



W THE INDOW

A publication of The First Baptist Church of Ahoskie, North Carolina

Volume 50

May 10, 2017

No. 9

From the Associate Pastor . . .

When I joined the staff of FBC Ahoskie on April 15, 2002, the longest I had served on any church staff was four years. The reasons vary as to why that was the case; most often it was because I chose to go back to school. On the fifth anniversary of my ministry at FBC Ahoskie, my dear friend, Danny Vancil (former FBC Ahoskie Minister of Music), sent me a floral arrangement with a card attached that read, "Congratulations on breaking your record." I was quite grateful to have broken that record, and was equally grateful for the kindness of a friend who knew what that meant to me. Fast forward ten years later, and I'm enormously grateful that I've broken that record times three!

My parents chose FBC Ahoskie as their church home when I was about six months old. My earliest memories are sweet ones in which I remember being loved and welcomed by God and by His church. As I grew from a preschooler to adulthood, this church helped me identify my gifts for ministry, and encouraged me to refine them and use them to the glory of God. I experienced my call to ministry through the nurturing I received from the good people of this church.

When I left for college, you remained supportive, and welcomed me back with open arms whenever I returned. You endorsed my application to the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, and then licensed me for ministry upon my graduation. In the fall of 1997 you partnered with Woodhaven Baptist Church, Apex, NC, the church I served at the time as Associate Pastor for Music & Children, to ordain me to the Gospel ministry. Then, five years later, you invited me to join your staff as one of your ministers. There are some churches who are willing to ordain a woman to the ministry, but, ironically, will not call a

woman to serve on their staff. How grateful I am that you both ordained me and called me to partner in ministry with you.

When ministry colleagues learn that I'm serving the church I grew up in, they often ask (with a puzzled look upon their face), "How's that working for you?" I love it when they ask this! It gives me the opportunity to brag on you. I tell them that it's working quite well. I tell them that you've let me be one of your ministers, not just the child who grew up among you. I tell them I've had the privilege of ministering to and with the children of high school classmates. I've had the honor of helping celebrate the life and bury many of the senior adults who were the "movers and shakers" of the church when I was a child. Many of the students who were in the youth group during my early years on staff are now young adults enjoying successful careers, marrying and starting families. All of these experiences are holy ones for me.

On the day of my fifteenth staff anniversary, Danny Vancil emailed me this message: "Well, you've beaten my tenure, but you will never beat OSCAR CREECH!" (FBC Ahoskie's longest tenured pastor.) Here's how I responded: "If I stay eleven more years, I'll tie him for twenty-six years! And I'd only be sixty-six."

It's been my great joy to minister to and with you these last fifteen years. Thank you for the love and support, for the grace and forgiveness, for the freedom to refine and use my gifts to the glory of God.

I thank my God when I remember you, for He has blessed my life with yours. In every prayer of mine for you, I'm filled with joy, for I hold you in my heart. - Philippians 1

From the Interim Pastor . . .

Wednesday Nights!

I am excited to announce that we will start a weekly Wednesday night study beginning Wednesday May 17th at 6 pm in the church fellowship hall. A couple of weeks back, I stated, in a sermon, that I missed having a midweek teaching opportunity. I am pleased to learn that there is in fact considerable interest, among our congregation, in starting a midweek study. So, I look forward to seeing as many interested people as possible on May 17th!

Allow me to offer a few words in regards to what you can expect. The topics covered on Wednesday nights will vary; in fact, I am open to suggestions. Sometimes we will investigate the passage of Scripture that was preached from the previous Sunday or the passage that will be preached the coming Sunday. On other occasions, we might study a book of the Bible independent from Sunday morning preaching. As I am a church historian by training, I look forward to more in-depth discussions of various periods from the history of Christianity. And, finally, we might even spend a few weeks with the religion of Islam, a topic most relevant to everyone today.

The environment will be informal. There will be opportunities for discussion. However, there will be no pressure to speak. If you would like to just come and listen, you will feel just as much at home as the person who asks questions and makes comments.

A final note about Wednesday nights: the main goal will be teaching. Thus, I will not deliver sermons on Wednesday nights. Application is the major emphasis of Sunday morning sermons. I work hard, on Sunday mornings, to offer you something practical that you can apply to your day-to-day Christian living. In contrast, Wednesday nights will be more about passing on information that will make you a more knowledgeable believer. If you have ever wondered what one of my classes at Chowan might be like, here is your chance to find out!

Hope to see you on Sundays and now Wednesdays,

Trey



Worshiping Together

May 14, 2017

The 5th Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day

The Church

1 Peter 2:1-10

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam

The Dedication of Lucille (Lucy) Joyner Pierce

Worship Choir: The Sanctuary Choir

Children's Ministry Opportunity this Summer



Kick-Off: Sunday, July 16 at 5:00 pm
July 17 - 20 (Mon.-Thurs.) ■ 2:30 - 5:30 pm
Preschoolers (Ages 3 -5) and
Completed Kindergarten - Grade 5

We're merging our annual *Music Day Camp* and *Vacation Bible School* ministries to form "The Connection." Through singing, drama, bible study, crafts and other activities, the children will connect with Christ and with one another as they learn a musical which will be presented on Thurs., July 20 at 6:30 pm. The cost is \$15 per child. Children will receive a theme t-shirt, and a listening CD and/or MP3 link. Registration forms with payment are due by June 30. They're available in the church office or online at www.fbcahoskie.org.

Congratulations



. . . To Billy & Kathy McCaskey in the birth of a granddaughter, Maci Kate McCaskey, born to Chad & Brandi McCaskey of Greenville, NC, on May 5th.

Sunday, May 21



Jarod Nataniel Curley

The son of Tim and Jennifer Curley, and brother of Chandler and Colleen, Jarod will graduate from Ridgecroft School on June 2nd. He will attend Chowan University this fall.

Ruthie Ann Daniels

The daughter of Henry and Pat Daniels, and sister of Roxie, Ruthie will graduate from Ridgecroft School on June 2nd. She will be attending Meredith College this fall and will play basketball for Meredith's Avenging Angels.

Kathryn Paige Outlaw

The daughter of Scott and Lisa Outlaw, and sister of Brian and Blake, Kathryn will graduate from Ridgecroft School on June 2nd. She will attend East Carolina University this fall.

Lauren Elizabeth Harrell

The daughter of Bryan and Liz Harrell, and sister of Cade, Lauren will graduate from Ridgecroft School on June 2nd. She will attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the fall.

Alexander Boyd Tisdale

The son of Stephen and Sherri Burgess, and brother of Reid and Andy, Boyd will graduate from the North Carolina School of Science and Math on May 27th. He will be attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill this fall.



Your Pastor Search Committee covets your prayers as we work to secure the next pastor of our church: Linda Alexander, Sarah Grace Britton, Henry Daniels, Ernie Evans, Sandra Pierce, Penny Rose, & Scott Outlaw.



May 7, 2017

Weekly Need	\$ 8,778.00
Weekly Offering	\$ 10,137.31
Difference	\$ 1,359.31
YTD Needs	\$ 166,782.00
YTD Offerings	\$ 152,132.28
YTD Difference	\$ -14,649.72
YTD Interest Income	\$ -0-
NC Missions & Ministries	\$ 150.00

Thank you for your generous gifts!



The First Baptist Family extends congratulations and best wishes to:

Elizabeth Lucille Whitley Joyner

Daughter of Don & LuAnn Joyner
on her May 15th graduation from
Wake Forest University

with a
BA in Psychology, minor in Anthropology

Elizabeth will remain at WFU for Graduate School, working on a Masters Degree in Clinical Behavioral Health Counseling.

SERVING IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Week of May 14—20

Minister on Call

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam, 398-7321

Deacons on Call

Debbie Magette, 332-4673

Justin Freeman, 287-9750

Extended Session—May 14

Birth-Age 2: Jean Parker, Debbie Rawls,
& Peggy Springfield

Ages 3-5: Jessica Britton & Anna Greene

Ushers—May 14

Jamie Burns, Debbie Greene, Tim Frei,
Mollee Frei Lamm, Chip Rose, & Chloe Rose;
Balcony: Fletcher & Pate Pierce

Sound System—May 14

Henry Daniels

Floral Offering—May 14

JoAnn & Gene Herring

Home Delivered Meals—May 15

Bess & William Leary, Sr.

Food Pantry— May 19

Bonnie Revelle

Week of May 21—27

Minister on Call

Rev. Anita Thompson, 395-0061

Deacons on Call

James Early, 395-2163

Bryan Harrell, 370-8440

Extended Session—May 7

Birth-Age 2: Melanie Byrum, Susan Earley,
& JoAnn Herring

Ages 3-5: Nancy Perry & Mary Page Pierce

Ushers—May 21

Charles Hughes, Patricia Hughes, Spencer
Matthews, Camille Pierce, Lane Slachta,
& Carroll Thompson;

Balcony: Colby Hauser & Keith Rawls

Sound System — May 21

Walt Pierce

Floral Offering — May 21

TBA

Home Delivered Meals—May 22

Susan & Bill Early

Food Pantry— May 26

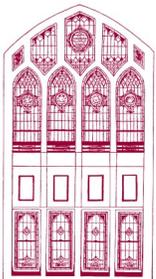
Vicky Overman

Sunday School at Creekside —May 21

Edith Freeman Class

Ahoskie Food Pantry in Need of Funds

Approximately \$2500 is needed to help fund the Back Pack Ministry through the remainder of this school year. This ministry provides food for approximately 250 children each weekend. If you'd like to make a donation, please make your check payable to "Ahoskie Food Pantry" and mail it to PO Box 159, Ahoskie.



The Window

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie

Main and West Streets

PO Box 649

Ahoskie, NC 27910-0649

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT ORG.
BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
AHOSKIE, N. C.
PERMIT NO. 64

phone 252-332-4003

fax 252-209-0225

email office@fbcahoskie.org

web www.fbcahoskie.org

Office Hours:

8:00 am -5:00 pm Monday-Thursday

Office Closed on Friday