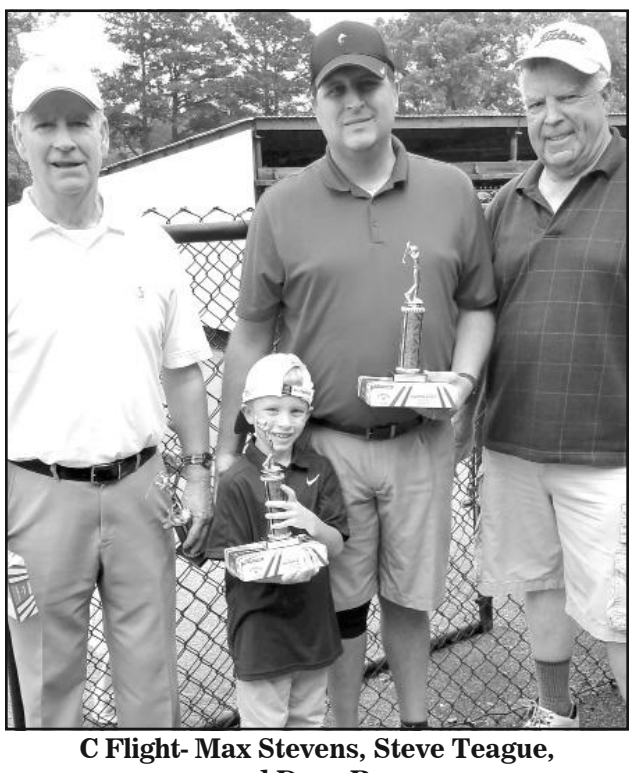
Fellowship Ch. Golf Challenge is huge success

Under perfect conditions for golf (with the rains holding off until after the final players had completed their round), the twelfth annual Fellowship Church Golf Challenge was held on Saturday morning, October 7, at Hampton Heights Golf Course in Hickory. Hosted by the Fellowship Advent Christian Church of Bethlehem to raise funds for mission projects at home and abroad, this year's event raised nearly $4,000. Pastor David Ross extended thanks, especially to the generosity of 20 personal and corporate sponsors who donated $150 per hole! Over the 12 years of this spirited competition, nearly $38,000 has been raised, benefitting worthy projects in Mexico, Africa, New Zealand, West Virginia, Florida, and our own Alexander County.

The competition, as usual, was divided into 3 flights, following a captain's choice format. First place in the A flight went to the team of Mike Beach, Brian White, Brennan James, and Logan Galliher, who carded a dazzling 14-under par score of 57! Second place in the A flight went to Jeff Smith, Brian Smith, Casey Arms, and Bradley Harrington, with an excellent round of 59. The B flight was won by the team of Richard and Randy Lowery and Richard and Jason Russell ("Lads & Dads" from the Charlotte area), with a sizzling 61. Runners up in the B flight were Lynn and Casey Preslar and brothers Justin and Ryan Smith (another family team), shooting a commendable 63 for the round. In the C flight, with golfers mostly sporting handicaps of "well above bogey," the surprised winners were Kevin and (6 year old son) Max Stevens, Steve Teague and Dave Ross, who shot an astonishing (to them) round of 65. Second place went to the Auton family of Taylorsville: Kris, Sandy, Sydney and Andrew, with a fine effort resulting in a 68. Sydney also did the female players proud by winning longest drive on the 9th hole, while Elliott Millinor won that honor with a truly prodigious shot on the 17th hole. Closest to the pin winners for the par 3 holes were: Randy Lowery on #5, Casey Arms on #7, Dave Ross on #13, and Bradley Harrington on #16.

Despite one tee shot which bounced off the flagstick, coming to rest a mere 8 inches from the hole, no one was able to garner the $10,000 prize for acing the 135 yard 7th hole (insured by Hole-in-One International of Reno, NV). Following the round, hundreds of dollars worth of awards and door prizes were shared with all tourney participants, along with a delicious barbecue luncheon catered by the men of Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church of Bethlehem, and served by smiling volunteers from Fellowship. Next year's challenge has already been set for Saturday, October 6, 2018, at the same venue. Any golfers interested in joining the fun may register by contacting Fellowship Church at (828) 495-8086.

A Flight- Mike Beach, Brian White, Brennan James, and Logan Galliher



C Flight- Max Stevens, Steve Teague, and Dave Ross,

B Flight- Richard and Randy Lowery & Richard and Jason Russell

Shiloh Luth. Church to hold benefit for leukemia patients

A BBQ benefit and silent auction will be held at Shiloh Lutheran Church on Saturday, November 18, from 2:00 - 8:00 p.m. The church is located at 1011 Shiloh Church Road in the Bethlehem Community. BBQ will be available with all the fixings, and it will be donations only. All proceeds will go to assist the families of two young girls who are battling leukemia, Abagail Mecimore and Jillian Woodring.

Abagail is 11 years old and has been diagnosed with a very rare type of leukemia called Chronic Myeloid Leukemia or CML for short. Currently, there is no cure for this form of cancer. It is normally found in patients 65 years or older. There are only five or six cases a year in the US of pediatric CML. She is currently having issues with the chemo therapy due to an allergic reaction. Abagail's father works at Food Lion in Taylorsville and her mother works at Hancock and Moore. They had to get rid of all their animals and move per doctors' orders. They hope with the help from medicine and help from God that she will be able to return to the soccer field one day, not only to dominate on the field, but to dominate cancer as well.

Jillian is from the Bethlehem area and is 12 years old. She is the daughter of Jennifer and Jason Woodring, both of Bethlehem. Jillian was diagnosed with Leukemia Type B High Risk on October 3 after going to her family doctor. She was sent to Brenners Children Hospital and has been there receiving treatments since. Jillian's treatment could last for 2.5 to 3 years.

This Benefit BBQ & Silent Auction is sponsored by Tony Smith Community Action Team and we really need to support these two young ladies and their families. The Tony Smith Community Action Team has tax exemption status for businesses willing to donate. We are still looking for volunteers to help serve and donations or auction items for anyone that can help us make this a benefit that these girls deserve. Let's show how we can rise up as a community and make this a true success.

Please contact us with any questions or donations as soon as possible so we can schedule and do any pick ups of items if needed. For more information, CONTACT: Roy Little 828-632-8608; Teah Rosembaum 910-713-8969; or Jenny Stanley 828-228-9754.

ALL-STAR TALENT SHOW COMING IN FEBRUARY — The Alexander All-Star Talent Show will be held to showcase local talent of youth ages 11-18 on February 3, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., at the Alexander Central Auditorium. There will be free admission. To participate: the entry deadline: January 5 (free entry). Individuals and teams are welcome to participate. Contact the Auditorium to register: 828-632-1366 or email: cdeal@alexander.k12.nc.us. Pictured above: organizers, Janice Gilliam (left) and Andrea Pennell (right) are shown with Christine Deal, Auditorium Director (center). Gilliam has worked at the preschool level, and Pennell, with elementary students; all three ladies have a passion to encourage youth.

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