

Spilman Memorial Baptist Church
601 Madison Avenue
Kinston, NC 28501

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THE TIE

Connecting you with the body of Christ at
Spilman Memorial Baptist Church

MAY 2022

**MAY 2022
TIE NEWSLETTER**

«AddressBlock»



CHURCH STAFF

Dr. H. Powell Dew, Jr., Senior Pastor
Michell Sutton Eguez, Administrative Assistant
Durward "Woody" McDonell, Interim Director of Music
Melony Rasbury-Cobb, Pianist/Organist
Michael and Vance Aldridge, Custodians
Michelle Sutton, Finance Assistant
Jerry Crisp, Security

In Search of God (Continued)

As a Pastor, I struggle with which direction we as a church should go. Should we work them through "40 Days of Purpose"? Should we implement "The Simple Church" pattern of ministry? We have been looking at the "Revitalization Process" recently. But is there another similar "Kit" we could adopt and lead the church through?

I distinctly remember prior to becoming a Pastor, that I thought my Pastor was failing to lead the church forward because I thought he lacked the necessary vision to lead the church. I wanted him to lead us to the place of vibrant teaching, stimulating fellowship, effective tangible results in evangelism, and unity of purpose among the congregation. I was guilty of superimposing MY vision (without any plans for adopting this vision) for the Body of Christ.

It wasn't long before I left that church hurt and disillusioned. I can identify with those that are leaving their traditional denominational roots in search of "The Promised Land." In my search, I discovered that God simply wants us to be in unity with Him through Jesus Christ. God desires US more than He desires our effective ministry models. The Lord said in Micah 6:8, "He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Once we grasp this great truth, we can begin to work out of our giftedness to help build up and edify the Body of Christ. The Lord is more concerned about who we become instead of what we do. As a follower of Jesus Christ, I need to redirect my ministry focus towards Jesus' last word to the His disciples. Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20)

It is inspiring for me to know Jesus will be with me ALWAYS. Once we realize our unity with God through Jesus Christ is our ultimate goal, we can become a contagious Christian and fulfill Christ's last commissioning words. Who we are informs and guides what we will do! I will admit I have not arrived in "The Promised Land." But as I travel this journey of faith, *I will trust in the Lord with all my heart, soul, mind and strength.* I have learned in my search for God, that *journeying with God is our destination!*

In Search of God

There is one thing that is constant in life – that is change. Our church has experienced changes over the past few years with the inevitable passage of time. Our Long-Range Planning Committee has been grappling with these changes. We do not like these changes but they come regardless. Every time we find a product at the store you love, they go and make a "new and improved" version of what we once enjoyed "just as it was!" I believe advertisers know something about us that we may not be willing to admit. That is, we become bored easily with the "same old thing."



DR. H. POWELL DEW, JR.

I believe this longing for something more has created a restlessness in our churches as well. This desire for change has affected the way many churches plan their worship services, allocate their resources, build their staff, and most recently the style of music they are using.

Once these areas have been re-oriented, the thirst for change is still not satisfied. The church staff will once again reach for the next trend in the organizational toolbox and pull out "The Purpose Driven Life," "Pursuing Vital Ministries," "The Simple Church" by Thom Rainer and Eric Geiger, or the latest "Church Revitalization" by the NC Baptist State Convention.

Each of these approaches forces churches to re-examine the "why" (Mission) questions first before they attempt to answer the "how" (Vision) solutions. It is so important for every generation to come to terms with these mission and vision issues in order to adopt them as their own.

George Barna has discovered in his research on church trends that there is a "Revolution" that is taking hold of Christians today. People are letting go of the old systems of "how" and reconnecting with the original "why." This rediscovery has begun to erode the old denominational strongholds and is transforming the religious landscape before our very eyes.

These committed Christians have become disillusioned by the traditional trappings of denominational life where committees rule and structure are supreme. This disillusionment has not diminished their capacity to "love God" and "love others." Instead, they are discovering their individual passion for ministry and pursuing it apart from the old denominational channels.

This movement is energizing church-like organizations such as Samaritans Purse, Habitat for Humanity, Focus on the Family, the Boys and Girls Club, Campus Crusade, and Young Life. Each of these organizations have become larger than an individual church. Their ministry focus is either to edify the church or meet a specific ministry need which is not fully being met by the church at large.

(Continued on back page)

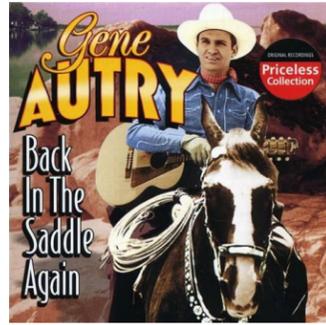
A Note from Woody

Hello, Spilman!

I'm excited to be "back in the saddle again," as Gene Autry sang in my boyhood; I've been retired for all of 6 months, and it's great to have something good to do again. A bit about me:

I'm a Floridian, the son of a Methodist pastor and a mother who kept us *all* in line. I have degrees from the University of Florida and the University of Texas, plus a more recent year of graduate work toward a doctorate in conducting at the University of South Florida. I have been an opera/classical singer, a college instructor, and a life-long church musician. (I believe this qualifies me as a has-been.) I live in Wilson with my wife, Alice Campbell, who is director/organist at Westminster UMC. I'm looking forward to being a part of Spilman Memorial and celebrating with you every Sunday!

Durward "Woody" McDonell



Covid Update by Donna Keith

Covid transmission rates are down in Lenoir County. Be mindful of crowds because Flu A is affecting lots of people right now. Masks are optional but we should all be careful. If you have a fever, cough, or body aches, please see your doctor. We have done well by being careful and mindful of others and our surroundings.

May 2022 Birthdays



Laverne Burks	2
MacKenzie Herring	4
Charles Brooks	7
Marilyn Owens	9
Peggy Haskins	12
Bonnie Liggan	12
Jackie Conway	13
Donnie Harper	15
Biff Bennett	17
Anthony Cannon	20
Bobby Shaver	25
Wendy Cannon	26
Louise Hill	28
Pat Moore	29
Elaine Wells	29



Sunday, May 1, 2022
8:00 AM

Sunday School	9:15 AM
Worship Service	10:30 AM
The Lord's Supper Observed	
Choir Practice	2:00 PM



MAY 2022

MAY 1 (SUN)	DEACONS MEETING	8:00 AM
	SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:15 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE—Lord's Supper	10:30 AM
	<i>Four Fragile Freedoms : Bible Freedom</i>	
	2 Timothy 3:1-5,10-17	
	CHOIR PRACTICE	2:00 PM
MAY 3 (TUES)	NOMINATING COMMITTEE MTG	3:00 PM
	LEADERSHIP MEETING	4:00 PM
MAY 4 (WED)	WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	3:00 PM
MAY 5 (THUR)	DISCIPLE PRAYER LIFE STUDY	10:00 AM
MAY 8 (SUN)	SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:15AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE	10:30 AM
	<i>Abigail the Intercessor 1 Samuel 25:2-13,</i>	
	18-19, 23-25, 35	
	CHOIR PRACTICE	2:00 PM
MAY 11 (WED)	WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	3:00 PM
MAY 12 (THUR)	DISCIPLE PRAYER LIFE STUDY	10:00 AM
MAY 15 (SUN)	SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:15 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE	10:30 AM
	<i>Four Fragile Freedoms: Soul Freedom</i>	
	Matthew 16:13-16	
	CHOIR PRACTICE	2:00 PM
	CHURCH CONFERENCE	3:00 PM
MAY 16 (MON)	LONG RANGE PLANNING	11:00 AM
MAY 17 (TUE)	PRIMARY ELECTIONS	
MAY 18 (WED)	WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	3:00 PM
MAY 19 (THUR)	DISCIPLE PRAYER LIFE STUDY	10:00 AM
MAY 22 (SUN)	SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:15 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE	10:30 AM
	<i>Four Fragile Freedoms: Church Freedom</i>	
	Matthew 16:17-19	
	CHOIR PRACTICE	2:00 PM
MAY 25 (WED)	WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	3:00 PM
MAY 26 (THUR)	DISCIPLE PRAYER LIFE STUDY	10:00 AM
MAY 29 (SUN)	SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:15 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE	10:30 AM
	<i>Four Fragile Freedoms: Religious Freedom</i>	
	Matthew 22:15-22	
	CHOIR PRACTICE	2:00 PM
	MEMORIAL DAY	
MAY 30 (MON)	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	



MAY

1 - No Reading

2 - Nehemiah 1-3

3 - Nehemiah 4-8

4 - Nehemiah 9-13

5 - Esther 1-3

6 - Esther 4-6

7 - Esther 7-10 **8 - No Reading**

9 - Job 1-4

10 - Job 5-8

11 - Job 9-12

12 - Job 13-16

13 - Job 17-20

14 - Job 21-24 **15 - No Reading**

16 - Job 25-28

17 - Job 29-32

18 - Job 33-37

19 - Job 38-44

20 - Psalm 1-3

21 - Psalm 4-6 **22 - No Reading**

23 - Psalm 7-10

24 - Psalm 11-14

25 - Psalm 15-18

26 - Psalm 19-22

27 - Psalm 23-26

28 - Psalm 27-30 **29 - No Reading**

30 - Psalm 31-34

31 - Psalm 35-38

MAY 2022

Sunday School Lessons— Openness

May 1st — Open Eyes— Acts 9:1-12, 17-20

May 8th — Open Hearts — Acts 9:32-43

May 15th — Open Doors — Acts 11:1-11

May 22nd — Open Arms— Acts 16:1-15

May 29th — Open Lives — Acts 16:16-19, 25-34



In Memory

Jacquelyn Marguerite (Leigh) Wooten
March 15, 1933 – April 25, 2022

