



# Steeple Talk

Faith Fellowship Mission

First Baptist Church - Lexington, NC

August 2021

## RAY HOWELL UPDATE

As you know, on August 16th, Dr. Howell underwent surgery for Prostate Cancer. We're happy to report that the surgery was successful, and Ray is now resting and consulting with his Doctors to see if any additional treatment is necessary. We are grateful to the medical team at Wake Forest Baptist Hospital for their expertise. We continue to pray for Ray during his recovery.

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

On January 1st, Wes Richardson celebrated his 2nd year with us as our Minister of Music, and on April 1st, Ray Howell celebrated 31 years with us as our Senior Minister. Also on April 1st, Ronnie Smith celebrated his 16th year with us as weekend security. On June 18th, Sherri Salinas celebrated 9 years as our Financial and Administrative Assistant and on June 26th, Jim Skotthy celebrated his 4th year as the Business Administrator. We are grateful and thankful for the service these five have given and continue to give to our church!

## COVID-19 SAFETY

As we continue to monitor the Pandemic, we ask that you take precautions. If you are not feeling well, we ask that you not attend in person worship. While masks are optional, we encourage you to respect the health and safety of those around you during worship time.

## MARTHA BEST CHILDREN'S CENTER DIRECTOR

Laura Adams, the Director of the Martha Best Children's Center, has submitted her resignation in order to pursue another opportunity. She has been with us for 2 ½ years. While we are sorry to see her leave, we wish her the best in the future. The personnel committee, along with the MBCC committee, are in the process of searching for a new director. Please keep them in prayer as they continue their mission.



## HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS HONORED

October 17th will be a great day of celebration as we honor our healthcare professionals who have truly been our heroes during the Pandemic. We are inviting special guests to join us and open the door for all healthcare professionals on this special Sunday.

## MEMORIALS

**General Fund: *Don Strickland*** by Mr. & Mrs. Tim Timberlake, Katy Minner; ***Tom Myers*** by Melinda & Guy Smith; ***Lee E. Andrews*** by Fred & Lynda Belk, Peggy Barnhardt and Robert & Ann Cole

**C. Andrews Organ Fund: *Lee E. Andrews Jr.*** by Don and Sarah Phelps, Marty Mitchell, Margot Walser and Kathy Young

## HONORARIUMS

**Beamer Barnes Belize Scholarship: *Barnes, Grimes, Bunce, Fraley PLLC Law Firm and Stephen Barnes*** by Linwood Bunce

**General Fund: *Dr. Ray Howell, William & Melinda Hartley, Dillon & Taylor and Reid Pope*** by Jane & Clay Pope

### Carolyn Phillips Mission Group

We'd like to invite you to join us each month (September thru June) for fun, food, fellowship, mission and prayer. Throughout the year, we plan to learn about local missions as well as state, country and world missions. We may take part in helping agencies financially, through prayer or perhaps by collecting physical donations. In the past, we have made cards or gift baskets for local shut-ins and nursing home patients. We would love to have more mission minded women to join us. Our first meeting will be at 12 noon on September 14th at Yarbrough's Restaurant. Please contact Brenda Hipp at [bwhipp48@gmail.com](mailto:bwhipp48@gmail.com) to make your reservation.



### BUDGET UPDATE

#### As of July 2021

Budget Received: \$ 41,882.34

Expenses: \$ 58,947.59

Deficit: \$ 17,065.25

#### Year to Date

2021 Projected Budget: \$ 709,303.00

Budget Received: \$ 410,060.62 (Includes PPP Loan Transfers of \$65,943.06)

Expenses: \$ 332,896.34

Excess: \$ 77,164.28

These numbers reflect the budget as it stood at the end of July. Some of the year to date surplus is due to the fact that we had the Payment Protection Plan loan, but much of it is due to the faithfulness of our church. The monthly deficit was because we continued to fulfill our obligations to our various missions. We continue to see positive flow into our church coffers, and we have been able to maintain our ongoing obligations. Those payments to the missions will continue as we monitor our budget during this COVID crisis. We are grateful to you all for continuing to remember the church!

### LAY READERS AND USHERS NEEDED!

We need Lay Readers & Ushers for Sunday Mornings. Please contact Jim Skotthy at the Church Office.

### BIBLE OPENERS

9/5/2021	Lane Hopkins
9/12/2021	<b><u>NEED SOMEONE</u></b>
9/19/2021	Cate Pyle
9/26/2021	Wade Myers
10/3/2021	Daisy Ward

Parents, if your child is preschool aged up to 5th grade, please consider letting them open the Bible on Sunday mornings. Please contact Beryl Phillips at [bhphillips1960@outlook.com](mailto:bhphillips1960@outlook.com)

# We Pray For...

Medical professionals, educators and all workers whose jobs  
require they be in public

Those struggling financially and worried about finances

Those whose anxiety has been made worse by COVID-19

Those whose situations mean they are isolated from  
others right now

Our kids—as they adapt to online learning and deal with  
disappointment of canceled activities

Those who are more vulnerable to COVID-19

Those who have COVID-19

The researchers trying to come up with  
remedies and vaccines

Those in leadership positions who are tasked  
with making decisions

Our Church

## CONTACT US!

## Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m to 5 p.m. Friday 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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**Joyce Howell** (Church Bulletins): [joycedhowell47@gmail.com](mailto:joycedhowell47@gmail.com), (336) 245-1261 (Information Deadline is 12 noon Wednesdays)

**Beryl Phillips** (Newsletter): [bhphillips1960@outlook.com](mailto:bhphillips1960@outlook.com), (336) 245-1261  
(Information Deadline is the 23rd of each month)



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