

# Currents of the Tar

Volume 24 Issue 3

March 2010

From My Heart By: Dougald McLaurin, Associational Missionary

## *Life is a Mission Trip*

This Discipleship Training event will be held on March 6th—7th at Duke Memorial Baptist Church. The times for this event are from 10:00 am—1:30 pm on the 6th and 6:00 pm—7:30 pm on the 7th.

Pre-registration is \$9.00 per person and may be made payable to the TRBA. Pre-registration ends at noon on February 25th. Late registration is \$12.00 per person is also made payable to the TRBA. No money or registrations will be accepted at the door.

Registration covers the cost of the event, a soup and sandwich meal on the 6th as well as light refreshments and resources.

This is a follow-up to the training offered at the Deacon-Spouse dinner in 2009.

For more info., you can call Jay Tilley at 496-5521.

It is hard to believe February will soon be a memory and we will be entering into a new season of life and the beauty of Spring. Life is like that - constant change. You and I have to be ready in every season to stand firm for the cause of Christ and share His Good News with the people that cross our paths.

If you have not heard, there is a special emphasis as we approach Easter Sunday. It is an emphasis to pray for and reach out to our friends, neighbors, and family members that are lost and in need of a personal relationship with Christ. That emphasis is called "Find it Here." The immediate goal is for you and I to:

1. Begin praying for the lost of our communities.
2. To invite our lost friends, neighbors, co-workers, and fam-

ily to worship service Easter Sunday morning.

3. For every pastor to preach an evangelistic message and give an invitation on Easter Sunday.
4. Schedule a baptismal service for the Sunday after Easter (or soon after) to celebrate what the Lord has done.

Nothing special - just intentional! Note I said "immediate goal." The ultimate goal is for EVERY believer to share the Gospel and for EVERY lost person to have heard the Gospel in North America by 2020. Again, nothing that we have not heard - but something about 94% of us are not doing. I pray you will join me in praying

for the lost (by name) and become engaged in the harvest. You will be hearing more about "Find It Here" in the months ahead (we will not be stopping with Easter). For outreach evangelistic helps, go to [www.finditherenc.org](http://www.finditherenc.org). You will find just about anything you need to lead your church in this effort.

As always, I stand ready to assist you/your church in any way that I can. Feel free to call on me and I will respond ASAP. Until then, know you are in my prayers daily as we seek to do the work God has called us to do together.

In His Love,  
Dougald

## CHANGING OUR WORLD By Gail L. Nelms, CCM Director

Our grandchildren are really close in age; Keagan is almost six years old, his sister Krissi is four and a half. They love each other and play together really well MOST of the time. Recently when they were having one of their not so good play times, Keagan said, "If I could do magic, I would change Krissi into a donkey!"

Do we look around us and think that if we could just

change other people, the world would be a better place? Maybe we would want them to be more like us. Perhaps they should adopt our financial policies, minister to others faithfully, share the gospel openly and enthusiastically, speak only good of people.

It is natural as we begin a new year to want to make our world better. Where do

we begin? I should begin with ME.



## TAR RIVER BAPTIST MEN

The current emphasis is on missions and listed below is a list of upcoming events:

- 1) The Spring Missions Rally in Pittsboro takes place March 16th at Emmasus Baptist Church. No cost is involved and a meal will be provided.
- 2) There is a Baptist Men's Mission Conference in Charlotte on April 9th—10th at Hickory Grove Baptist Church. There will be a small cost depending on how much of the conference you attend.
- 3) NCBM Disaster Training: There are five dates and locations for this training with a cost for the training as well as an overnight stay. It is also recommended that you have experience with disaster work.

For more information on any of these events, please contact Sammy Gupton (TRBA Baptist Men's Director) at 853-3421 (home), 495-1055 (cell) or contact him via email at [sjgupton@embarqmail.com](mailto:sjgupton@embarqmail.com)

### RE M I N D E R

The Tar River Baptist Association will hold its Spring Meeting on Monday, April 26th at 7:00 pm at Pine Ridge Baptist church in Zebulon.

The theme will be "Trusting God: Be Strong and Courageous (in a Secular World)."  
Joshua 1:6-9

Several things you should know:

The Spring Meeting, now known as Tar River Women's Celebration, will be held on April 6th at the TRBA beginning at 6:30 pm. There is no registration required and it is open to all women of the Tar River churches. Each group attending is asked to bring one or two finger foods for refreshments.

There is an Easter Basket Project going on for foster kids in Nash and Franklin Counties with a need for approximately 80 baskets as well as stuffed animals and candy for teenage boys and girls. The

baskets, etc. can be dropped off at the TRBA March 22nd—24th. Volunteers are needed to deliver these items to the Foster Care offices. Call Kathy Robles at 252-459-2688 if you are interested.



### Find It Here Emphasis in Full Swing

By now every church should have received some information regarding NC's emphasis to reach the lost of our communities called "Find It Here." If not, contact TRBA for additional details. All North Carolina churches have been asked to participate in a beginning effort that will ultimately result in EVERY believer sharing the Gospel and EVERY lost person hearing the Gospel by the year 2020.

2010 is the first year effort of this emphasis and consists of four simple acts that all of us can do:

**Every believer is asked to pray for the lost of our communities.**

TRBA is now offering a "First Friday" time of prayer on the first Friday of every month at 10 am here at the office. All pastors and church leaders are invited to come and pray for the lost of our communities and revival in our churches.

**Every believer is asked to invite lost co-workers, neighbors, family and friends to attend church on Easter Sunday.** This should be a pretty natural act on our parts.

**Every pastor is being asked to preach an evangelistic sermon (or offer an evangelistic invitation at the end of the Easter service).** Again, pretty much a given – but with our fervent prayers for the lost and their responding to our invites to church, there should be an air of expectancy surrounding our Easter services this year.

**Every church is being asked to plan a baptismal service the week after Easter (or shortly thereafter):** Again, with that air of expectancy, we should be excited about celebrating the harvest that God will bring our way.

To get more information, training helps, etc. that will assist your church's participation in this effort to reach our communities for Christ, go to [www.finditherenc.org](http://www.finditherenc.org).



## *Ports of Call Along the River*

**Castalia**—The Jay Stone Singers will be in concert on February 21st at 6:00 pm with refreshments to follow. A love offering will be taken. CDs will be available for purchase. The Senior Adult Prom was held and Senior Adult Sunday was observed. Baptist Women's Day will be observed on February 21st with Wendy Edwards as guest speaker. The youth sponsored a Valentine dinner/fundraiser for their upcoming ski trip.

**Ephesus**— We welcomed John Sorrell as Minister to Students. The church participated in the Buckets for Haiti ministry, preparing over 50 buckets. The youth hosted their annual Valentine's Banquet with great entertainment. We are truly grateful that God continues to bless us as we continue to grow.

**Franklinton**—We are so blessed by God. There were 61 people who trudged through the snow on February 1st for Sunday worship service. We are excited about some new spiritual growth classes that have begun in the church and we're excited about the opportunities ahead. We also enjoyed a Valentines Day Banquet followed by a concert by the Bethesda Bluegrass Boys and Holly Riley. Proceeds went toward the youth summer camp trip in Norfolk, Virginia.

**Pleasant Grove**—We welcomed a new member and had a baptismal service. Pastor Carroll and his wife Judy went to Florida for a nice vacation. During their absence, Jeff Hale spoke during the worship hour and Steve Bass held the prayer meeting service. We had a soup and sandwich lunch to raise money for our youth to go camp this year. We participated in communion and took up a love offering for Haiti relief.

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**It's VBS time!!! If you have a training need to assist you in this ministry, please contact Tar River and we will try to meet the needs of our member churches. Please contact us NO LATER than March 15th so we can plan appropriately.**

### **TRBA Seeks Local Missions "Site Coordinator"**

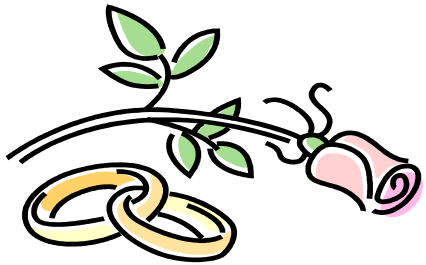
Have you ever been on a mission trip? Maybe you went to Gulfport after Katrina; or to Wyoming to build the missionary house; or to Clyde or Seven Springs to assist after major storms in North Carolina. What you often find in those places are men and women that volunteer to serve as "site coordinators." They assess the needs of the various projects; coordinate teams that come in to do the work; they make sure needed supplies are there when the teams are there to build/re-build, etc.

Well, there is the real possibility that 2 or 3 similar projects are coming our way as Tar River Baptists. Some building/re-building projects where members of Tar River churches as well as people from other areas may be coming in to assist. We are not currently in a position to reveal specifics, but we feel pretty confident they will be coming our way.

What we are seeking now is at least one individual that has the time and expertise to serve as volunteer coordinator for such an effort when it comes to the area. Unlike those that go off to Gulfport, Wyoming, Vermont, etc. and live there for a season, you would be able to sleep in your own bed and commute to local work site as teams arrive.

If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Dougald at 919-496-7172 or [dom-tarriver@hotmail.com](mailto:dom-tarriver@hotmail.com).

**All Council Directors and Committee Chairs must have their report turned in to the TRBA NO LATER than April 1st in order for it to be included in the Book of Reports for the Spring Meeting. If you have any questions, you can call Meryl at 496-7172 or email her at [tarriverbaptist@hotmail.com](mailto:tarriverbaptist@hotmail.com).**



### FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

20 Rev. & Mrs. Chris Ehrlich, Spring Hope

### MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

10 Rev. & Mrs. Henry Stamper, White Level  
23 Rev. & Mrs. Alan Cotney



### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

07 Krista McGinnis, Wife of Rev. Don McGinnis, Mount Zion  
09 Connie Byers, Wife of Rev. Kevin Byers, Pilot  
12 Rev. Albie Brice, Philadelphia  
12 Landon Spain, Son of Rev. & Mrs. Michael Spain, Bunn  
19 Moryah Byers, Daughter of Rev. & Mrs. Kevin Byers, Pilot  
21 Corey Stamper, Son of Rev. & Mrs. Henry Stamper, White Level  
25 Rev. Michael Spain, Bunn

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

03 Carrie Greene, Wife of Rev. Josh Greene, Social Plains  
04 Hannah Spain, Daughter of Rev. & Mrs. Michael Spain, Bunn  
06 Jenna Mayfield, Daughter of Rev. & Mrs. Wesley Mayfield, Saint's Delight  
12 Rev. Dougald McLaurin, TRBA  
13 Jennifer Wade, Wife of Rev. Steven Wade, Poplar Spring  
14 Rev. Gene Whitehouse, Peachtree  
15 Ben Duncan, Son of Rev. & Mrs. Duncan, Bailey  
15 Rev. Henry Stamper, White Level  
21 David Roach, Son of Rev. & Mrs. Earl Roach, Hopkins Chapel  
23 Rev. Gary McNair, Flat Rock  
24 Tleshia Farrar, Wife of Rev. Brent Farrar, Corinth  
30 Caleb Cottrell, Son of Rev. & Mrs. Mark Cottrell, Pearce

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