

Spilman Memorial Baptist Church  
601 Madison Avenue  
Kinston, NC 28501

Non-Profit  
Organization  
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Kinston, NC  
Permit #221

JULY 2023  
TIE NEWSLETTER

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JULY 2023

Tests, Trials, and Opportunities

July 2  
*Abraham and Isaac*  
Genesis 22:1-14  
July 9  
*Isaac and Rebekah*  
Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49  
July 16  
*Jacob and Esau*  
Genesis 25:19-34  
July 23  
*Jacob and the Lord*  
Genesis 28:10-19a  
July 30  
*Jacob and Laban*  
Genesis 29:15-28



Spilman has begun a new Sunday School Class

At



Each Wednesday at 2:00 PM

3207 CAREY ROAD KINSTON NC

# THE TIE



## Spilman Memorial Baptist Church

*Our Mission is to ...*

*Worship God, Serve Him, and Serve Others*

JULY 2023

**CHURCH STAFF**

Dr. H. Powell Dew, Jr., Senior Pastor  
Michell Sutton Eguez, Administrative Assistant  
Giles Stroud, Interim Music Director  
Melony Rasbury-Cobb, Pianist/Organist  
Michael and Vance Aldridge, Custodians  
Michelle Sutton, Finance Assistant

### When the “Tie That Binds” – Breaks

The results of making non-essentials – essential, can create a break in fellowship.

Last month the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) met in New Orleans for their annual meeting. It was a meeting I wanted to be able to attend in person, but due to scheduling, I was only able to attend the meeting online. There was wonderful music, inspiring preaching, commissioning of new missionaries, and informative reports from many different ministries.



DR. H. POWELL DEW, JR.

Yet during the miscellaneous business section of the convention came a vote that has been brewing since the adoption of the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message. The revised statement added the phrase: “*While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor/elder/overseer is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.*”

The Executive Board of the SBC voted in February 2023 to disfellowship five churches. Two of the churches that were removed from SBC membership due to having one or more women pastors, appealed the decision directly to the messengers of the SBC gathered in New Orleans, June 13-14, 2023.

After a three minute appeal from both churches pastors, and two three minute statements from Dr. Danny L. Akin (President of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest NC) in defense of the SBC Executive Committees decision, the convention delegates voted to remove Fern Creek Baptist Church in Louisville KY was approved by a ballot vote (9700 – 91.85% vs. 806 – 7.63%). The decision to remove the 5<sup>th</sup> largest SBC church, Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, CA was approved (9437 – 88.46% vs. 1212 – 11.36%).

When the results of the balloted vote were read on Wednesday morning, I was shocked at how lopsided the vote was. I thought of all my fellow ministers that are women, that heard the call of God upon their lives, to go and serve God’s people. I grieved for the loss of my identity as a Southern Baptist that was rooted in the Biblical truth: “*There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*” (Galatians 3:28)


When the “Tie That Binds” – Breaks (Continued)


I have spent a lifetime watching the slow erosion of a convention that once celebrated the autonomy of the local church and the priesthood of the believer, to one that now requires conformity and uniformity. I have prayed there would be a place for mutual cooperation around the Great Commission and the Great Commandment, but only saw legalistic, angry men parading as modern-day scribes, Sadducees, and Pharisees.

Spilman has always been at the forefront of the issue of women in leadership within the church. Nancy Wilke was elected as the first woman Chair of the Diaconate here at Spilman on Oct. 3, 1977 – and maybe one of the first in North Carolina. Today, women represent over 50% of all the leadership positions in our church.

As much as I identify with the SBC, I know it is just a matter of time before all the churches that have women ministers (youth, children, music, teachers, preachers), and churches that still affirm the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message, will become targets for removal from the convention. I believe the time has come for Spilman to make the courageous decision to begin charting its own course in the support of missions and missionaries.

May the Lord add clarity, unity, and vision in the days to come as Spilman discusses its ongoing support of the SBC and our journey into the future by faith.

	Michele	Wills	6
	Shelly	Banks	8
	R. E.	Cheek	9
	Don	Lockamy	21
	Marjorie	Fields	23
	Marie	Blizzard	24
	Madison	Herring	29



**Deacon of the Month**  
**Jerry Crisp**  
**July 2023**

Jerry grew up in the Hudson/Lenoir area of Western NC. He is a proud fan and graduate of NCSU. Jerry and Beth have been married for 40 plus years. They are the very proud parents of a daughter, son and son-in-law. They are equally proud grandparents of 2 granddaughters.

Jerry is the chairman of the deaconate and one of several individuals that keep the sound booth running on Sunday mornings. Jerry can also be spotted in the evenings checking the church to see that all lights are off, thermostats are properly set, and all doors are locked.


**Joan Graves Joyner**



January 2, 1944  
June 2, 2023



If you are unable to worship with us in person on Sunday morning then pull Spilman up on your computer or phone. You can still be a part of our worship by joining Facebook Live.




**Blessing Box**  
**Mission Emphasis**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Each Month**

Spilman's Blessing Box is located on Cameron Avenue and available 24 hours a day to anyone that wants to donate or receive items. Over the past few years, our Blessing box has helped so many families. It has been noticed that there is a growing need for more items to be donated to help our neighbors. We want to set aside the Second Sunday each month as our Blessing Box emphasis. We will collect the items in the sanctuary on those Sundays and add them to our pantry. We closely monitor our Blessing Box and try and keep a reasonable amount of food in it at all times. When we see it getting low, we restock it.

We have found there are some food items that are more in demand than others. Feel free to contribute additional non-perishable items. Please do not add fast food items or food in glass jars. When possible, please buy canned food with a pop-open lid for convenience. Some people may not have a can opener.

JULY 2023		
JULY 2 (SUN)	NO DEACONS MEETING	8:00 AM
	SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:15 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE	
	THE LORD’S SUPPER	10:30 AM
	“CHRIST OUR EXAMPLE”	
	CHOIR PRACTICE	1:30 PM
JULY 5 (WED)	MEN’S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST	8:00 AM
	WEDNESDAY PRAYER GATHERING	11:00 AM
	SS CLASS AT SPRING ARBOR	2:00 PM
	WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	4:00 PM
JULY 9 (SUN)	SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:15 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE	10:30 AM
	“GETTING BACK TO THE BOOK”	
	NEHEMIAH 8:1-12	
	CHOIR PRACTICE	1:30 PM
	LONG RANGE PLANNING WITH	
JULY 10 (MON)	KEITH HUDSON (RESCHEDULED FROM 6-24)	11:00 AM
JULY 11 (TUE)	NO LEADERSHIP MEETING	
JULY 12 (WED)	MEN’S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST	8:00 AM
	SS CLASS AT SPRING ARBOR	2:00 PM
	WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	4:00 PM
JULY 16 (SUN)	SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:15 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE	10:30 AM
	“GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT	
	OBEDIENCE” NEHEMIAH 8:13-18	
	CHOIR PRACTICE	1:30 PM
JULY 19 (WED)	MEN’S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST	8:00 AM
	SS CLASS AT SPRING ARBOR	2:00 PM
	WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	4:00 PM
JULY 23 (SUN)	SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:15 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE	10:30 AM
	“GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT SIN”	
	NEHEMIAH 9:1-27	
	CHOIR PRACTICE	1:30 PM
JULY 27 (WED)	MEN’S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST	8:00 AM
	SS CLASS AT SPRING ARBOR	2:00 PM
	WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	4:00 PM
JULY 30 (SUN)	SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:15 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE	10:30 AM
	“GIVING ATTENTION TO WORSHIP”	
	CHOIR PRACTICE	1:30 PM
	LONG RANGE PLANNING WITH	11:00 AM
JULY 31 (MON)	KEITH HUDSON	



**2023 BIBLE READING PLAN**  
**JULY 2023**

- ☐ 1 Ps 58-67
- ☐ 2 No Reading
- ☐ 3 Ps 68-73
- ☐ 4 Ps 74-79
- ☐ 5 Ps 80-88
- ☐ 6 Ps 89-98
- ☐ 7 Ps 99-105
- ☐ 8 Ps 106-112
- ☐ 9 No Reading
- ☐ 10 Ps 113-118
- ☐ 11 Ps 119-131
- ☐ 12 Ps 132-143
- ☐ 13 Ps 144-150; Pro 1-2
- ☐ 14 Pro 3-8
- ☐ 15 Pro 9-13
- ☐ 16 No Reading
- ☐ 17 Pro 14-18
- ☐ 18 Pro 19-23
- ☐ 19 Pro 24-28
- ☐ 20 Pro 29-31; Ecc 1-2
- ☐ 21 Ecc 3-7
- ☐ 22 Ecc 8-12; Sos 1
- ☐ 23 No Reading
- ☐ 24 Sos 2-8
- ☐ 25 Isa 1-5
- ☐ 26 Isa 6-9
- ☐ 27 Isa 10-14
- ☐ 28 Isa 15-20
- ☐ 29 Isa 21-25
- ☐ 30 No Reading
- ☐ 31 Isa 26-29