

Run of the Mill News

February 2012

Annual Valentine Dinner and Show Scheduled

Sat., Feb. 11th has been designated as the day for our annual Valentine dinner and show. A delicious grilled chicken menu has been planned; after supper the fun begins. The Valentine show is always a big hit with lots of laughs; you'll leave feeling full physically and spiritually. Supper is at 6 pm and the show will start at 7 pm.



Children's Day is Sun., Feb. 11th

Our children will be active during worship service through song and other activities on February 11th.

Please be sure to come and see our children. They will delight you and warm your heart. Jesus loved the little children and Mill Creek does too!!!

What is a 'crime'?

What is an assault? Who are victims? Who are assailants? What is "Crime Prevention"?

The most important tool in crime prevention is your mind. When used effectively and coupled with a confident attitude and keen awareness, you can avoid dangerous confrontations with potential assailants. This will decrease your chances of becoming a victim.

Make it a habit to protect yourself from harm by using common sense and a few standard security devices. But remember, even the most expensive security devices will not keep you safe if you do not use them.

Church members; family members, community members and friends are invited to come and join us for 'Common Sense Personal Safety' on **Saturday, February 4, at 9:00 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. This will be a general discussion presentation, no physical activity. Sandra Thomas; retired after 30 years in local government - Lieutenant of Community Services Bureau, Union County Sheriff's Office, will lead the discussion.

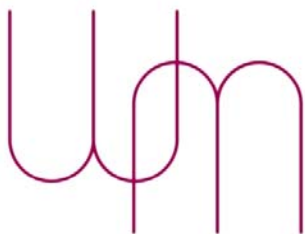
Topics of discussion will include:

Con Games & Fraud
Personal Safety

Prevention While Driving and Parking Lot
The Attack-Aftermath

Home Security

Feel free to contact Sandra, 704-233-5313, for more information about the presentation.



WMU News

February is the month of focus on WMU NC and the time for the Heck-Jones Offering. The Lottie Moon Offering goes to support foreign missions; the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering supports North American missions; Heck-Jones supports North Carolina missions. WMU NC operates on their own with no financial support from the NC Baptist Convention and they need our help to carry on their missions and ministries. They maintain and operate Camp Mundo Vista where our GAs and RAs went to day camp last year and are planning to go again March 17th. They put on Missions Ex-

travaganza at Ridgecrest that our women attend each year, giving them an opportunity to get to meet missionaries personally and hear about their work. They also have a military ministry, a prison ministry, furnish churches with free literature and information to promote missions, organize mission trips and much more. Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you really are my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth shall set you free." We have been set free by the truth through Jesus Christ and we are called to bring that truth to others. We can do that by promoting missions through our gifts to the Heck-Jones Offering. *Submitted by Linda Bridges*

Celebrations!



Happy Birthday to:

- Tom Baucom 2-3
- Eleanor Helms 2-3
- George Gouge 2-10
- Ned Williams 2-15
- Bill Williams: 2-17
- Frances Helms 2-20
- Cliff McLain 2-22
- Kaitlyn Scott 2-22
- Mike Tomberlin 2-22
- Linda Bridges 2-23
- Rosemary Burnette 2-25
- Ray Yelton 2-26
- Larry Helms 2-28

Happy Anniversary:

- Wayne and Dot Williams 2-2
- George & Ella Gouge 2-22

Early March

No early birthdays or anniversaries



February Usher/Nursery/Children's Church/Children's Sermon/Deacon Lock Up Duty List

Usher Duty: Feb. 5th: Danny Tomberlin, Weldon Braswell, Michael Furr, Brandon Helms. Feb. 12th: Jimmy Austin, Mike York, Mitchell Clontz, Steve York. Feb. 19th: Ron Rollins, Danny Thomas, Jason Keziah, Tim Greene. Feb. 26th: Charles Bridges, Frank Pope, Larry Von Cannon, Eddie Smith.

Nursery Duty: For SS: Feb. 5th: Karen Greene. Feb. 12th: Jean Griffin. Feb. 19th: Juliet Banning & Stephanie Banning. Feb. 26th: Beth Clontz. For Worship: Feb. 5th: Rachel Drake. Feb. 12th: Amber Austin. Feb. 19th: Shannon Wright. Feb. 26th: Debbie Baucom.

Children's Church: Feb. 5th: Caroline & Jeff Price. Feb. 12th: Shannon & Tony Wright. Feb. 19th: Amber & Jamie Austin. Feb. 26th: Val & Nealy Tarte. **Lock Up Deacon:** Feb. 5th: James Whitley. Feb. 12th: Linda Bridges. Feb. 19th: Jerry Deese. Feb. 26th: J. Hugh Helms. **Children's Sermon:** Feb. 5th: Debbie Baucom. Feb. 12th: Juliet Banning. Feb. 19th: Gayle Simpson. Feb. 26th: Sue Deese.

"Come and Walk With Us"

The Baptist Women would like to invite you to come and walk with us. We'll be meeting in the church gym on Saturdays at 7:30 a.m. and again on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Come and walk....it's good for you! Come and walk one lap or ten laps. Come and walk for 10 minutes or one hour. Come and walk what you are able to do. This is for fun and for your health! Come and leave with a smile on your face! For more information, contact any member of the Baptist Women.



Read Through the Bible Plan For February	
1 February – Genesis 27	16 February – Psalm 25
2 February – Genesis 28	17 February – Genesis 40
3 February – Genesis 29	18 February – Genesis 41
4 February – Genesis 30	19 February – Genesis 42
5 February – Genesis 31	20 February – Genesis 43
6 February – Psalm 139	21 February – Genesis 44
7 February – Genesis 32	22 February – Genesis 45
8 February – Psalm 133	23 February – Genesis 46
9 February – Genesis 33	24 February – Genesis 47
10 February – Genesis 34	25 February – Psalm 41
11 February – Genesis 35	26 February – Genesis 48
12 February – Genesis 36	27 February – Genesis 49
13 February – Genesis 37	28 February – Genesis 50
14 February – Genesis 38	29 February – Psalm 145
15 February – Genesis 39	

From Your Pastor

GREETINGS in the blessed name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Kay and I continue to pray for you. As we ask God to comfort and protect you, we also ask God to comfort and protect all who are precious to you. May each of you know God's gifts of joy, gladness, assurance and peace through all of the coming days.

I want to congratulate Mill Creek's Brotherhood for the wonderful Baptist Men's Day that we observed last month. The men did an excellent job in leading us in our worship on 22 January. Along with our guest speaker, Billy Hogge, our Brotherhood blessed each of us on that day. And, along with them, our Children's Department (children and adults) certainly blessed us by serving such a wonderful lunch after the day's worship service. All in all, 22 January was a great day for Mill Creek Baptist Church.

Let me change directions with this newsletter article. As you read this, we are now in the month of February. February is a wonderful month of the year. Part of that wonderfulness rests in the fact that we celebrate Valentine's Day on the 14th. This year, Mill Creek's Family Life Committee will host a Valentine Banquet for our church. On Saturday, 11 February, make your plans to join us for a fine meal at 6:00 PM and then a program of entertainment beginning at 7:00 PM. You know that you will be blessed by coming. I do hope to see you on that evening.

Some people will tell us that the church has no business promoting Valentine's Day in any way. They will point out that they believe that the ancient Christian Church usurped the pagan holiday of Lupercalia. Lupercalia was a pagan Roman holiday that was associated with cleansing the pagan temples and the practice and importance of hedonism. But, don't you think that Valentine's Day is something different from all of that?

Do you remember passing out Valentine cards when you were in grade school? Do you remember how wonderful it made you feel to receive a Valentine card from a friend, or even from someone on whom you had a secret crush? Likewise, do you remember how you felt when you did not receive those Valentine cards? So, on one hand, Valentine's Day provides us with the opportunity to be especially kind to others. And, such a thing is always in great demand in the world in which we live.

But, there is one other thing that makes Valentine's Day a special time of the year. The day received its name from the Ancient Church celebrating the martyrdom of an early saint of the Church. There are at least six (6) different Christians of the early Church who are associated with this day. However, it seems that the most likely candidate of the six was a Roman priest who was martyred during the reign of Claudius II, otherwise known as Claudius Gothicus.

Valentinus, this early Christian who lived and served God in Rome, was known to have married young Christian couples which was a practice that Claudius had outlawed. In addition to that, Valentinus and another Christian by the name of Marius helped Christians who would shortly suffer martyrdom under the rule of Claudius. In the year A.D. 270, Claudius ordered the arrest of Valentinus. By all accounts, Claudius liked Valentinus. But, when Valentinus witnessed to Claudius that the Emperor should abandon his pagan religious beliefs and accept Jesus Christ as his Savior and Lord, Claudius ordered that Valentinus be killed. Upon Claudius II's order, Valentinus was nearly beaten to death with clubs. The beating was stopped short of killing Valentinus, so that the Christian priest could be killed by beheading.



Once again, we are brought face to face with the idea that Valentine's Day is associated with the act of being kind to those who are in need of kindness. After-all, that is exactly what Valentinus of Rome was doing as he married young Christian couples who were forbidden to marry and Christians who were facing martyrdom. This Valentine's Day, let us take the day's opportunity to be kind, not only to those we love, but also to someone who is in need of kindness. All we have to do is look around and we will see them. Our world is full of people who need kindness. May the Lord, our God be with you throughout all of the coming days. May you, and all who are precious to you, be greatly and warmly blessed throughout your days. Amen.

God's Blessings, Phillip

Kids' Korner



Make Your Own Valentine's Day Card!

Have the children use mini candy canes and use two to form a heart on the cover of a "card" of folded construction paper. If you're using full sized candy canes, use card stock as you'll need the sturdier base for the heavy candy canes. Attach with a bit of scotch tape. Write "Happy Valentine's Day" or a similar message into the center of the candy cane heart and give the card to a friend **OR** use the candy cane poem (usually a Christmas thing). Place a copy of the poem inside. Present to a church member as a special Valentine with a message.

Welcome to Kids Choir

The new year has begun and we welcome you back to kids' choir practice. We have already sang a song during worship service in January, and our goal is to sing in church at least one time a month. We would love to have your child join our choir. If they can't make it to practice, they are still welcome to sing with us on the Sundays that we sing. Our goal is to give every child a part, whether it is reading a Bible verse or singing a solo or duet. Below is a list of our practice. Hope you can join us! Wed. Feb. 8th, Wed., Feb. 22nd, Wed., March 28th, Wed., April 11th, Wed. April 25th, Wed., May 9th, and Wed., May 23rd. If you have any questions, please see Lesa Blackburn or Caroline Price.

More News from the Children's Department

We are going to be attending another Children in Action day at Camp Mundo Vista- yay! Date: March 17th; Time: 10:00am- 3:00pm (bus leave approx. 7:45am); Location: Camp Mundo Vista (near Asheboro, NC); Theme: Students on Mission; What: Recreation, Crafts, Missionary, Songs, Nature, and Camp Fun; Cost: \$15.00 per person (lunch and supplies included). There are funds available for those that need financial assistance. Please contact Caroline Price at 704-575-4099. Deadline is February 19th.

February Sunday School Preview

I became a Christian toward the end of my junior year in high school at the age of 16. I had gone to church regularly all my life, so that aspect of my life did not change. Other than that, my life showed very little spiritual growth over the next 18 months. I was going through the motions of being a Christian, but my relationship with Christ had not had the impact on my life that it should have had. Strangely enough, I didn't see a problem simply because I didn't know any better.

My older brother was the one who snapped me out of my complacency. He told me that I needed to get serious about the Christian life, and he explained that I especially needed to start studying the Word on my own and witnessing to other people. And he was a lot more blunt about the way he said it than what I've written here!

But his words had the desired effect. I started studying God's Word and sometimes my brother and I would go witnessing together. As I studied God's Word for myself and listened to my pastor preach through Colossians, I was struck by the importance of understanding what Scripture teaches about Jesus Christ - who He is, what He has done, and what this means for me as one of His followers. The teachings of Scripture clearly demonstrate that Christ is at the center of God's plan for the cosmic order and that He should be at the center of all of our lives. The four lessons in this month's study theme are designed to help us understand how we can make Christ the center of our lives.

Here are the lessons we will be studying together this month:

- **Center of Everything** (Feb. 5): This lesson is about seeing Christ for who He really is and then seeing everything else in light of that reality. The Scripture comes from Colossians 1:1-23
- **Center of My Church** (Feb. 12th): This lesson is about what makes a church Christ-centered. Colossians 1:24-2:7 will be our Scripture.
- **Center of My Belief** (Feb. 19th): This lesson is about keeping Christ the center of your belief by rejecting any thinking or practices that deny the centrality of Christ. We will read Colossians 2:8-23.
- **Center of My Life** (Feb. 26th): This lesson will teach us that who Christ is and what He has done for us should shape our character, guide our homes, and direct our interactions with those who do not believe. We will use selected passages from Colossians 3:1-4:6.

The above preview was taken from the Advanced Commentary, a teaching guide for Sunday School.



Long Term Prayer List

(*New names are underlined*) Bertis Baucom, Bill Baucom, Lesa Blackburn, Joyce Deese, Ruby Efir, Ann Honeycutt, Peggy Pressley, Amy Simpson, Margie Thomas, Neulan Williams, Jean Wykel, Phil Zimmer, Union Baptist Assoc., Rettie Duncan, Lula Herring, Martha Baucom, Charles R. Biggers, Steve Brooks, Jim Carpenter, Vernie Carriker, Ann Cline, Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Clontz, Sandra Cook, Ron Deese, Freddie Drake, Julia Bell Godwin, Ella Gouge, Keisha Greene & Husband, Sharon Greene, Anita Jordan, CC & Betty Hill, Jerry Hinson, Crystal Jordan, Keith Keziah, Teresa Kindley, Henry Laney, Bobbie Jean Lee, Wayne Mangum, Pat Medlin, Kiersten Poole, Ed Pressley, Sheila Pressley, Barbara Purser, Dot Rollins, Lavinia Rollins, Bob Sellers, Boyd Simmons, Wiley Starnes, Mary Threatt, Pat Tomberlin, Don York.



Way to Go, Youth!

The youth are happy to announce that their annual Christmas projects - the Mill Creek Post Office and the Christmas Eve luminaries - generated **\$471** which they donated to the Lottie Moon Christmas offering.

The group and its committee sincerely appreciates your support in these endeavors!

A Hymn Review

"Jesus Loves Me" by Warner, Bradbury

Jesus loves me, this I know
For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak, but He is strong
(Chorus)

Yes, Jesus loves me, yes Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves, the Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He who died - Heaven's gates to open wide!
He will wash away my sin, let His little child come in.
Jesus loves me! Loves me still, tho' I'm very weak and ill.

From His shining throne on high, comes to watch me where I lie.
Jesus loves me! He will stay, close beside me all the way;
If I love Him, when I die, He will take me home on high.

There are so many hymnals and songbooks about Love which is wonderful. (My grandson is four years old and he sings "Jesus Loves Me" and "grandmaw" is on top of the world!)

"Blessed Assurance" tells us so much about what your song should say: it's one I dearly love!

"Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine" by Fanny J. Crosby, Phoebe Palmer Knapp

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.
Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight,
Angels descending bring from above, echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with His goodness, lost in His love.
(Chorus) This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long!

What a wonderful song! "This is My Story" shows your love for everyone, not just a few. God loves everyone and wants us to love all. Have you had "Whispers of Love" from God? It tells we have "visions of rapture now burst on my sight". God loves us so much, He tells us of "perfect submission" and "rest, blest, looking, waiting, knowing, claiming His love". We need to tell everyone gladly about God's love. I love this song (no one wants to hear me sing, but I get a hymnal and God and I sing). It tells us to "praise Him all the day long". Such a beautiful song! What is your story? What is your song? Be sure to tell God you love Him. He is our Valentine, now and forever all the day long!

We love you, and Happy Valentine's!

Submitted by Carolyn Helms on behalf of the Music Department



February 2012

Food of the Month: box of saltine crackers

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Offerings This Month:
Older Adults (Bapt. Retirement Homes)
Heck Jones Offering for WMU

			1 6:30 pm, prayer meeting & Bible study.	2	3	4 9 am, Crime Prevention Seminar
5	6	7 10 am, WMU 6:30 pm, Brotherhood	8 6:30 pm, prayer meeting & Bible study, youth & children's groups	9	10	11 6 pm, Valentine's Supper and Show
12 WMU Day, 11 am with beginning of Heck-Jones WMU Offering	13	14 Happy Valentine's Day! BW mtg. to be announced	15 6:30 pm, prayer meeting & Bible study.	16	17	18 Bus to GAs for day of ministry
19 Scout Sunday	20	21	22 Ash Wed. 6:30 pm, prayer meeting & Bible study, youth & children's groups	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Supper by Children's Committee tentatively scheduled			



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