables of Jesus are found in many different settings. One of the most beloved of the parables is found in the Gospel of Luke, chapter 10, verses 25 through 37. We call it *The Parable of the Good Samaritan*.

Luke provides us the setting as he tells us that an expert in the law sought to test Jesus with this question: *Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?*

Jesus answered: *What is written in the Law? How do you read it?*

The expert in the law replied: *'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, Love your neighbor as yourself.'*

Jesus responded: *You have answered correctly. Do this and you will live.*

Luke goes on to tell us: *But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, And who is my neighbor?*

After sharing a moving story of exceptional kindness, Jesus poses the question: *Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?*

Luke tells us that the expert in the law replies, *The one who had mercy on him.*

Then Jesus responds, *Go and do likewise.*

Eminent Swiss Protestant theologian, Emil Brunner, whom I studied during seminary days, has written the following:

*Our relationship with God and our relationship with our neighbors are never two different things but are one and the same. We cannot sin against God except by doing wrong to one of our brothers. The opposite is true, too. If our relationship with God is made new, our relationship with our fellow men is made new by the same token. In other words, we cannot receive mercy and love from God unless we are in turn full of love and mercy toward our brothers.*

Brunner was only bearing out what Jesus taught by the parable. We read in I John 4:20, *Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen.*

The truth is: If we have not learned the message of love from God's Word, then we have missed the entire message.

Your friend and Pastor in the Interim,

*Tom*



# March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>3</i>
<i>4</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship  7:00 Deacons Mtg	<i>5</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> 8:30 Exercise 12:00 Lenten Lunch  6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>10</i>
<i>11</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	<i>12</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i> 8:30 Exercise 12:00 Lenten Lunch  6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>15</i> 7:00 Mission Committee Mtg	<i>16</i> 8:30 Exercise Disaster Relief Training	<i>17</i> Disaster Relief Training
<i>18</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	<i>19</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>20</i>  Welcome Spring!	<i>21</i> 8:30 Exercise 12:00 Lenten Lunch  6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> 8:30 Exercise 9:00 Spring Cleaning 9:30 LACTS	<i>24</i> 9:00 Spring Cleaning
<i>25</i> 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	<i>26</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> 8:30 Exercise  6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>29</i>  7:00 Maundy Thursday Ser- vice	<i>30</i> 8:30 Exercise	<i>31</i> 10:00 Easter Egg Hunt



Who taught the sun where to stand  
in the morning?

And who told the ocean, "You can  
only come this far"?

And who showed the moon where  
to hide till evening?

Whose words alone can catch a falling star?

These are lyrics to one of my favorite contemporary Christian hymns, I Know My Redeemer Lives, which is also the name of our Cantata this Easter. Easter is a time to share His story ... especially the story of His cross and His resurrection. He could have stopped the painful parade up to Calvary with just a word, but He never uttered it. Instead, He opened His arms to the beam, He opened His hands to the nails, and He allowed Himself to be crucified.

What is the best part of this story? It's the part we, as believers, tell about the truth of who Jesus is, what He did, and how He came into our hearts and changed our lives forever! Through His death and resurrection, the sacrifice has been made. The debt has been satisfied. Our redemption has been secured. Christ has been raised. Our hope is real. We know our Redeemer lives!

We hope you plan to join us during worship on Easter morning to listen as we come together to praise the name of Jesus, our great Redeemer!

*Laura*



Our Deacons will meet at 7:00 P.M. on Sunday evening, **March 4**, in the Annex.



## THE LORD'S SUPPER

On Sunday, **March 4**, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper during worship. Be present for this special time as we remember once again the sacrifice of our Lord for you and me. Remember as you depart you will be given opportunity to contribute to the Fellowship Fund for local benevolence.



Don't forget to set your clock forward one hour on Sunday, **March 11**, so as not to be late for Sunday School!



## LBC Spring Cleaning Friday & Saturday March 23 - 24

Floating from 9:00 A.M. to  
3:00 P.M. each day

Come join the ladies of the church for Spring Cleaning Days!

Have you noticed a messy corner in our church building or yard that you've been wanting to get "a round tuit"? Well, this is your opportunity!! Come, work and have fun and fellowship together. It is okay to only come for 30 minutes, or work for two whole days. There will be brunch foods there to keep energy and spirits high. We will start out each day around 9:00 A.M. with a prayer time, then get going.

Contact Betty Anne Shearin for more information.



The Mission Committee will meet on Thursday, **March 15**, at 7:00 P.M. in the church annex.



## FOOD PANTRY

*Volunteers*

## MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Spring is in the air. Mission opportunities are blooming. We need you!! Our church will host the Food Pantry on Friday, **March 23** at the Littleton United Methodist Church. Come join us at 9:30 that morning for a

rewarding time helping others in our community. There is always a need for no/low salt items and diabetic food items.



Please put **April 14** in your prayers and on your calendar for the Children's Carnival at the John 3:16 Center. Plans are being made for a Christ filled fun day for children and their families. We will need your help with games, serving food, welcoming children, parking cars, manning a variety of activities and setting up/cleaning up. New and gently used books are being collected to give to the children. Check your bookshelves, yard sales and book stores for books to donate for the carnival. Your help is also needed by giving two liter drinks to serve during that day. All kinds of drinks are needed - fruit, diet, cola and clear types.

As spring warms our days, may all the opportunities to serve our Lord and Savior warm your heart. Thank you for being a loving, caring church family.



## Easter Lilies

The following is the flower schedule for March:

- March 4 - The Lord's Supper
- March 11 - Available for Scheduling
- March 18 - Mary & Earl Spivey
- March 25 - Available for Scheduling

If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary on one of the available Sundays please contact a member of the Flower Committee. When you place flowers in the sanctuary please contact the church office by email or written note to let us know how you want it placed in the bulletin.

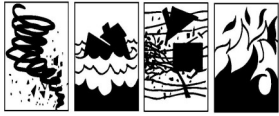
March is here! Spring is just around the corner and it is time to start thinking Easter and Easter Lilies for our sanctuary as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Easter is April 1st this year so we have to start early with your orders. If you would like to place an Easter Lily in our sanctuary please let us know as soon as possible! The price is \$10.00 for a single stem. Make your check payable to Littleton Baptist Church and label it - Easter Lily. Please bring your order & check or cash to a member of the flower committee, church office or mail it to P.O. Box 216, Littleton, N.C. 27850 with in honor of or in memory of information so orders can be placed.

Thank you from your Flower Committee!

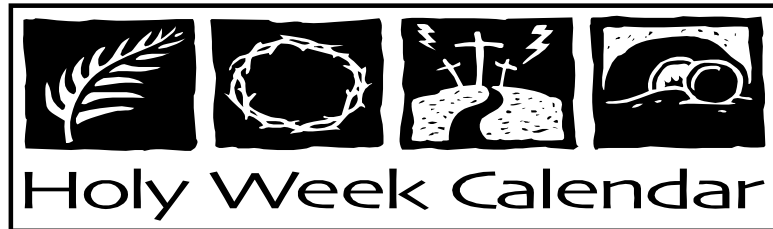
Carolyn Price	phone: 252-586-3567	
Priscilla Parks	phone: 252-586-4790,	email: priscillaparks@embarqmail.com
Ann Currin	phone: 252-532-4881,	email: anncurrin@embarqmail.com

## DISASTER RELIEF



### TRAINING

Please consider sharing Christ's love to folks in need after a catastrophe. There will be a NC Baptists on Mission disaster relief training session in Nash County **March 16 & 17**. There are so many jobs that need to be done during a crisis that your talent can be used! For more information see Sid or Betty Anne Shearin or the website [www.baptistsonmission.org](http://www.baptistsonmission.org).



**MAUNDY THURSDAY** - Join us on Maundy Thursday, **March 29**, at 7:00 P.M. in the sanctuary as we celebrate the Lord's Supper and meditate upon our Lord's last hours with his disciples.

**EASTER EGG HUNT** - All children 6th grade and under are invited to an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, **March 31**, at 10:00 A.M. Participants will meet in the fellowship hall for an Easter message, craft & snack. The Egg Hunt will follow on the church grounds. Children may be picked up at 12:00 noon.

**SUNRISE SERVICE** - This year our Easter Sunrise Service will be held at 7:00 A.M. on **April 1**, at the rear of our church near the three crosses that have been constructed there. We hope to make this a witness to the community and invite others to join us. A fellowship breakfast by our Mission Committee will be served inside the fellowship hall immediately following the service.

**EASTER WORSHIP** - Join us on Easter, **April 1**, at 11:00 A.M. as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord through worship and our Adult Choir's presentation of the cantata *"I Know My Redeemer Lives"*.



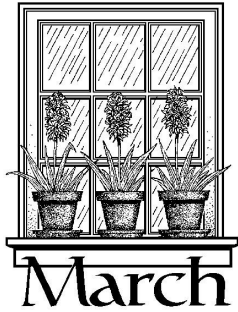
There have been some concerns on our church security during our Sunday morning worship service. Our church is taking the following safety measures each Sunday morning.

The nursery workers lock the kitchen door and then nursery door to the outside just before the service begins. People are directed to the front door. As the service begins, the side door to the parking lot is locked. After the first hymn in the worship service is sung, an usher checks the parking lot to see if there are any late comers and if none he will lock the front doors. The side door beside the water cooler stays locked at all times.

At the present time, we are investigating a possible signaling system for late comers. If you have any suggestions, please inform a deacon.

Littleton Baptist Church  
P. O. Box 216  
Littleton, NC 27850

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<u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u>	<u>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</u>	<u>NURSERY WORKERS</u>
2 Carol West 5 Lowell Lee 9 Connor Pitchford (6 yrs) 15 Sara Council 19 Emily Pulliam 20 Ray Holloman 22 Paula Burton 25 John Skinner 25 Brandon Stansbury 26 Jay Koef 27 Destiny Hilton (5 yrs) 28 Beth King 31 Stephanie Iles	26 Kent & Carol West (24 yrs)	4 Louise Gibson/Suzanne Pearce 11 Jan Myrick/Sara Council 18 Jan Miller/Melinda Harris 25 Chris Skinner/Nichole Pitchford