

The Spire

NEWSLETTER OF THE

VOL 58 NUMBER 8

WILLIAMSBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

AUGUST 2011

This Month We

Celebrate

the baptism of
Hunter Griggs on July 3.



August Birthdays

3..... Lee Foster
4..... Pat Parrott
5..... Dorothy Hall
6..... Chris Lee
8..... Marge Neal
9..... Sharon Scruggs
11..... Fannye Rorer
12..... Sue Liddell
14..... Mickey Halpin, Pam McReynolds,
Connie Reitz
15..... Peyton Coleman
16..... Kate Bower
17..... Pete Freeman, Art Rodgers
18..... Ellen White, Earl McLane
19..... Annie Lee
23..... King Fairclough
31..... Joe Phillips

Sympathy

...to the family of Jane Cotman who passed away on July 10.

...to Anne Bailey and family on the death of her husband, Ben, on July 14.

Congratulations

...to Anne Bailey on the birth of her first great grandchild, Miles Benjamin Gardner (7 lbs 4 oz.), born July 20 in Massachusetts. Proud parents are Laura & Will Gardner.

Reminder

Contact Ron Ervi if you are able to help with the construction of a new lodge at Eastover Retreat Center. 757-358-6864 (cell) or 804-684-5424 (home)

**DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR THE
SEPTEMBER SPIRE IS AUGUST 15**

WILLIAMSBURG BAPTIST CHURCH
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August Calendar of Church Events

August 4, 11, 18, 25 @10:30 am..... Men's Bible Study
August 7 @ noon..... 1st Sunday Fellowship in Social Hall
August 7..... 1st Sunday Food Collection for FISH
August 7 & 21 @5:00 pm..... Kids Club
August 10 @ noon..... Children Volunteer at FISH
August 12 @ 10 am..... Personnel Committee
August 16 @ 7 pm..... Leadership Council
August 18 @ 9:30 am..... Children's Outing to Busch Gardens
August 21..... 3rd Sunday Food Collection for Gym Bag Program
August 23 @ 5:30 pm..... Finance Council
August 26 @ 5 pm..... Parents Night Out
August 28 @ 4 pm..... Children's Bowling Activity

Hold the Date!

Family Bible Study Weekend ~ September 10-11

The study will be led by Dr. Tony Cartledge, Associate Professor of Old Testament at Campbell University Divinity School and a contributor to *Baptists Today*. He is the former editor of the Biblical Recorder, the newspaper of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention. Watch for details!

News From Women for Missions

Socks & Underwear Shower for FISH

Women for Missions will hold its annual "Socks & Underwear Shower" for FISH at its meeting on September 14. Your donations of socks and underwear for children and adults may be left in the baskets in the Fellowship Lounge or brought to the meeting. Also at the meeting, a program will be presented on emergency preparedness. Women for Missions welcomes all women of the church and guests to meetings at 10 am on the 2nd Wednesday of every month, September - May.

September is WBC Volunteer Month at FISH

Williamsburg Baptist Church is responsible for providing volunteers at FISH on Tuesdays in September. Please check your calendar and call Petie Pope (565-2172) with the date you can serve.



◆ Clothing for Students

With the start of school just around the corner, the Missions Council will collect clothing for homeless students at Toano Middle School that meets uniform dress code requirements. Tags will be placed on the tree in the Fellowship Lounge beginning in August.

◆ Food Collections

- 1st Sunday collection of non-perishable food for FISH. At the present time, the shelves are very bare. Please help as you are able.
- 3rd Sunday collection for the Gym Bag program which provides food to middle and high school students from low income and homeless families. Thanks to your generosity, 158 lbs. of food were collected at WBC in June.

◆ From His Hands

Many thanks to those who assisted with the "From His Hands" meal our church served at Grove Christian Outreach Center on June 30. It was truly a multi-generational effort and a wonderful success from many perspectives, including community outreach, member involvement, and serving others. We served approximately 95 meals to 27 families. April Cross, Cathy Cross, Pam McReynolds and the Vacation Bible School participants baked dozens of delicious chocolate chip cookies for dessert. If you would like to participate when we serve next on September 22, contact Kay Cheves, 229-1546.

DEAR ONES,

As the Master’s parable of the seed scattered was truly a lesson about the soil, so also the story of trees is about *water*.

Many have seen stubborn, twisted trees on the steep slopes, even cliffs of mountains, grabbing a toehold on nearly invisible crevasses, in order to capture a drink in the smallest of stone cups, even if no more than that gathered from the mist and the dew.

Trees may live on remarkably little, but thrive on a great deal of water. The more water, the more trees, more tall and healthy trees. God gave nature her way of herding trees toward living water.

Perhaps you remember the story of the land divided by a small stream. In that arid country, a farmer cultivated one side and not the other. The first received irrigation, cultivation, as well as nutrition, and was soon green and lush with the products of the land. However, pausing one day from his labors, the farmer looked across the stream to the rocky, hardscrabble, underdeveloped land. There was a tree that, indifferent to its sparse surroundings, stood tall and green, some seventy meters from the stream. He reasoned that there was more to this than met the eye, so soon crossed the stream to examine the tree.

The tree was strong and beautiful. The ground, however, was certainly as difficult and ungracious beneath and around the tree as anywhere else. He widened his investigation and discovered a root, longer than the rest that shot out from the tree. He followed it around a large rock, through a fence, down a dry culvert, over a bank and, finally, its search and his over, to where it plunged into the stream. The life and beauty of the tree was in the water.

The Psalmist began his collection of songs with this same image, remarking that those who love the will and ways of God would be like “trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper” (Psalm 1:3).

At a well in Sychar of Samaria, Jesus made a bold claim (John 4) about His purpose. His hearer was a Samaritan woman, an injured, disfigured life with a parched heart. She had come for water in the heat of the day, but her thirsty soul needed more than what the well could provide. Jesus offered hope, saying:

“Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks from the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life” (4: 13, 14). It was a promise she claimed, as did many others since that noonday, all the way to eternal life.

So, then, follow the roots of the trees, which, in their wisdom go out, down and around to that which gives them life. Seek, also, the “streams of living water” that will make your life full and meaningful.

See you where the church gathers. JIM



Gifts and Memorials

DIRECTED TO THE BENEVOLENCE FUND
In memory of Emma Williams, Jeanice Roberts, James Stitt, and George Haynes: Charles & Jan Puffenberger

DIRECTED TO THE MEMORIAL FUND
In memory of George Haynes: Hal & Margaret Baber; Jan Haynes; Travis, Gretchen & Parker Haynes
In memory of Bob Ruff: Ann & Tom Smith

DIRECTED TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND
In memory of George Haynes: Jan Haynes, Travis, Gretchen & Parker Haynes

Bookmark the church website and visit often for the latest news and information (updated weekly), photos of church events, the church calendar, and The Spire online: www.williamsburgbaptist.com.

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