



Graham, North Carolina

E-News

August 2010



This is being written on the last official day of my vacation as I sit on the deck overlooking the Atlantic Ocean at Holden Beach. I know people have their own favorite place to be but I love water. Doesn't matter whether it is a large lake, river, small running stream or the ocean, I love the sound of water and the peacefulness that it brings. So as I write this today, there is a mixture of emotion, I will be sad in some ways to leave the water front. Especially knowing that this kind of peace and the sound of the waves crashing against the shoreline will not be repeated in my hearing for a long time to come (at least until my next trip to the beach). But there is also a sense of excitement and anticipation within me as I think of returning home.

This week I have prayed, read, and meditated on God's Word and sought His direction for Riverside. While I cannot say that I have had a dramatic revelation and received divine guidance for the next ten years, I can say that the time has been very profitable. I have sensed God's renewing of my heart and my desire for closeness with Him and ministry within Riverside.

I believe that some very exciting times are ahead for us as we see to be an authentic representation of Christ in this age. That's right, I said authentic. I believe that many churches are playing a game of trying to be relevant and using all the latest fads and gadgets at their disposal, however, when Christ was here He sought to be authentic. He was the same every where you saw Him move, caring for the spiritual needs and physical needs of the people He met and always focused on His Father's will. That's what I want for us at Riverside.

As we seek to care for the spiritual needs of those around us and meet those as well as the physical needs, we are able to meet I believe we will experience an authenticity that we have been missing in the past. This approach will take deliberate action on each of our parts as we ask ourselves some tough questions and seek some clear answers. Are the things we are attempting to do making a difference in peoples lives and transforming those lives or are we just doing churchy things?

I believe that our time is short and that we must be focused on transformation of peoples lives if we are make a difference and fulfill our mission until Jesus comes. So while I am a bit saddened to be leaving the beach tomorrow, I look forward to returning to Graham and to Riverside and joining with the work that God is already doing in our midst. Let's keep our vision alive and our church authentic.

Pastor Bob

August Events

- August 1 Pastor Appreciation Day – Dr. Jeff Ginn
- August 2 7:00 PM Genesis Circle
10:00 AM Valda Cates Circle
- August 3 7:00 PM Prayer Meeting
- August 4 10:00 AM Senior Adult Visitation
7:00 PM Bible Study & Age Graded Program
- August 8 4:30 PM Deacon’s Meeting
- August 10 7:00 PM Josie Brewer
7:00 PM Prayer Meeting
Junior Choir Camp
- August 11 7:00 PM Bible Study & Age Graded Program
Junior Choir Camp
- August 12 Junior Choir Camp
- August 13 Junior Choir Camp
- August 14 Junior Choir Camp
- August 15 Junior Choir Camp
- August 17 7:00 PM Prayer Meeting
7:00 PM Lydia Circle
- August 18 7:00 PM Bible Study & Age Graded Program
- August 19 6:30 PM Grief Share
- August 20 7:00 PM Couples Night Out - Movie 
- August 21 9:00 AM Young at Heart Breakfast 
- August 22 6:00 PM Back to School Prayer Emphasis
- August 24 7:00 PM Prayer Meeting
- August 25 7:00 PM Bible Study & Age Graded Program
- August 26 6:30 PM Grief Share
- August 29 AM Lord’s Supper
PM Singspiration
- August 31 7:00 PM Prayer Meeting

Kevin's Corner

A key to joy

There are many keys the Bible gives to open up pathways to joy. Too often, we as believers forfeit or forsake one the greatest benefits of our faith which should be profound and pronounced joy. I am equally guilty.

I do not want to be redundant and blab about the difference between happiness and joy. Most of already know the difference so I want to give **ONE KEY** that has made a tremendous difference in my life lately and revolutionized the lives of countless saints of the past when they discovered this key.

Here it is. Are you ready for it? Gratitude. Brennan Manning, in his book *“Ruthless Trust,”* says, *“The foremost quality of a trusting disciple is gratefulness. Gratitude arises from the... acceptance of all of life as grace—as an undeserved and unearned gift from the Father’s hand.”*

Many of you that heard my sermon Sunday morning on July 25th will recall my illustration dealing with complaining and how I was trying to stay determined to thank the Lord throughout the day more but started having trouble when my lawn mower wouldn’t start. Here is what I have been learning lately. Life will continue to throw problems at us and the sooner we accept that the “perfect life” we want, is a myth and will never happen on this side of eternity, the better off we will be in dealing with it.

I can’t tell you the number of times that I had a plan for the day, a plan for how my sermon should go, a plan on how to fix something, a plan for this and a plan for that and how many times the result would never match what I had expected to happen. Why? We live in an imperfect world. I am imperfect, even on my best day; other people are imperfect, nature is imperfect, our government is imperfect, even our beloved Wal-Mart, with those “roll back” prices—is imperfect.

Here I am at 40 years of age just now starting to accept that my world is imperfect and quite more than I like it. Wow! Well, I never claimed to be a quick learner, but the good news we can all start today with this lesson. Just yesterday I increased my thanksgivings to God tenfold. Here is a list of them as my day unfolded: 1) for a shower that many in the world don’t have, 2) for the awesome variety of foods that we get to choose from almost every meal here in America, 3) for my vehicle making it to work, 4) for my job, 5) for my wife and kids, 6) for finding enough money in the ash tray to buy a stick of certs before I visited Helen Waller just in case my breath was hideous, 7) for my time with Helen Waller and the things I discovered about her life, 8) for my visits with Benny Wagoner, Carol Johnson, and Herman Pruitt, 9) for God supplying our country with enough gas so that I could drive to these places, 10) for feeling the love of Christ in my heart, 11) for strength to endure the heat when outside, 12) for a morning run, 13) for helping me rebound from minor bad news---for giving me perspective, 14) for giving me a new heart and a new perspective on life, 15) for 16 youth and 3 wonderful youth leaders that were outside the Fellowship Hall Sunday night while I preached in the Sanctuary, 16) for good health, 17) for bringing me to a church filled with so many loving people, 18) for the Word of God, 19) for my salvation, and 20) for reminding me where a UPS service center is on Church St. so that I could help a guy.

I encourage you to take up my challenge to grow in your thankfulness throughout the day. Start off by thinking of one thing to thank Him for on top of every hour for every waking hour He gives you. Tell me how it’s going for you the next time we meet.

KIDSTIME:

THERE WILL BE NO KIDSTIME FOR THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY’S IN AUGUST:

August 1: Pastor Appreciation Sunday

August 15: Jr. Choir camp

August 29: Lord’s Supper

We will still be having Kidstime on August 8th & August 22. We apologize for any inconvenience.

YOUTH MINISTRY:

Crossroads camp went extremely well during the week of June 28-July 2. We had two kids rededicate their lives to Jesus Christ (Nancy Jane & Michael Edwards). We also seen over 100 teenagers make decisions to accept Jesus Christ as their personal savior. We thank God for Tara Martin for her desire to keep putting Crossroads on the calendar and for her excellent example as a youth leader. We are very fortunate to have a person of Tara's stature and integrity in our youth ministry.

DEEPER2 & 90 DEGREES

During the month of July we looked at the book of Malachi to discover whether or not a Christian could still be placed under a curse from God (July 21 study). We also took a look at the "perfect family myth." We called it for what it is—a lie, because there is no perfect family and we all have issues. We took a look, a brief look at how to deal with family issues.

Sierra Martin showed us a cool video that she created about how we can let different junk fill our lives and what the answer is during our Sunday 90 Degrees meeting on July 18th.

MEN'S GROUP:

Our men's group will be starting back up on September 11th at 7:00 a.m. @ Hursey's BBQ in Graham on Main St. We always love new faces so if you want to come check us out or have any questions don't hesitate to call Pastor Kevin (213-5113). We need to fight the battles in the world together and not alone. So if you are looking for an army of believers to join for strength and networking you will not be disappointed.



We invite you to join us in the reading of the complete Bible this year.

(You will notice no assignments are made for Sundays. This is a day for reflection and perhaps to catch up on missed readings the previous week).

| | | | |
|-----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|
| August 2 | Jeremiah 4-6 | August 17 | Ezekiel 7-11 |
| August 3 | Jeremiah 7-10 | August 18 | Ezekiel 12-15 |
| August 4 | Jeremiah 11-15 | August 19 | Ezekiel 16-19 |
| August 5 | Jeremiah 16-20 | August 20 | Ezekiel 20-23 |
| August 6 | Jeremiah 21-25 | August 21 | Ezekiel 24-28 |
| August 7 | Jeremiah 26-29 | August 23 | Ezekiel 29-32 |
| August 9 | Jeremiah 30-33 | August 24 | Ezekiel 33-36 |
| August 10 | Jeremiah 34-39 | August 25 | Ezekiel 37-39 |
| August 11 | Jeremiah 40-45 | August 26 | Ezekiel 40-42 |
| August 12 | Jeremiah 46-49 | August 27 | Ezekiel 43-45 |
| August 13 | Jeremiah 50-52 | August 28 | Ezekiel 46-48 |
| August 14 | Lamentations | August 30 | Daniel 1-3 |
| August 16 | Ezekiel 1-6 | August 31 | Daniel 4-6 |

COMING SOON

Get Ready for the Ladies Bible Study

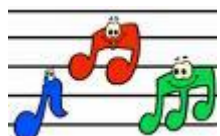
“One In a Million” by Priscilla Shirer

The Egyptians in Exodus 1 were intent on enslaving the Israelites, wearing them down so that God’s chosen people would become disillusioned and not live up to their destiny. Of the original two million Israelites who received God’s invitation to enter the Promised Land, only two actually entered it!

Similarly, modern day Christians often hear and understand the promises of God each Sunday morning at church but then rarely choose to experience them in everyday life. In One in a Million, Bible teacher Priscilla Shirer invites us to change that pattern for good, living beyond our circumstances and expecting to see God move in miraculous ways day after day. Without a doubt, we can find and follow God’s purpose for our journey. We can make it to the Promised Land!



Starts on Sunday, September 12, 2010 at 6:00 PM



JUNIOR CHOIR NEWS



What an exciting month this is going to be for us. We leave for camp on Tuesday, August 10th and return on Sunday, August 15th. We have so much fun making memories. I sure wish I'd thought about making notes of all the funny things that happened at camp 26 years ago. WOW! Would I have some stories to tell.

The choir will sing on Sunday evening, August 8th and have special prayer around the altar. Please remember us during camp week...and I hate to complain (especially when I saw what happened to the complainer in Kevin’s video), but pray for it to be a bit cooler for us!

I will give you the scoop on our time at camp next month.

Parents please remember to have your child at church at 5:30 PM on August 8th and then 11:00 AM on Tuesday, August 10th to leave for camp...we plan to return on Sunday about the time church is getting out – about 11:15 AM.

“Make a joyful noise”
Mrs. Linda





August Anniversaries

2nd Rev. Curtis & Elizabeth Oakley
Thomas & Mildred Stewart

20th Gordon & Jeanine Dix

8th Curtis & Diane Isley

21st Joe & Barbara Hicks

9th Ralph & Diane Payne

24th Dave & LaRae Bolick

11th Shave & Bea Bennett

25th John & Sherry Snipes

18th Dave & Ann Bordeaux

27th Harold & Nora Shelley

August Birthdays



1st Bonnie Gilley
Kathryn Tomlinson

10th Amy Sharpe
Jeremy Woody

21st Ashley Norton

3rd Phyllis Jarrett

11th David Lingerfelt

23rd Jeanine Dix
Kay Reynolds
Doris Searcy
Faye Isley

4th LaRae Bolick
Dylan Isley
Vivian Williams

12th Meredith Sawyer

5th Alicia Isley
Tracy VaLeu

13th Matt Holmes
Caleb Lingerfelt
Keith Oakley

25th Norman Mangum

6th Amanda Hopkins

14th Larry Jarrett
Mason Parrish

27th Brittany Boggs
Robert Rudd

7th Joey Belton
Gene Boggs

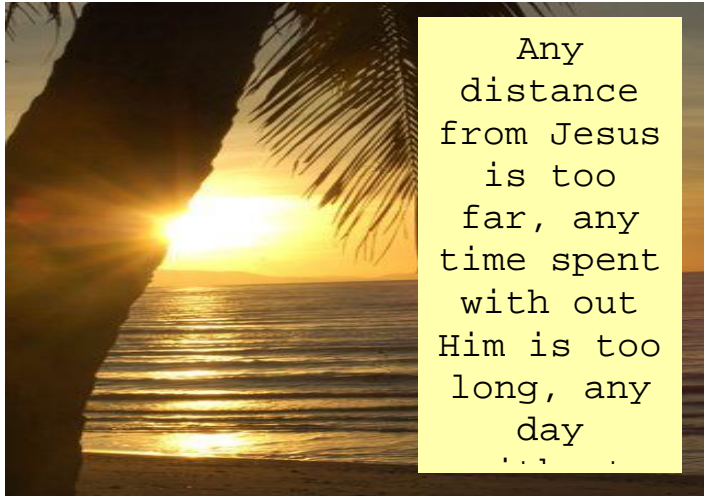
15th Betty Wilder

29th Dillon Duke
Edna Phillips

8th Jackson Belton

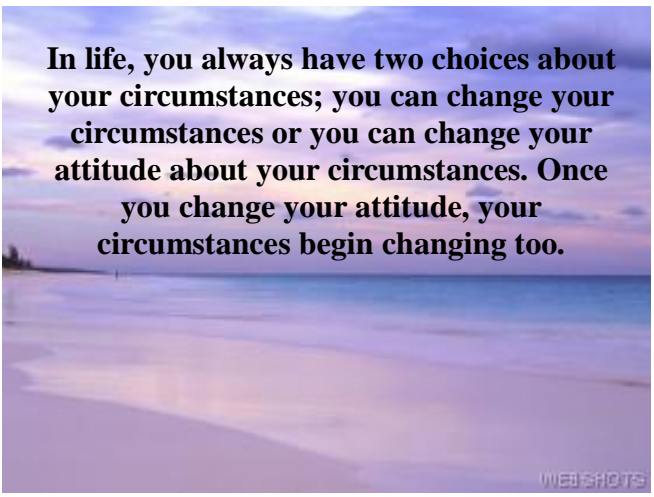
18th Ann Bordeaux
Denee' Hopkins
Mildred Stewart

30th Gary Martin

















Any distance from Jesus is too far, any time spent with out Him is too long, any day

POSITIVE THOUGHT









In life, you always have two choices about your circumstances; you can change your circumstances or you can change your attitude about your circumstances. Once you change your attitude, your circumstances begin changing too.

Some Silly Fact for the Month of August

- August 1 - Respect you Parent Day 
- August 2 - National Ice Cream Day 
- August 3 - National Watermelon Day 
- August 4 - Nation Chocolate Chip Day 
- August 5 - National Waffle Day 
- August 6 - Wiggle your Toe Day 
- August 7 - National Mustard Day 
- August 8 - Dollar Day (US Dollar was created) 
- August 9 - Betty Boop's Birthday (Created in 1930) 
- August 10 - Herbert Hoover (Born 1874) 
- August 11 - Play in the Sand Day 
- August 12 - Middle Child Day 
- August 13 - International Left Hander's Day 
- August 14 - National Creamsicle Day 
- August 15 - National Relaxation Day 
- August 16 - Rollercoaster Day 

- August 17 - Davy Crockett Birthday (Born 1786) 
- August 18 - Wizard of Oz (Premiered in 1939) 
- August 19 - Potatoe Day 
- August 20 - National Radio Day 
- August 21 - Homeless Animals Day 
- August 22 - Be an Angel Day 
- August 23 - National Sponge Cake Day 
- August 25 - Strange Music Day 
- August 26 - National Dog Day 
- August 27 - Mother Teresa's Day (Born 1910) 
- August 28 - National Cherry Day 
- August 29 - First Scout Campout Day 
- August 30 - Toasted Marshmallow Day 
- August 31 - National Trail Mix Day 

August 2010

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| <p>1</p> <p>Pastor Appreciation Day Dr. Jeff Ginn</p>  | <p>2</p> <p>10:00 AM Valda Cates Circle</p> <p>7:00 PM Genesis Circle</p> | <p>3</p> <p>7:00 PM Prayer Mtg.</p> | <p>4</p> <p>10:00 AM Sr. Adult Visitation</p> <p>7:00 PM Bible Study & Aged Graded Program</p> <p>Youth: Deeper 2</p> | <p>5</p> | <p>6</p> | <p>7</p> |
| <p>8</p> <p>4:30 PM Deacon's Meeting</p> | <p>9</p> | <p>10</p> <p>7:00 PM Prayer Mtg.</p> <p>7:00 PM Josie Brewer Circle</p> | <p>11</p> <p>7:00 PM Bible Study & Aged Graded Program</p> <p>Youth: Deeper 2</p> | <p>12</p> | <p>13</p> | <p>14</p> |
| Junior Choir Camp | | | | | | |
| <p>15</p> | <p>16</p> | <p>17</p> <p>7:00 PM Prayer Mtg.</p> <p>7:00 PM Lydia Circle</p> | <p>18</p> <p>7:00 PM Bible Study & Aged Graded Program</p> <p>Youth: Deeper 2</p> | <p>19</p> <p>6:30 PM Grief Share</p> | <p>20</p> <p>7:00 PM Couples Night Out (Movie)</p>  | <p>21</p> <p>9:00 AM Young @ Heart Breakfast</p>  |
| <p>Junior Choir Camp</p> | | | | | | |
| <p>22</p> <p><i>Back To School</i></p>  <p>6:00 PM Back to School Prayer Emphasis</p> <p>6:00 PM Corporate Business Mtg.</p> | <p>23</p> | <p>24</p> <p>7:00 PM Prayer Mtg.</p> | <p>25</p> <p>7:00 PM Bible Study & Aged Graded Program</p> <p>Youth: Deeper 2</p>  | <p>26</p> <p>6:30 PM Grief Share</p> | <p>27</p> | <p>28</p> |
| <p>29</p> <p>(AM) Lords' Supper</p>  <p>6:00 PM Singspiration</p> | <p>30</p> | <p>31</p> <p>7:00 PM Prayer Mtg.</p> | | | | |