

Falls Fellowship

Lent

Sunday, March 10, is the first Sunday in Lent. We Baptists don't place much emphasis on Lent and our neglect means we miss some blessings. Lent is a forty days' season of preparation for Easter. Its intent is to encourage self-examination and repentance as we approach Easter. The forty days may parallel Jesus forty days in the

wilderness that ended with Satan's temptation of him. Fredrick Buechner, in his book *Wishful Thinking*, says that Lent is an appropriate time for us to ask questions about ourselves, including the fundamental question, "Who am I?"

If you had to bet everything

See Lent on page 2



Missions Corner

The 2019 missions opportunities calendar has been finalized for your consideration.

Pray about these opportunities and participate as you feel led. In addition to these specific monthly collections, we will accept year round donations of the following: small toiletries/hygiene products, used/expired ink and toner car-

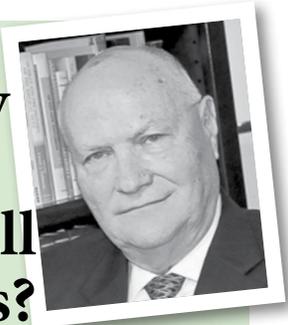
tridges, school supplies, clothing and food. The Mission Room is in the process of being set up. More information next month!

Candy donations are needed for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt.

We will start accepting your candy donations on Sunday, March

See Missions on page 3

Sunday School or Small Groups?



Baptists have a Bible teaching program we call Sunday School which has been around for well more than a century. I read a comment Baptist scholar, E.Y. Mullins, made about Sunday School in 1902. Therefore, I know Baptist churches had some form of Sunday School as early as 1902.

It's obvious why we call this structure for Bible teaching Sunday School — we meet on Sunday mornings. That usually occurs in the hour prior to morning worship. At Falls, Sunday School begins at 10:00 and worship at 11:00. Some of us arrive around 9:30 and drink coffee, have a snack and talk. We talk about the weather, politics, sports, what's happening at Falls, what we hope will happen at Falls and what we hope never happens again at Falls! Afterwards, we go to

See Sunday on page 4

Church Improvement Projects

The Building and Grounds Committee is considering three projects which would improve our physical facility and grounds. The committee would present these projects to the church at a called conference once the proposals are agreed on and finalized.

Project I

- A. Refinish the hardwood floors in the sanctuary and vestibule.
- B. Clean and refurbish our pews after the flooring project is completed.
- C. Replace the pew cushions if a suitable and matching fabric can be found.

Project II

- A. Remodel the upstairs restrooms to include replacing toilets and creating a lounge area and new vanity for women.
- B. Upgrade water supply to downstairs restrooms and install new a toilet in the women's restroom.

Project III

- A. Remove and replace pavement in the parking lots to include curbs for water runoff and add additional gravel to other areas as needed.

The Finance Committee was made aware of the projects under consideration and they believe we have

See Improvement Projects on page 4

March Birthdays

1	Junior Jackson
12	Kevin Barham
13	Diana Harney
16	Rich Harney
19	Alice Tate
22	Geneva Holste
26	Billy Chappell



Continued from page 1

Lent continued ...

you have on whether there is a God or whether there isn't, which side would get your money and why?

When you look at your face in the mirror, what do you see in it you most like and what do you see in it you most deplore?

If you had only one last message to leave to the handful of people who are most important to you, what would it be in twenty-five words or less?

Of all the things you have done in your life, which is the one you would most like to undo? Which is the one that makes you happiest to remember?

Is there any person in the world, or any cause, that, if circumstances called for it, you would be willing to die for?

If this were the last day of your life, what would you do with it?

Fredrick Buechner Wishful Thinking

As Buechner says, asking these questions is to “begin to hear something not only of who you are but of both what you are becoming and what you are failing to become.” So, at the beginning of Lent, with an attitude of confession and repentance, ask these questions.

— Tom Jenkins

Event Calendar

March 3 — Deacons Meeting 4 PM

March 5 — Women's Small Group Fellowship
Begins 15-week study on Tuesdays 6 PM

March 6 — Ash Wednesday Service 7 PM

March 16 — Men's Fellowship Breakfast 8 AM

April 7 — Deacons' Meeting 4 PM

April 13 — Easter Egg Hunt 11 AM

April 19 — Good Friday Service

April 21 — Easter Sunrise Service, Falls Lake Dam
followed by breakfast at the fellowship hall

Continued from page 1

Falls Baptist Church 2019 Missions Opportunities Calendar

Missions continued ...

3rd. We are collecting individually-wrapped small candy, trinkets and stickers only — please do not bring plastic eggs. Donations can be put in the vestibule. Join us on Wednesday, April 3rd after supper and prayer meeting for a fun evening of fellowship to stuff the eggs with the donated candy.

Volunteers are needed. Please see Stacie Creech if you are interested in volunteering to help during the Easter Egg Hunt and Vacation Bible School. Some areas to consider are: food prep/cooks, crafts, greeters/registration, teachers, games and music.

Upcoming Dates:

March 3rd – 10th: Annie Armstrong Week of Prayer / Annual Offering

March 10th: Girl Scout Sunday. A special recognition ceremony during worship service for our Girl Scout Troop members.

March 13th at 6 – 9 pm: Food Bank of Eastern and Central NC Volunteering. See Alan Watkins for details.

April 3rd at 6 pm: Easter Egg packing party

April 13th at 11 am – 1 pm: Annual Easter Egg Hunt

June 17th -21st at 6-8 pm: Vacation Bible School

Mindy Barham

Cell/Text 253-632-8383

E-mail: Mindy@barhamweb.net

Month	\$ Giving	Collecting	Service
January		Operation Christmas Child: hats, gloves, scarves	
February		Operation Christmas Child: Accessories (jewelry, sunglasses, hair-ties, watches, etc.)	
March	Annie Armstrong Annual Offering	Operation Christmas Child: Quality Crafts (sewing kits, knitting, no-sew projects, etc.)	Group Volunteering: Food Bank of Eastern and Central NC
April		Operation Christmas Child: Small Stuffed Animals	Packing Party: Easter Eggs
May		Operations Christmas Child / NC State Fair Kits: Hygiene Items	
June		Operation Christmas Child: Small Toys	
July		Operation Christmas Child: clothing/shoes	
August		Operation Christmas Child: school supplies	
September	NC State Missions Annual Offering	Operation Christmas Child: small games and puzzles	Packing Party: NC State Fair Kits
October		Operations Christmas Child: personal letters and photos, coloring pages	
November	Baptist Children's Home Annual Offering		Packing Party: Operation Christmas Child
December	Lottie Moon Annual Offering	Collect donations for a local sponsored family in need.	Group Volunteering: Caroling at the Nursing Home



Deacons

Linwood Barham, Chairman 919-418-1162

Hubert Jenks, Vice Chairman 919-270-8765

Alan Watkins, Secretary 919-793-5548

Tommy Brown 843-446-6540

Kevin Barham 919-618-4214

Brandon Long 252-903-4662

Sunday continued ...

our Sunday School classes at 10:00.

What's the purpose of Sunday School? In the beginning Baptists viewed Sunday School as a tool of evangelism. Most of the people Baptized in Baptist churches for many years came to the baptismal pool through a Sunday School class. In fact, when I was a child, my preacher-dad used to talk about Sunday School as the "evangelistic arm of the church." A simple strategy for church growth was to get people to Sunday School and then you could reach them for church membership. It worked well for decades.

Sunday School also provided a means for assimilation of new members. Engagement with a Sunday School Class on a weekly basis helped new members quickly feel like they "belonged" to the church. That's very important. We've learned many people who leave a church never really felt like they were part of it. They were unable to break into a group which gave them support and encouragement.

This is 2019 and Sunday School has changed. Perhaps its finest mission today is it provides small groups where people can come together, study the Bible, share about their lives' stories and pray. We all need to belong to a small group. Groups help us grow; they nurture us; they gently prod us to give up on our negativity; they help us move forward from our troubles of

the past; to see ourselves more objectively; they help lift us up when we fall; they are there to support us in our hours of great need. In my many years of ministry I have often seen small groups lift church members up in times of great need, such as at the death of a family member.

You need to belong to a small group and we have small groups at Falls that are open for new members. We call it Sunday School. Come join us and if you come at 9:30 you can have a cup of coffee and maybe a donut or an apple fritter.

— Tom Jenkins

Improvement Projects continued ...

adequate funds on hand to complete all three projects.

The membership of the church would have to approve these projects and the funds necessary to complete the work. When these recommendations are ready to be presented to the church, an announcement will be made to the church one week prior to a vote.

This information is to inform you of the work projects under consideration. Please let a member of the Building and Grounds Committee know about any concerns you have.



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