

# Third Baptist Church COURIER

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Sharing  
the Lord's Supper  
September 24 ~ 10:45 am

DON'T MISS WORSHIP AGAIN!

Each Sunday at 10:50 AM  
**WVJS 92.9 FM or**  
**WOMI 1420 AM**

Volume 65 ~ Issue 17  
September 20, 2017



## Family Picnic

Sunday  
September 24  
Yellow Creek Park  
Shelter #3

3:00 Game Time  
5:00 Time to Eat!

*More info inside!*

You are cordially invited to the  
**Pastoral Installation Service**  
of  
**Rev. Micah Spicer**  
Sunday, October 1 at 10:45 am  
Followed by a luncheon in the Fireside Room.

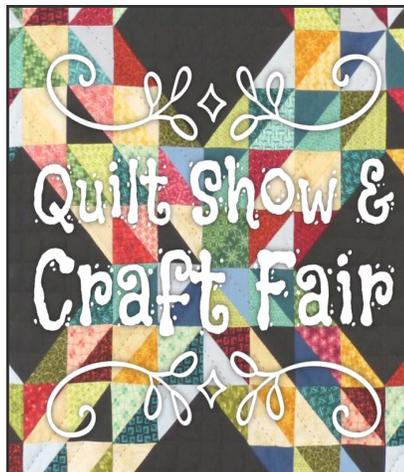
## TBC FALL HIKE

Saturday  
September 30  
1:00 PM



Meet us at Audubon State Park Nature Center & Museum in Henderson and let's go hiking! Grab your walking stick, wear comfortable shoes and bring your bottled water and let's go enjoy our beautiful fall weather!

Want to carpool with someone?  
Call Karen Grise or Jenny Lewis.



SECOND ANNUAL  
QUILT SHOW and  
CRAFT FAIR  
SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 28

If you know of someone who would like to have a booth, or would like to help with this event, contact Karen Grise, Jenny Lewis or the church office for details!

**Rev. Micah Spicer, Senior Pastor**

**David Roberson, Minister of Music**

While preparing and preaching on tasks of the church, I have had time to reflect on my life experiences with the church. When I was only a child, my parents took me to Sunday morning worship services at church. As a teenager, I made a profession of faith, was baptized, and became a member of a church. A few years later, I preached my first sermon during a Sunday morning worship service at church. As an adult, I have found my life's vocation serving the church as a pastor.

I love the church. I am thankful for the profound influence that the church has had in my life. Moreover, I am convinced that the church's best days lie ahead. From this perspective, I would like to make a couple of critical observations about the church.

**The Church is not a building.** In conversation, we usually refer to the building and its facilities a "the church." We might say, "I am going to church this morning," on Sunday when we rise. But, in reality, we are going to be attending corporate worship service with others also committed to worshipping God. It is worth noting that we read about a number of churches in the New Testament. For the most part, Christians in these faith communities worshiped in people's houses, not building designated by markers and signs that said "Third Baptist Church of Jerusalem."

**The church is a community of believers.** In the Gospels, we read about Jesus establishing a community of disciples - women and men who devoted themselves to worshipping God and following Christ's commandments. These followers were diverse, both socially and ethnically. Likewise, we are diverse. We have unique hobbies root, for different sports teams, and come from a wide array of backgrounds. Nonetheless, we, the people, are the church. We are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that we may proclaim the excellences of him who called us out of darkness into marvelous light."

(1 Peter 2:9)

*"Christmas time is here  
Happiness and cheer  
Fun for all that children call  
Their favorite time of the year"*

So there's your first Christmas carol for the year!! No, I'm not going crazy. To a church musician late summer and early fall is the time to select Christmas music. I've been listening and ordering and the choir will begin practicing for Christmas beginning this Wednesday night. Yes that's right, we'll be singing Christmas music in choir practice for the next 3 months! We always try to work on about 5 weeks of music each Wednesday. If you add six or seven Christmas songs to the mix you have to start early to get them all learned and rehearsed by December 17th, the day we will lead morning worship. (By the way, several of our songs will be accompanied by a string quartet. It should be lovely!) December 17th will be an extremely busy day for our choir. Not only will we lead the morning worship service but we will sing a couple of songs earlier that morning with First Christian Church for the Symphony Sunday worship service. Gonna be some tired singers that day!

I want to invite you to consider being a part of our choir. Now is the perfect time to join as we begin preparing for Christmas. We don't audition, we don't check your voice or put you on probation till we're sure you can sing. We invite anyone who enjoys music to show up on Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. We work hard but we have a great time. Please consider being a part of the Sanctuary Choir!

**Jan Lampkin, Minister to Children**

*"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 2:6*

**THE LITTLE RED BOX!**

Our grandson gave us a little red box a few years ago and asked us to move it to different places in the house. I would move the little red box from one room to another, one window sill to another, and so forth. I actually have had guests ask me what was in the box. In the box is a silver cross. Jackson told us that the box would offer us an opportunity to share Jesus Christ with others when we were asked about its contents. Jackson at his young age was 'right on.' I have had opportunities to reveal the contents of the box. I have also had opportunities to share Jesus Christ and the story of salvation that that the cross in the little red box

represents. Of course, the fact that a young child and our grandson gave it to us made us so proud. We are so thankful that our grandchildren are being raised in Christian homes and that Jesus Christ is the center of their families.

The little red box often reminds me to keep my eyes on Jesus. I have actually moved the little red box in a room where I might be while feeling stressed or worried or having a sleepless night. I remember how much Jesus Christ has done for me and continues to bless me everyday. I think about that tiny silver cross in the little red box and how BIG the sacrifice was for me to have salvation for eternity.

I am constantly reminded of our TBC children and their families and how much the willingness of our volunteers has given them chances and opportunities to know Jesus Christ and to know that he loves them and watches over them. I could share story after story of what these children have experienced and realized about the cross and the ultimate sacrifice it represents to them. We are having a great number of children attend our Sunday and Wednesday activities, praying, reading the Bible and enjoying fellowship together. I think I will move the little red box in our living room today. Thank you Jackson for your precious soul and for making me 'hold on' and remember the cross.

**Court Lewis**  
*Interim Youth Minister*

I watched a TV show about college the other day, and the first question one of the students asked on the show was, "What's a guy gotta do to get a 'C' around here?" As a teacher, I often struggle when my students purposely don't do the work required to get an 'A', especially when they are paying college students. It took me several semesters to realize that some students simply have a different definition of 'success' than me. Many want 'A's, but just as many are happy with 'C's or 'D's. With this little bit of knowledge, I came to understand that not only must I teach the material, but I often have to teach students how to rethink 'success.' This is a lesson that we as individuals and as church-goers should consider with great care.

Since you don't get grades or a diploma for attending Sunday School or Wednesday night activities, what would count as success? You can count the numbers, and it would be hard to say we aren't successful. We have 30-50 youth on Wednesdays and 21 last Sunday. You might try to guess who will become a minister or church leader, but that's notoriously difficult: a student who is passionate about Christ in a youth group might

abandon the church after High School; while a youth who seemingly doesn't care a thing about church, might go to seminary.

There are merits to both types of success, but for me, I decided to define 'success' in terms of how well the youth apply the truths contained within the Bible to every aspect of their lives. I, then, chose two measures of success. First, I developed a curriculum to promote student engagement with the end goal of creating a class (called the Manolo Class, which I'll talk about in a future article) dedicated to actively working on projects to transform the church and our community. To be a part of the class you must prove that you want and deserve to be part of it, by carrying out certain activities (e.g. bringing your Bible and using it, being a leader by setting an example, and getting to know your church community better). Second, I wanted to see Third's congregation take a more active role in transforming the lives of our youth.

I'm happy to say that, so far, both the youth and the congregation have risen to the challenge, and what I've seen so far makes me feel like we're on the right track. I hesitate to say it's a success, because it's too early and it sounds too final. Living and learning is a process, and what we're trying to do with the youth is no different. In

the next few weeks, the Manolo Class will start its work, and thanks to the Wednesday night volunteers (Ron, Charlotte, Roy, Sarah, Curtis, Jenny, and I hope, more to come), I will be able to institute Phase II of my plan, which is to create a second class working in tandem with Manolo. Of course, what I'm doing on Sundays and Wednesdays would be impossible without the support of so many more of you who have stepped in to provide food, support, and to offer prayers and words of encouragement. Thank you!

So as you enjoy the first days of Fall, here are a few challenges. Consider how you define 'success' in your personal life, for the church, even for the youth. Don't be surprised if some of the youth start asking you questions about who you are and your life, and don't be afraid to ask them questions back. Don't be afraid to invite a youth (or two) to come sit with you, or you go sit with them. Sure, they might look at you funny, and be confused why you care, but there's no better way to start a lifelong relationship, like the one Rev. Spicer discussed on Sunday, than by taking an interest in the life of someone who needs you. A few minutes out of your life can make a lifetime's difference in someone else's life.

**Sunday, September 24**  
**Yellow Creek Park Shelter #3**  
**3:00 Game Time**  
**5:00 PM Meal is Served**

**Church  
Picnic**



**Potluck Picnic Sides**

**If your name begins with:**

**A - H: Bring desserts**

**I - O: Bring Vegetables**

**P - Z: Bring Salads / Chips**

**We are expecting a good crowd,  
so plan on bringing extras!**

**Joe Bob Pierce, *Formations***

I know that I make a lot of jokes about our bi-monthly business meetings here at the church. All of us who are members of Baptist churches probably have some 'war story' about a business meeting in a Baptist church somewhere in the past that we attended (or heard about) that turned into an unpleasant experience, resulting in harsh words and hurt feelings. BUT, I still want you to consider coming to a Third Baptist business meeting. We have a good spirit and there is a lot of conversation and unity when we meet. Plus, there are some benefits to attending our business meetings!

First of all, you get to hear leaders from our congregation make reports about their work.

Second, business meeting is a good way to find out what is happening in the church that you otherwise wouldn't know about.

Third, you will learn how we are using our resources to do ministry, where our money goes, and how healthy we are financially (and spiritually, too, I think!)

Our next business meeting is November 12th at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. I hope you will consider attending and learning more about our church and our church business!

# What's Happening

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

9:00 AM Atrium Social  
9:30 AM Sunday School  
10:45 AM Morning Worship  
Church Picnic-Yellow Creek Park Shelter 3  
3:00 PM Games Begin  
5:00 PM Meal is Served

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

6:00 PM OCTC Rehearsal

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

5:00 PM KYC Rehearsal

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

5:00 PM Kids/Youth Meal  
5:30 PM Missions & Music  
6:00 PM Prayer Meeting  
6:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

4:00 PM Organization Dev. Team Mtg.  
5:00 PM Community Meal

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

4:30 PM Hicks/Simmons Rehearsal

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

9:00 AM Atrium Social  
9:30 AM Sunday School  
10:45 AM Morning Worship  
Pastoral Installation Service  
12:00 PM Church Luncheon, FSR  
4:30 PM Hicks/Simmons Wedding

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

6:00 PM Encore! Musicals Rehearsals  
7:00 PM OCTC Rehearsal

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

5:00 PM KYC Rehearsal  
6:00 PM Encore! Musicals Rehearsal

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

8:30 AM Step Aerobics  
5:00 PM Kids/Youth Meal  
5:30 PM Missions & Music  
6:00 PM Prayer Meeting  
6:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal  
7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

5:00 PM Community Meal  
6:00 PM Encore! Musicals Rehearsals

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

9:00 AM Atrium Social  
9:30 AM Sunday School  
10:45 AM Morning Worship  
12:00 PM Stewardship Finance Mtg.  
5:00 PM Deacons Meeting



Join us for Micah's sermon series:

## Church Tasks

September 24: Evangelism  
October 1: Installation Service  
October 8: Worship

### SYMPATHY

The Church expresses its deepest love and sympathy to:  
*Nancy Gordon and her family* in the loss of her husband, Jim Gordon.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Please be in prayer for those who have or are in the hospital: Wendell Walker; Rozie Hernandez' mother, Pamela Garcia; Becky Mendez; and Eddie Bandy.

### DEACON INFORMATION

#### September 24

John Lampkin, Judy Dixon

#### Hope and Harvest Team

Larry Catron, Lee Kincaid

#### October 1

Court Lewis, Bill Genet

#### Hope and Harvest Team

Judy Dixon, Cissy Bishop

### PRESCHOOL PRAISE

#### September 24

John & Jan Lampkin

#### October 1

Jan Lampkin, Janice Raby

### ATRIUM SOCIAL

September 24: Women of Faith

October 1: Another Look

# fall festival Wednesday October 25

Children and parents alike come out for this fun, safe and exciting evening! Food, games, prizes, candy, cake walk - who wouldn't want to be here?

Jan has already started collecting candy! Next time you are at the store, pick up a bag or two and bring it to the atrium desk anytime.

