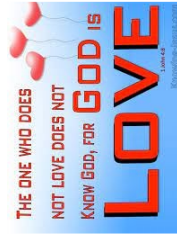


February 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30 Mid-Week Service Mission Friends & Son Shine Singers Older RA's & Acteens Children in Action 7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal	2	3	4
5 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Morning Worship 2:30 Hands & Feet Meeting 6:00 Youth	6	7	8 5:30 Family Night Supper 6:30 Mid-Week Service Mission Friends & Son Shine Singers Older RA's & Acteens Children in Action 7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal	9	10	11 4-9 pm Beyond the Walls Youth will be sharing God's love through Valentines
12 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Morning Worship Business Meeting 5:00 Youth	13	14 10:00 Women on Mission Fellowship Ladie's Vaalentine's Day Lunch	15 6:30 Mid-Week Service Mission Friends & Son Shine Singers Older RA's & Acteens Children in Action 7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal	16	17	18 VinFast Reception - Fellowship Hall
WEEK OF PRAYER FOR WMU NC HECK-JONES OFFERING						
19 Firefighter Recognition Day 8:00 Baptist Men's Breakfast 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Morning Worship Lunch for Firefighters & family 6:00 Youth	20 10:00 Dorcas Sew Day	21	22 6:30 Mid-Week Service Mission Friends & Son Shine Singers Older RA's & Acteens Children in Action 7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal	23 7:00 Diaconate	24	25 Youth - Ice Skating at Polar Ice in Cary Meet at church at 6:30 pm Skate 7:30 to 9:30
26 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Morning Worship 6:00 Youth	27	28 11:00 Birthday Buddies @ Cracker Barrel	Giving Opportunities: Soup-er Bowl canned food drive: Deadline Feb 12th Deep River Valentine's Collection: Deadline Feb 12th			



February 2023 Newsletter

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Sanford, North Carolina 27330

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Sunday School News

Do we have an opportunity to increase our SS numbers?

Absolutely!!!

March 26th is Commitment Sunday!

We should approach this special day prayerfully, thoughtfully, and intentionally. In January, I challenged you and your SS class to focus on updating your class Prospect list. This month I would challenge you as individuals to select the person(s) God is laying on your heart to invite.

Why should we invite someone to church? We need to act like Jesus! Remember, it was Jesus who invited you to come to Him.

Matthew 11:28-30 NIV

²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Your invitation was probably through the voice of another person who reached out to you. Someone was faithful to act like Jesus, invite you to church or even share the Gospel with you! Encouragement can bring about significant progress in a person's journey to understand and receive the Gospel. So be ready to move forward from the winter doldrums and approach this challenge with excitement, energy, and enthusiasm.

The invitation not only intentionally makes us invite someone to church but often makes us look at ourselves and realize we need to do a self-examination. This clever rationale makes us know we should do both.

Invite and Commit!

Prepare to make Commitment Sunday a huge success!

Serving Him with you,

Debbie

God's Valentine Gift

God's Valentine gift of love to us
Was not a bunch of flowers;
It wasn't candy, or a book
To while away the hours.

His gift was to become a man,
So He could freely give
His sacrificial love for us,
So you and I could live.

He gave us sweet salvation, and
Instruction, good and true--
To love our friends and enemies
And love our Savior, too.

So as we give our Valentines,
Let's thank our Lord and King;
The reason we have love to give
Is that He gave everything.

By Joanna Fuchs

**BUSINESS
MEETING**

February 12th

Baptist Men's
BREAKFAST

February 19th

8:00 am

Deacon of the Month: Steve Cotten

Sunday School & Worship Attendance

Date	Sunday School	Worship Service
1/1/23	77	101
1/8/23	113	140
1/15/23	96	127
1/22/23	86	99
1/29/23	101	112

Message from Pastor Gary

Dear Friends,

My sermon title for January 29th was “Standing in the Storm” using Matthew 14:22-33 as my text. Little did I realize that on January 25th my family would enter a storm unlike any we had experienced before. Lunette had been feeling poorly for several days, we had gone to our doctor on the 23rd and were waiting to hear from lab work that had been done when she began to feel so bad that we could not wait any longer. We arrived at Chatham Hospital around 3:30 that afternoon and, according to the doctors, we had arrived none too soon. They would airlift her to UNC Hillsborough and place her in the ICU and vigorously begin to treat the C Diff infection that almost took her life.

While all of this was happening, I heard of Cheryl Boisvert losing her grandfather and two other young men in our community passing away at such young ages. What storms! More than once, I thought of the message I was going to share about Christ “standing in the storms” of life. When you are facing such a storm, with more questions than answers and no assurance of exactly what the outcome of the storm is going to be, you are then most grateful that God stands with you in

those storms. I discovered that God’s presence in the storm is the most important thing! When God stands with you, you are not alone!

I am so grateful for the outcome we currently are experiencing. Lunette is out of the hospital and, at the time of me writing this article, still weak but getting stronger. Thank you for the prayers that you offered and the many ways you blessed us with your love and support. God used all of that to sustain us through this storm! We are grateful. We thank God for using the expertise that He has made available to the mind of man and the way the doctors used their skill and talents to help Lunette recover from a scary situation.

In closing, we all know that one day we all must face the storm of death if the Good Lord tarries. I am more convinced that even when we face that final storm of this earthly life, we who love Him and have trusted Him as our Lord and as our Savior, we see him standing in the storm to see us through! Blessed be His holy name!

Your Pastor,
Gary



Youth News

Beyond the Walls

Saturday, February 11th

Time: 4 - 9 pm

Youth are serving at the Stevens Center for their Valentine’s meal. Wear all black, if possible. Pizza dinner afterwards at Elizabeth’s Pizza. Great opportunity to serve our community.

Change Youth Meeting

Sunday, February 12th

Time: 5pm *1hr early*

Super Bowl night come ready for games & snacks! Please bring canned foods/soups to support our local food bank and make your pick for the winning team.

Ice Skating at Polar Ice

When: February 25th

Time: 6:30 meet at church

Skating 7:30-9:30

Cost: Admission is covered

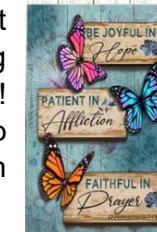
Bring money for snack bar, if want snacks

Message from Flat Springs WMU



Ladies Retreat

Ladies and older girls, save-the-dates Saturday, March 4th (4:00-ish until 8:00-ish) for our **Annual Ladies Retreat** here at the church and Sunday, March 5th for **Baptist Women’s Day**. Registration is \$15.00 to cover meals and honorariums. We will be hosting the ladies chorus from Turner’s Chapel on Saturday and speaker Cheryl Bennett on Saturday and Sunday for morning Worship. Choose to participate! Choose **HOPE in Christ!** Choose to accept **GOD’S GIFTS** – especially in times of great change!



Valentine’s Day Lunch



Those interested in joining together for lunch on VALENTINE’S DAY – Tuesday, February 14th – please sign up in the Atrium. The church bus will load in the Flat Springs parking lot at 10:30 and head out to Davison’s Steakhouse on US 1 in Tramway. Car riders meet there by 11:00 AM. Our reservation is under the name “Flat Springs.”

Caswell Coastal Women’s Retreat



February 17-19 Space is available. Registration is \$195.00 payable to Flat Springs Baptist Church. The Theme is “Healer of the Brokenhearted” inspired by Psalm 34:18. Keynote speaker is Holly Myers. Music Leaders are Russell and Kristi Johnson.



September 22-24 (save the date) with Keynote speaker Phyllis Elvington and Musician Cindy Johnson. The fall theme is “Let Your Light Shine.” inspired by Isaiah 60:1

Giving Opportunities

The Soup-er Bowl canned food drive has begun as we “vote” for either the **Philadelphia Eagles** or the **Kansas City Chiefs** in the Super Bowl game (ends 6:30 PM on Feb 12). Show support for either team during our annual SOUP-er Bowl food drive by “voting” with your canned food and paper good donations in the Atrium. Items will be donated to CUOC, The Bread of Life, and/or CCCC Food Pantry, according to their needs the week of February 12th. A most requested item is microwavable bowls of mac-n-cheese. Hand-held can openers are also helpful.

Now through February 12, we are collecting donations of Keurig-brand coffee pods and hot chocolate pods and individually wrapped chocolate candies for staff at Deep River School the week of Valentine’s Day. Bins are in the Atrium. Pods are the most requested items.

Week of Prayer for WMU NC and the kick-off to the **Heck-Jones Offering collection** (Feb 12-19) inspired by 1 Peter 1:3-4.

Love in Christ, Stephanie

WMU[®]
God’s mission.
Our passion.



Family Night Supper

When: Wednesday, February 8th

Time: 5:30 pm

Cost: \$3.00

Menu: Baked Spaghetti

