

*Pfafftown Baptist Church is on mission to serve God by sharing joyful life and displaying love with our greater community.*

# Pfafftown

Baptist Church



June 2016

PBC@connections

## Refreshing Faith

We all know one another well enough by now that it should be common knowledge that I love growing things. It's in my blood.

The first thing I ever grew was radishes. We had a garden behind our house when I was a child. First my dad tended it until he became injured, then for a year or two my Uncle Jack prepared and planted it, but once I was 8 or so it was my job. *I didn't have the knowledge to grow much but I had the energy.*

Uncle Jack would come some time in the spring and plow the space. When the weather turned right my dad would call me to the plot. He would sit by the edge of the garden and tell me step by step what to do. Make the hills and rows this way. Space them this much. Make the holes with the butt end of the hoe. Put this many seeds in each hole. Plant the maters this way. And we were old school; no sprinklers for us. If God wanted us to have water then we would.

Some time in those early years, I guess I was 7 or 8, I picked up some radish seeds in our home town grocery store. I asked dad if I could plant them and he helped me. Looking back it was pretty easy, but curiously I have never liked radishes! What I like, and have always liked, is growing things.

I suppose that, as much as anything, is what drew me to ministry. I like helping Christians grow. I will never mention names, but in my memory I have many people I have worked with as a lay person and a pastor I have been blessed to help grow. I don't take the credit for their growth, even when they offer it to me; I was a partner in the process, just like I was a partner in the garden. ***I don't make plants or people grow. God does.***



This summer our theme at Pfafftown Baptist is "***Refreshing Faith***". The image in my mind is growing faith. Faith is kind of like plants, in a way. Take maters. They grow when the conditions are right and then they reach a point where blossoms stop, ripening stops, and eventually the plant dies. *Faith rides that line up to a point. Faith begins in us like a plant, fresh, fast and alive. We grow into our productive years, but that's where the comparison ends. Our productive years may change in form and practice, but*

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# Refreshing Faith ... (continued from page 1)



productivity is not supposed to end until we die. *There is no retirement, no holiday, no break from effective faith. We are all working in God's garden.*

**Think of one step forward you can take in your faith this summer.** What do you need to become the image of Christ you understand? What new expression of faith would you like to grow this summer?

This summer we will be encouraging new growth in faith for all ages. **Will you accept responsibility for your own growth and refresh your faith?** Let's grow something great together!

*That's my story; what's yours? I'd love to hear from you any way you want to connect with me.*

[pbcpastor@windstream.net](mailto:pbcpastor@windstream.net)

**Do you want to advertise something in the newsletter?**  
**Give your information to Kim Bounds in person or e-mail the info to [kim\\_bounds@hotmail.com](mailto:kim_bounds@hotmail.com).**  
**Deadline for July's newsletter is June 22.**

## June Church Calendar

- Men's Breakfast.....June 4
- Graduate Sunday ..... June 5
- Spring Blood Drive ..... June 12
- Night WMU Group .....June 13
- WMU Day Group..... June 14
- Kids Pizza & Putt Putt..... June 15
- Single Senior's Lunch .....June 16
- Father's Day..... June 19
- Newsletter Deadline ..... June 19
- Deacons' Meeting.....June 26



### **INDEPENDENCE DAY**

The church office will be closed.



## Make A Joyful Noise

I have a confession to make: I don't believe in the concept of "Christian and non-Christian music". Actually, I'm not crazy about the word *christian* as an adjective, as I think it makes a much better noun, but that's mostly another topic. I certainly acknowledge the importance of music in a worship service, regardless of the style, that contains lyrics which promote truths supported by the Church. However, it's the lyrics that do that, not the music. The question I always ask when deciding if I like music is simply: is it any good?

**Outside of worship**, I'm likely to be listening to Prokofiev, Duke Ellington, Led Zeppelin, Radiohead, John Williams, Esperanza Spalding, Beethoven or any number of composers/bands/artists that moves me simply because of the quality of the music. There's a large group of people who want more Christian movies, but there are plenty of great films that do what such a film could do that don't claim that label. If you can find it, try the 1999 film called *The Straight Story*, one that illustrates the lessons of reconciliation and forgiveness more than any other film I've ever seen. There are plenty of Christian novels, but none of them hold a candle to the secular *Trustee from the Toolroom*, a 1960 novel by Nevil Shute that tells the story of a humble man who undergoes a hard journey who discovers all the people he has touched with his small job that he never imagined.

Nothing disappoints me more than to come across artists who disguise their poorly planned or conceived art by labeling it as Christian. I think God demands our best, and I think that music, and all arts, give those who are part of it a special opportunity. We acknowledge that God is the creator, but I believe that we (made in His image) are endowed with that gift of creation, albeit it on a smaller scale. This is important, because art reveals God in a way that language cannot. There is something about the finale of Sibelius' 2nd Symphony that triggers a stirring in my soul that is, not necessarily better, but completely unlike the sensation I receive from a prayer or scripture. When I read a well-written novel with themes and characters that awaken my mind, or see art that viewed quickly gives you a different perspective than if you study it deeper...I regard this as a form of private worship. Some believers say this borders on worshipping the creation rather than the creator, but I respectfully disagree. *Loving the fruits of creation, whether that be the sunset or your co-worker is a direct reflection of loving God.*

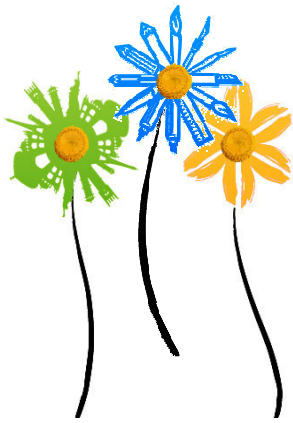
Not everyone is a composer, arranger, author, poet or a painter: obvious creators. It's also creating when an instrumentalist plays music that is unique based on his or her own ability, based on his or her interpretation. When a choir carefully prepares an anthem or a cantata singing to the best of their ability, or a soloist offers a song that means something to him or her, or when **YOU** as a congregation sing a hymn in a way that boldly proclaims your gratitude to God, you are creating! You are also communing in a way that cannot be defined in the same way as the other ways of worship, both corporate and private.

**What is one hymn and/or one praise/worship chorus that means something to you?** It doesn't have to be in the Baptist hymnal. [Email me at pbcmusic@windstream.net](mailto:pbcmusic@windstream.net) ...only ONE each (I know; it's hard), and I will do my best to make sure we sing that in church this Summer!

**Finally**, the choir is done with choir rehearsals until September, but we are NOT done with Sundays. Any day the choir is singing, you are welcome to come down to the choir room and join us for that Sunday!

In Christ,  
David

# JUNE BIRTHDAYS



Betty Sizemore.....June 1  
Frank McGee ..... June 2  
Neal Stinson ..... June 2  
Yvonne Holbrook..... June 6  
Hannah Stinson..... June 6  
Mitchell Johnson ..... June 9

Greg Rierson .....June 9  
Mary Freese .....June 11  
James Hoilman .....June 13  
Sandra Hall.....June 14  
Jennifer Lane.....June 20  
Chloe Sizemore .....June 21



Thank you so much for the gift package you sent me! I received it just two days ago, so I am sorry it took me a while to let you know, but it made me very happy. I really appreciate the package, and it should definitely give me the boost I need to finish up well. Thank you again so much. I look forward to seeing you again soon when I go back down to North Carolina to spend a week or two with my Nana before flying out to Guinea.

Blessings,  
Rachel Freese

Remember that while you may be on vacation,  
your church is still working.

Please remember your tithes and offerings  
during the months of June, July and August.



Thanks!

## Congratulations to our Graduates!



**Halley Sizemore**  
Reagan High School  
Attending UNC-Wilmington

**Kalin Rierson**  
Appalachian State University  
BSBA in Marketing with a Minor in  
Health Care Management

**Sarah Rierson**  
UNC-Chapel Hill  
BA in Journalism with a focus in Public Relations  
and a Minor in History

### Former Children/Youth Interns:

**Ashley Escoe (Sims)**  
WFU  
Masters of Divinity and Juris Doctorate

**Larke (Griffin) Blanton**  
WFU  
Masters of Divinity



### June's Shoebox Item

Toothbrushes  
& Toothpaste

Empty Shoeboxes are  
also needed



### Family Night at The DASH Game

**July 13 @ 7:00pm**

Email Alyssa @ [pbcstudents@windstream.net](mailto:pbcstudents@windstream.net) to  
reserve your tickets.

Price will be determined by number of people going.

**Get your tickets today!**

### WELCOME TO THE NEW BABIES!



#### **Athena Liliana Sotelo**

April 19, 2016  
Daughter of  
Rebecca and Carlos Sotelo  
Proud Grandmother is Lori Fisher

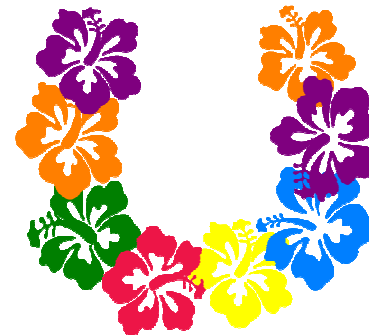
#### **Bryce Scott Fowler**

May 7, 2016  
Son of Brad and Bobbie Jo Fowler  
Proud Grandparents are  
Sue and Ed Fowler

### **Sunday, June 12**

#### Beach Dress Sunday

Come dressed in your casual beach clothes as  
we study and worship together.



### **Missions Groups This Month**

Baptist Men's Breakfast - June 4 @ 8:00am

Night WMU Group - June 13 @ 6:30pm - Village Tavern on Hanes Mall Blvd.  
~Meet @ 6 at church, if you'd like to carpool.~

Day WMU Group - June 14 @ 9:30am



## Children & Youth News

### **June 5 - Graduation Sunday**

The Youth and their families are invited to join Halley Sizemore for lunch to celebrate her graduation from Reagan HS following Worship.

### **June 15 - Pizza and Putt-Putt Family Night**

Be at church @ 6:00pm for Pizza and then we'll head to Adventure Landing for a few rounds of Mini Golf. Bring \$5 to help chip-in for the food.



### **July 5-8 - Passportkids! Camp**

Our kids will be heading to Converse College in Spartanburg, SC for a week studying John 10:10b "...I came so that everyone would have life and have it in its fullest." (CEV)

### **July 13 - DASH Game**

Everyone is invited to take in a night of Baseball at the DASH stadium. Price of tickets will be determined by amount of people going. Game is at 7:00. Please email Alyssa at [pbstudents@windstream.net](mailto:pbstudents@windstream.net) to reserve your tickets.

## RED CROSS



## BLOOD DRIVE

### **Sunday, June 12, 2016 from 1:30-5:30**

The Baptist Women's Night Group will be hosting a Blood Drive as one of our monthly Mission projects.

They will also provide needed snacks and drinks.

If you are able to give blood, please visit [americanredcross.org](http://americanredcross.org) to sign up for a time convenient for you. You may also call, text, (**336-413-1633**) **or** email Becky Parker at [bbparker@windstream.net](mailto:bbparker@windstream.net) to schedule your appointment.

There are many people who cannot give blood for many different reasons.

Please ask your family members and friends who may be able to give.

One pint of blood helps save at least three lives.

**Thank you for your support and your prayers!**

### **PFAFFTOWN BAPTIST CHURCH**

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