

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DANVILLE

THE SPIRE

VOLUME 67 • No. 12
JULY 14, 2010

Party in the Park and Community Bible School

On Friday, July 23, a group of young (and young-at-heart) adults from Second Baptist Church, Richmond, will arrive in Danville to commence our annual week of mission work together. This is the third year that we have been privileged to play host to these friends who come to work alongside us in ministry to our community in the immediate neighborhood around the church.

The first event slated to take place is on Saturday, July 24, when we will host a "Party in the Park" at Doyle Thomas Park on Green Street. Neighbors from all over the community will come together for food, games, kids' activities, sports, and more. We have need for volunteers to assist with



setup, cleanup, serving, sharing, and being on hand to make your care known in this area of the

city. The party gets underway at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday morning and will finish by 2:00 p.m. If you can come for an hour or two to lend a hand, then come to the park on Saturday ready to be blessed.

On the morning of Sunday, July 25, our guests from Richmond will assist with serving at the Breakfast Club early that morning, and then will take part in the different components of our worship service. That afternoon they will be canvassing the neighborhood and making contacts in advance of the Community Bible School that gets underway Monday morning at 10:00 a.m.

This year our friends from Richmond will have two teams working in our area. One group will lead the Bible school in the mornings and spend their afternoons volunteering with Habitat for Humanity. Another group will spend its days doing renovation and construction work at the House of Hope. Each evening before they leave us on Thursday at lunchtime, they will use space at our church for devotions, preparations for the next day's activities, and rest.

Please be in prayer for the work that is to be done in our area over these important days of mission and ministry together. And, if you are interested in lending a hand with preparing a meal, volunteering to spend time with children and youth in our community, or working to support these projects, please contact Karen Harris at 792.1792. We have plenty of room for more hands to be put to work in God's service!

Office: 434.793.8331
Fax: 434.793.3228
www.fbcdanville.com
office@fbcdanville.com

SUNDAY, JULY 18, 2010

Short, But Not Simple

Rev. Stephen Cook

Romans 10:5-13; Isaiah 43:8-12

Anthem

"Jesus Is All the World to Me" by Patch

SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2010

Missing the Mark

Rev. Stephen Cook

2 Timothy 1:8-14; Proverbs 3:1-6

Anthem

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"
arr. Northen

EVERY MEMBER IS A MINISTER.

STEPHEN H. COOK, PASTOR

JOSHUA D. HEARNE, ASSOC. PASTOR

JOSEPH C. NORTHEN, MINISTER OF MUSIC

KATHY A. NORTHEN, ORGANIST/MUSIC ASSOC.

DEBRA PURVIS, FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

TAMMY VAUGHAN, ADMIN. ASSISTANT

SHERMAN RANSOM, SEXTON

DOT WALKER, HOUSEKEEPER

SPIRE SCHEDULE

The Spire is normally printed every two weeks. However, the next Spire will be dated August 11, 2010. Information for that Spire must be turned in or mailed to the church office no later than Friday, August 6, 2010.



Pastoral Ministries

The Bible's pages are loaded down with a cast of characters who often come across to us modern readers as downright odd. Take Hosea for instance: He could certainly never be accused of not practicing what he preached. But he took some rather extreme measures to make his message known. When he saw that his people had lost sight of God and were more interested in pursuing the things that made them the most comfortable, most relevant, and most at ease in the world around them, he decided that rather than telling them about where they were missing the mark he would show them.

Do you remember what Hosea did? He married a woman whose name was almost as unfortunate as her vocation: Gomer, a prostitute. Taking the serial cheater to be his bride, Hosea put his people on alert that his home life was just a reflection of the community's life. While Gomer was always searching for fleeting pleasure from anybody and everybody who would have her, the chosen children of God were going after their own ways, utterly disregarding the commitment to God they were supposed to be keeping.

Tales of preachers betrothed to prostitutes are not the standard fare for holy conversation, I know. But Hosea helps us grasp how communities of faith can, if we are not careful, become rather unfaithful in living up to our obligations to God while we are in search of what is most satisfying for ourselves.

Next week we welcome a group of friends from Richmond who are sacrificing time away from homes, families, and work in order to be with us in service to God and God's people. These are holy times for them to retreat from the ordinary routines of life and remind themselves of the commands to love God and neighbor.

Old preachers like Hosea challenge us all to remember what we are to be about where we are: a persistent pursuit of God and God's ways in our world. We do this in the day and time and moment in which we are living now, not in the world or country or neighborhood as it once was. Hosea, rough around the edges as he is, forces us to focus on the question of how we will live in relation to the God whose deep desire is for us to live our faith fully and wholly devoted to the One who gives us life where we are now.

Peace to you,



Music Ministries

Each week, I am grateful for those people in our church who give their time and talents to God and provide leadership in worship through music. The skill, sensitivity, and spirituality Kathy Northen shows as our organist/handbell director/youth music leader/etc. helps our church be more worshipful and inclusive, encouraging all of us to worship more effectively. Ray Robinson provides great skill at the piano bringing new life to familiar hymn tunes. Laura Lassiter and Kathy make a great team with their organ/piano duets. Each member of the Church Choir, Baptist Belles, Brass Ensemble, God's Ringers/Youth Orff Ensemble is finding a way to give expression to his/her faith through music. In doing so, each person is growing in their faith while providing worship experiences for others – a win/win situation for all of us.

One more group of people needs to be recognized as well as those already mentioned. Those of you in the congregation who are the receivers of the music presented each Sunday are also important. The attitude with which you listen and allow the music to speak to you means the musical offerings are used by God to meet your needs of the moment. Then you can respond with your own musical offerings to God in your heart and through singing the hymns. The ministers and music groups each week are prompters to help you worship God with your heart, mind, and spirit.

On Sunday, July 11, we welcomed back the Danville Junior String Quartet under the leadership of Leigh Latchum. These high school players continue to grow in their skills, and we appreciate their leadership in our worship. In August we will hear from several of our music groups as they continue to meet during the summer months.

Ring, Sing, Play for Joy,

Youth "Mystery Trip"

The youth will load into the van on Wednesday, August 4, at 2:00 p.m. and set off for a retreat somewhere where they'll need to bring a swimsuit, a sleeping bag, their own pillow, \$15 in cash, and anything else they might take on an overnight trip. Forty-eight hours later (Friday, August 6, at 2:00 p.m.), the van will roll back into the church parking lot and return the happy and tired youth to their parents. If you are a youth, make your plans now to attend by letting Joshua know that you want to go on the mystery trip.

Thank You

The family of Dorothy Comer would like to thank members of First Baptist Church for your prayers, cards and phone calls. To Stephen, Joe and Joshua, your visits made such a difference to Mother. To Mollie and Virginia, your caring visits, "ginger snaps" and "made for us" muffins did more than you'll ever know. Gary, myself and Kerry (Mother's sitter) felt so blessed and appreciative of all your acts of kindness.

Phyllis C. Beyer



Discipleship Ministries

Michael Spencer (aka, “The Internet Monk” from internetmonk.com) recently died after a short and vicious struggle with cancer. Before he died, though, he had finished his part of writing a book recently released called *Mere Churchianity*. In it, he explores what it means to “find your way back to a Jesus-shaped spirituality.” I’ve spoken with Michael and have been influenced heavily by his writing which I first found through one of his dear friends who is also my good friend. I’ve met Michael and if you can’t tell by reading what he writes, let me assure you that Michael Spencer loves Jesus and adores the work of the Kingdom of God in the world. It is a great personal loss to know that I will not again read new writing by Michael this side of Heaven but I am comforted by the wealth of writing he left behind. As we often do with writing that moves us, I feel compelled to share a small portion of his recent book *Mere Churchianity*.

“When it comes to Christianity, it’s a good idea to put adjectives on probation and admit them into active service only after they have proven they will be an asset. Why? Because dedication to the wrong adjectives has been costly to the cause of Christianity... When I talk to those who have left the church or are preparing to, I often find that it’s not the Christian faith that rings false in their ears. It’s the qualifications and conditions that are forced onto the experience of faith. The accepted adjectives send large numbers of believers in a very different direction—often out the church’s doors... For me, the real damage was done with two of the most common adjectives used by Christians. They are the ‘victorious’ Christian life and the necessity of being a ‘good’ Christian. If we believe Jesus is Lord, then isn’t the Christian life victorious by design? And what’s a good Christian? Jesus said there is none good, only the Father.”

In Christ, 

House of Hope Meal Deliveries

There are still a few slots open during the evenings of the week of July 19-23 for volunteers to deliver meals to the House of Hope. Those who participate will go to the House of Hope on Ridge Street at around 6:00 p.m. to pick up empty pans, return them to Danville Regional Medical Center, pick up the full pans of food, take them to the shelter, and assist with serving the guests their dinner. If you would like to participate in this ministry opportunity please call or email Stephen at 793.8331 or s.cook@fbcdanville.com.

Sunday Morning Fellowship

July 18: Elizabeth Compton and Anne Mason
July 25: Dot Walker
August 1: Karen Tuck

Sunday Morning Nursery Volunteers

July 18: Tom and Pam Harris
July 25: Sarah Cowan and Lyn Farley
August 1: Julie and Rachael Carter

Wednesday Evenings

Starting Wednesday, July 28, and continuing through August 25, we will resume our Wednesday night gathering with dinner in the fellowship hall at 5:30 p.m. This will be a “brown bag” supper so make sure to bring your meal with you and join in the fellowship with everybody else. After the meal, we’ll offer two classes in the 6:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. time slot. One class (in the Heritage room) will be “The Christian Calendar” with Stephen, Joshua, and Joe as teachers. The other class slot will be filled by one of five “one time” classes. Those classes are:

JULY 28

“The Celebrating Grace Hymnal”
with Joe Northen

AUGUST 4

“CSI: Church Edition”
with Chuck Vipperman

AUGUST 11

“Christian Art Through the Ages”
with Jessica Hearne

AUGUST 18

“Spending a Year Befriending Dead People”
with Joshua Hearne

AUGUST 25

“My Story” *with George Davis*

If you have any questions about the content of these classes, then don’t hesitate to ask either the teacher of the class or Joshua (793.8331 or j.hearne@fbcdanville.com) for a description or more information.

Sanctuary Flowers

July 18

The sanctuary flowers are given in loving honor of Virginia Garmon by the Philathea Class for her years of teaching class as well as her birthday on July 20.

July 25

The sanctuary flowers are given today in honor of our parents, Hilton and Eleanor Douglas, for their 64th anniversary on July 27 by their loving children—the Mills, Stewart and Meder families.

FIRST EVENTS

Take Special Note of...

SUNDAY, JULY 18, 2010

11:45 a.m. Missions Committee Meeting

MONDAY, JULY 19 - FRIDAY, JULY 23, 2010

FBC Serving Meals at House of Hope

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21, 2010

6:15 p.m. Quarterly Church Business Mtg.
7:00 p.m. August Lectors' Meeting
7:00 p.m. Nominating Committee Meeting

FRIDAY, JULY 23, 2010

Mission Team from Second BC - Richmond arrives

SATURDAY, JULY 24, 2010

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Party in the Park
(Green Street Park)

SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2010

11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Youth Luncheon

MONDAY, JULY 26 - THURSDAY, JULY 29, 2010

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Backyard VBS
(Green Street Park)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2010

10:00 a.m. Prayer Gathering
11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
2:00 p.m. Depart for Youth Mystery Trip

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 2010

12:00 p.m. Spire Information Due
2:00 p.m. Return from Youth Mystery Trip

Regular Weekly Events

SUNDAYS

(unless contradicted by special events)

7:00 - 8:00 a.m. Breakfast Club
9:30 - 10:20 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Worship
4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Youth Group
5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Youth Music
5:15 - 6:00 p.m. Brass Ensemble (adults & youth)

MONDAYS

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

WEDNESDAYS

No Wednesday Evening Activities Until July 21

THURSDAYS

4:00 p.m. Baptist Belles
7:00 p.m. Church Choir



871 Main Street
Danville, VA 24541

Non-profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Danville, VA 24541
PERMIT NO.78

Return Service Requested

OUR STEWARDSHIP

Year-to-Date Revenue (July 4)	\$202,954.10
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$241,662.75
Revenue Received (Under) Expenses	(\$38,708.65)

MINISTERS' CONTACT INFORMATION

Stephen Cook <i>s.cook@fbcdanville.com</i> (434) 489.1044	Joshua Hearne <i>j.hearne@fbcdanville.com</i> (434) 489.5064
Joe Northen <i>j.northen@fbcdanville.com</i> (434) 251.5159	