



# The Good News Letter

## THANK GOD FOR FREEDOM



July/August 2014

A bimonthly publication of First Baptist Church of Gaston Vol. 40 Issue 4

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GASTON "THE CARING PLACE"

# SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC



SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2014 ~ BETHEL CHRISTIAN CAMP

11:00 AM—6:00 PM, 750 Boy Scout Road, Gaston, SC

Don't Miss This Fun Event!!



# HOMECOMING

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 2014

CELEBRATING 190 YEARS OF GOD'S BLESSINGS!!

Sunday School 9:45 AM - Worship 11:00 AM

Lunch to Follow Worship Service - No Evening Activities or Service

### Coming Activities

Spiritual Warriors Luncheon ~ No meeting in July ~ Next meeting August 6 at 11:30 AM

Back-to-School Bash August 9 ~ 9-11 AM ~ Place to be announced.

WOM Home Meetings July 21 and August 18

GA/RA Recognition Service Wednesday, August 27 at 7:00 PM



This past school year First Baptist Church Gaston partnered with Lexington School Districts 2 & 4 to offer GED and ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes. We served 52 students whose long term goal is to obtain their GED and 15 ESOL students whose goal is to learn English. Six of the 52 students enrolled obtained their GED, leaving 46 students who need to continue with classes to help them reach their goal. The ESOL students desire to continue with classes to learn and better speak the English language. This past year they spent time learning the pronunciation and meanings of words, grammar and punctuation. It was very beneficial for them to have volunteers in the classroom to talk with and practice their English. The volunteers had opportunity to build relationships with the students and there was always opportunity to talk about faith and church.

We are happy to announce that we are once again partnering with the districts. Classes will resume September 2<sup>nd</sup>, with a special registration night August 28, 2014, 6-8 PM in the fellowship hall. It is not too late to sign up to volunteer to serve 6-8 PM, Tuesday or Thursday nights. We need help with registration, assisting in the classrooms, child care and greeters to talk to and build relationships with students. As with last year, attendance can fluctuate from week to week and some weeks you may come to help and not be needed. But we must have a sufficient number of volunteers ready to serve each night.

Thank you for your prayers for this ministry. Let's take advantage of the opportunity we have to work with our school districts. I was just contacted by District 4 wanting to discuss other partnering opportunities with our church. The districts are identifying the needs and the community is coming to our doors for help. We need to make every effort to be available to meet their needs and show that we truly are "The Caring Place."

If you would like to volunteer or learn more about this ministry and how you can be involved, please see me or Cleta Smith. In His Service, Pam Spires

July



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Angel Bobo Erwin Corley Patsy Dowd ♥Thomas & Patsy Dowd	2 James Edge Eugene Thomas Joyce Watkins ♥Roy & Linda Jackson  <b>No Spiritual Warriors Luncheon</b>  All Mission Groups at 7:00 PM	3 Crystal Bivens Marion Marks Mike Parrish Becky Sightler	4 Jimmy Bobbitt Edward Cooper Jason Hutto Perry Leonard Corey Redding	5 Kim Ayer Allen Rish
6 ♥Kevin & Connie Spire	7 Kathy Singleton Harry Wilson	8 Marie Fredrickson	9 Lucious Chavis Samantha Robinson  Prayer Service Youth, GAs, RAs & Mission Friends 7:00 PM	10 Curtis Deming Pat Rowe ♥Wayne & Shirley Watts	11 Chris Sprinkle	12
13	14 Debra Harrison	15 ♥Alton & Ruth Sightler	16 Betty Barwick Juliet Haynes Ann Shuler  Prayer Service Youth, GAs, RAs & Mission Friends 7:00 PM	17 Noah Pound Ryan Wood ♥Matt & Sandy Drawdy	18 ♥Stephen & Brandy Ramey	19 Glenn Clark Bryan Rampey Harvel Sightler
20 Christopher Phillips, Jr. Drew Pound Aaron White ♥Joel & Sally Hicks	21 Christine Cornette Crystal Diener  WOM Home Meeting	22 Clayton Barber Rebecca Hull	23 Mary Sue Alsbrook Jarid Aycock Judy Lowrey ♥Shannon & Elisa Edwards  Prayer Service Youth, GAs, RAs & Mission Friends	24 Reid Baker	25 Derrick Brown Haley Greene Matthew Murtaugh, Jr. Dennis Stratton	26 Caylie Kirkham Jimmy Watts
27 Shelly McKay Ian Spradley Ashley Watts ♥Perry & Sherry Leonard ♥Allen & Sherrell Ott	28 Hope Cartner Brittany Gantt Buster Gleaton Danny Herron	29 Doris Knight Cynthia Smith ♥Buster & Cindy Gleaton	30 Paula Stewart Alyssa Vella  Prayer Service Youth, GAs, RAs & Mission Friends 7:00 PM	31 Ginny Henderson ♥Wendell & Phyllis Templeton		

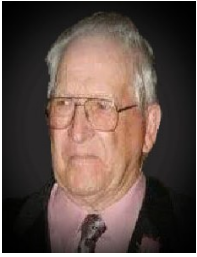
**Thank God for Your Freedom!! It Comes at a Tremendous Price!!!**



# Back To School



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Brenda Jeffcoat Cathy Miller Woody Stanley ♥Glenn & Sunnie Gail Pound	2 Robin Peterson
3 Stan Jeffcoat Boyce Rampey Olivia Speares Melinda Starnes Pam Thomas	4 Melody Feaster	5 Kimberly Cornette Shirley Pound ♥Dennis & Karen Stratton	6 Lucas Ward ♥Jim & Pam Thomas  <b>Spiritual Warriors Luncheon 11:30</b>  <b>All Mission Groups at 7:00 PM</b>	7 Scotty Clayton Josh Reynolds Shirley Rosenheim ♥Deborah & Wil- liam Whittington	8 Margaret Corne Taz Johnson Reese Speares ♥Mitchell & Pearl Dowd	9 Tony Ayers Clara Mack Barbara Pratt
10 Trey Dowd	11 Emily Baker Lauren Dowd Caidence Fickling Cierra Melton Deborah Whittington	12	13 Savannah Furtick Michelle Knight ♥Dickie & Mary Moseley  <b>Prayer Service Youth, GAs, RAs &amp; Mission Friends 7:00 PM</b>	14 Rachel Joseph Katina McElroy	15 Hayley Knight Kris Lange ♥Chris & Jo Lynn Phillips ♥Timothy & Melissa Yandle	16 Cathy Aycock  <b>Sunday School Picnic at Bethel Christian Camp</b>
17 Jonathan Godfrey Kalyn Hartley	18 Noah Moseley Kimberly Wiggins  <b>WOM Home Meeting</b>	19 Zachary Godfrey Hannah Parrish ♥Ronald & Sandy Winstead	20 Sheryl Cline Meagan Leonard Anthony Sightler  <b>Prayer Service Youth, GAs, RAs &amp; Mission Friends 7:00 PM</b>	21 Jeanette Carson Austin Crosby Etheredge Harsey Mike Lowrey Renée Pound Cory Pound	22 Mercedes Harsey Angela Henry Marilyn June Ott	23 Adam Hale
24 Zachary Moseley Shawn Stinton Maverick Welton	25 Richard Barr Emmalee Byars Joel Hicks Leah Lee Adriane Miller	26 Claudia Fry Jennifer Murtaugh ♥Marvin & Mary Pound, Sr.  <b>Deacon Meeting</b>	27 Judith Mincey Ronald Rawlinson ♥Marvin & Jane Pound, Jr. ♥Paul & Ann Smith  <b>Prayer Service Youth, GAs, RAs &amp; Mission Friends 7:00 PM</b>	28 Rocky Love Janie Sharpe	29 Dale Adams Gary Singleton ♥Donald & Shirley Pound	30
31 <b>Homecoming</b>	<b>GA/RA Recognition Service Wednesday, August 27 at 7:00 PM</b>					



First Baptist Church Gaston lost a dear member and friend on May 9, 2014 when **Mr. Hoyt R. Fallaw** went home to be with the Lord. A Celebration of Life Service was held at First Baptist Gaston May 15, 2014 with burial in the church cemetery. Mr. Hoyt was a devoted husband and father and loved spending time with his family and friends. He also enjoyed car racing and gardening—his gardening skills he passed down to his grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by his family and all who knew him.

First Baptist Church Gaston lost another dear member and friend on June 19, 2014 when **Mrs. Carolyn Kelly** went home to be with the Lord. A Celebration of Life Service was held at First Baptist Gaston June 22, 2014 with burial in the church cemetery. Carolyn served the church in many capacities. She served years as church secretary, Sunday school teacher, prayer warrior, church clerk and the list could go on and on. She will be truly missed by the community, her family and church family.



### Everybody Say Yes Yes Yes... to VBS~S~S

*As we are putting this newsletter together, we are getting ready to start VBS. I am praying for a great turn-out and many lives to be changed eternally. We had a really wonderful time at Fun Day and 3 people accepted Christ...and we pre-registered a good many for VBS too!*

*I can never say how much I appreciate our VBS Workers, this is indeed a sacrificial group of people. Many of them are working all day and rushing to VBS and then home to get their kids in bed and then starting their day over! They rearrange their lives for the week for Jesus... some take their vacation to serve, others get outside their comfort zones to do new tasks, and many pray for our week together!*

*It also amazes me at the people that don't get involved; they just don't know the blessings that they are missing. We see children laugh and sing. They get so excited about holding the flags for the pledges... they bring their change for offerings and share their smiles and hugs with us all week!*

*At Mrs. Carolyn Kelly's funeral, the comment was made by the pastor that if there was a church filled (overflowing) with people like her that church would be an incredible place and I totally agree. She was 80 years old and had the Lord not taken her home on Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup> she would have been serving in VBS at the registration table and then gone into the adult class to befriend any visitors that may come.*

*She truly was an example of a life lived in Christ. And the thing is, she didn't miss out on the other blessings in her life... you should have heard her grandkids talk about all that she was there for in their lives. She put God first and then He gave her the time to spend with her family and friends. She lived Matthew 6:33 "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."*

*She did just that... and her blessings were multiplied. Thank you Mrs. Carolyn for the life that you lived before me.... for serving in VBS for over 50 years and still loving it... I hope the same can be said about me one day...*

**EVERYBODY SAY YES YES YES... TO SERVING J-E-S-U-S !**

—Sherrell