

# **"THE LETTER" E-Newsletter October 2011**

## **First Baptist Church Of Spring Hope**

111 North Walnut Street

POB-177

Spring Hope, NC 27882

[www.fbcspringhope.org](http://www.fbcspringhope.org)

**Interim Pastor, Dr. Fred Grissom**  
**Home: 919-556-6959**

**Ministers of Music, Craig and Linda Johnson**  
**Home: 252-235-5708**

### **Sundays**

**Coffee & Fellowship - 9:30 a.m.**

**Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.**

**Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.**

### **USHERS FOR OCTOBER**

Steven May (Head)     Merle Cale  
Stuart Parker         Al Pitts

### **ALTAR FLOWERS FOR OCTOBER**

2<sup>nd</sup> World Communion  
9<sup>th</sup> Mr. Alex Greene  
16<sup>th</sup> Mr. & Mrs. Carl Strickland  
23<sup>rd</sup> Mrs. Thelma May  
31<sup>st</sup> OPEN

### **NURSERY WORKERS FOR OCTOBER**

2<sup>nd</sup> Allison Pitts  
9<sup>th</sup> Nicole Moss  
16<sup>th</sup> Tori Parker  
23<sup>rd</sup> Stephanie Moss  
30<sup>th</sup> Allison Smith

### **OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

October 4<sup>th</sup> J.O. Brantley  
October 6<sup>th</sup> Frances Marshbourne  
October 12<sup>th</sup> Reg Mullen & June Wilder  
October 13<sup>th</sup> Alecia Smith  
October 26<sup>th</sup> Thomas Crocker

### **WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT FIRST BAPTIST**

**At 6:15 p.m. every Wednesday:**

**Bible Study in fellowship hall**

**At 7 p.m. every Wednesday:**

**Adult Choir Practice in fellowship hall**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Pumpkin Festival



**Pumpkin Festival** – Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**World Communion Sunday** – Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, during our morning Worship Service. Our guest speaker will be Rev. David Polk. Come join us for a time of worship and fellowship with each other. We miss you when you are not present!

**Bible Study** - Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, will be canceled.

**Pink Sunday** – Pink Sunday is designated for October 9<sup>th</sup>. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The WMU will be serving refreshments during our 9:30am fellowship in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness. Let's show our support for this important cause by wearing something PINK! Thanks for your support.....FBC WMU.

\*\*\*\*\***Newsletter Deadline – October 17<sup>th</sup>**\*\*\*\*\*

**Homecoming 2011** - Reverend Jody Griffin will be our guest speaker for our Homecoming service on Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. Please come and join us for a time of great worship and a time of great fellowship during our traditional fellowship meal after worship service.

**World Hunger/Annual Cornbread & Bean Supper** – Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Be in prayer for the World Hunger offering to be collected during our Supper hour. Come eat and fellowship with us!

**Trunk or Treat** – Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. Come park your vehicle in our church parking lot and open your trunks with lots of goodies for the area children. This ministry helps to keep our children safe during Halloween.

## WMU EVENTS

**Samaritan's Purse**- In October we will again be collecting shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse. They are coming in slowly. Please get your shoeboxes in very soon, as National Collection Week is mid-November. If you need help organizing your boxes and/or need someone to shop for you, our WMU group will be happy to assist anyone needing this type of assistance. Please call Donna Best 478-3916 or Carolyn Cale 478- 5915.


**Welcome**- We always welcome all new members. Come join us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday night of each month at FBC's Fellowship Hall.

**Check out our website** – [www.fbcspringhope.org](http://www.fbcspringhope.org)



# October 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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						<b>1</b> <i>Pumpkin Festival</i> 
<b>2</b> World Communion Sunday	<b>3</b> Deacons Meeting 7:00 pm	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Bible Study Canceled  Adult Choir Practice 7:00 pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> PINK SUNDAY <i>Breast Cancer Awareness Month</i>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> WOM Meeting 7:00 pm	<b>12</b> Bible Study 6:15 pm  Quarterly Business Meeting 7:00 pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> Homecoming Sunday & Fellowship Meal	<b>17</b> Newsletter Deadline	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Bible Study 6:15 pm  Adult Choir Practice 7:00 pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Bible Study 6:15 pm  Adult Choir Practice 7:00 pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<hr/> <b>30</b> World Hunger Day/Annual Cornbread & Bean Supper	<hr/> <b>31</b> Trunk or Treat 6pm – 8pm					

## Interim Note

October has always been an exciting month for me. I have always liked the cool, crisp weather that fall brings and the beautiful colors of autumn leaves. October is also the month of Halloween, a time of Jack-o-lanterns, goblins, and trick or treat. The symbols of American Halloween celebrations are drawn from many sources, but the holiday began as All Hallows' Eve, the evening before All Saints' Day, November 1. This day was set aside to honor the saints of the church, much like a kind of religious Memorial Day. Another exciting aspect of October for me is football. I would like to tell you a story about football and one of the finest "saints" I have known.

My home town usually has one of the best football teams in the area, and the University of Alabama, where I went to school, usually has one of the best teams anywhere. There is another school in Alabama which often has a good football team. The fans of Auburn and Alabama are bitter rivals. Families, congregations and almost all other groups are divided by these rivalries. Although football season does not generate the same excitement in this area as basketball season does, most congregations have divided loyalties. People who are otherwise fond of each other become bitter rivals, especially on those Saturdays when the Tarheels play the Wolfpack or the Blue Devils play the Demon Deacons, etc. The intensity of the rivalries is such that some who read the last sentence didn't like the fact that UNC was listed first. There should be no conclusions drawn from that fact. I chose the order at random.

The passions that sports rivalries engender run amazingly deep. I have seen usually responsible men and women become raving lunatics when cheering for their favorite teams. There are some who go so far as to hope that the "other guys" lose no matter who they are playing. There is an old joke which illustrates this phenomenon. A person says, "My second favorite team is Duke." When asked what his favorite team is, he says, "Whoever is playing Duke." (Again, I picked the school to use in the illustration at random.)

I must admit that I used to feel that way about Auburn. The obnoxiousness of some of my relatives who were Auburn fans increased my dislike for their team. I thought people who yelled "War Eagle" all over the place were about the lowest form of humanity. One of the low points of my college career was the day I sat in Legion Field in Birmingham and watched Alabama lose to Auburn in a game "we" should have won.

One thing, or I should say one man, cured me of my hatred for Auburn. When I was a pastor in Collinsville, Alabama, B. W. "Buck" Appleton was one the leaders of the church and the chairman of the pastor search committee that recommended me to the church. The first week I was there he told me where everybody lived and who was related to whom. Many times he gave me timely and much-needed advice. Throughout my tenure as pastor I knew that if I needed help or just someone to listen sympathetically to me, I could count on Mr. Appleton. In many ways he was instrumental in making my first pastorate a happy and successful one.

Mr. Appleton had another outstanding characteristic, however. He was the most loyal Auburn fan I have ever known. He had gone to school there, supported the school's alumni fund, and had season tickets to the football games. When Auburn lost, it hurt Mr. Appleton. He didn't give flimsy alibis for the losses as some of the obnoxious fans did. He took the losses quietly and with dignity, but the hurt and disappointment was obvious in his eyes. In my first year as pastor in Collinsville, both Alabama and Auburn were undefeated going into their game at the end of the season. Alabama won 31-7. Although I was extremely happy about that, my joy was tempered by sadness when I thought about how Mr. Appleton felt. His dream season had come to a disastrous end. Knowing how I would have felt if the score had been reversed helped me to understand how he felt. From that day to this I have not been an Auburn-hater. Hating Auburn would mean hating something that Mr. Appleton loved. I couldn't do that.

**Interim Note continued:**

Mr. Appleton died several years ago. He is one of the saints I remember each year on All Saints' Day. But I also remember him on many Saturdays during the football season. Because of Mr. Appleton I am not as totally "fanatic" as I used to be. I hope Auburn wins all its games until the last game of the season. I'm still not happy when Auburn beats Alabama, which they have done regularly lately. But it doesn't hurt quite as much now, because I know Mr. Appleton is happy.

I hope reading this reminiscence will remind you of some saints you should remember on All Saints 'Day and on other days as well.

**Dr. Grissom**



**To the church family of Spring Hope Baptist Church**

Words could never express what your cards, visits, phone calls, flowers, love, and support meant to us during the recent loss of our Dad and husband. It has been a very difficult time for all of us but we do have assurance that he is with the Lord and that sure brings great comfort. Although his time was short as your interim pastor you all held a very special place in his heart and he enjoyed preaching and sharing with you. Thanks for allowing him to be a part of such a wonderful church fellowship. Please continue to pray for us as we strive to move forward and continue the legacy he left for us. May God bless each of you and always know that we love you and appreciate all that you have done for us.

**With much love,  
Barbara and all of the Mitchell Family**



**Deadline for entries in "THE LETTER" E-Newsletter: The 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month.**  
**Printed copies are available in the church Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary.**

*Newsletter prepared by Jennifer Edwards*

**If you are not currently receiving "THE LETTER" E-Newsletter via email and wish to do so, please contact Jennifer Edwards at (252) 478-3221 or [fbcspringhope@embarqmail.com](mailto:fbcspringhope@embarqmail.com)**