

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."



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PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH

Thriving is not a spark. It's a fire that must be tended.

Every church has had its peak moments - seasons when worship felt electric, ministries flourished, and community was alive with purpose. But thriving that lasts? That's different. It doesn't depend on a single pastor, a strong budget, or one powerful moment. It depends on what comes next.

Thriving doesn't sustain itself. It must be built.

The Helping Churches Thrive cohort invited churches to wrestle with a hard truth: spiritual momentum can fade unless it becomes embedded in the church's culture, systems, and rhythms. Without intentionality, we risk mistaking a peak for permanence.

Think of biblical leaders like Solomon, who built a kingdom with brilliance but failed to cultivate leaders who could carry it forward. By contrast, Jesus didn't just lead, he formed a movement. He empowered his followers, created space for growth, and commissioned them to continue the work.

Thriving churches don't preserve moments - they pattern their ministry to sustain life over time.

Through the cohort process, four foundational patterns emerged:

1. Thriving is Rooted in Intentionality.

It's not enough to hope things go well. Thriving requires attention, alignment, and deliberate practices. It means asking regularly, "What are we becoming?" and "What's shaping our life together?"

2. Open, Courageous Communication.

Thriving churches create space to name hard truths, share new ideas, and disagree in love. They model the wisdom of James 1:19: "Be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to become angry." Trust isn't assumed—it's cultivated.

3. Embrace Intergenerational Wisdom and New Possibilities.

Thriving is multigenerational work. It values both elders who hold memory and youth who dream forward. It means resisting nostalgia and welcoming innovation. It's what the prophet Joel envisioned: "Your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions" (Joel 2:28).

4. Empower Individual and Collective Agency.

Thriving churches release ministry to the people. They recognize that the Holy Spirit moves through the whole Body—not just the staff. Ephesians 4:16 says it best: "The whole body... grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."

(Con't on page 3)



June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> 6:15 Adult Choir 7:00 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i> 8:30 Thousand Trails 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Bible Study	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i> 6:15 Adult Choir 7:00 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i> 2:00 Youth & Children Bowling
<i>14</i> 8:30 Thousand Trails 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Bible Study 7:00 Deacons Mtg	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i> 6:15 Adult Choir 7:00 Prayer & Bible Study	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>21</i> 8:30 Thousand Trails 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Bible Study 5:30 Ice Cream Social/Helping Churches Thrive FATHER'S DAY	<i>22</i> 9:00 VBS	<i>23</i> 9:00 VBS	<i>24</i> 9:00 VBS No Choir No Prayer & Bible Study	<i>25</i> 9:00 VBS	<i>26</i> 9:00 VBS	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> 8:30 Thousand Trails 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Bible Study	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>				

(con't from page 1)

When churches practice these patterns, when thriving becomes less about charisma and more about culture, they build resilience. They weather pastoral transitions, societal shifts, and seasons of change. Because thriving isn't about keeping everything the same, it's about remaining faithful in a world that keeps moving.

Thriving, in the end, is not just something we experience. It's something we cultivate. Protect. It's a legacy. A pattern. A way of being the church—together, for the long haul.

Grace and Peace,

David



I love reading quotes about music! I wanted to share a few of my favorites this month!

"There is an unlimited supply of good music in the world. Thus, our biggest challenge is to choose wisely what we listen to and what we watch." M. Russell Ballard

"We get nearer to the Lord through music than perhaps through any other thing except prayer." J. Reuben Clark

"I am comforted by the assurance that there will be beautiful music in heaven, and for that I am most grateful." Spencer W. Kimball

"The singing of our hymns is one of the best ways to put ourselves in tune with the Spirit of the Lord." Dallin H. Oaks

Enjoy music in the ways that you choose!

Laura 🎵



Our Deacons will meet on Sunday, June 14th, at 7:00 P.M. Please continue to pray for our deacons and their invaluable leadership to our church.



FROM THE
Pulpit

THIS MONTH IN WORSHIP

Join us for our Sunday Morning Worship Services.

If you can't be with us at church, then join us online for our Virtual Sunday Worship Services on Facebook Live at 11:00 A.M.

JUNE 7

Wake Up

Ephesians 5:8-14

JUNE 14

Coming Up to Breathe

Matthew 14:22-33

Thriving Conclusion

JUNE 21

Place in this World

Exodus 18:13-27

Father's Day

JUNE 28

Be My Escape

Psalms 46

Mental Health Sunday



On Father's Day, Sunday, **June 21st**, we will take time to honor our fathers, past and present. Be with us as we take time to especially honor Christian Fathers who daily live their faith in the family and world!



Join us for our first Summer Ice Cream Social on Father's Day **June 21st**, at 5:30 P.M. in the fellowship hall of Littleton United Methodist Church!



We'll begin the evening with ice cream, fellowship, and time together before moving into our eighth and final churchwide conversation as part of Helping Churches Thrive. Whether you've attended every conversation, only a few, or none at all, you are absolutely invited to come. This is a great opportunity to connect, enjoy some dessert, and be part of an important evening in the life of our church.

If you can, bring a freezer of homemade ice cream. It will be appreciated and enjoyed. If you can't, then bring a topping or trimming to go with the ice cream. If neither is possible, just come for the ice cream, stay for the conversation - we'd love to see you there!



On **June 13th**, our youth and children will go bowling at Fairwood Lanes. We will meet there at 2:00 P.M. Please contact Pastor David to signup. Signups will end **June 7th**.



We celebrated Mother's Day last month, and we get to celebrate Father's Day this month. Our parents are a blessing that God has given us! Any time we get to spend with them is definitely a blessing! Enjoy that precious time spent together.

If you would like to place flowers in church this month all Sundays are available. Feel free to pick the Sunday of your choice. Don't forget about the flower sign-up sheet in the hallway at church. If you would like to place flowers in church, please contact a member of the Flower Committee by phone or email: Sandra Lynch, (252) 578-3495 or sandralynch337@gmail.com, Kay Beaver, (252) 586-2014 or dbeaver10@gmail.com, Christie Griffin, (919) 306-601 or christiewheatley@yahoo.com.

You can also contact the church office by email: office@littletonbaptistchurch.org. Let us know what you want to post in the bulletin.

Thank you for your continued support. We appreciate our precious congregation.



This year Lakeside Lutheran Church is the host for our community VBS. It will be **June 22nd - 26th**, and the theme will be Snowball Challenge. The theme verse for the week will be Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." We look forward to having a great week as our kids grow in their faith.

Please pre-register now:

<https://lakeside-lutheran.mycokesburyvbs.com/>



Thousand Trails Services continue at 8:30 A.M. each Sunday through Labor Day weekend. If you are willing to participate, either speaking or assisting with special music, please see Mike Crawley. Thank you for your prayers and support for this valuable ministry that over the past few years has been an inspiration to the campers and beyond.



Save The Date

Mark your calendars! Sunday afternoon, **September 6th**, is our annual Church Picnic held at Sid & Betty Anne Shearin's farm. It is always a great time of Christian fellowship!



The church will be attending the Wilson Warbirds baseball game on Saturday, **July 11th**. Game time is 7:05 P.M. All are invited for this special night of fellowship and baseball. Please contact Pastor David to signup. You will need to signup by **June 28th** so that tickets can be purchased.



It's that time of year again as we begin preparing for the Labor Day Festival - and we're excited to invite you to be part of it!

As part of our church's presence at the festival, we will be collecting **new children's books and young teen chapter books** to share with families in our community. If you would like to contribute, you can drop off donations at the church office or bring them with you on Sunday mornings.

Thank you for helping us bless our community in such a simple but meaningful way.

Littleton Baptist Church
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Littleton, NC 27850



<u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u>	<u>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>
1 Jack Council (6 yrs) 3 Adelyn Kearney (10 yrs) 12 Jim Elam 12 David Tripp 16 Connie Turner 24 Amanda Coffman 25 Perry Myrick 27 Ryan Hockaday	1 Ed & Kristi Atkins (30 yrs) 8 Thad & Melinda Harris (57 yrs) 14 Roman Martinez & Neva Lopez (23 yrs) 15 Claude & Sandra Lynch (46 yrs) 17 Jim & Lou Elam (48 yrs) 24 Cecil & Christie Griffin (2 yrs) 30 Ray & Brenda Holloman (58 yrs)	7 Sara Council/Claire Council 14 Melinda Harris/Sandra Lynch 21 Paula Burton/Kay Tripp 28 Open
		<u>GARBAGE DETAIL</u>
		Billy Blanton