

The Outlook

First Baptist Church Clayton

Show • Tell
Grow • Serve

June 30, 2024

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VBS with the Spirit

By Rev. Keeley Tarkington, Minister of Music

I love Vacation Bible School. I love the energy, the loud music, the dance moves, the dress-up theme nights, and most of all the children and adults who participate in this holy event each year. Honestly, I do not remember ever participating in VBS as a child although I know that I did. My first memory of this wonderful event is when a man named Frank Holder invited me, a youth, to help lead the music for VBS at Shiloh Baptist Church sometime in the early 2000s. It was during those summers of volunteering that I realized I not only had a gift but a passion for this work. I guess you can say, “the rest is history.”

All these years later, I have grown to love VBS more and more because I believe it models a pivotal moment from Acts 2:1-6.

¹ When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. ⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

Although we may not have the tongues of fire laying on each of us in a way that can be seen, we are definitely speaking in different languages during VBS. We are speaking in languages that our children and this modern culture can understand. Each night, our children will not

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The Outlook will not be published next week.

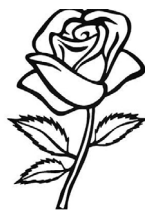
Happy Independence Day!

“Our Constitution was made for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.” – John Adams

Note of Thanks

The family of Janelle Sutton would like to thank everyone for the cards and prayers. They are very much appreciated. She passed away on Tuesday, June 18, 2024 peacefully at home with family. Janelle was a devoted mother and took on every challenge her disease threw at her with grace and dignity. She will be missed by all.

With Love, Joyce, Denny and Steve Sutton



Senior Adults plan movie night

For freedom Christ has set us free...For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity to indulge your flesh, but through love serve one another. – Galatians 3:1, 13 New English Translation (NET)

Senior Adult Movie Night will be Friday, July 12 at 5:30 p.m. The main entrée is lasagna from Anthony's. Popcorn and drinks provided. Please bring a salad, snack or dessert to share. The featured movie is "National Treasure 2: Book of Secrets" (2007). In this sequel to "National Treasure," Benjamin Franklin Gates (Nicholas Cage) sets out to clear the name of an ancestor falsely linked with the Lincoln assassination by finding and solving a mysterious cipher. His quest takes him to Paris, Buckingham Palace, the Oval Office, the Library of Congress, and Mt. Rushmore – with both the FBI and a black-market dealer close behind. Also starring are Jon Voight, Diane Kruger, Ed Harris, Bruce Greenwood and Helen Mirren. Please notify the church office no later than July 10 if: 1) you are on the permanent list but cannot attend or 2) you are not on the permanent list but plan to attend.

The Seniors will be eating lunch at Captain Stanley's Seafood on Tuesday, July 16. If you're in a seafood mood, come join us for lunch at one of Raleigh's best seafood restaurants. Please sign up with the church office no later than Thursday, July 11, and let us know whether you will ride the bus or drive separately. The bus will leave at 11:30 a.m. and return by 2 p.m.

VBS with the Spirit

Continued from page 1

only hear about Jesus but experience the Holy Spirit through music, dance, science experiments, games, crafts, and yes, even food!

Every activity is geared to meet the children where they are and teach them through various learning styles so that they can learn about Jesus in their language. What every volunteer does at VBS is nothing short of a miracle and God uses each person to Share the Good News of Christ with the next generation of believers who will bring hope to the world. Anyone who has ever truly embraced the activities at VBS knows that it is impossible to leave unchanged by the experiences of the week.

You also know that those who are just observing may laugh at how ridiculous you dress or how crazy you dance. Don't worry, just tell them it's the Spirit at work in you and to watch out because the Spirit might catch hold of them next. At this point, VBS registration is closed, but if you want to come experience this modern Pentecost, plan to join us for worship at the closing assembly on Wednesday, July 10, and on Sunday, July 14 when we have our VBS Afterglow; a time when our children will sing, and stories will be shared from the week.

Also please join us in praying for VBS: God, we pray that your Spirit would fall fresh on your people. That we would speak in languages that our children and world can understand, not by our own ability, but by your power. Help us recognize Your Spirit in the good work of VBS and move mightily amongst us as we learn about and worship You. Amen.



Youth do mission work in Pennsylvania

The First Baptist Youth Group set out on their bus ride to Altoona, Pa. this past Sunday. They are set to return Saturday, June 29. Youth on the trip include Braxton Andrews, Carsyn Andrews, Amy Cocilion, Monica Cocilion, Cooper Collins, Jack Garrison, Luke Gaynor, Sarah Gaynor, Avery Johnson, Lainey Keith, Landon Keith, Emma Lee, Karson Lloyd, Matthew Lloyd, Barrett Long, Melina Louloutes, Haley Moon, Bailey Norris, Cooper O'Dell, Phia Parker, Aubrey Payton, Chase Phillips, Reynolds Pope, Harper Rasor, Kaz Sampson, Shaun Sedei, Zach Sedei, Lucas Suggs, Ty VandenBerg and Kiley Woodward. Chaperones are Vicky Andrews, Keith Blackley, Lyndsey Lee, Melissa Long, Jamie Pope and John Brooks and Lauren Rasor.

Please join us for worship on Sunday, June 30 when we share our trip experience.



WMU group cares for seasonal workers

The Bill O'Neal Mission Group gathered recently to assemble 50 health kits for seasonal workers. The Triangle East Baptist Association gives out these kits each summer, primarily to farm workers.

Help stock the Blessing Box

Did you know we have a Community Blessing Box next to the sidewalk near our back parking lot by the Fellowship Hall? On Sunday, July 7 we will be collecting a special offering of non-perishable foods to stock the box. There will be a grocery cart at the front of the sanctuary for you to leave your donated food items.

Here are some ideas: canned meats, canned vegetables, canned fruits, pasta, sauce, pop-top meals and individually wrapped snacks.



Note of Appreciation



Dear Church Family,

I want to thank everyone at church for all the support and prayers throughout my life and as I head to college. Thank you to the youth and families for the graduate luncheon.

Thank you so much for the beautiful Bible you gave me for graduation! I've already flipped through to see many special verses and notes. Thank you also for blessing me with the Coates Scholarship.

Blessings, Kiley Woodard

Memorials and Honorariums

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE GENERAL FUND

In Memory of

- Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Ricky and Elizabeth Waddell
- Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Brent and Heidi Wood
- Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Frank and Betsy Knott
- Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Clayton Primary School Lunch Bunch
- Janelle Sutton by Hope Sunday School Class

In Honor of

- Diane Dillo, Denny Sutton and Linda Hester by Hope Sunday School Class

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY FUND

In Memory of

- Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Marcia Amaon, Jennifer Shiver and Grayson Shiver
- Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Val Vinson
- Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Jane Barnes

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE PIECEMAKERS SENIOR ADULT FUND

In Memory of

- Joyce Lipscomb Canady and Ron Earp by Martha Wall

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE ORGAN FUND

In Memory of

- Ron Earp by Ricky and Elizabeth Waddell
- Ron Earp by Robbie and Annette Matthews
- Joyce Lipscomb Canady and Ron Earp by Anne Abene

2024 Weekly Reports

Baptisms this Year.....8	New Members.....15
Worship Attendance	
Sunday, June 23.....165	Sunday, June 16.....175
Sunday School Attendance	
Sunday, June 23.....121	Sunday, June 16.....120
General Fund Giving	
Sunday, June 23.....\$10,363	Sunday, June 16.....\$10,897
Weekly Needs.....\$14,860	