

Millfield News

Events and Activities at Millfield Baptist Church

Words from Wellford

Lent for Baptists

Why is there an article about Lent in a Baptist church newsletter? After all most of us associate Lent with Roman Catholics or those “high church” denominations like the Episcopalians. What do Lent and Annie Armstrong have to do with one another? Many churches in the “free church” tradition (which includes Baptists) are rediscovering the value of some of these old liturgical practices.

Lent dates back to the Fourth Century when it was traditional for Christian converts to be baptized on Easter. Lent was a time of preparation for the baptismal candidates. Eventually it became a time of preparation and spiritual reflection for all believers. Lent is the period of 40 days prior to Easter. Since Sundays are days of celebration, they are not counted in the 40

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Offerings for SBC and CBF Mission Work to be Taken During March

Each year, we honor the life and work of Annie Walker Armstrong (1850-1938) through the home missions offering. As a tireless servant of God and a contagious advocate and supporter of mission efforts throughout the world, Annie Armstrong led women to unite in mission endeavors that ultimately led to the formation of Woman's Missionary Union, for which she served as the first corresponding secretary. Annie believed in Christ with all her heart, but it was her hands that expressed that belief in tangible ways. She spent a great amount of time typing and handwriting thousands of letters promoting mission efforts. In 1893 alone, she wrote almost 18,000 letters! Annie also never hesitated to use her hands to reach out to hug a child or distribute food and clothing and the Word of God to those in need. Her hands held her own Bible as she studied to know how best to share God's love with others, to intercede for missionaries and for those they were helping discover Christ. Annie rallied churches to give more, pray more, and do more for reaching people for Christ. The Week of Prayer for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions is March 4-11. This offering supports the mission work of the Southern Baptist Convention. Over 5,300 Southern Baptist missionaries serve throughout the U.S. and Canada from the North American Mission Board. Every dollar collected goes to support them.

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship also collects an offering for its global mission work during the Easter season. It's mission offering for

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Annie Armstrong

Pastor Search Committee Meetings are Underway

The Pastor Search Committee has begun meeting on a regular basis. In December the group met with Eddie Heath, Virginia Baptist Mission Board regional representative, for an orientation session and was given information about the search process in general as well as specific steps the committee will need to take over the next several months. One of the steps he mentioned was writing a profile of our church and gathering information about the local area, such as schools, medical facilities, shopping areas, etc.

The committee met in early January and began work on putting together the profile and outlined some of the other tasks that would need to be done in the near future. Another meeting was held recently to better acquaint the members with each other and begin the teambuilding process. The Transition Team had a similar event and found it very helpful and strongly encouraged the Search Committee to do the same. The Search Committee will meet again before the end of February to make decisions about what organizations and publications to work with in publicizing our need for a pastor.

If you have comments, questions, or suggestions, please feel free to talk to any member of the Pastor Search Committee: Bob Felts, Sandy Vick, Linda Chitwood, Kenneth Stallard, Jean Felts, Steve Cabell, and Susan Stone.

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2006-2007 is called *Famished Lands: The Great Physician*. The spring 2007 emphasis is CBF mission work in South Dakota.

Warm Embrace is a four-year-old mission endeavor in South Dakota started by Chris and Dana Thompson. It is part of *Together for Hope*, CBF's rural poverty initiative. The initial effort of Warm Embrace was to provide 2,000 blankets along with hats, coats, and gloves to the residents of the Cheyenne River and Pine River Indian Reservations. Currently Warm Embrace is becoming an economic development project to help generate employment for reservation residents. All this is being done through the churches on the reservations.

[Personal Note from Wellford: As a college student in the summer of 1967 I served as a summer missionary in Rapid City, South Dakota. Our team's task was to build a church building for a Lakota (Sioux) congregation on the outskirts of Rapid City. I have subsequently traveled in several third world countries, but I have never seen poverty any worse than I saw in South Dakota. Clearly this CBF related project is serving an area of deep need.]



A Lakota Indian

March Birthdays

- 2 Loran Clarke
- 4 Dustin Cutright
- 7 Charles Bailey
- 8 Carol Jean Felts
Bobby Stephenson
- 10 Martha Holdsworth
- 13 Roger Bailey
Sharon Barnes
- 19 Diana Tate
Paula Bailey
Andy Boothe
- 20 Nancy Stephenson
- 22 Dana Britt
Jean Mitchell
- 28 Steve Cabell
- 31 Joe Anderson

Millfield's combined goal for these offerings is \$1,000 total.

Southern Baptist Convention Offering



Week of Prayer for
NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS
March 4-11, 2007

Change Your World

National Goal: \$57,000,000
www.AnnieArmstrong.com

NORTH AMERICAN
MISSION BOARD

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Offering

Give GENEROUSLY to the Offering for Global Missions



Give to the OFFERING FOR GLOBAL MISSIONS
National Goal: \$6,320,000
Our Goal: _____

NURSERY WORKERS SCHEDULES

SUNDAY WORSHIP

- 4 Randal & Joy Branch
- 11 Anne Magee & Samantha Upton
- 18 Samantha & Jack Hubbs
- 25 Neil & Jennifer Cutright

SUNDAY SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

At this time, we do not have the spots filled for these Sunday mornings of the month. Please sign up on the sheet posted in the fellowship hall so the breakfasts can be continued. Thank you.

WMU Collects for College Students

“Goodie bags” are here, ready to be filled with treats for students home on spring break. If you would like to donate, we suggest stamps, non-perishable food items, any school supplies, etc. Please bring your items to church by Sunday March 4th. Recipients are Emmette Epperson, Payton Atkins, Adam Baldwin, Emily Chapman, Janet Felts, Mattie Patterson, Roger Bailey and Ashley Owen. What a fantastic way to show these college students how much we love and support them!

Women of Faith Conference July 12-14, 2007

Ladies, registration has begun for this exciting event! We have all the arrangements made and what we need now is for YOU to fill the spots. The theme is “Amazing Freedom” and it will be a powerful few days that will certainly impact your life. Please contact Tracey Stallard 859-6732, Shawn Felts 562-1464, or Sharon Patterson 899-2298 for more information. Friday’s pre-conference event will be a day with noted Bible teacher, Beth Moore. Total cost of the trip is \$220, inclusive of all costs of ticket, hotel, transportation and meals except one. You may pay in two installments, of \$110 each. The first installment is due March 11, and the second is due May 6. Our first 25 respondents will be assured of a reservation.

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days. Only weekdays are counted. The reason for 40 days is not completely clear, but it likely relates to the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness after his baptism. Today Lent is marked as a time of prayer and preparation to celebrate Easter, much as Advent is a time to prepare for Christmas. It is a time for introspection, self-examination, and repentance.

How can we good Baptists observe this ancient tradition? Probably what most of us hear about Lent is that people give up something they like for Lent — usually a favorite food of some sort. There is more to Lent than that, but abstaining (fasting) from some behavior or food item to give focus to one’s spiritual development can be a healthy spiritual discipline. Drinking water instead of soda for six weeks may help you focus on the simplicity of life. Refraining from watching television and using the time for Christian reading can be a helpful act of spiritual preparation.

Another helpful practice could be to engage in some activity of service or ministry to others. For example, volunteer for Habitat for Humanity, help with a

Summer Mission Trip Bland County July 15-21

The Bland Ministry Center, located in southwestern Virginia, is a multi-faceted, non-profit Christian social ministry founded in 1980 by the East River Baptist Association. Recognizing the need for a ministry outreach in the Appalachian region, the Center was begun under the leadership of Director of Missions, Dr. Marshall Walker. The Center has received assistance through the years, in the form of goods and financial gifts from many individuals, churches, and organizations, including the Alma Hunt Virginia Baptist State Missions Offering. As the ministries of the Center grow, the need for support is still very great. The Center is governed by a Board of Directors which oversees the work of a dental clinic, food pantry, clothes closet, day care, construction projects and ministry teams.

Last summer, our church sent nine people to serve in Bland for three days. The experience was so rewarding that we took a step of faith and reserved the week of July 15, 2007, in advance. Prayerfully consider joining the Millfield team as a family or as an individual. Each person can use their talents to help and serve others less fortunate.

Serving “the least of these” *Matthew 25:40*

local soup kitchen or clothes pantry. Clean house or rake the yard of a shut-in. Write notes of encouragement to people you know are facing difficult times. If you are not in the habit of having a time of daily prayer and scripture reading, there is no better time to start than during the days leading up to Easter. You may also want to try spiritual journaling — writing your thoughts, prayers, and reflections in a notebook or journal.

If you have never done anything like this for Lent, don’t try to do all of it in one year. Take one practice — one spiritual discipline — and give it a try. If it is something you are trying to do daily, and you miss a day, don’t give up. This isn’t a contest to see who is best. If you miss a day or two, just pick up again where you left off. The main thing to remember is that the purpose of these practices is deepen your relationship with God. It is not to show how good you are at giving up chocolate or spending a half hour in prayer each day. Take these 40 days as a time of revival — that’s a good Baptist word. Rest in God and let your spirit be renewed.

March 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 | 3 BBQ Youth Fundraiser * Movie Night “Facing the Giants” @ the Holdsworth’s |
| 4 Hospital/Sick/ Visitation Team meets after church | 5 7:30 Deacon’s Meeting | 6 | 7 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Program 7:30 Choir & Signing Practice | 8 | 9 Youth Senior High Weekend Eagle Eyrie Youth Missions Coming Alive Smithfield | 10 Sr. High Weekend Youth Mis-sions Coming Alive |
| 11 Sr. High Weekend Worship Committee meets after church | 12 | 13 | 14 7:30 Choir | 15 | 16 Youth Acquire the Fire Norfolk | 17 Youth Acquire the Fire Norfolk |
| 18 Men’s Breakfast 8:00 AM | 19 7:00 Finance Committee | 20 | 21 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Program 7:30 Choir & Signing Practice | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 7:00 PM Church wide Evening Worship Service | 26 7:00 Women of Faith | 27 7:00 VBS meeting | 28 7:30 Choir | 29 | 30 | 31 |

Training Sessions Scheduled for Ministry Teams

Training sessions for two of our deacon ministry teams have been set. Those teams are the Crisis Ministry Team and the Hospital and Illness Visitation Team. While these sessions are designed specifically help those who have volunteered for these teams, the training sessions are open to all. Anyone interested in developing the skills related to these two areas of ministry is invited to attend.

Pete Parks, emergency room chaplain at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital and former campus minister at the College of William and Mary, will lead a session for the Hospital and Illness Visitation Team on Sunday, March 4, after the morning worship service. A light lunch will be provided for those attending the workshop. The session will take about an hour, not counting the time for eating lunch. Pete has provided some material for those attending the workshop to read, preferably in advance of the presentation.

Tammy George, a pastoral counselor in Suffolk, will lead a workshop for the members of the Crisis Ministry Team on Wednesday evening, March 21, at 6:30. This is one of our regular Wednesday evening dinner and program evenings, and Tammy's presentation will be the program for that evening. Again, anyone interested in developing skills for crisis ministry is invited to attend. Tammy led a Wednesday evening series for us last winter, and we are grateful that she can be with us for this event.

A training event for the Outreach Team will be scheduled soon.

Put these sessions on your calendar so that you can enhance your personal ministry skills.

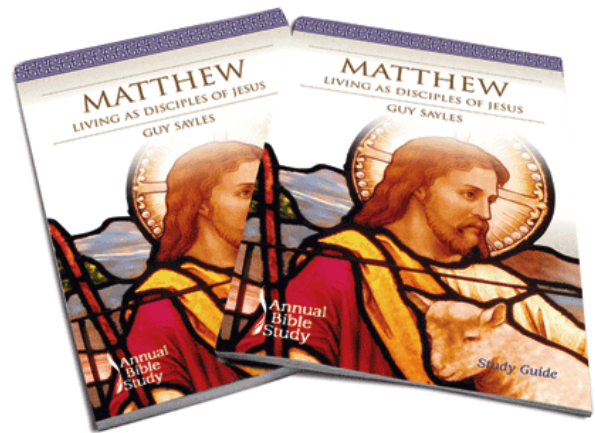
Ministry Team Training

Hospital and Illness Visitation

**Pete Parks, facilitator
Sunday, March 4
Immediately after worship**

Crisis Ministry

**Tammy George, facilitator
Wednesday, March 21
6:30 PM
(Fellowship Dinner Night)**

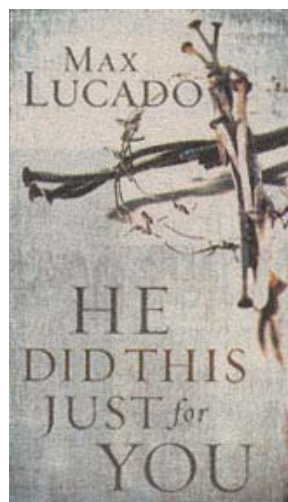


Study of the Gospel of Matthew to be Offered on Wednesday Evenings

A four-session study of the Gospel of Matthew will be presented on Wednesday evenings during the spring. The study will be taught during the program time on the Wednesdays of our Fellowship Dinners, from 6:30 to 7:20. Wellford Tiller will lead the study. The dates for the study will be March 7, April 4 & 18, and May 9.

The study will be based on the study guide *Matthew: Living as Disciples of Jesus*, by Guy Sayles, pastor of First Baptist Church in Asheville, North Carolina. Copies of the study guide will be available for \$5.00 each.

From the Library



He Did This Just for You by Max Lucado

You already know that Jesus suffered pain, humiliation, and death on the cross just for you. But do your friends and neighbors have that same assurance? This outreach edition of Max Lucado's life-changing message is priced so you can buy in bulk and give it away! Why not do it today-just for them?

Take the Plunge! Make a Splash with Jesus! Vacation Bible School June 25-29

It is that time of year again! Open your hearts, talk to God and let him guide you to make a commitment to VBS. A kick-off meeting is planned for Tuesday March 27 in the fellowship hall.

Dinner will begin at 6 pm, followed by a short meeting at 7 pm. Carol Jean Felts, director, extends an invitation to all volunteers willing to help. You will be blessed in so many ways when you work with children. Each summer, Millfield reaches out to the community by offering a week filled with fun and bible based learning activities. There is a place for you to participate, whether it be teaching, crafts, serving refreshments, recreation, music, or as a general "helper". Please come & join us on March 27!

Sunday Evening Worship Service

Sunday, February 25 marked the second of our evening worship services. The message theme, delivered by Rev. Tiller, centered on "LOVE" and its meanings for us as Christians. Brandon Atkins refreshed our souls, leading praise songs during the service. Scripture based tokens were passed out among the congregation that reiterated the evening's theme.

On March 25, we welcome Bill Dudley, worship leader from Virginia Beach Beacon Baptist Church, to lead our music. Our worship focus will be centered on the Lenten season. All ages are invited to attend.

YOUTH EVENTS

- 3 BBQ Fundraiser @ Millfield & Movie Night @ the Holdsworth's
- 4 Puppet team meets @ 5 pm, All youth supper @ 6 pm, Lighthouse @ 6:30
- 7 Youth on Mission @ 6:30 pm
- 9 -10 Youth Missions Coming Alive @ Smithfield Baptist
- 9-11 Senior High Weekend @ Eagle Eyrie
- 16-17 Acquire the Fire @ Norfolk Constant Convocation Center
- 21 Youth on Mission @ 6:30
- 25 Lighthouse @ 6:30, evening worship service @ 7 pm

*due to week end activities planned, Lighthouse will not meet on March 11th or March 18th

* The puppet team will meet only on March 4, unless otherwise announced

Contact Information

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Wakefield, VA 23888

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Web site: www.millfieldbaptist.org

Wellford Tiller, Interim Pastor

Parsonage phone: 757-859-6897

Pastor's cell phone: 434-242-7810

Millfield Baptist Church
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Wakefield, VA 23888

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

*New Sunday
Evening Worship!
Fourth Sundays*

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