

# CHURCH NEWSLETTER

FAITH FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

## SOMETHING TO CONSIDER

### Worshipping With Joy

It's easy to get over-whelmed and down due to situations that happen in our lives. We can easily bring these frustrated feelings into church with us too. God's house is a place meant for fellowship and worship.

In the book of Nehemiah (chapter 8) we see a great thing take place after the re-construction of the walls of Jerusalem. The people celebrated, worshipped, and had what we would call "revival". In Nehemiah 8:10 it says "for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength." We are to be joyful that we have God on our side. It's the same reason why James told us to count all things joy – if you are saved, God is with you during all things.

We should worship with gladness and with joy. How joyful are you during worship? Are you thinking about your burdens, troubles, and to-do's when you should be sharing with others and

giving thanks to God? Think about this story:

A pastor who had for several years sat on the stage near the pulpit, suddenly started sitting on the front row with the congregation. (People notice things about pastors – if he gets

new glasses, they notice. If he wears a new suit, they notice.) Therefore it was noticeable when the pastor started sitting on the front row instead of on the

stage. After several weeks, people started asking the pastor why he no longer sat on the stage. The pastor would smile, but he refused to answer the question. Finally, a deacon came to the pastor and said, "I think it's odd that most pastors sit on the stage but you now sit with the congregation." The deacon's attitude bothered the pastor, so he bluntly responded with this: "When I sit with the congregation, my back is to them, and I don't have to see their less than joyous faces."

How do we look when we worship?

“FOR THIS DAY IS HOLY  
UNTO OUR LORD:  
NEITHER BE YE SORRY;  
FOR THE JOY OF THE  
LORD IS YOUR  
STRENGTH.”  
NEHEMIAH 8:10

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Preacher Bucky Nichols – cancer

Carolyn and David Lawson – unspoken request

Ann – health concerns

Barbara and David Dinkins – unspoken request

Niki's Great Uncle – congestive heart failure

Mable Rollins' father – hospice called in

Crystal and Steve as they travel back from Delaware

Shane and Kristy as they travel back from Florida

Todd York – back problems

Miss Betty and her mother

Chris and Randy Cole

David Neal – health concerns

David Handy – health concerns

Pastor Vic, Associate Pastor Josh Maness, and our other teachers and leaders

(If you ever have a request that you want added to this list, email us at: [faithfreewill@gmail.com](mailto:faithfreewill@gmail.com))

\* Remember those that we mention on a weekly basis \*

## WEB UPDATES

### Facebook and the New Format

Our facebook page is still under the name "Faith Baptist" due to an error on my part. We have about 30 more days before we can change it back to Faith Free Will Baptist. Thankfully this hasn't affected our mission of reaching folks. Our friend requests have actually tripled over the past few days and we're getting between 70 and 120 new requests each day from all over the world. The more friends we have, the more people we have seeing our message.

The website is doing great since the formatting has been updated. We are still getting visitors from various countries and other places all over the US. Today we have had visitors from Ireland, Alaska, Virginia, California, and the Philippines. The new format has made it very easy to update without disturbing the look of the site. When new sermons are posted, they are put at the top of the New Testament/Old Testament pages. This will make it easier when searching for a recent sermon. I'm working on getting more of the older ones typed up, but it takes time.

The new sermon series will be here: <http://www.faithfreewill.org/the-church-of-the-21st-century.html>

## RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

### Choir Practice, Fellowship, and Campmeeting

This upcoming Sunday (June 29<sup>th</sup>) Associate Pastor Josh Maness will be starting the new sermon series "The Church of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century". They will alternate on Sunday mornings.

On June 1<sup>st</sup>, we decided that we would have choir practice on the first Sunday of each month. In July, the first Sunday lands on the weekend of the fourth, so we are switching Master's Men and choir practice. Master's Men will be on July 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm and choir practice will be on July 13<sup>th</sup> and 4:30pm.

On the evening of Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup> we will be having a singing service. Please be prepared to sing. We need to add some music to the website and this way we can get it all recorded and videoed at one time. We will be having a cookout following this service ☺ We hope you will plan on joining us for fellowship.

The ladies Prayerbelle's group has discussed and begun plans for a fall retreat. We are planning this for August 1-2, 2014 in Burnsville, North Carolina. It will be a weekend trip. See Niki Maness

for more details. We have a location set and the only cost will be gas getting there and any food/drinks that we need during the weekend.

In August the Piedmont Association will be having their annual campmeeting services. The dates for these services are:

- Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup> at Arrington Heights FWB – Address: 455 Free Will Circle, Lexington, NC 27295.
- Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at Prince of Peace FWB – Address: 4225 Vincent St. Kannapolis, NC
- NO MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at Madison Heights – Address: 214 Andrew Sink Road, Lexington, NC 27295
- Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at Edgewood FWB – Address: 715 Athenia Place, Bessemer City NC 28016

All services will begin at 7:00pm and there will be two speakers. Speakers will be announced soon.

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“FOR THIS DAY IS HOLY UNTO OUR LORD: NEITHER BE YE SORRY; FOR THE JOY OF THE LORD IS YOUR STRENGTH.”

NEHEMIAH 8:10 KJV