



The Circuit Rider



BLADEN CHARGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 129

May 2011

PASTOR: DR. TIM REAVES

910-866-5117 or 910-866-5632

ASSOCIATE PASTOR: TYRONE MATHIS

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Dear Bladen Charge,

We had a very eventful Holy Week and Easter. Between tornados coming through, finishing up small groups, and disaster relief teams working with us to begin recovery in the Ammon area, it made Resurrection Sunday a real powerful time of God demonstrating his power over death, hell, and the grave. We saw God's light shine even during and after the darkest of storms. Again I am thankful to all of the folks that came out and assisted in the relief efforts in any way.

Well, here we are in May and we certainly want to remember our mothers. It will be a special Mother's Day for me this year since my mom has been fighting cancer and is actually scheduled to have surgery the Thursday before Mother's Day. Relay for Life will also be special for these very same reasons. May we thank God for our mothers and make some special time to let them know we care about them and love them.

There is one last thing. We will have the Anchormen Quartet with us for each of our Worship services on Sunday morning, May 15. You do not want to miss this. They will hold the services that morning and bless us with anointed music and singing. This is a great opportunity to invite someone to come worship with you. The services and Sunday Schools will all be at the regularly scheduled times. Come prepared to bless them with a special love offering that morning as they bless us and lead us in Worship. God bless you all and have a great month.

Your Pastor,

Dr. Tim Reaves

Relay For Life Event Date: May 6, 2011 Location: Elizabethtown Middle School

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life is a life-changing event that gives everyone in communities across the globe a chance to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease.

At Relay, teams of people camp out at a local high school, park, or fairground and take turns walking or running around a track or path. Each team is asked to have a representative on the track at all times during the event. Because cancer never sleeps, Relays are overnight events up to 24 hours in length.

Relay began in 1985 when Dr. Gordy Klatt, a colorectal surgeon in Tacoma, Washington, ran and walked around a track for 24 hours to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

Since then, Relay has grown from a single man's passion to fight cancer into the world's largest movement to end the disease. Each year, more than 3.5 million people in 5,000 communities in the United States, along with additional communities in 19 other countries, gather to take part in this global phenomenon and raise much-needed funds and awareness to save lives from cancer. Thanks to Relay participants, we are creating a world with more birthdays a world where cancer can't claim another year of anyone's life.

Anyone can participate in Relay For Life. Friends, families, neighbors, classmates, sports teams, etc., can form their own teams. No matter who you are, there's a place for you at Relay.



Sunday School: Worship Service:

Bethlehem....	Every Sunday 11:00 am	10:00 am
Live Oak.....	Every Sunday 10:00 am	11:00 am
Windsor.....	Every Sunday 9:45 am	8:45 am



Bethlehem News

**Come join the prayer group each Sunday Morning at 9:30 am
and choir practice each Wednesday night at 7:00pm**

- United Methodist Women will meet on Mon. May 9 at the church Fellowship Hall at 7:30 pm. All ladies are invited to attend.
- Emmaus Reunion Group will be held on Sun. May 1 at Windsor UMC at 6:00 pm with covered dish meal. If you are interested in attending one of the upcoming walks in October, please contact Pastor Tim or Pastor Tyrone.
- Wonderful Wednesday will be held May 25th at the fellowship hall. We will be having a House Warming/Pantry Packing Shower for Benji Strope, who is now enjoying his new home. Come out and enjoy a good meal also.
- Thanks to all who helped, attended and prayed for the successful Benefit Dinner for Maxine Brown. All proceeds went to help with the enormous expense of her lung transplant. She continues to recuperate and rehabilitate in Durham, NC.
- Relay for Life is May 6th and 7th. If you are willing to walk or help in the booth, please contact Julia Riley at 876-7184.
- Remember your Moms on Mother's Day and every day throughout the coming year!

**No gift to your mother can ever equal her gift to you – life!
Anonymous**

Happy Birthday!

1 Deborah Phillips
5 Ben Suggs
10 Bernie Schermerhorn
10 Sandra Sessoms
14 Bill Call
18 Nicole Dove
20 Carrie Inman Nance
21 Lindsay Dunham Conklin
22 Ryder Faircloth
23 Rose Melvin Johnson
27 Myrtle Dunham
29 Ann Dunn
31 Faith & Grace Faircloth

We support our Church by our Service

Nursery Workers:

May 1 Donna Melvin, Nicole Dove
8 Warren Sholar, Amy Pharr
15 Kenny Inman, Kathy McGurgan
22 Jessica Warren, Megan Inman
29 Tammy Byrd, Sharon Elkins

Ushers for May

Robby Mills, Tim Nance

Child Ushers for May

Morgan Inman, Chris Byrd

Greeters for May

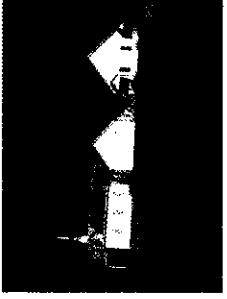
Nanette Inman, Chase Lancaster, Abby Inman

Acolyte for May

Samantha Byrd

Happy Anniversary!

4(02) Hank & Shannon Ross
6(06) Hadley & Joanie Bowen
14(95) Kenny & Nanette Inman



Live Oak UMC

We have had such a wonderful Easter Season! Everything from the 24 Hours Bible Study and Sermon series to the Easter Service. Thanks so much to everyone who took part in Maundy Thursday, the Sunrise Service, and the Easter Sunday Service here at Live Oak. There are so many who worked so hard to put it all together and we were so happy to see so many come out and enjoy it! The fellowship and worship have all been such a blessing and will be continued throughout May.

Worship and Fellowship events coming up! Live Oak has a Joy Night Scheduled for May 21st, and a Sweet Spirit Sunday scheduled for the 25th. Mark your calendars for Windsor's Relay for Life Event May 6 and 7th. Mary and Laverle's Pig pickin' is scheduled for the 28th of May.

Mission events coming up! The ERT (Emergency Response Training) is coming up in June! The importance of being an Emergency Responder could not be more evident than it is right now, considering the recent storms that have ravaged our area. I want to drift aside right now and get "off point" just to give a Huge Thank You to everyone who came out and helped with the clean up on Old Fayetteville Rd. All the hard work was appreciated greatly.

Another mission event is the Stop Hunger Now event which is scheduled for September. Several volunteers will be packing food to feed hungry people throughout the world. We'll be raising funds for this event throughout the summer.

You're invited! This is your official invitation! Come out to some of these Worship and Fellowship events. Come be part of one of these very worthwhile Missions. And there is, as always reason to invite a friend.

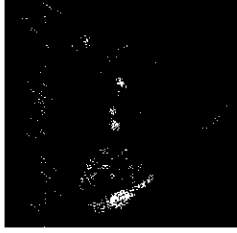
Please also keep our shut-ins, those who are injured, those who are depressed, and those who are just plain suffering in your prayers. Please keep praying for all those who have been touched by the storms.

We would love to share your news and information so let us know by email armstia@earthlink.net or by calling 910-588-6255. We're both on Facebook too!

-Teresa Moore

Happy Anniversary!

14 *Richard & Tammy Faircloth*
19(88) *Bill & Sylvia Wilson*
28(77) *Dave & Karen Valenzuela*
31(86) *David & Mary Herring*



We support our Church by our Service

Nursery ~ Ages 0-4

May 1	Patsy Moffat, Christy Cain
8	Sarah West, Cora Sadler
15	Mary Stansbury, Robin Kotszycski
22	Sylvia Wilson, Nydzia Smith
29	Judy Owen, Teresa Moore
<u>Ushers for May</u>	Karen Valenzuela, Sarah West
<u>Greeters for May</u>	Sabrina Cain, Brian Smith
<u>Acolyte for May</u>	Sarah Smith

Happy Birthday!

3 *Madison Brown, 3 Joe Edwards*
6 *Tony Humphreys, 8 Renee Leggett*
9 *Carrah Faircloth Royal*
9 *Caleb Fowler, 10 Dominique Brown*
13 *Alan Bass, 16 Laverle Cain*
19 *Steven Kiser, 20 Sonja Huffman*
22 *Gary Brown, 22 William Rowe*
23 *Fred Zandiotis, 23 Archie Spivey*
24 *Kent Southern, 27 Jimmy Thomas*
30 *Matthew Rice, 31 Gracie Cain*



NEWS FROM WINDSOR

- There are different seasons in our lives where change comes. Sometimes it is a welcome, exciting change. Other times it can be devastating and sad. **ONE THING, THOUGH, NEVER CHANGES- THAT IS GOD'S NEVER-ENDING, ALL POWERFUL LOVE, COMPASSION AND RENEWAL.** This is the Spring of the Year, where flowers bloom, we can smell the fresh cut grass and feel the cleansing wind of God's kiss on our face. God has brought our church and community here in Ammon into this season in a mighty and powerful way. He has taken some from us and brought new ones into our midst and through it all, we find **HOPE, FORGIVENESS** and most of all, **LOVE.**
- Hadassah Grace King was born into our family on 4/27/2011 to the grandparents of Bobby and Emily Villegas. Congratulations to Anna and her husband and the Villegas family!! We look forward to many pictures from the proud family!
- Words cannot express all of the gratitude from the church and community for all of the people that have taken their time and resources and provided meals for all of the Events, especially Funerals in the area and for shut ins and the sick and most recently all of the victims of the tornado in Ammon that has affected so many families in our community. Mrs. Loretta Harris is our new Kitchen and Food Coordinator and wanted everyone to know how blessed she feels to be a part of this great service and that she wanted everyone that has been involved how much it is appreciated. The following businesses were also involved in helping with this effort after the tornado: **CAPE FEAR BBQ AND CHICKEN FROM ELIZABETHTOWN AND FAYETTEVILLE; PIZZA HUT IN ELIZABETHTOWN; DOMINOES IN ELIZABETHTOWN; FULLER'S IN FAYETTEVILLE.**
- Also, thanks to the Windsor United Methodist Men and Women, the Virginia Disaster Relief Team and the Ammon Volunteer Fire Department for their efforts in the clean-up and everyone else in the community that came to help out after the tornado.
- A little birdie told me that congratulations are in order for Miss Candice Jones, who is graduating from the nursing program this spring. Congratulations to you and your family for such an amazing accomplishment!!
- Relay For Life will be held on May 6th and 7th. Everyone sign up to walk and come out to support a good cause!
- I want to personally thank everyone who has prayed for my son, Timothy Spencer through his stroke and recovery and for me after the accident. God surely heard your prayers and blessings go out to the Hunsinger family from White Oak in their difficult time.
- **PSALM 4:1 (HEAR ME WHEN I CALL, O GOD OF MY RIGHTEOUSNESS! YOU HAVE RELIEVED ME IN MY DISTRESS: HAVE MERCY ON ME, AND HEAR MY PRAYER.)**

Happy Birthday!

- 1 *Evva Dix*
- 4 *Austin Melvin*
- 5 *Bob Britt*
- Colby Warren*
- 8 *David Culbreth*
- 10 *Megan Pontak*
- 11 *Greg Smith*
- 14 *Kaleb Anders*
- 17 *Johnny Jackson*
- 19 *Tyrone Mathis*
- 23 *Andrea Alexander*
- 25 *Douglas Smith*
- 28 *Mafori Melvin*
- 30 *Brendabiy Vega*

Happy Anniversary!

- 8(04)*David & Martha Culbreth*
- 13 *Chad & Sonya Godwin*
- 17 *Gary & Christy Padgett*
- 23(00) *Ryan & Amanda Lamb*
- 27(97) *Billy & Dawn Piland*

We support our Church by our Service

Nursery Workers:

- 1 Bonnie Britt, Debbie Coble, Noah Britt
- 8 Bonnie Lennon, Marguerite Coble, Siana Hall
- 15 Julia Riley, Martha Culbreth, Lauren Burney
- 22 Melanie Wheelless, Stacie Kinlaw, Morgan Higgins
- 29 Gloria Smith, Nicholas Higgins, Stephanie Thompson

Ushers for May

Lee Basden, Doug Smith, Cale Register,
Nick Higgins, Nathan Pate

Children Ushers for May

Georgia Register, Trinity Reaves

Door Holders for May

Douglas Smith, Janet Melvin

Greeters for May

Debbie Britt, Tyler Britt

Acolyte for May

Jacie Kinlaw

Van Ministry

Emily Villegas

Sunday Morning Kitchen Duty for May

Garrett Smith

Wednesday Night Kitchen Duty for May

Lonnie & Loretta Harris

I had the meanest mother in the whole world

While other kids ate candy for breakfast, I had to have cereal, eggs or toast. When others had cokes and candy for lunch, I had to eat a sandwich. As you can guess, my supper was different than the other kids' also. But at least, I wasn't alone in my sufferings. My sister and two brothers had the same mean mother as I did.

My mother insisted upon knowing where we were at all times. You'd think we were on a chain gang. She had to know who our friends were and where we were going. She insisted if we said we'd be gone an hour, that we be gone one hour or less—not one hour and one minute. I am nearly ashamed to admit it, but she actually struck us. Not once, but each time we had a mind of our own and did as we pleased. That poor belt—was used more on our seats than it was to hold up Daddy's pants. Can you imagine someone actually hitting a child just because he disobeyed? Now you can begin to see how mean she really was.

We had to wear clean clothes and take a bath. The other kids always wore their clothes for days. We reached the height of insults because she made our clothes herself, just to save money. Why, oh why, did we have to have a mother who made us feel different from our friends?

The worst is yet to come. We had to be in bed by nine each night and up at eight the next morning. We couldn't sleep till noon like our friends. So while they slept—my mother actually had the nerve to break the child-labor law. She made us work. We had to wash dishes, make beds, learn to cook and all sorts of cruel things. I believe she laid awake at night thinking up mean things to do to us. She always insisted upon us telling the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, even if it killed us— and it nearly did.

By the time we were teen-agers, she was much wiser, and our life became even more unbearable. None of this tooting the horn of a car for us to come running. She embarrassed us to no end by making our dates and friends come to the door to get us. If I spent the night with a girlfriend, can you imagine she checked on me to see if I were really there. I never had the chance to elope to Mexico. That is if I'd had a boyfriend to elope with. I forgot to mention, while my friends were dating at the mature age of 12 and 13, my old fashioned mother refused to let me date until the age of 15 and 16. Fifteen, that is, if you dated only to go to a school function. And that was maybe twice a year.

Through the years, things didn't improve a bit. We could not lie in bed, "sick" like our friends did, and miss school. If our friends had a toe ache, a hang nail or serious ailment, they could stay home from school. Our marks in school had to be up to par. Our friends' report cards had beautiful colors on them, black for passing, red for failing. My mother being as different as she was, would settle for nothing less than ugly black marks. As the years rolled by, first one and then the other of us was put to shame. We were graduated from high school. With our mother behind us, talking, hitting and demanding respect, none of us was allowed the pleasure of being a drop-out.

My mother was a complete failure as a mother. Out of four children, a couple of us attained some higher education. None of us have ever been arrested, divorced or beaten his mate. Each of my brothers served his time in the service of this country. And whom do we have to blame for the terrible way we turned out? You're right, our mean mother. Look at the things we missed. We never got to march in a protest parade, nor to take part in a riot, burn draft cards, and a million and one other things that our friends did. She forced us to grow up into God-fearing, educated, honest adults.

Using this as a background, I am trying to raise my three children. I stand a little taller and I am filled with pride when my children call me mean. Because, you see, I thank God, He gave me the meanest mother in the whole world.

Written by: Bobbie Pingaro

Today is a Beautiful Day

A blind boy sat on the steps of a building with a hat by his feet. He held up a sign which said: "I am blind, please help." There were only a few coins in the hat.

A man was walking by. He took a few coins from his pocket and dropped them into the hat. He then took the sign, turned it around, and wrote some new words. He put the sign back so that everyone who walked by would see the new words. Soon the hat began to fill up. A lot more people were giving money to the blind boy.

That afternoon the man who had changed the sign came to see how things were. The boy recognized his footsteps and asked, "Were you the one who changed my sign this morning? What did you write?" The man said, "I only wrote the truth.. I said what you said but in a different way.

"I wrote: 'Today is a beautiful day; but I cannot see it.'" Both signs told people that the boy was blind. But the first sign simply said the boy was blind. The second sign reminded people how fortunate they were to have their sight. Should we be surprised that the second sign was more effective?

Moral of the Story: Be thankful for what you have. When life gives you a 100 reasons to cry, show life that you have 1000 reasons to smile. Faith is not about everything turning out OK; Faith is about being OK no matter how things turn out

It's a beautiful thing to see a person smiling. But even more beautiful is knowing that you are the reason for the smile!

The Wicker Coal Basket

The story is told of an old man who lived on a farm in the mountains of eastern Kentucky with his young grandson.

Each morning, Grandpa was up early sitting at the kitchen table reading from his old worn-out Bible. His grandson who wanted to be just like him tried to imitate him in any way he could..

One day the grandson asked, 'Papa, I try to read the Bible just like you but I don't understand it, and what I do understand I forget as soon as I close the book. What good does reading the Bible do?'

The Grandfather quietly turned from putting coal in the stove and said, 'Take this old wicker coal basket down to the river and bring back a basket of water.'

The boy did as he was told, even though all the water leaked out before he could get back to the house. The grandfather laughed and said, 'You will have to move a little faster next time,' and sent him back to the river with the basket to try again.

This time the boy ran faster, but again the old wicker basket was empty before he returned home. Out of breath, he told his grandfather that it was 'impossible to carry water in a basket,' and he went to get a bucket instead. The old man said, 'I don't want a bucket of water; I want a basket of water. You can do this. You're just not trying hard enough,' and he went out the door to watch the boy try again.

At this point, the boy knew it was impossible, but he wanted to show his grandfather that even if he ran as fast as he could, the water would leak out before he got far at all. The boy scooped the water and ran hard, but when he reached his grandfather the basket was again empty. Out of breath, he said, 'See Papa, it's useless!'

'So you think it is useless?' the old man said. 'Look at the basket.'

The boy looked at the basket and for the first time he realized that the basket looked different. Instead of a dirty old wicker coal basket, it was clean.

'Son, that's what happens when you read the Bible. You might not understand or remember everything, but when you read it, it will change you from the inside out.'

Moral of the wicker basket story: Take time to read a portion of God's word each day; it will affect you for good even if you don't retain a word.

May 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Extra's Reunion 6pm at Windsor Patsy Wolf's Baby Shower LIVE Oak 8pm	2 Windsor	3 Windsor	4 Bethlehem Choir Practice 7:30pm Windsor Wednesday Programs & dinner starting at 6:00pm	5 National Day of Prayer Live Oak Choir 7:30pm	6 Relay for Life Event starting at noon	7 Relay for Life Event
8 Mother's Day	9 UMW Meetings	10 Windsor	11 Bethlehem Choir Practice 7:30pm Windsor Wednesday Programs & dinner starting at 6:00pm	12 Live Oak Choir 7:30pm	13 Windsor	14 Windsor
15 Gospel Music Artist "The Anchoresmen" singing at each church during worship service	16 Windsor	17 Windsor	18 Bethlehem Choir Practice 7:30pm Windsor Wednesday Programs & dinner starting at 6:00pm	19 Live Oak Choir 7:30pm	20 Windsor	21 UMW Barn at Windsor Live Oak Joy Night 8pm
22 Windsor	23 Windsor	24 Windsor	25 Bethlehem Wonderful Wednesday Windsor Wednesday Programs & dinner starting at 6:00pm	26 Live Oak Choir 7:30pm	27 Windsor	28 All invited to Mary & Laverie Cairns Family & Friends Pig Pickin 4pm
29 LIVE Oak SW get Spirit Sunday 9:30am	30 Windsor	31 Windsor				