
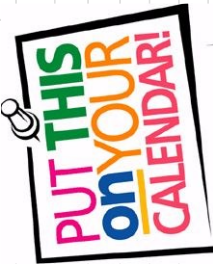




March 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 5th - 12th Week of Prayer North American Missions March 5th Begins Annie Armstrong Easter offering			1	2	3	4 4:00 Ladies Retreat
5 Baptist Women's Day 8:00 Baptist Women Breakfast 8:30 Lady Volunteer Choir Practice 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Morning Worship 6:00 Youth	6 10:00 Dorcas Sew Day 	7 6:30 Dave Ramsey Financial Peace Study	8 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
12 8:00 Council Meeting 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Morning Worship Business Meeting 2:30 Cagle Baby Shower Hands & Feet Meeting After Shower 6:00 Youth	13	14 10:00 Women on Mission 6:30 Dave Ramsey Financial Peace Study	15 5:30 Family Night Dinner 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 4-10 Project Ronald McDonald House 9 am – 12 pm Bread Of Life 9-11 am & 10:30 am – 1 pm Wheelchair Ramp 8 am – 2 pm Pregnancy Center 8 am – 12 pm
19 Baptisms 8:00 Baptist Men's Breakfast 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Morning Worship with Baptism 6:00 Youth	20 10:00 Dorcas Sew Day	21 6:30 Dave Ramsey Financial Peace Study	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
26 Commitment Sunday Communion 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Morning Worship followed by Luncheon 6:00 Youth	27	28 11:00 Birthday Buddies @ Cafe Vesuvio 6:30 Dave Ramsey Financial Peace Study				
				April 2nd	Palm Sunday	
				April 6th	Maundy Thursday – 7:00 PM service	
				April 9th	Easter - Chancel Choir Easter Cantata at Worship	
				April 16th	Allan Blum (Baptist State Convention)	

March 2023 Newsletter

Flat Springs Baptist Church

4148 Deep River Road

Sanford, North Carolina 27330

Phone: 919-775-5922

Website: <http://www.flatspringsbaptist.com>

Commitment Sunday

March 26th

What is the significance of Commitment Sunday? To re-commit or commit ourselves to the incredible work God is doing and will do in and through our church.

We want you to commit to the 3 E's for Commitment Sunday:

Enthusiasm: Colossians 4:5-6 ⁵ Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. ⁶ Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Energy: Colossians 1:29 ²⁹ For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

Excitement: Romans 12:11 ¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, ¹² serve the Lord.

There are several things you can do to help with Commitment Sunday:

- Be enthusiastic, energetic, and excited when we are in class and talking to prospects.
- Work on prospect list and the people who have not been attending.
- This would be a great opportunity for spring cleaning and sprucing up classroom. Nothing is more inviting than a room/door that is decorated.
- What is the classes goals for the new year? Visitors, retaining members, & recruit new members?

Pray God will reveal to you the person(s) to invite to Commitment Sunday on March 26th.

Serving Him with you,

Debbie

The Diaconate and
Hospitality Committee
cordially invites everyone

to join us for a

Lunchon to Honor

Pastor Gary

and his family

following the worship service

on March 26th.

Please sign up - Atrium by March 19th

March Student of the Month

Grace Walker
4260 Deep River Rd
Sanford, NC 27330



Caitlyn Bridges
441 Phil Johnson Rd
Sanford, NC 27330

University of NC

Liberty University

Deacon of the Month: Roger Worrell

Baptist Men's
BREAKFAST

February 19th

8:00 am

BUSINESS
MEETING

March 12th

Sunday School & Worship Attendance

Date	Sunday School	Worship Service
2/5/23	85	107
2/12/23	97	109
2/19/23	95	149
2/26/23	85	110

Message from Pastor Gary

Dear Friends,

For 18 years, and three months, I have begun my article in our newsletter to you this way. I have concluded the article each time with, "Your Pastor". You will continue to be my dear friends but my role as your pastor is coming to an end.

I want to say thank you for the privilege of being your pastor. Thank you for your generous love, forgiveness, encouragement, and support for almost two decades. I honestly can't tell you how much you have blessed me and my family.

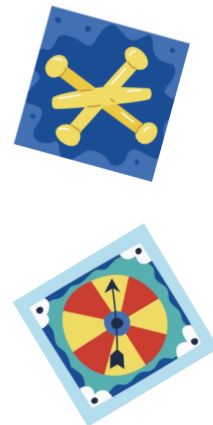
I come to the writing of this article with mixed emotions. I still believe God is guiding this decision but I must tell you, the thought of not being the pastor of Flat Springs Baptist Church hurts my heart. I am so thankful for the investment we have made together in the Kingdom of God. My greatest joys in ministry have occurred in this church. So many people have blessed me in so many ways. It is with a broken but obedient heart I continue to follow God's direction and the call God has upon my life.

I am equally excited about what God is going to be doing at Flat Springs Baptist Church in the next few weeks, months, and years. God has prepared our church for this moment as surely as he laid on the hearts of 12 folks in 1905 to step out in faith and establish our church. God is up to something big and exciting at Flat Springs. The most important thing is for us not to go off in front of God and not drag to far behind God. Go with God and God will guide us into God's exciting plans!

I end with thank you. Thank you for listening to my sermons, allowing me to share in dedications, baptisms, weddings, and funerals. Thank you for loving me and listening to me as your pastor. Thank you for your kindness, patience, willingness, and your effort. Thank you for being the people of God in the midst of God's people. Please know I love you.

Your Pastor,

Gary



Notes from Reach Out Pregnancy Center

"Dear friends, since God so loved us,
we also ought love one another." - 1 John. 4:11

It's not easy to love others, especially when we don't think alike or act alike, but the Lord didn't love us because we are so love-able, He loved/loves us because He is LOVE. Can you love others in your own strength? If you are trying to do that, you probably aren't really loving people selflessly. Try loving people with the love of God. Let him

love through you and reach a lost person in pain.

Prayers & Praises: We are so grateful for our financial needs and material needs being met through the generosity of our community, church and people like you!

Needs: Diapers, especially sizes 5 and 6

Thank you for your prayers & support!

Dianna Andrews, Executive Director



Message from Flat Springs WMU

2023 Ladies Retreat and Baptist Women's Day

Thank you to all the ladies, girls, boys, and gentlemen who supported the 2023 Ladies Retreat and Baptist Women's Day! We were able to explore how HOPE IN CHRIST changes everything – for His good. Even when we experience unexpected, inexplicable life events, the Spirit bestows us with spiritual gifts because God remains at work in us.

Baptist Children's Homes of NC Food Round-Up



Next month we anticipate helping Baptist Children's Homes of NC with their annual Food Round-Up. Here at Flat Springs, this will be a gift card drive from Food Lion, Walmart, or Lowe's Foods. The goal for 2023 is to collect enough to provide for 700,000 meals and snacks.

Women's' Missions Conference and Annual Meeting



The Women's' Missions Conference and Annual Meeting will be held on April 28-29 at Lawndale Baptist Church in Greensboro. This year's theme is "Ignite!" based on John 1:5.

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

Please note this event, formerly known as Missions Extravaganza, has the same purpose, same mission, just a new name. If you are interested in carpooling on Saturday or both Friday evening and Saturday, let Stephanie know to register you and include you in travel arrangements.

In Christian Love,
Stephanie, Flat Springs WMU Director

Almost time to say
Goodbye Winter



Message from Sandy Creek Baptist Association WMU



"Onward Christian soldiers, marching as to war, with the cross of Jesus going on before...", the opening line of a well-known hymn, aptly states today's approach to daily conflicts. It also leads to thoughts of Miss Annie Armstrong's personal motto, "Go Forward," as the week of North American Missions Emphasis and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering begins March 5th.

Miss Annie served as the corresponding secretary of WMU from 1888 until 1906. During this time, she tirelessly wrote letters by hand; one year she wrote 18,000 letters (not a typo!). Recognized as a national Southern Baptist trailblazer for her visionary leadership that continues inspiring millions today, she was hailed as a bold missions advocate and served as WMU's first national executive leader.

This offering for home missions, begun in 1895 by

WMU, was named in honor of Miss Annie in 1935. Today it supports more than 2,400 missionary families in USA and Canada. The 2023 theme is "United to Reach North America with the Gospel." The goal is \$70 million.

The above referenced hymn, "Onward Christian Soldiers," seems a fitting theme for this month as we remember Miss Annie and her life of devotion and service to God. The lyrics continue: "Christ the royal Master leads against the foe; forward into battle, see His banners go!" Are we willing to adopt Miss Annie's motto "Go Forward" and follow Christ into the battle for the sake of the gospel and the glory of God no matter what? I pray we all are willing...

In God's Service,

Susan T. Ferguson
Association WMU Director