

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30

KEVIN COOK, *Director of Development, BRHF*

Matthew 22:36-40 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and Prophets hang on these two commandments.'"

Love God. Love your neighbor as you love yourself. These two simple commandments stand above all others, and serve as a guiding light for all of us. The people in the ThriveMore family of communities are filled with your neighbors. People just like you, from all walks of life, living and thriving with the supporting values of faith, family, and fulfillment.

The Apostle Paul tells us in 1 Timothy 5:1-3 to treat our elderly neighbors as if they were our parents: "Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, 2 older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity."

Just like the neighbors in any community, some of the residents of ThriveMore communities have more financial need than others – but our love and care for them is unchanged. We can't do it alone though. The mission of the Baptist Retirement Home Foundation is to care for those older neighbors in our community, as Jesus instructed, and we invite you to be part of that mission. Your care, prayers, and support ensure that we can continue to love our neighbors, as we love ourselves.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

STEPHANIE MOODY SHAFFER, *Manager of Chaplaincy and*

Faith Relations, BRHF

Galatians 6:9-10: "So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith."

Over 75 years ago a group of North Carolina Baptists began conversations about ways to care for older adults by starting a home for the aging. What began with prayers, dreams, and one residential home has become a thriving organization with multiple communities across the state.

There were plenty of challenges. There were many roadblocks. There were lots of people who didn't believe it was possible. Yet there were many who prayerfully persevered, determined to do what was right for older adults in the family of faith. Now we celebrate 75 years of ministry because of those who did not give up!

We all grow weary at times. Often, we don't see the progress we hoped for and are tempted to quit. But scripture reminds us that we must keep working for the good of all people. When given the opportunity, serve others with passion. Don't grow weary, but keep doing what you know is right. And above all, allow God to be glorified in all that you do and say.

"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples." - Mother Teresa



Brookridge - Winston-Salem
Taylor Glen - Concord
Taylor House - Albemarle
Ardenwoods - Arden
Brice Pointe - New Bern (coming soon)



Online contributions accepted
at ThriveMoreNC.org/foundation

Week of Prayer

and North Carolina Offering for Older Adults

JANUARY 26, 2026 - FEBRUARY 1, 2026



Celebrating 75 Years of Dedicated Care for Seniors

All gifts received will help provide quality care for older adults who cannot afford the care they need and deserve.
Online contributions accepted at ThriveMoreNC.org/foundation

BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES
FOUNDATION
FAITH • FAMILY • FULFILLMENT

MONDAY, JANUARY 26

REED VANDERSLIK, *President and CEO, ThriveMore*

I Peter 5:7: "Cast all your care upon Him, because He cares for you."

Caring for someone with dementia is a journey filled with love—but also deep anxiety, uncertainty, and exhaustion. Whether you're navigating memory loss with a spouse or supporting a parent through decline, the weight can feel overwhelming. But God's Word offers us this gentle reminder: *Cast all your care on Him, because He cares for you.*

God doesn't call us to carry this burden alone. His care is personal and constant—an anchor in the storm. And sometimes, His care is revealed through the hands and hearts of others.

At the **Green House Home** on our Taylor Glen campus, opened in November 2025, individuals with dementia are embraced in a setting that feels like home—small, safe, and filled with dignity. This model of care honors each person's story, fostering joy, connection, and a true sense of belonging.

For couples facing dementia together, Our **Couple's Memory Care**, being constructed on our Brookridge campus, allows them to remain side by side—even as memory fades. It's a place where love continues, where shared life isn't lost, but nurtured.

If you're a caregiver, remember: seeking support isn't giving up—it's love in action. God sees your sacrifice. He is with you. And in Him, you'll always find rest for your soul.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

MARY RUTH DIXON, *Boiling Springs Baptist Church*

Psalms 92: 14-15: "They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green proclaiming 'The Lord is upright; He is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in Him.'"

I've learned that age is really and truly just a number. Maybe because I'm 66 and I haven't begun to stop? Or that my 71-year-old husband is on his third year as a full-time pastor at a local church? (It seems retirement is not in God's plan as of yet!)

OR maybe because I've met so many phenomenal senior citizens. People who have lived and are still living!

People who are wise and patient! People who are full of laughter and fun! People who play pickleball with a vengeance! People who may be limited to a room or a chair or a bed, but are still vibrant and cheerful and inspiring to all they encounter.

People who bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit and GENEROUSLY share just by a smile or a word.

People who claim and live the promise that He is their Rock.

People who know, experience, and overflow with God's love.

People who live a life of joy.

People who live a life of gratitude.

God's people. God's saints.

God's beautiful gifts to us who have the honor of being the recipients of their love of life and love of the Father.

Take the time today. Visit. Talk. Laugh. Learn. You will be blessed.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

MELVIN SCALES, *BRHF Board Member*

Isaiah 26:3: "You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you."

Life often pulls us in many directions—work, family, responsibilities, and the unexpected trials that come without warning. In the midst of it all, God offers us something the world cannot: peace that goes beyond understanding. This peace isn't dependent on circumstances but on the presence of the One who never changes.

When we fix our minds on God—through prayer, worship, and meditation on His Word—we align ourselves with His promises. The storms may rage, but we remain steady because we are anchored in Him. Trusting God is not just about believing He can act; it's resting in the truth that He will provide exactly what we need in His perfect timing.

Take five minutes today to be still, breathe deeply, and invite God's presence into your heart. Write down one area of your life where you feel anxious or uncertain and surrender it to Him in prayer. Replace worry with worship—listen to a song, recite a verse, or simply say, "Lord, I trust You."

Heavenly Father, thank You for being my constant source of peace. Help me to keep my mind fixed on You, especially when life feels overwhelming. Teach me to trust Your plan and rest in Your presence. Today, I choose peace over fear, faith over doubt, and trust over control. In Jesus' name, Amen.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29

DR. BRAD SMITH, *The Memorial Baptist Church: Greenville, NC*

Psalms 145:4: "One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts."

Anniversaries invite us to look back in gratitude and forward in hope. The Baptist Retirement Home's 75th year of ministry is a shining testimony to God's enduring faithfulness and the legacy of care passed from one generation to the next. Psalm 145 reminds us that the story of God's goodness is never meant to end with us - it is to be shared, celebrated, and handed forward.

For decades, The Baptist Retirement Home Foundation and ThriveMore have been a living witness to this truth. Through its ministry with older adults, it has declared God's mighty acts in both word and deed - supporting, encouraging, and empowering lives to flourish. Each life touched has, in turn, become part of the greater story: a story where faith deepens, love expands, and wisdom is shared.

As this milestone is acknowledged, may we celebrate not just what has been accomplished, but the legacy being entrusted to future generations. Ministry that began 75 years ago continues to ripple outward - shaping families, communities, and churches. Just as one generation lauds God's works to another, so too with our continued gifts and prayer, will the Baptist Retirement Homes Foundation and ThriveMore's ongoing witness inspire new stories of hope and grace.

God of every generation, thank You for the legacy of 75 years of ministry. May the seeds planted continue to bear fruit, and may future generations rise to declare Your mighty acts with joy.

Amen.