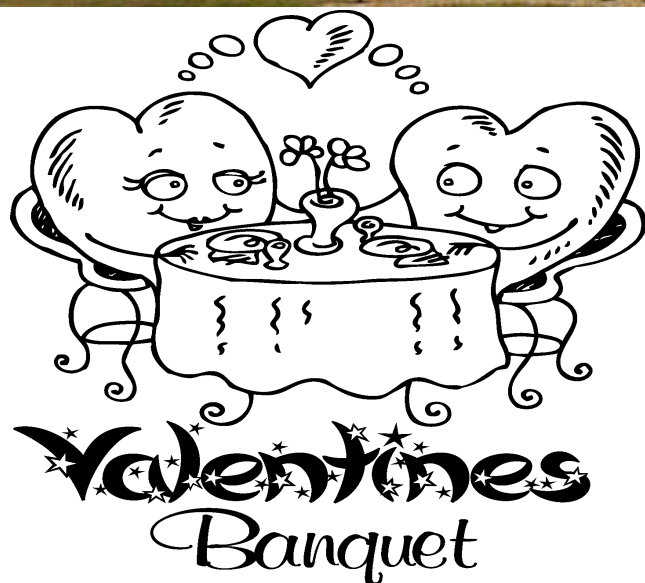


The Messenger

VOLUME 56, NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2010



The Baptist Men and Ladies Mission Groups

Cordially invite you to attend a special

Valentine Banquet & Fund Raiser

Saturday—February 13th

6:30 p.m.

Fund raiser for the remodeling of the kitchen.

An evening of fun, fellowship and great food.

Call -919 471-2664 or Sign up at the church

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Why wait for Valentine's Day to share love with others? Remember Jesus' words in John 13:34 (NRSV): "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another."

Read story on page 6

FEBRUARY

A Personal Word

....from the pastor

I want to talk to you about breaking satanic strongholds. I believe there are many Christians today who have in their hearts and in their minds and in their lives a satanic stronghold. Not only is it harming them and wrecking their spiritual life but they themselves are contaminating the lives of their families and the life

of their churches because the devil has found an unclean place in that person and the devil has made a campground, a foul nest, a beach-head, a citadel, a stronghold there and he uses that stronghold to war against God and against the work of God. In Ephesians 4:27 there is a frightening verse. **"and do not give the devil a foothold."** And then in verse thirty, **"and grieve not the Holy Spirit of God."** That is amazing, that is astounding, that's frightening. It ought to cause everyone of us to sit up and take notice that we, children of God, saved ones, born again ones could either on the one hand give a place to the devil, or could, on the other hand grieve the Holy Spirit of God. Now, either one should be unthinkable in the heart and mind of a child of God. Now, once you've given a little place to the devil then he's going to work on the rest of your life. Now, if there is sin in your life, every area where there is unconfessed sin in your life is legal ground for Satan and until you confess that sin and cleanse that sin, Satan has every right to make a campground there. So, first of all, there must be repentance and then after there is repentance there is resistance, but that is not enough.

Not only must you resist the devil there must finally be renewal. But notice back in verses twenty three and twenty four: ²³ **"to be made new in the attitude of your minds;** ²⁴ **and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness"**

Can you imagine being saved, redeemed, born again, and this purchased temple, bought with the blood of Jesus has become a nest of Satan and you open the door, and the dear spirit of God is weeping and Satan is laughing, making a mockery of the things of God. Can you not imagine how all of this hurts the heart of God and grieves the Holy Spirit.

To make this all the worse is the fact that we are living in a time when our nation has lost its way, a time when the church of the Lord Jesus needs to be on the cutting edge of bringing revival to our land. A time, I believe that God wants to send revival.

Dear folks, let's please wake up and see that God wants to use us and millions of others like us to bring healing to our wonderful nation. Will you not join with me and let's run Satan out of our lives and get on board with what God has planned for us to do, and help bring hope and salvation back to America!

I have a weeping heart for my country!



February 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Birthday - Christian Garcia Birthday - Mary Ann Wilkerson Fifth Sunday Special Music - PM Service 9:00 AM Church-wide Prayer Meeting 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Worship Services 5:00 PM Choir Practice 6:00 PM Evening Worship Services	1 Birthday - Melissa Teasley 6:15 PM Deacon's Meeting 6:15 PM Women's Ministry Meeting 7:00 PM Men's Dart Ball-Ebenezer	2 Birthday - Peggy Harris 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast	3 6:00 PM Family Night Supper 7:00 PM Mid-Week Bible Study and Prayer Meeting	4	5 Birthday - Kristi Dickerson Birthday - Lee Casey	6 Birthday - Rhonda Stanley
7 8:30 AM Men's Ministry Meeting 9:00 AM Church-wide Prayer Meeting 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Worship Services 5:00 PM Choir Practice 6:00 PM Evening Worship Services	8 Birthday - Molly Marino 7:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting 7:00 PM Men's Dart Ball-Lawrence Rd Baptist Church	9 Birthday - Josh Casey Birthday - MacKenzie Rhodes 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 PM Church-wide Visitation	10 7:00 PM Monthly Church Conference and Prayer Meeting	11	12	13 Valentine Banquet
14 Valentine's Day 9:00 AM Church-wide Prayer Meeting 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Worship Services 2:00 PM Services at JFK Towers 5:00 PM Choir Practice 6:00 PM Evening Worship Services	15 Birthday - Betty Curtis Birthday - Brian Llamas 7:00 PM Men's Dart Ball-Northern FWB	16 Birthday - Danny Tate 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast	17 6:00 PM Building & Grounds Committee Meeting 7:00 PM Mid-Week Bible Study and Prayer Meeting	18 Anniversary - Steve Yandle	19 Birthday - Susan Brinkley	20
21 Birthday - Mark Teasley II Birthday - Michele Ward 9:00 AM Church-wide Prayer Meeting 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Worship Services 5:00 PM Choir Practice 6:00 PM Evening Worship Services	22 7:00 PM Men's Dart Ball-Rose of Sharon	23 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 PM Deacon Visitation	24 7:00 PM Mid-Week Bible Study and Prayer Meeting	25	26	27
28 9:00 AM Church-wide Prayer Meeting 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Morning Worship Services 5:00 PM Choir Practice 6:00 PM Evening Worship Services	1 6:15 PM Deacon's Meeting 6:15 PM Women's Ministry Meeting 7:00 PM Men's Dart-ball Division Quarter Finals	2 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast	3 6:00 PM Family Night Supper 7:00 PM Mid-Week Bible Study and Prayer Meeting	4 Birthday - Kerry Casey	5	6

Your Sunday School Report @New Year by Bob Reuther, Sunday School Director

I am absolutely convinced that prayer for Sunday School has become a rare occurrence. No, I am not talking about preparation of a lesson. I am sure there are lots of prayers every week lifted up asking for God to bless "my last minute preparation." (Do you sense a note of sarcasm?)

No, I am talking about prayer for Sunday School as a ministry. I am talking about lessons and ministry, outreach and relationships, spiritual growth and service, and so much more. There is power in prayer. God cares. The Holy Spirit helps us to know how to pray.

But what would happen if we really took the opportunity, privilege, and responsibility to pray for Sunday School seriously? What might happen if we listened to God and followed His lead? What would happen if our hearts became more aligned with His? What would happen if these prayers led us to be more faithful in our stewardship of our Sunday School ministry opportunities? Let's find out. Let's give it a try. Let's pray for God to use Sunday School!

Let me close by sharing some quick thoughts about the objects or focus of our prayers and methods for regularly remembering to take advantage of praying for God to use Sunday School:

- **PRAYER FOCUS.** First and foremost, prayer should be time spent seeking God. He deserves praise and thanks. Take time to recognize how awesome He is. Seek His first. Then ask Him to restore your relationship with Him. Be honest and confessional. He already knows, but we need to acknowledge our sin and need for Him. Next, seek His leadership. Ask Him to bless and use your Sunday School. Ask Him to work through the pastor, staff, director, teachers, and other workers. Ask Him to bless preparation and relationships. Ask Him to lead classes and individuals to take steps toward unenrolled and uncommitted people. Focus on lesson preparation, outreach and ministry contacts, leadership development, new classes and teachers, organization, training, planning, and so much more. Pray for the people and for the ministry.



- **PRAYER METHODS.** Sometimes we grow weary in well-doing. Why not provide variety in the methods of praying while being consistent to pray? Set aside monthly time to pray in a leadership/planning meeting. Take time in class to pray for more than the "sick list." Assign prayer partners a different focus each month or each week. Have a monthly or quarterly prayer emphasis throughout the Sunday School focusing on a different age group, a different category of unenrolled persons, a different group of Sunday School leaders, or a different aspect of Sunday School ministry. Pray as prayers, as small groups, as classes, as leaders, and as a church. Why not ask other groups to pray for Sunday School: deacons, WMU and mission groups, prayer meeting, prayer warriors, and more. Don't assume prayer will happen; schedule it.

Want God to use Sunday School? Ask Him to do so. Pray. Make yourself available to Him. Give the ministry to Him. Follow where He leads. Schedule prayer. Take the opportunity, privilege, and responsibility seriously. Then be prepared for Him to bless and use you and Sunday School.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS WE CAN USE:

Sometime in early January I will be meeting with Mr. John Blake of Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF). We will be discussing the possibilities of a partnership between our Sunday School and CEF this summer for 4 **BACKYARD BIBLE CLUBS** which is where you can help out. You can do the following:

1. **PRAY** that all will work out to the honor and glory of Jesus Christ and for the number of Durham-area children that will be reached with the gospel.
2. **Be a PROVIDER** by sharing your backyard for a week (one hour a day, M-F) snacks for a day or two.
3. **VOLUNTEERS** will be needed so please be open for how you can help.
4. **TRUST AND OBEY** not **WHY ME LORD?**

Until next month with great expectations,

Bob Reuther

The
Children's
Cover

Friendship Sunday



Invite a friend during the month of February
Beginning the first Sunday in February we will begin a new
program for Children's Church so be sure to be there.

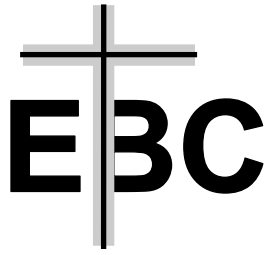
Music, Bible Study, Crafts and Games

Kindergarten—Third Grade



Maggie, Joy, Yeary and Sunny have a new friend. Make sure you
come and see them. The Puppet Team will be part of the new
program each week.





EDGEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH
A CHURCH YOUR FAMILY WILL CALL HOME!

1807 Infinity Road

Durham, NC 27712

Phone: (919) 471-2664

Ernest H. Ferrell, Senior Pastor

Address Service Requested

<http://www.edgewoodbaptist-durham.org>

Email: info@edgewoodbaptist-durham.org

CHURCH SCHEDULE

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid

Durham, N.C.

Permit No. 358



**Share the Love of
God with someone
this month!**

Equal opportunity

When young Kelli said her prayers each night, she would bless every family member, every friend and every pet (current or past). Toward the end of her prayers, she'd say, "And all girls."

One night her father asked his daughter why she always ended that way.

"Because," she replied, "everybody else always finishes their prayers by saying, 'All men.'"



Recipe from the Kitchen of
Edith Ottaway

Fudge

2 Sticks margarine melted

1 can pet milk

5 Cups sugar

12 oz. semi-sweet chocolate
chips

2 cups pecan—chopped

2 tsp. vanilla

Combine margarine and
milk

Bring to a boil stirring
constantly. Pour in sugar,
stirring constantly. Bring to
a boil and boil 6 minutes.
Take off the heat and stir in
chocolate chips, nuts and
vanilla

Be a love bird

Many stories about the origin of Valentine's Day have come down through the centuries. There's no definitive story, but most revolve around the imprisonment of Valentinus (St. Valentine) for his disregard of Roman laws.

Many legends are also associated with Valentine's Day. For example, because birds seemed to arrive and mate in some countries in mid-February, human couples came to be called "love birds."

In 1667, the first recorded Valentine card was printed. Today, people will give their sweethearts countless millions of cards and acres of heart-shaped boxes filled with candy. But why wait for Valentine's Day to share love with others? Remember Jesus' words in John 13:34 (NRSV): "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another."