

June 29, 2009

**Minister on Call**

July 3—5  
Richard Childress  
650-4701

July 10—12  
Steve Gibson  
642-5626

July 17—19  
Richard Childress  
650-4701

July 24—26  
Richard Childress  
650-4701

July 31—August 2  
Sharon James  
617-6628

Dear Good Friends in Christ,

By now you have heard the news of my resignation and probably from several different sources. I had hoped to share that news with you in person, but I'm finding that in this internet age news travels faster than ever. I hope you will forgive the impersonal nature of this letter.

It's true. I have accepted a call from the New Hope Baptist Church of Raleigh, North Carolina. I will begin there on August 16. My last Sunday here will be July 26, giving me some time to take a few deep breaths before beginning my next assignment.

Please know that this decision comes only after long months of soul searching prayer, and that my emotions are mixed. While I have a sense of joy and anticipation about the new assignment in Raleigh, I grieve the thought of leaving this church and a group of people I have come to love dearly. I don't think I could do it if I didn't have a clear sense of God's guidance in this decision.

When I came to Franklin Baptist six years ago, I came with the conviction that this was a good church with a great future. I still believe that! Please don't let my departure slow the momentum or weaken the resolve of a church determined to fulfill its mission. As our vision statement puts it "every member a minister." I am counting on every member to be engaged in ministry that impacts the neighborhood, the city, the nation, and the world, but especially in these days to be engaged in ministry that encourages and builds up this church and keeps it strong for the challenges of the future.

Franklin Baptist Church has been in the heart of this community 138 years; it has survived the transition of 14 previous pastors; the departure of pastor number 15 will not be the end of the story. God is more faithful than that and God's faithfulness can be trusted especially in times like these.

Know that my prayers are with each of you, and with this remarkable church.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Richard Childress



# Music Notes

**Many thanks for a job well-done!** Many people worked extremely hard to host the youth choir from First Baptist, Asheville, NC. **Thank you** to all who baked brownies (we had a large box of brownies to send with the group Tuesday morning), to all who opened their homes and extended that famous Franklin Baptist hospitality, to the ushers for passing out programs, to the church staff who diligently provided details behind the scenes, to those who cooked and served dinner for our guests and to those in attendance at the concert that were rewarded by music that both moved and challenged us. Once again, I say thank you to the Franklin Baptist Family for your hard work in hosting the Asheville Choir.

**The Chancel Choir** will take their vacation during July and will enjoy worshipping with their families. The following soloists are scheduled to sing or play in July.

- 5 Shirley Pope, soloist
- 12 Britt Culpepper, trumpet
- 19 Melody Tayloe, soloist
- 26 Tim Harcum, soloist; Chancel Choir (In appreciation to Richard for his ministry to Franklin Baptist Church)

**Music Camp** is fast approaching- July 12-17. (We depart at 3:00 pm on Sunday and return between 5:00 and 6:00 on Friday.) Those attending music camp are Allie Best, Cody Billups, Katelin Belcher, Angela Bird, Grace Kreider, Hannah Kreider, Skylar Princiotta, Clayton Turner, Trina Best, and Steve Gibson.

Grace and Peace:  
Steve

## HYMN SURVEY



Please fill in the hymn name and number (if known) for each hymn.

Hymn Name

Number

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_



## Prayer Concerns

**Jim Barnes**, SMH, 100 Fairview Drive, Franklin 23851  
**Elsie Burton**, 1207 Carrsville Hwy, 17D, Franklin 23851  
**Alma Duck**, SMH, 100 Fairview Drive, Franklin 23851  
**Susie Eason**, SMH, 100 Fairview Drive 23851  
**Everett Spivey**, 26612 Dogwood Bend Road, Franklin 23851

## Congratulations

to Eliza Peak who graduated from Nansemond Suffolk Academy on June 5. Eliza is the daughter of Dan and Lucy Peak and will be attending University of Virginia.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- Rob and Linda Carter (31068 Country Club Road, Franklin) who joined by transfer of letter from Hunterdale Christian Church on June 7.
- Mary K. Worrell Nichols (28523 Bethany School Road, Franklin) who joined by profession of faith and was baptized on June 14.
- Mary Rouse (236 Carrie Drive, Franklin) who joined by transfer of letter from Redeemer Lutheran Church in Lebanon, Connecticut, on June 14.
- Chelsea Welch and Jared Rouse (236 Carrie Drive, Franklin) who joined on June 14 by profession of faith and baptism (to be scheduled).
- Rebekah Skowronski (39 Crescent Drive, Franklin) who joined on June 14 by profession of faith and baptism (to be scheduled)



## Thank you!

Many thanks to all of those who assisted in so many ways to make this year's Vacation Bible School an enjoyable and learning experience for our church and community children. Ninety-one children and 73 adults registered for the week. The average daily attendance for children was 74 and adults 69.



**American Red Cross**

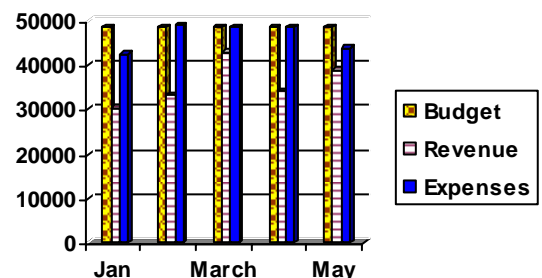
The Franklin Community Blood Drive, sponsored by the Franklin Kiwanis, will be in the fellowship hall on Tuesday, July 7, from noon to 5:30 PM.

## Save the Date

Sunday School Promotion Sunday  
 August 30  
 breakfast @ 9:30 am  
 followed by promotion activities

### Budget Report May 2009

Annual Budget Amount	\$596,741.00
Monthly Budget Amount	49,728.42
May Receipts	38,968.21
May Expenditures	42,035.51
Net Operating Total	(\$ 3,067.30)
Non-Budget Expenses	1,918.84
Total Cost of Operating	(\$ 4,986.14)
YTD Cost of Operating	(\$53,252.97)



## Franklin Baptist Church

### The Messenger

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**FRANKLIN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 208 North High Street  
 Franklin, VA 23851  
 Telephone: 757-562-5135  
 Fax: 757-569-8547  
 E-mail: [info@franklinbaptist.org](mailto:info@franklinbaptist.org)  
 Web Site: [www.franklinbaptist.org](http://www.franklinbaptist.org)  
**OUR CHURCH STAFF**

A. Richard Childress ..... Pastor  
 Sharon E. James ..... Minister of Education  
 Steven R. Gibson ..... Minister of Music  
 Carolyn Whitley ..... Office Manager  
 Gerry Lewis ..... Financial Secretary  
 Karen Causey ..... Office Assistant  
 Phyllis Drewry ..... Childcare  
 Joe Benn ..... Building Supervisor  
 Kentrell Pope ..... Building Assistant

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**Every Member A Minister**

**Rev. Todd Higginson**, Pastor of Reynoldson Baptist Church and former Resident Ministry Intern at our church will be guest speaker at the Senior Citizens meeting on Thursday, July 23. Guests are invited. The meeting is held in the fellowship hall beginning at 10:00 AM. For more information, call Avis Shockley (562-3848).

## For the Records

### ATTENDANCE

#### May 31

Bible Study.....139  
 Worship.....200

#### June 7

Bible Study.....141  
 Worship.....209

#### June 14

Bible Study.....145  
 Worship.....214

#### June 21

Bible Study.....154  
 Worship.....203

#### June 28

Bible Study.....128  
 Worship.....189

### DEACONS SERVING

#### July 5

Greeters.....Trina Stout  
 .....Wade Wright  
 Coffee...Christian Men's Bible Class

#### July 12

Greeters.....Rich Rodgers  
 .....Billie Turner  
 Coffee...Christian Men's Bible Class

#### July 19

Greeters.....Carolyn Crowder  
 .....Kenneth Gay  
 Coffee.....Faithful Workers Class

#### July 26

Greeters.....Beth Ellington  
 .....Gerry Lewis  
 Coffee.....Faithful Workers Class

## Extended Session

### JULY 5

Infants.....Kristen and Travis Felts  
 2&3 Year Olds.....Kendall, Kim, and Kendra Edwards  
 4&5 Year Olds.....Alan Wright

### JULY 12

Infants.....Pam and Doug Story  
 2&3 Year.....David and Shara Pearce  
 4&5 Year Olds.....Jenna Story

### JULY 19

Infants.....Kim and Oliver Fresen  
 2&3 Year Olds.....Nancy Hopkins and Linda Burkett  
 4&5 Year Olds.....Davis Moore

### JULY 26

Infants.....Bobbi and Jim Schuermann  
 2&3 Year Olds.....Kim and Ryan Petrasek  
 4&5 Year Olds.....Grace Kreider