

The Caller

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Today's Encouraging Word

By Bob Hylton

Pray for your "Spiritual Blacksmith" 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

On the Blue Ridge Parkway each spring the blacksmith shop will open at Mabry Mill. The blacksmith will present a live demonstration of early American metal craft. A blacksmith is someone who is trained and skilled for working with raw metal and fire. The blacksmith is an artisan who knows how to form and shape hot molten metal into useful tools and powerful weapons.

Each Sunday morning a "spiritual blacksmith" stands to preach God's Word. That spiritual blacksmith is an artisan, trained and skilled for working with and delivering God's Word. Each Sunday morning a spiritual blacksmith will deliver a message that has been formed and shaped to bring healing to our hurting hearts, challenge to our wayward lives and encouragement to our needy souls. We call these spiritual blacksmiths - pastors!

I am inviting you to join me in praying for God's "spiritual blacksmiths" because the enemy is after them. Yes, there is an enemy who is constantly attacking the Word of God and who is also seeking to silence or remove the spiritual blacksmiths of this world. If the enemy can get rid of them - the battle is over.

We need to join together in prayer and support for God's blacksmiths! Together with the fire of the Holy Spirit they forge the raw material of God's Word into powerful tools to shape and mold us, God's people, into the image of Christ. They seek to equip us for fruitful lives and for spiritual warfare against ever adversary in our lives. We are all called to be strong in the Word of God and His Word is our primary weapon against the enemy. But we cannot fight the enemy alone - we must do it together!

So, as the battle with the enemy wages, join me in praying for the protection of God's "blacksmiths", even as we submit to being shaped into the image of Christ our Lord through the delivery of God's powerful Word. And that's today's encouraging word!

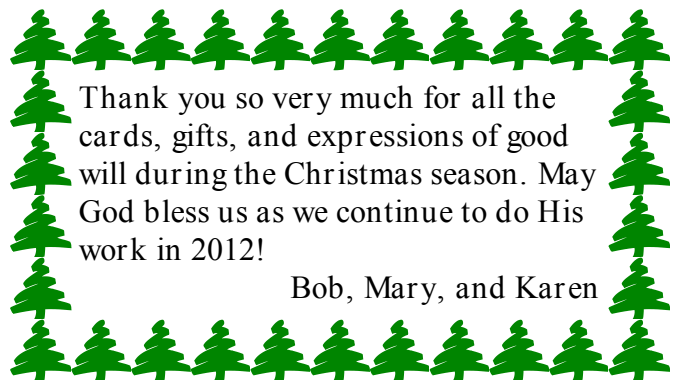
Volunteer Needed

Volunteer needed to help with preparation of the Caller each month. Experience with MS Word or MS Publisher and the Internet is required. You may work at home. If you are interested, please let us know by calling 276-638-2951 or email hcbaptists@hotmail.com.

*"Dear Helpful Friends,
There has been an outpouring of love and support since our school burned. We thank you so much for the supplies/money that you donated to our school to provide necessary items that were so desperately needed for a child or teacher. There was so much we needed, and your generous gifts have helped us more than you will ever know.*

God has blessed us through the kindnesses and generosity of so many of His wonderful people. Your support has helped in giving us hope as we continue educating our students."

*May God Bless You,
Jeannie King, Principal
Meadows of Dan Elementary*



Thank you so very much for all the cards, gifts, and expressions of good will during the Christmas season. May God bless us as we continue to do His work in 2012!

Bob, Mary, and Karen



We still have coats and blankets available at the HCBA office for those who are in need. Adult sizes Medium-XXL, Child's sizes 10/12 and 14/16. Blankets are twin/full size. Call 638-2951 for more information.

Church News

AXTON ... On December 6th, the Senior Adults went on their annual trip to see the Christmas lights in Clemmons, N. Carolina. We had a Christmas Brunch after the morning service on December 11th. The Youth went Christmas Caroling on December 16th. And the Children's Dept. went to Owens Farm on December 17th to see the lights and a live nativity scene.

BASSETT, FIRST ... Ladies Shawl Ministry have knitted 416 shawls/toboggans/blankets and 280 hats/scarves/slippers over the past year for shut-ins. Joyful Sounds concert netted \$2,487. These funds were used to provide food boxes for 27 families including 40 children. January 26 Baptismal Service for two young people, followed by a soup and sandwich lunch.

COLLINSVILLE, FIRST ... Our youth hosted a youth revival on January 22-24th. We joined the YMCA to provide a community meal on January 28th. This will be done once a month the last Saturday in the month starting at 5:30 housed by the YMCA. Our youth are going skiing at Winterplace on Feb. 3-5th. We will be having a Super Bowl party on Feb. 5th at the YMCA for the youth. The youth will be making a college visit to Liberty University Feb. 16-18th.

FORT TRIAL ... Our Upward Basketball season starts with our first game on January 21 and will continue every Saturday until March 10 at 8 am until 6 pm. Our Winter Fellowship is planned for February 12 at 6 pm. The Youth Super Bowl fellowship will be on February 5. For our Praise report: Our Lottie Moon offering goal was \$15,000 but we received a total of \$16,716.

FULLER MEMORIAL ... This new year, Fuller Memorial Baptist Church has started a community door-to-door ministry inviting all to our church and providing each family a DVD on the life of Jesus. January 18, Golden Jewels will host a Senior Adult Spaghetti luncheon - devotion 11:30 A. M.; lunch 12:00 Noon; fellowship 1:00 P. M.; Family Night 7:00 P. M. We look forward to serving the Lord with even more purpose and zeal this new year.

HILLCREST ... A Welcome Reception was held January 22 for our new pastor & wife, Morgan & Dorothea Browning. In FEBRUARY: AWANA Theme Nites: Hearts Nite, Valentine Celebration, Hershey's Kiss Nite, Red Nite; 4th Youth Winter Jam, Greensboro, NC; 5th Youth Super Bowl Outreach, 4:30 pm; 9th Friendship Club Lunch, 12:00 noon; 24th - 25th Youth Lock-In; 27th Baptist Men's Day, with breakfast at the church, 8:00 am, the men are in charge of both services

MARTINSVILLE, FIRST ... Feb 5-Soup-er Bowl Sunday, Men's dessert contest. Feb 6-WMU meeting, Cathy Carter speaking on Christian aspects of Mardi Gras. Church wide project is collecting mittens and hats for school children. Feb 18-Newspaper recycling. Feb 19-Deacon's coffee house at 9:00am. Feb 28-Senior Adults go to Virginia Home.

MCCABE ... Several of McCabe's members attended the recent VBS workshop at Ridgecrest. A "Deacon & Wives Dinner" was held at McCabe on January 14th. Missionaries, Jerry & Cathy Parker, spoke on January 15th. Our Winter Bible Study on the book of Ecclesiastes started on January 29th. This Bible study will be on Sunday nights at 6:00 p.m. thru February 19th. We are supporting Grace Network this quarter by donating boxes of pudding.

NEW VISION ... On Saturday, March 3rd, the WMU will be sponsoring a spaghetti dinner at the Church. It will start at 4:00 and will be dine in or carry out. The meal will cost \$6.00 per person and consist of spaghetti, salad, bread, dessert and soft drink. Come out and join us for a great meal and fellowship.

OAK LEVEL ... Dec. 4, & Dec. 11, Cantata with Fieldale Baptist with refreshment. Dec. 18, Angel Tree. Dec. 18, Christmas Play presented by our Youth with refreshments. Dec. 18, Fruit Bag for all. Dec. 21, Youth Christmas Caroling. Feb. 5, Chili Super Bowl lunch following morning worship. All are invited to come and enjoy the fellowship

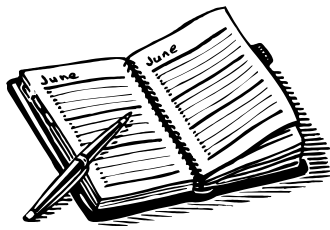
ORCHARD DRIVE ... WOM met on Jan. 16, Jan. 31 Community Meal sponsored by Social Committee, New Bible Study group meeting on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm on Randy Alcorn book "Heaven", youth to attend Winter Jam in Greensboro, NC February 5, February 19 Youth to sponsor Valentine Meal after morning worship service.

POCAHONTAS BASSETT ... The Christmas Pickers & Fiddlers Fest in Dec. well received. Regular meeting second Sat. each month. at 10 a.m. On Jan. 1, George Hearn was elected by the church as Minister of Music Emeritus. He will retire at the end of Feb. The After-School program for grades 1 - 4 at Campbell Ct. School started Jan. 10 - good attendance and will continue each Tues

STARLING AVENUE ... Dec 4-Youth pancake breakfast fundraiser to raise money for mission trip. Dec 6-Adult Fellowship Christmas Party at Dutch Inn. Dec 18-10:00 AM service of Lessons and Carols by Adult Choir. Dec 24-Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. During December, members participated in a mission books project for Spanish speaking immigrant families in Virginia.

TRINITY ... Jan 29-Baptist Men's Day with men's choir leading in worship. Jim Stinnet will speak. Feb 14-Sweetheart Banquet at Bassett Country Club. Feb 19-Baptist Women's Day with Sandra Ramsey, guest speaker.

VILLA HEIGHTS ... Our youth will be doing a spaghetti dinner fundraiser on Feb 12 to raise money for upcoming activities. We will be celebrating Baptist Women Day on Feb 19 during our morning worship service.



Calendar of Events

February Birthdays

- 1 Windell Patterson, retired minister
- 1 Patsy Morris, secretary, Orchard Drive
- 5 Morgan Browning, pastor, Hillcrest
- 14 Renee Fulcher, financial sec., Martinsville, First
- 19 G.H. Vaughan, pastor, Blackberry

February Anniversaries

- 1 Dennis Wingate, pastor, Grace, 7 yrs.
- 1 Lewis Harris, pastor, McCabe Memorial, 12 yrs.
- 21 Renee Fulcher, financial sec., Martinsville, First, 13 yrs.
- 28 Patsy Morris, secretary, Orchard Drive, 4 yrs..



February Calendar

- 12-19 **WMU Focus Week**
- 15 **News for the Caller** due in Association office
- 21 Ministerial Association, 10:30 am
- 21 Baptist Extension Board Annual Meeting, Virginia Baptist Resource Center, Richmond
- 29 Tax & Compensation Planning Seminar, 9AM-Noon, Fairystone Bapt Church, Stuart

Raceway Ministries Weekend At Martinsville Speedway

Saturday, March 31, 2012, Kroger 250, Truck Race
Sunday, April 1, 2012, Goody's Fast Pain Relief 500

Raceway Ministries needs volunteers to provide and distribute refreshments, hand out gospel tracts, drive handicapped shuttles, and PRAY at the upcoming Race Weekend events. If you can help, call the HCBA at 638-2951.



Community Pre-Easter Service

Sunday, March 18, 2012
4:00 PM

St. Paul High Street Baptist Church
401 Fayette Street, Martinsville

Speaker: Dr. Bill Leonard

Founding Dean & Professor of Church History
Wake Forest University School of Divinity

**Sponsored by Martinsville/Henry County
Ministerial Association**

Looking Ahead

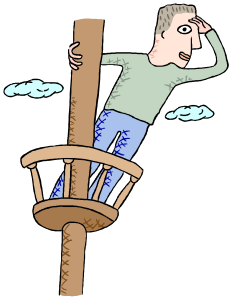
WMU Annual Meeting
April 10, 2012
6:30 PM

Villa Heights Baptist Church

Executive Committee Meeting
April 19, 2012
7:00 PM
HCBA Office

Senior Adults Meeting
April 26, 2012
12:00 PM
First Baptist, Martinsville

VBS Clinic
April 26, 2012
7:00 PM
Mount Vernon Baptist Church



State and National Conferences

Tax & Compensation Planning Seminars
Feb 29, 2012
Fairystone Baptist Church, Stuart, VA

March 1, 2012
Melrose Baptist Church, Roanoke, VA

VA Baptist 21-C Conference
Vision-casting, evangelism and leadership-equipping
For church staff and lay leaders
March 16-17, 2012
First Baptist Church, Alexandria, VA

National Bi-Vocational Conference
April 19-22, 2012
Little Rock, AK
Contact Rev. Darrell Fletcher for details
888.674.4373
Darrell.fletcher@vbmb.org

**For more info, contact the VA Baptist Resource Center
800.255.2428. or visit www.vbmb.org**

News for the March Issue of the Caller is due February 15th.

HCBA Monthly Financial Report November 2011

Receipts:

Church Contributions	\$9,681.18
Interest	<u>\$1.13</u>
Total Receipts:	\$9,682.31
Total Expenditures:	\$7,636.60
Operating Balance:	\$76,025.27

HCBA Monthly Financial Report December 2011

Receipts:

Church Contributions	\$8,140.38
Reimbursements	\$41.39
Interest	<u>\$1.17</u>
Total Receipts:	\$8,182.94
Total Expenditures:	\$8,185.23
Operating Balance:	\$75,981.59

Music Available

First Baptist Church of Collinsville has music they would like to donate to anyone who is interested. Both sheet music and booklets are available. If you are interested, please call the church at 276-647-3774.

Sympathy & Understanding

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Rev. Warren Lowery, who died on Dec 31, 2011. He was the Associate Pastor of Lone Oak Baptist Church, and father of Rev. Palmer Lowery, Pastor. Please be in prayer for them in the difficult days ahead.

Senior Adults

Special thanks goes out to Kearfott Memorial for being such gracious hosts at our January meeting. Our next meeting in April will be at First Baptist Church, Martinsville. Stay warm this winter and wish for a beautiful snow-one of God's blessings.



Welcome

We extend a warm welcome to **Dr. Morgan Browning**, who has been called as Pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church. Morgan and his wife, Dorothea, began their ministry at Hillcrest on January 8, 2012. He has served churches in Missouri, Texas, and New Mexico, and comes to our association from the First Baptist Church in McAllen, TX. He received his Master of Divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and his Doctor of Ministry from Luther Rice Seminary in 1988. After meeting on a mission trip to Mexico, Pastor Morgan and Dorothea Turner, who were both widowed, married in 2010. Between them, they have four sons, one daughter, and 12 grandchildren.

We also welcome **Mrs. Ruby Huff**, who is now serving as Assistant Secretary at First Baptist, Collinsville. Before coming to FBCC Ruby was the Receptionist/Dental Assistant for Dr. Ross F. Gale, DDS in Collinsville for over 31 years. She and her husband, Maynard, live in Patrick Springs and attend Pleasant View Baptist Church.

Welcome to both of you...we look forward to many years of ministry together!

Position available

Executive Director,

Grace Network of Martinsville and Henry County, Inc.

Call Grace at 276-638-8500 for information about job requirements

TO APPLY: Send cover letter and resume with contact information for three or more references to Search Committee, Grace Network, PO Box 3902, Martinsville VA 24115.

DEADLINE: Applications must be postmarked by **February 29, 2012.**