



## THE LORD'S TEAM



Bob was caught up in the spirit where he and the Lord stood by to observe a baseball game. The Lord's team was playing Satan's team. The Lord's team was at bat, the score was tied zero to zero, and it was the bottom of the NINTH inning with two outs.

They continued to watch as a batter stepped up to the plate whose name was Love. Love swung at the first pitch and hit a single, because Love never fails. The next batter was named Faith, who also got a single because Faith works with Love. The next batter up was named Godly wisdom.

Satan wound up and threw the first pitch; Godly Wisdom looked it over and let it pass, because Godly Wisdom does not swing at Satan's pitches. Ball one. Three more pitches and Godly Wisdom walked, because Godly wisdom never swings at Satan's throws. The bases were loaded.

The Lord then turned to Bob and told him He was now going to bring in His star player. Up to the plate stepped Grace. Bob said he sure did not look like much! Satan's whole team relaxed when they saw Grace. Thinking he had won the game, Satan wound up and fired his first pitch. To the shock of everyone, Grace hit the ball harder than anyone had ever seen. But Satan was not worried; his center fielder, the Prince of the air, let very few get by. He went up for the ball, but it went right through his glove, hit him on the head and sent him crashing on the ground; then it continued over the fence for a home run!

The Lord's team won. The Lord then asked Bob if he knew why Love, Faith, and Godly Wisdom could get on base but could not win the game. Bob answered that he did not know why. The Lord explained, "If your love, faith and wisdom had won the game you would think you had done it by yourself. Love, faith and wisdom will get you on base, but only My grace can get you home.

Romans 3:22-24

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the following couples on their anniversaries:

Bob & Connie Forand – May 17<sup>th</sup>

Leslie & Dottie Lee – May 18<sup>th</sup>

Bobby & Jeanette Blake – May 19<sup>th</sup>

Harvey & Sandy Carter – May 23<sup>rd</sup>

Blaine & Anita Denius – May 30<sup>th</sup>

Bennie & Shalom Daniels are celebrating a special anniversary today, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. It's the anniversary of the day they officially became mother and daughter!

## ANGEL FOOD

Ordering information for the Angel Food program - The order deadline for Topsail Baptist Church is May 5th. The deadline for Manhollow Missionary Baptist Church is May 7th and the deadline for Isle of Topsail Church is May 8th. Isle of Topsail has moved and is now located at 110 North New River Drive in Surf City (behind Wings and Dairy Queen). May's menu is posted on the bulletin board located in the Sunday School hallway. Please note that you can place your order on-line & pay with a debit or credit card. Also, the Angel Food program accepts food stamps.

## PENNY CRUSADE

May is the final month in our Penny Crusade efforts. For the month of May we are asking each person of the church to make a pledge of sacrifice and faith of \$5 a week for Penny Crusade. Every sacrifice we make will make a difference in the lives of others.

If you have ideas, suggestions or articles for the next newsletter, please give them to Shannon Sessions.

The next newsletter will be available June 6, 2010

## ECHOES FROM BLAKE'S CHAPEL

MAY 2010



### I Just Don't Like Change!

That statement is at best partially true. Some changes we really do like. Let me give you some examples. Do you have a rotary dial phone or a cordless phone? For that matter, do you have a cell phone? Why? Do you have an old black and white television or a flat screen color television? Do you have a phonograph or a CD player? Do you have an old fashion perk coffee pot that you put on the stove or do you have an automatic coffee machine? Do you have a microwave? Do you wear the same style clothes you did twenty or thirty years ago? Or ladies, do you have the same hairstyle you did twenty or thirty years ago? We tend to keep up with the times.

The church is not immune to change. It is said that the church on a whole tends to run ten to fifteen years behind the culture. It is a constant challenge for the church to be relevant. I am not talking about compromising the message of the church. That never (absolutely) changes. We are sinners in need of a savior. Christ is the savior who was born of the virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, died on the cross for our sins, was raised from the dead, achieving victory over the power of sin and death, Christ ascended back to the Father and He is coming again. We must repent of our sin and receive Christ.

Consider what the Apostle Paul said: "**1 Corinthians 9:19-23 (NIV)** <sup>19</sup>Though I am free and belong to no man, I make

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myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. <sup>20</sup>To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. <sup>21</sup>To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. <sup>22</sup>To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some. <sup>23</sup>I do all this for the sake of the gospel that I may share in its blessings." Paul does not compromise the message but understands that the package to deliver the message does change.

I want you to think about some of the changes that Blake's Chapel has gone through over the years. The building that we worship in is not the original building. There are still a few pews around from the old church. They are not padded. The old church, I don't believe had central air. This one does. The song books are not the original ones. The church has a photocopier and at one time it didn't. I don't believe the old church had a baptistery, this one does. The Sunday School rooms and Fellowship Hall that we enjoy were not part of the original building. Change, change, change.

Part of my prayer is, Lord, in an ever changing world, give me the wisdom and ability to present Christ who transcends all trends, cultures and changes in order to save them.

*Pastor Steve*

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## CHURCH HAPPENINGS

- ❖ May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Homecoming & Dinner on the Grounds
- ❖ May 2<sup>nd</sup> – King's Grace performance (1:30 pm)
- ❖ May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Youth Cookout with Sam Warren (6 pm)
- ❖ May 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>–Fellowship Dinners (6 pm)/Revival (7 pm)
- ❖ May 6<sup>th</sup> – National Day of Prayer Observance (Noon)
- ❖ May 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> – Relay for Life
- ❖ May 11<sup>th</sup> – Men's Fish Fry (6:30 pm)
- ❖ May 12<sup>th</sup> – Men's Fellowship to serve supper (6 pm)
- ❖ May 13<sup>th</sup> – WH&FM (7 pm) all ladies invited
- ❖ May 14<sup>th</sup> – FCA meeting for middle school students
- ❖ May 16<sup>th</sup> – Worship Service at Woodbury (4 pm)
- ❖ May 19<sup>th</sup> – Lunch for Hospice
- ❖ May 19<sup>th</sup> – Men's Fellowship to serve supper (6 pm)
- ❖ May 21<sup>st</sup> – Movie Night "To Save a Life" (7 pm)
- ❖ May 26<sup>th</sup> – Men's Fellowship to serve supper (6pm)
- ❖ May 30<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Hymn Sing @ Middle Sound

## 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

A committee has been formed to plan for Blake's Chapel's 100th anniversary, which we will celebrate on May 6, 2012. The committee consists of Pastor Spearing, Leah Dowd, Sherry Carter, Dottie Lee, Rachel Hollis and Randy McKinley. The committee is asking for anyone one who has pictures to share, stories or history of the church to please contact them with that information.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Kick-off for Vacation Bible School will be held June 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. From June 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, VBS will begin at 6:00 p.m. The closing program will begin at 7 pm on June 17<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to help with VBS this year, please see Debbie Croom.

## CAMP DIXIE

Below is a list of the different camps offered through Camp Dixie this summer:

- Super Kid's Retreat June 18 & 19 (ages 4-Grade 2)
- Kid's Camp #1 June 20-25 (Grades 2-4)
- Kid's Camp #2 June 27-July 2 (Grades 5-6)
- Teen Camp #1 July 4-9 (Grades 7-8)
- Teen Camp #2 July 11-16 (Grades 9-12)

Grade levels are determined by what grade the camper will enter in the fall of 2010.

Camp registration forms are available in the vestibule. See Sherry or Leah for your Camp-tificate. You can find more information and register on-line at [www.campdixie.com](http://www.campdixie.com).



Our "Tweens" class is in need of a few items for their classroom. Their classroom is getting a new look and they are very excited about it! Any donations of the following would be greatly appreciated. Please see Annah Kay if you are able to make a donation.

- 37" or 42" flat screen TV
- Wall holder for TV
- 2 futons (does not have to be new, but in good condition)
- Bright colored bean bag chairs
- Round coffee table (approx. 3' in diam.) or rectangular (at least 47" long and 17-20" in height)
- A small entertainment cabinet