



CHALLENGER 2025

Second Baptist Church 201 N. Houser St. Cherryville, NC 28021

A Word from Matt

In bygone days individuals would come to town trying to sell “cure alls.” These magic elixirs were promoted to cure just about anything under the sun, but the problem is that these snake oil salesmen were often peddling useless tonics or worse dangerous mixtures. Sadly, once individuals were wise to the ineffectiveness of the cure, the salesman would have moved on to the next town and the next group of unsuspecting customers. The reason these kinds of salesman were successful is not because the product they sold worked, but because they appealed to a basic human desire for an easy fix. We are often blindsided by easy fixes and that is often to our detriment.

I bring this up because many times we find ourselves looking for the next fix to whatever our problem may be. Maybe it’s a new gadget that will save us time or a simple pill that will melt our pounds off of us or maybe it’s the ill-founded belief that if we do everything right then all of our problems will go away. Jesus promised us in John 16:33 that in this world we would experience difficulties. The sad reality that many of us fail to grasp is that in this life there are no easy fixes. Jesus in that same verse promises that we can take heart because he has overcome the world. This is good news but his overcoming the world was not an easy fix, it involved a cross.

For many of us, we begin a new year with goals and aspirations but then the reality of how hard those goals and aspirations may be hits and we lose heart. We look around us and think that everyone has it easier than us, when in reality they are looking at us wondering how we have it so easy. One area I see many people struggling with today is the issue of worry. Anxiety and worry permeate our culture as folks look for the next big bad thing to come our way. Anxiety is a joy killer, it will rob you of peace, it will steal your contentment, and anxiety and worry is exactly what Satan wants you to focus on. Jesus offered a cure for worry in Matthew 6 when he tells us to not worry but to instead consider the lilies of the field and the birds of the air. Jesus wants us to understand that we don’t need to worry because God is going to take care of us. That is a truth we can hold onto but let me point out something else in what Jesus tells us that I think we often overlook.

Jesus tells us to consider the lilies and the birds of the air. Considering requires that we give deliberate attention to a subject. In order for us to consider the lilies and the birds we have to slow down enough to pay attention to them. Instead of rushing through life at a million miles an hour, maybe one way we can cure the anxiety of our hearts is to slow down and learn to say no to everything the world is pushing at us. Maybe we need to look at the beauty around us instead of rushing past everything. Maybe we need to stop and ponder all the good gifts and provisions that God has given us to bring us to this point and by being grateful we can experience a contentment that will drive out the worry in our hearts.

The world is going to try to sale us a cure all that says we have to do everything and have everything and be everything. Jesus wants us to slow down and remember that we are His, He will take care of our needs, and He will be everything that we need. In Him we find peace and joy and contentment that counters all of the anxieties that the world will throw at us.

Dr. Matt Thomas
Senior Pastor
Second Baptist Church
Cherryville, NC



In Honor and Memory

LOTTIE MOON

In Honor of Wanda Shull

By: Richard Shull & Grandbaby's

In Honor of Loretta Shull

By: Richard & Wanda Shull

In Honor of Grandchildren (Emma, Piper, Parker & Blaney)

By: Richard & Wanda Shull

GIDEON BIBLES

In Honor of Bill Maunzy's Birthday

By: Donny & Sharon Schronce

By: Chris & Tammy Kiser

LOTTIE MOON

In Memory of Dan Shull

By: Richard & Wanda Shull

GIDEON BIBLES

In Memory of Jasper Yelton

By: Donny & Sharon Schronce

By: Bill & Kathy Black

By: Second Baptist Church

By: Chris & Tammy Kiser

By: Vickie Walker

By: Johnny & Debbie Pearson

In Memory of Wilbert Schronce

By: Bill & Kathy Black

By: Second Baptist Church

By: Chris & Tammy Kiser

By: Vickie Walker

By: Johnny & Debbie Pearson



Second Baptist Church would like to extend our sympathy to:

Judy Hinson on the death of her brother.....Jasper Yelton

Donny Schronce on the death of his brother....Wilbert Schronce



Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the Christmas gift. It is a blessing to be part of a God loving Church and a loving Church Family.

Your Brother in Christ,
Jimmy Willis

Dear Church Family,

There are not enough words to express how your continued prayerful support and the Christmas Cards meant to me, as well as, the cards from the Care Team that arrive every week! I am grateful that I still receive the newsletter each month as well. It helps me to know what and how to pray for my church family that I greatly love and miss so very much! My move to Tennessee was necessary to decrease the 3-1/2 hour distance for my daughter to assist with my health care. I am certain God will continue to bless my church family for your many ways of caring for others!

Sincerely,
Phyllis Powell

Dear SBC,

God Bless us all this year! Thank you for the prayers and cards. Pray without ceasing. Love you all!

Happy New Year,
Eunice Whitworth

Dear SBC,

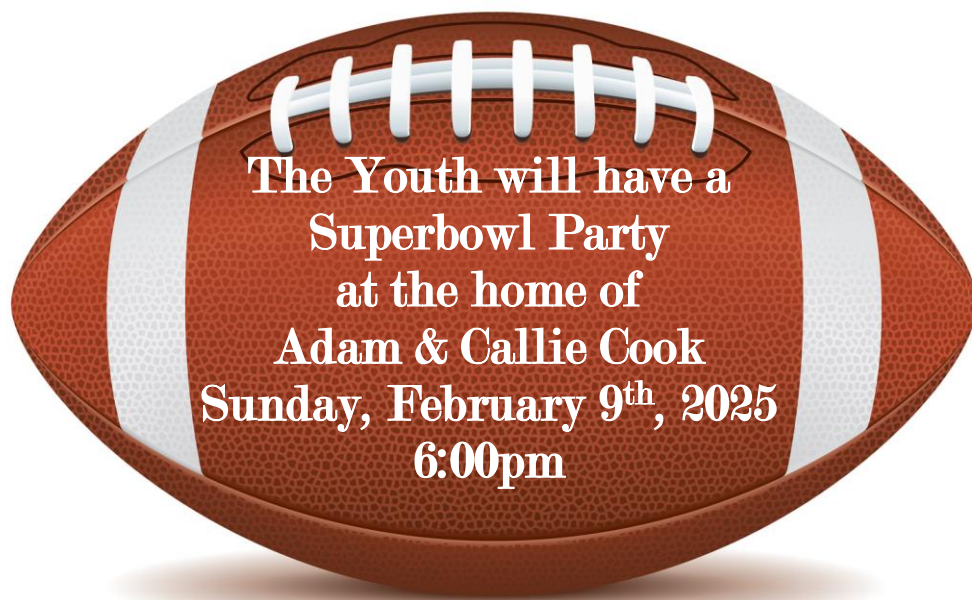
Thank you for all the prayers, cards, and Gideon Bibles in memory of Wilbert Schronce, Donny's brother. We are truly grateful for our Church Family.

With love,
Donny & Sharon Schronce

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for all the love and concern shown to me during the loss of my brother. A special thanks for all the cards, prayers and Gideon bibles given in his memory. God Bless You All!

Love,
Judy Hinson



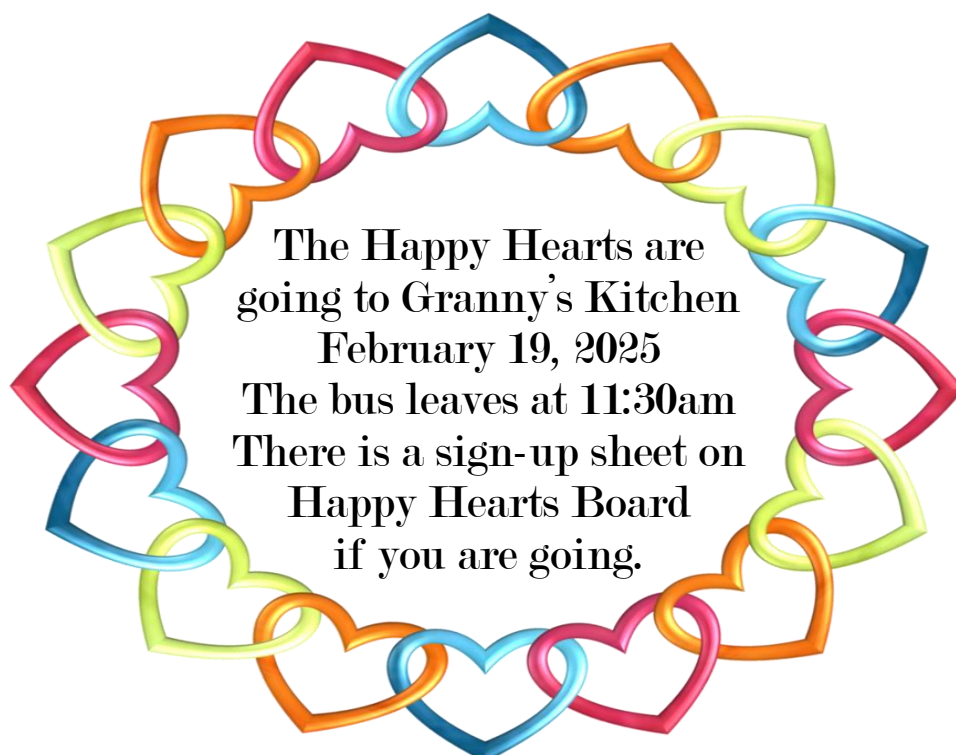
The Youth will have a
Superbowl Party
at the home of
Adam & Callie Cook
Sunday, February 9th, 2025
6:00pm



A little *Baby Boy* is on his way
Let's celebrate before the big day
Join us for a Baby Shower in honor of

Brandy Leatherman
Sunday, February 16
1:30pm – 3:00pm
Fellowship Hall at Second Baptist Church

She is registered at Amazon



The Happy Hearts are
going to Granny's Kitchen
February 19, 2025
The bus leaves at 11:30am
There is a sign-up sheet on
Happy Hearts Board
if you are going.





The Women will feed the men their Victory Lunch
Sunday, February 23,
following the worship service.

The men and boys will eat free. Ladies and girls
6-years and up are asked to pay a minimum of
\$5.00. Girls 5 & under are free.

There is a sign-up sheet in the back hallway for
ladies to sign up to bring something for the lunch.

Mark Your Calendar

**Choir Camp 2025
is
June 2-5.**

**Try outs will be
March 30 at
2:00 pm in the
Sanctuary.**

*John 3:16
For God so loved the world, that
he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in
him should not perish,
but have ever-
lasting
life*