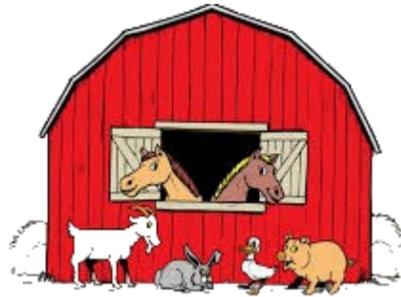


Children's Ministry News

By Kelsey Mathis, Children's Director



Fun on The Farm!

We would like to invite everyone for a night of fun at **The Farm** on **Wednesday, October 6th from 4:00-8:30**. Pumpkin field, corn maze, bounce houses and food are just a few of the things you will enjoy while we are there!! Entrance for kids and youth will be covered by the church and all others are **\$9.00 a person**. If you plan to attend, please email Kelsey Mathis at kelseykmathis@gmail.com to let her know how many in your family will attend! Address for **The Farm** is: 769 Bray Ford Road, Dobson, NC.

APPALACHIAN BACKPACK MINISTRY NOW UNDERWAY!



Our Appalachian Backpack Ministry is now underway! Pick up a backpack from the foyer of the sanctuary or the hallway of the Educational Building, fill it with the required items, and return it on our **Backpack Dedication Day, Sunday, October 31st**. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

Highland Park Baptist Church
1327 Grove Lane, Mount Airy, NC 27030

Phone: 336-786-4275
highlandparkfamily@gmail.com
www.highlandparkfamily.com

Sunday School News

By Dean Combs, Sunday School Director

Greetings Highland Park Family! As the month of August comes to a close, our Sunday School attendance is continuing to steadily increase. Our total attendance for the month of August was 893.

8/1	243
8/8	204
8/15	232
8/22	214

Sunday School for the month of August has been our best month for attendance since Sunday School began, with our August 1st attendance of 243 representing our highest attendance to date.

Blessings!
Dean

Highland Park Herald

Volume 11

Issue 9

September 2021

There are many wonderful joys in serving as a Pastor. I love the honor and privilege to preach God's Word. I love the excitement of watching a new believer grow in their faith. I love walking with people through times of celebration and through times of grief. I love serving God by serving His people.

Occasionally, people will share with me an encouraging story about God's work in their lives. Recently, Kim Collins shared the following words of encouragement that God gave her in a particular season of her life. With Kim's permission, I included her words for you to read. Take a moment and allow the beautiful words of our very own Kim Collins to wash over your heart.

Pastor Darrell

Somewhere in the midst of life, we come to question all the strife;
How is it the arrows that fly by day, find my heart in the most piercing way.

To find the meaning of all the pain, seems to be a quest with little gain;
Until that small still voice, whispers in our ear, there's another choice.

To replace the pain with perfect love, to know the Father from above;
To unveil the heart that is covered well, afraid to show what life may tell.

He calls our name and extends His hand, to free our hearts for a better land;
There's more than this comes the offer, if only you will meet me at the altar.

I sent my son to set you free, to open eyes that you may see;
The pain you feel is just a part, of what I feel in my own heart.

The day you fell, I cried out to hell;
See what you've done, I'll spare you none.

Draw near to me my dear child, the journey is only a few more miles;
Just offer me your best, and soon you shall find a rest.

Together we will be, never again to part, for now I'll always be within your heart;
So lean on me for I am strong, I'll make it right and correct the wrong.

Continued on p.2

And all will know without a doubt, you belong to me so give a shout;
Before you know it, the trumpet will sound, and in an instant you'll be homeward bound.

To embrace the one who loves so well, who loves you more than words can tell;
A heart that never is afraid to give, his perfect love to all who live.

Yes, the choice is yours of your own free will, for my love can offer no other deal;
So take my hand as I lead the way, until my eyes you shall see that glorious day.

I'll wipe every tear away, and hold you close as you hear me say;
I'm sorry for all the pain, but to win your love, it was for your own gain.

For all that seemed to never end, Look now, you're in eternity to spend;
Forever in the presence of the Holy One, who loved you with His heart through Christ His Son.

By: Kim Collins

By Rev. Jim Richardson, Associate Pastor

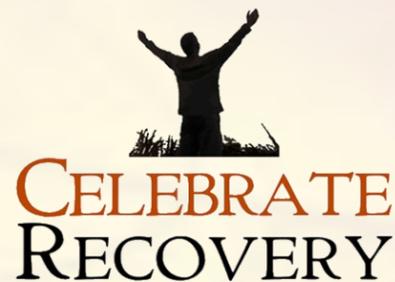
Where I was raised, there was a rule that was seldom spoken, but everyone was aware of it and followed it passionately. This rule, like most rules, was meant to protect you and others from the harm that could occur if it was unheeded. In a way, it made sense and eventually became second nature to live by it.

The rule was that personal and family problems/struggles were never to be shared with others. If you struggle with doubts or depression, you work through it and keep pressing forward. If your marriage was falling apart at the seams, you still put on a smile in public and go through the motions.

Occasionally, there would be the individual or family that couldn't keep it all under wraps and their dirty laundry came into public view. Some would try to help with token advice or suggestions. Others would point and whisper behind the person's back. Most, if not all, would look on with pity while they pushed their own hardships deeper into the personal or family closet. Regardless, the result was the same. That person or family suffered alone and everyone else became more resolved to keep their struggles hidden from others.

For many of us, this is a tendency that has become almost a reflex. Someone we know asks, "How's your week been?" and we reply with a smile and "Everything's great!" while in our hearts we know that we're drowning. We justify this by saying that they're just being nice and aren't really interested in what's going on with me. We don't want to make things awkward...plus can we really trust them to keep what we share in confidence? Many of us have seen people burnt and have been burnt ourselves, so we keep our masks on.

What we don't realize, is that this rule that feels so natural is actually a cage that keeps us in bondage to the hurt, fear and struggles that are growing in our lives. It's this unwillingness to open up to others and share what we're going through that has led pastors to either abandon or wreck their ministries; it's led nearly half of marriages



Continued on p. 3

in the church to end in divorce; and it's encouraged young adults filled with doubts and questions to leave the church.

We need to realize that things that grow in the dark are never good. The only way to fix these problems is to bring them out into the light of day. To expose them to God's grace and love which is often experienced through the body of Christ.

One of the many ways that our church is helping people discover the peace and freedom that is available in Christ is through our Celebrate Recovery group. This is not just for those struggling with substance abuse or depression. Instead, it's for every one of us because we all have some hurt we're dealing with or some struggle we seem unable to overcome. I hope that you'll stop hiding and start celebrating your victory in Christ by joining us Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

In Christ,
Jim

WMU News

By Gail Josey, WMU Director

The focus of WMU for 2021-2022 is to be relentless in our faith in Christ using the scripture "But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved." Hebrews 20:39

WMU challenges, prepares, and equips us to put our relentless faith into action. On Monday, September 27, WMU members of Surry Baptist Association churches are invited to the annual Fall Gathering at Calvary Baptist Church at 6:00 pm to share a meal together and hear Melanie Hudson speak on the topic of "Relentless". She is the daughter of our own Don and Glennice Lynch. Please register for the free meal by calling the SBA office at (336) 789-5701 by September 20.

SEPTEMBER Birthdays

- 1 Dean Combs
Chris Cox
- 3 Thomas Marsh
R. C. Holland
Clay Marsh
Sherri Spurlin
Mark Vogler
- 4 Shirley Brinkley
Grant Caudle
Jeff Hauser
Tammy Joyce
- 5 Helen Crane
- 6 Eddie Radford
- 8 Sara Giuffre
Patsy Hiatt
- 9 Mickey Dalton
Dylan Henderson
Tina Higgins
- 10 Nancy Tilley
- 11 Jessica Leek
- 12 Terry Hardy
- 13 Freddie Chilton
Stacie Combs
- 14 Madison Hunsucker
Kini Snow
- 15 Mike Burroughs
Mike Hiatt
- 16 Eleanor Burleson
Karen Morrison
Marty Secrest
- 17 Roger Haymore
- 18 Jamie Hill
Naomi Wood
- 19 Jason Chilton
- 20 Clark Atkins
Beth Montgomery
John Parsons
Caroline Spurlin
- 21 Isaac Riggs
- 22 Kaleigh Bethune
Greg Hunsucker
Troy Watson
- 23 Ella Glyn Hopkins
Karen Vernon
- 25 Danielle Marion
Tessa Stovall
Darrell Tate
- 26 Pamela Anthony
Cathryn Lawson
Jessica Oakes
- 27 Dylan Cooper
(Bledsoe)
Drew Joyce
Craig Lawson
- 29 Verona Marsh
- 30 Michelle Clifton
Phyllis McCraw