

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
OF DANVILLE

First Baptist Church Marks

175
YEARS

Our congregation's much-anticipated celebration of 175 years of mission and ministry is upon us. The weekend of June 27-28 will feature an assortment of activities that will allow us to bask in God's goodness to the people who are First Baptist Church across the generations.

Saturday evening at 6:00 is when the celebration banquet will take place at the Institute Conference Center. Plan to arrive in time to hear the Starmont Band entertain us with their music. Be prepared to share a memory or two on cards that members of our planning team have created. Some of these will be read aloud during the evening's events. All of them will be compiled into a master list that will be published in a booklet later this year.

Our commemorative book – *To the Glory of God: The Worship, Work, and Witness of First Baptist Church* – has arrived and will be distributed on Saturday evening and on Sunday morning. If you have pre-ordered a copy then it will be available for pick-up. If you have not yet purchased yours then you may do so at a cost of \$20 per book.

Sunday morning promises to be an inspiring and enriching time of worship together. **Please note that we begin with worship at 10:00 and that we will not have Sunday school on the day of the anniversary.** During our service we will enjoy additional musical selections, celebrate the baptism of one of our newest church members, gather at the Lord's table to take part in holy communion, and we will renew our church covenant. Bear in mind, too, that the special anniversary offering that some of our church leaders have been promoting will also be collected on Sunday. Following worship there will be a congregational reception in the fellowship hall to round out the weekend's activities.

These days promise to be highlights not only of this milestone year but also of years to come. Be prepared to be overwhelmed with gratitude and praise for the God who has done such great things to bring us to this historic moment in time!



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SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2009
175TH ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY
WORSHIP BEGINS AT 10:00 A.M.

Today We Are Border People
Deuteronomy 29:1-15; Hebrews 12:1-3
Rev. Stephen Cook

Anthem
"Festival Piece on 'St. Anne'" by Butler
"Shalom" arr. Marsh

SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2009
What Belongs to Caesar?
Matthew 22:15-22; Psalm 99
Rev. Joshua Hearne

Anthem
"Remember the Future" by Page

EVERY MEMBER IS A MINISTER.

STEPHEN H. COOK, PASTOR
JOSHUA D. HEARNE, ASSOC. PASTOR
JOSEPH C. NORTEN, MINISTER OF MUSIC
KATHY A. NORTEN, MUSIC ASSOC./ORGANIST
DEBRA PURVIS, FINANCIAL ASSISTANT
TAMMY VAUGHAN, ADMIN. ASSISTANT
SHERMAN RANSOM, SEXTON
DOT WALKER, HOUSEKEEPER

SPIRE SCHEDULE

The Spire is normally printed every two weeks. The next Spire will be dated July 15, 2009. Information for that Spire must be turned in or mailed to the church office no later than Friday, July 10, 2009.



Pastoral Ministries

Although the calendar says that we are only at the halfway mark of the year 2009 there is no mistaking the fact that we are, as a congregation, at the climax of our anniversary year. For a church to reach the age of 175 years is not only remarkable, it is downright awe-inspiring. All of us who are a part of this fellowship, regardless of how many years, months, or even days ago we have come into it, are principal players in a long and inspiring story of God at work. We are fortunate to have been adopted into this body and to be *where we are when we are*.

A debt of gratitude that is far greater than we can ever pay adequately is due to the people who have made it their aim to plan and prepare for what the coming weekend holds for us. While there are still an assortment of anniversary year festivities to follow what is happening on the immediate horizon, there is no more appropriate time to say thank you than now. Karen Harris has done a remarkable job at organizing, leading, and developing a team of people who have been charged with guiding us through this year. The names of those persons will be called aloud this weekend, but we need to see them in print so that we might make personal expressions of thanks to each of them...

Martha Bamberg
Lamar Barr
Fay Cole
Elizabeth Compton
Amy Cook
Marcia Cook
Ellen Davis
Kathy Davis
Gary Grant

Joshua Hearne
Joyce Hendrickson
Dick Inlow
Wendy Mills
Joe Northen
Ray Robinson
Chuck Vipperman
Heather Vipperman
Virginia Wiles

Each one of these has taken the work of serving our church in this year as a way to embody her faith, to make his thanksgiving to God for a congregation in which to serve known. While it is remarkable, it is not surprising. This is the sort of thing that has been happening here for the past 175 years and will certainly continue far beyond what these next few days will hold. For that all of us can say, "Thanks be to God!"

Grace and peace,



Music Ministries

The big weekend is almost here! Our Church Choir members (who work diligently each week) have had extra rehearsals to prepare for June 28. We want this to be an exciting, joyful and meaningful time of worship together. That Sunday is the culmination of nearly two months of anthems based on the theme of the Church. I would not normally schedule this many "more difficult" anthems so close together. The choir members have worked very hard in learning new anthems and relearning old ones. The congregation continues to receive the benefit of their hard work.

A reminder to the Church Choir – there is no rehearsal on Thursday, July 2. Kathy and I will be attending the Music and Worship Conference at Montreat Conference Center that week. We always enjoy this time of renewal and worship (that someone else has planned!).

Although the New Adult Music Group and Brass Ensemble are not meeting during the summer, the Baptist Belles and God's Ringers/Youth Orff Ensemble continue to meet, though with some breaks in the schedule. We look forward to hearing from these groups as they share in worship.

Thank you, congregation, for the way you have learned and sung our commissioned hymn, "In Your Sight Eternal God." We will continue to sing it occasionally during this special year.

Ring, Sing, Play for Joy,



Discipleship Ministries

On March 10, 2005, Rev. Stephen B. Chapman, Ph.D., preached in the York Chapel at Duke University Divinity School. Rev. Chapman holds the position of Associate Professor of Old Testament at Duke Divinity and is a noted member of the Baptist World Alliance. On that day, Rev. Chapman preached a sermon entitled "A Shepherd King" and he took 1 Samuel 16:1-13 for his text. This passage is the anointing of David by Samuel after he had been overlooked even by his own father. After each of his brothers had been considered, Samuel asked if maybe there wasn't another son that had been forgotten. Jesse sent for David and God directed Samuel to anoint the teenager as the next King of Israel.

In one particularly moving sequence, Rev. Chapman insisted that following Jesus is "a living and acting in which service is freedom, compassion is truth, peace is power, poverty is wealth, beauty is sacrifice, modesty is strength, love never ends, and hope cannot be disappointed." In that moment Rev. Chapman articulated the inherent incredibility of membership in the Kingdom of God and becoming a disciple of a slaughtered Lord. But there is something beautiful about that image—it is the righting of centuries of wrongs by placing our faith and trust in something that the world deems foolish. We shouldn't kid ourselves: by the world's estimation service is bondage, truth can be bought, domination is power, poverty is failure, wealth is success, beauty is a product, control is strength, love cannot win out, and hope is the anticipation of frustration. In essence, to be Christian is to insist upon allegiance to another Kingdom with a different set of values. It is not easy but it is life changing and that's what salvation is at the heart of things: change.

In Christ,

Congratulations, Josh!

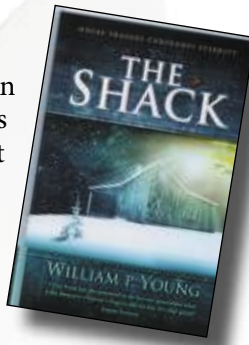
While the church at-large is celebrating its 175th anniversary this weekend there is another milestone that bears mentioning as well. Joshua Hearne completes his first year as our Associate Pastor for Discipleship Ministries on June 29. Our church is richly blessed to have the Hearnes among us and we are well-served by Josh's creative, thoughtful, and dedicated ministry here. Express your thanks and appreciation to Josh this week that we are celebrating!

Men's Prayer Breakfast

The July men's prayer breakfast will be held on the first Tuesday of the month, July 7. We will gather in the church parlor at 7:30 for biscuits from Biscuitville, fellowship, and prayer. Please contact the church office with your breakfast order by Monday, July 6 by calling 793.8331 or emailing office@fbcdanville.com.

Book Club

The book club will meet on Tuesday, July 7, to discuss William P. Young's *The Shack*. At this meeting, Joshua will give a short presentation on some of the major parts and ideas of the book. After the presentation, we will spend some time discussing the book. You're not expected to have read the entire book at this meeting. If you have any questions or want more information, please contact Joshua at 793.8331 or j.hearne@fbcdanville.com.



Thank-You

Dear Church Family,
It is so reassuring to have a caring church family! Thank each of you for your prayers, cards, visits and support during my illness. I still covet your prayers because, unfortunately, it is an ongoing process for the rest of my life.
With Love,
Mary Rigney

Nursery Ministries

June 28: Gertrude Stanfield & Sandy Turner
July 5: Mollie Duren & Heather Vipperman

Sunday Morning Fellowship

July 5: Suzanne Inlow

New Events at FBC

Youth Camp

Some of our youth will be leaving for camp on the morning of Sunday, July 12, at 10:30 a.m. We'll travel to Wingate University in Wingate, NC, to spend a week on the campus at Passport Choices camp. This is an incredible opportunity that we have been looking forward to for quite a while. We'll return in the late afternoon on Friday, June 17. Many of you have already been generous in supporting the trip financially and so now we turn to you again and ask that you be generous with your prayers as we prepare for some potentially life-changing experiences. Thanks in advance.

Party in the Park & Backyard Bible Club Ministry Opportunities

On Friday, July 17 a team of college students and adults from Second Baptist Church will arrive in Danville for a five-day mission trip in partnership with our congregation. On Saturday, July 18 we will host a party in the park at Doyle Thomas Park on Green Street and volunteers are needed to serve food, assist with games and activities, set up, clean up, and embody the love of Christ in our community. The party runs from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed throughout the day. Please call or email the church office at 793.8331 or office@fbcdanville.com to add your name to the list of participants in one or more of the following time slots:

- 10:00 – 11:00:** Setup, grilling, and preparation team
- 11:00 – Noon:** Food service, games, face painting, and promotion teams
- Noon – 1:00:** Food service, games, face painting, and promotion teams
- 1:00 – 2:00:** Games, face painting, and cleanup teams
- 11:30 – 1:00:** Fun Wagon supervision team (be prepared to get wet!)

Volunteers are also needed for assistance with Bible school on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings from 10:00 – Noon each day July 20-22. Anyone interested in assisting with crafts, music, games, or other activities should contact the church office.

First Baptist will also be providing meals, materials, and other support for our partners in mission who come to be with us during these days. Please pray for the work that we will do together in sharing the love and life of Christ with our neighbors!

Sanctuary Flowers

June 28

The sanctuary flowers are given by the family of Lee Manning in loving remembrance of his birth-day on June 28.

July 5

The sanctuary flowers are given in honor of Cecil Murray on his birthday July 7th by Jane Murray.

..... FIRST EVENTS

Take Special Note of...

SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2009

10:00 a.m. Worship w/Communion & WBTM broadcast
(NO Evening Activities)
11:45 a.m. Congregational Reception

MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2009

7:00 p.m. Deacon Ad-hoc Team Meeting

TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 2009

12:30 p.m. Constitution & By-Laws Comm. Mtg.

THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2009

No Music Rehearsals

FRIDAY, JULY 3, 2009

Church Office Closed in observance of Independence Day

TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2009

7:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast (parlor)

TUESDAY, JULY 8, 2009

4:30 p.m. Missions Committee Meeting
7:00 p.m. Nominating Committee Meeting

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2009

12:00 p.m. *Spire* Information Due

Welcome to Our Newest Member!

JIM LIVINGSTON

339 Westhampton Ave
Danville, VA 24541
799.3232
Birthdate: December 4

OUR STEWARDSHIP

Year to Date Revenue (June 14)	\$173,375.07
Year to Date Expenses	\$210,577.27
Revenue Received (Under) Expenses	\$(37,202.20)

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Cliff and Inez Gaddy, Corinne Henderson,
Chloe and Happy Slayton, Jean Bennett

MINISTERS' CONTACT INFORMATION

Stephen Cook	Joshua Hearne
<i>s.cook@fbcdanville.com</i>	<i>j.hearne@fbcdanville.com</i>
(434) 489.1044	(434) 489.5064
Joe Northen	
<i>j.northen@fbcdanville.com</i>	
(434) 251.5159	

Regular Weekly Events

(unless contradicted by special events)

SUNDAYS

7:00 - 8:00 a.m.	Breakfast Club
9:00 a.m.	Congregational Coffee Hour
9:30 - 10:20 a.m.	Sunday School
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Worship
5:00 - 5:45 p.m.	God's Ringers (youth)
5:45 - 7:00 p.m.	Youth Activities (grades 6 - 12)

WEDNESDAYS*

9:00 a.m.	Prayer Gathering
5:30 - 6:15 p.m.	Supper is served
6:15 - 7:00 p.m.	Class Session
	"The Haven" - ages 5-17

**Wednesday night summer schedule begins on July 22.*

THURSDAYS

4:00 p.m.	Baptist Belles
7:00 p.m.	Church Choir



**871 Main Street
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