

Millfield News

Events and Activities at Millfield Baptist Church



Dedication Plaque

About this time last year, the church discussed the need for a church sign at the road entering the church parking lot. It was in hope that this sign would promote a more welcoming image to our community, and display the hours of worship. The church body voted to purchase the sign even though the funds had not yet been budgeted. A few months later, on June 5, 2006, our loved one, Amos H. "Butch" Cutright passed away. Neil and I asked that memorial contributions be made in his name to Millfield Baptist Church. In later discussions with Rev. Tiller we felt the best utilization of his memorial fund would be to pay for the sign and dedicate it in his name. This sign would then become a welcoming beacon to the community as well as a wonderful and lasting tribute to Butch. We were so proud when the contributions made surpassed the amount needed to purchase the sign.

Butch loved God, Millfield and his family. His love of people was visible in his everyday actions. He loved this church and worked hard at sharing in its ministry. He greeted everyone with Christ's love and kindness. His witness and invitation led many to feel welcomed and at home at Millfield.

It is our hope that when this sign is seen, it will serve as an invitation to come and worship at Millfield. When someone reads the dedication plaque, remember Butch and how happy he would be that more people are entering into Millfield's circle of love and fellowship.

We would like to thank everyone for the wonderful love and support shown to Butch during his illness and also to us, his family, since his passing.

In Christian Love,
Betsy, Neil, Jennifer and Dustin Cutright

Pastor Search Committee Update

The process of searching for a pastor is something each member of the congregation plays a part in. Although seven people were selected to be the committee that carries out the formal process of seeking a pastor, each member is involved through prayer and support.

Taking the responses from the recent survey about pastor characteristics that a number of members completed, a Pastor Profile was submitted to the Virginia Baptist Mission Board. Similar information will also be sent to the state mission boards in North Carolina and Maryland. This will assist the state agencies in forwarding resumes to us of candidates who most closely meet the criteria we are seeking. Several resumes have been received from the VBMB and are currently being reviewed by the committee.

The Search Committee asks that you pray daily that God will guide their thoughts and actions over the next few months. Additionally, they ask for your encouragement, support, and patience in the process as they thoughtfully and deliberately seek the person God would have to be our next minister. If you know of someone you think would be a good candidate, please contact that person and ask them to submit a resume addressed to Millfield Baptist Church, attention Pastor Search Committee.

Words from Wellford

It's Time for a Church Check Up

A friend recently gave me a book about church growth entitled *The Myth of the 200 Barrier*. One section of the book discusses what makes some churches healthy and some unhealthy. The author, Kevin Martin, includes a checklist he uses when serving as a consultant with a congregation. Let me share part of this list with you. Based on the list, how do you think Millfield is doing?

The Healthy System Checklist

In order to keep your congregation healthy and functional, review the following items placing a "Y" beside each item you already do and an "N" by those you do not.

- _____ We rotate members of the [leadership structure] on a three-year basis. Those rotating off must stay off for at least one year before being eligible for re-election.
- _____ We provide training for leaders suitable to their office.
- _____ We participate in training events available beyond our local congregation.
- _____ We utilize an open communication system, and we actively seek feedback from members, especially new ones.
- _____ We have a workable mission statement and a list of present goals.
- _____ We hold an active annual stewardship program in which all members are encouraged to support the congregation financially and to express their feedback about the nature and degree of their support.
- _____ We have an active assimilation plan for new members. We quickly recruit them to vital areas of our congregation's life.
- _____ We have in place a means of responding to conflict, bringing it to healthy resolve and reconciliation between members when necessary.

So how are we doing? Clearly some items we are doing well and some we aren't. In some cases we have taken steps in that direction but we haven't fully implemented the practice. I share part of the checklist with you not to make you feel good or bad about Millfield but to give you an idea of some areas in which we might want to make some improvement. This is particularly helpful information to have as we search for our next pastor. (I will share the entire checklist with the Search Committee and the Transition Team.)

Ponder this list and think creatively about how we might strengthen some areas of our church life. Discuss those ideas with others, and let's see if some new and innovative approaches can surface. Don't leave this kind of creative thinking just to those who are elected leaders. All of us need to take responsibility for maintaining and improving the health and ministries of Millfield Baptist Church.



On Tuesday March 27th, our fellowship hall was transformed into a summer's day at the beach to introduce this year's theme for **Vacation Bible School**. Carol Jean Felts welcomed thirty four volunteers who enjoyed dinner and a brief overview of the summer program. Congratulations to Kayla Engel who won the door prize!

On Tuesday, April 24th at 7 PM, Diane Ware, motivational speaker from Standard Publishing, will be here to help us get excited for VBS! Plan to come and bring your beach chair & towel!

April Birthdays



- 2 *Janice Atkins*
Madison Cabell
- 4 *Molly Dowless*
- 5 *Jerry Hacker*
- 6 *Cathy Simms*
- 8 *Benji Goodrich*
- 9 *Betty Garner*
Hunter Patterson
Nell Tiller
- 11 *Earl Parker*
- 20 *Payton Atkins*
- 28 *Allison Brittle*
Bubba Ratliff
- 29 *Mary Beth Williams*
- 30 *Chance Hacker*
Chris Hardt

NURSERY WORKERS SCHEDULES

SUNDAY WORSHIP

- 1 Randal & Joy Branch
- 8 Shannon Regula
Marisa Cabell
- 15 Bob & Carol Jean Felts
- 22 Brenda Lowe
Chris Hardt
- 29 Paul & Julie Branch

SUNDAY SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

- 1 Patsy & Sonny Warren
- *8 Volunteer needed
- *15 Volunteer needed
- 22 Delores & Earl Parker
- *29 Volunteer needed

Bland County Mission Trip Q & A

Where is Bland County and why is our church sending a group there?

Bland County is in the southwest part of Virginia about two and a half hours southwest of Roanoke and borders West Virginia. It's a rural, isolated county where the per capita income for the county is about \$17,700 per year, 9% of families live below the poverty line. Out of the total people living in poverty, 14% are under the age of 18 and almost 23% are 65 or older.

What will we do while we're there?

Bland County Ministry Center has several services on their campus: a dental clinic operated solely by dentists and hygienists from churches like ours who will donate their time, a food bank, and a clothes closet. A number of mission teams, however, do home repair and maintenance for people in the area. This can be as simple as painting inside rooms, to repairing steps, to hanging guttering, to replacing a roof; it all depends on the skills of the people on the team.

When is the trip planned?

We will leave after church on Sunday, July 15 and return on Friday, July 20.

How much will it cost me to go?

We will stop for lunch on the trip down and on the trip back so you should take money for those meals. Through donations from individuals and groups in the church, as well money that is budgeted for missions, the expenses for gasoline and supplies will be paid.

Who can go?

Almost anyone! Children as young as age 6 to adults who are as young as they feel! Because of the variety of tasks that need to be done, there literally is something for any age person. Families are encouraged to come; what better way for your children to see missions in action than with mom and dad? It would also be a big help to the team if people who had cooking skills went along to help with meal preparation.

Next month. . . look in the newsletter for answers to Where will we stay? Is it all work and no play? Will we get to go to "the swimming hole"?

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the educational wing. Sign up now!

Light from Liberty University

*Saturday May 5
7 PM Casual Concert*

*Sunday May 6
11 AM Worship
Covered Dish Lunch after Church*

Holy Week and Easter Services

Maundy Thursday, April 5
TENEBRAE SERVICE
A SERVICE OF DARKNESS
RECALLING THE SACRIFICE OF
OUR LORD

(Communion will be served)

7:00 PM

Easter Day

7:00 AM

Community Sunrise Service
At Ivor Baptist Church

9:30 AM — Fellowship Time
(Coffee & Refreshments in the Fellowship Hall)

10:00 AM — Sunday School

11:00 AM
Easter Worship
*The Celebration of Our Lord's
Resurrection*

Spring Fling

Saturday, May 12

The Outreach Ministry Team is planning a Spring Fling activity for Saturday, May 12. This event will provide entertainment for church members and a way of reaching out to our neighbors. Details are still being worked out, but put this date on your calendar so you can join us for the fun!

Hold the Date!

April 2007

Every Sunday
 9:30 AM— Fellowship Time
 10:00 AM— Sunday School
 11:00 AM— Worship

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 6:30 Nominating Committee 7:30 Deacon's Meeting	3 7:00 Search Committee	4 11:00 WMU meets @Va. Diner 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Program 7:30 Choir & Signing	5 7:00 Tenebrae Service	6 5:00 Youth trip to Colonial Heights Baptist Church for drama program	7
8 7:00 AM Easter Sunday Sunrise Service @ Ivor Baptist	9	10	11 6:30 Church Quarterly Meeting 7:30 Choir	12	13	14
15 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast	16	17 7:00 Search Committee 4:00 WMU Spring Meeting @ Central Hill	18 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Program 7:30 Choir & Signing Practice	19	20	21
22 Spring Inspirational Meeting @ Franklin Baptist Church 4:00	23	24 7:00 VBS meeting	25 7:30 Choir	26	27	28
29 7:00 Church Wide Evening Worship Service	30					

“Strengthening The Body of Christ”

The Blackwater Baptist Association of Virginia 101st annual Spring Inspirational meeting will be held on Sunday April 22 at Franklin Baptist Church. Registration begins at 3 pm, followed by the business session. From 5-6 pm, breakout sessions will take place with the following topics and presenters:

Stewardship Development, Dr. Richard Childress

Family Life Devotional, Rev. Steven Hills

Christian Education & Leadership Development

Dr. Bob Dale

How to Use The Internet within The Church

Mr. Kirby Knight

Marks of a Healthy Church, Rev. Wellford Tiller

Dinner will be served at 6 pm, catered by Sycamore Baptist Church. Cost per plate is \$6.00. Please call our church office to make reservations by Friday April 13. Worship will begin at 7 pm, with Rev. Greg Kitts, pastor of Black Creek Baptist Church.

Associational WMU Spring Meeting

Central Hill Baptist Church

Tuesday, April 17

4:00 Afternoon Session

6:00 Dinner

7:00 Evening Session

Guest speakers —Mark and Pam Grumbles

Missionaries to Costa Rica

Deadline for meal reservations (\$6.00) is April 10. Contact Betty Garner at 899-4134 if you wish to attend.

Welcome New Members

We joyfully celebrate the following people joining Millfield recently:

By Letter

- ◆ Bill and Rose Sculthorpe

By Profession of Faith

- ◆ Jeremy Gibbs
- ◆ Kayla Engel
- ◆ Shannon Regula

Millfield Congratulations!!

- ◆ Heidi Pittman, Carol Jean Felts and Pam Smith completed the 2007 Shamrock Sports Fest, a 13.1 mile race held in Virginia Beach. Each participant received a medal and a great feeling of finishing this challenging run! Keep up the good work girls!
- ◆ Reid Holdsworth won first place monologue, 5th grade boys division, Tidewater Academy Forensics meet.
- ◆ Bill and Rose Sculthorpe are new grandparents!!
Raelynn Marie Grimstead, born March 22, 2007.

New Pictorial Directory Planned

It has been ten years since Millfield published a pictorial directory of our members and participants. Wellford has offered to take the pictures and assemble the directory. Delores Parker and others will be helping schedule appointments. Since this directory is not being done by a commercial enterprise, there will be no sales pressure to buy portrait packages. Exact dates have not yet been set, but we anticipate photographs being taken the latter part of April.

Sunday Evening Worship Service

March 25 marked our third casual evening worship service. We would like to thank Bill Sculthorpe for crafting our wooden cross which will adorn the sanctuary throughout the Lenten season. Also, the altar is decorated with broken pieces of clay atop burlap, lighted with pillared candles. Frankie Carr is using her spiritual gift of creativity in arranging our altar outlays. Bill Dudley and Kendahl Craig from Virginia Beach Beacon Baptist Church led the congregation of approximately 25 in praise and worship songs. Wellford gave a thought provoking message that focused on personal confession. As soft music played in the background, slips of paper were passed out for any sins to be written down and individuals walked to the altar, nailing them to the cross. Next month, our schedule will change for the evening service. It will be held on the fifth Sunday April 29 instead of fourth Sunday at 7 PM.

Quarterly Church Conference

Wednesday, April 11

6:30 PM

Our regularly scheduled church conference date has been changed to Wednesday April 11 at 6:30 PM. This change is necessary because the regular date for the conference conflicts with our Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service

Among the matters to be considered at the conference is a rewritten job description for the position of pastor of our church to be presented by the Personnel Committee. Copies of the proposed description will be available at the church by April 1. It will also be emailed to those on our email list.

Perhaps the most significant change in the proposed description is in the vacation policy section. The new description grants the pastor two weeks of vacation annually. After two years of service that will be increased to three weeks, and after five years of service it will increase to four weeks annually. This change will bring our practice more in line with other churches.

Also, the proposed policy includes a three-month sabbatical for study and spiritual reflection to be granted after seven years of service.

Youth Attend Events in March

Written by Caitlin Travis

Sr. High Weekend

On the weekend of March 9-11 seven youth members traveled to Eagle Eyrie in Lynchburg for Senior High Weekend. Senior High Weekend is a chance for high school students to hear the Word of God and learn about Him and strengthen their relationship with God. Our worship leader was the John Ivins Band, a contemporary Christian band. David Rhodes brought us closer to God over the weekend by sharing his sermons about making God the absolute center of attention in our lives. He also spoke about the imitators in the world that may seem better than God, but after a while we realize how bitter they are. Through-



out the weekend we visited four different sessions ranging from topics on love and honesty to how we make the right decisions. The weekend was a great and fun way to come closer to God.

Acquire the Fire

The youth group spent the March 16-17 attending Acquire the Fire at the Ted Constant Center in Norfolk. The theme this year was Branded by God and how we should all become Warriors for Christ. Our speakers, Ron Luce and Joel Johnson, talked to us in four main sessions. The first session was all about how we are in a pigpen and have to come out to God. During the second session Joel Johnson brought to our attention that we have been corrupted by the world around us influencing our lifestyles for the worst. Joel talked to us about becoming a Warrior for God during session three. He said that we must stand together and fight to eliminate the mind control the world has over us. Ron Luce led the final session. He said we have to change our lifestyles in hope of becoming role models for future Christians. ATF's music was inspirational and fun. Michael Gungor led most of our worship with the exception of Saturday's concert. The concert featured big hits like KJ-52, Skillet, and FlyLeaf. Other forms of entertainment were the skit and Maze. The skit followed a boy who had strayed away from God and how the *old him* had changed so many lives. One of his friends helped him change, and together they shut down a corrupt company. Maze is group of illusionists, Jim Munroe and Tennyson McCarty, who use their illusions and tricks to teach us that the world uses deception against us too.

April Youth Calendar

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Puppet Team 5:00; Supper 6:00, Meeting 7:00 | 8 No meeting |
| 4 Youth on Mission 6:30 | 15 Puppet Team 5:00, Supper 6:00, Meeting 7:00 |
| 6 Trip to Colonial Heights Baptist Church for drama "The Last Supper" leave here @ 5:00 | 18 Youth on Mission 6:30 |
| | 29 Meeting @ 6:30, Casual worship service @ 7 :00 |

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