



W THE INDOW

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Volume 51

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No. 5

That Was Easy!

I invited someone to church recently. And it was easy, effortless really! I admit I was a bit surprised. Sometimes, asking can be intimidating. Not this time, however. Let me tell you all about it and why I think the experience was so natural.

I was in a restaurant and I saw a friend. We are not bffs (best friends forever). However, through my time in our area, I have had several significant conversations with him. Most often we talk politics. And, as it so happens, our politics align quite nicely. While I think Steve knows my line of work, we have never had a conversation about faith. During this recent encounter, I felt inspired to bring up faith, but in a safe manner. So, I said, "Steve, are you a church going kind of guy?" He shook his head from right to left and said, "Naw." I then replied, "Well, I serve a good congregation. We would love to have you visit First Baptist Ahoskie." Because I know him well, I then added, "And we will not ask for any money your first four Sundays!" We laughed and then went on with our conversation about politics.

I would like to ask you to be sensitive to opportunities to invite people to church which, though it did not happen in the case described above, might lead to an even deeper discussion about your belief in Jesus the Christ. Furthermore, I would like to encourage you with a reality I have experienced many times: whether we simply invite someone to church or go deeper with a discussion about our own encounter with Christ, the sharing of our Christian faith can be very natural, even easy! As we get to know people, we share our lives with each other. We listen to their stories and they listen to our stories. You likely know if a person you talk with on a regular basis favors Duke or Chapel Hill. You likely know how many children that person has. You may even know the condition of their

parent's health. So, why not talk church and faith? In relationships, we win the right to be heard – to share what matters most to us. As important as ACC basketball is, there are matters in this life of greater importance! Agreed?

An old-fashioned invitation to church is still vital, even in our plugged-in society. I remind you of why this is still so. When in church, what God has done for us through the death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ takes center stage. This does not happen anywhere else. When people come to church they are exposed to this very good news. In addition, on a practical plane, if a church is to survive from one generation to the next there must be new faces because people die every day. As you have heard me say before, I very much approve of our current church growth strategy – reproduction! Nonetheless, at some point I suspect our birth rate will slow.

So, in an effort to expose our neighbors such as Steve to the faith that has brought us meaning, forgiveness, abundant life and eternal life; and in an effort to keep the mission of First Baptist Ahoskie alive and well for generations to come, let us all invite folks we know and love to church this Sunday!

In Christ, Trey

Worshiping Together

March 11, 2018

11:00 am

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Alive and Well!

Ephesians 2:1-10

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam

Worship Choir: Chair

From the Minister to Youth & Children

Greetings from a minister with a full heart!

What a great few weeks we have had with the children and youth of FBCA. We started another ministry for grades 1-6, named by the children themselves; *Christ's Kids*, on Wednesdays from 6-7 pm. We have been studying a missionary in Kentucky and learning what it means to be an advocate in our own town.

In youth group we have been discussing what it means to be a new creation in Christ and why church is important.

Church, when we see news stories of things happening in our nation's schools, it's easy to get caught up in conversation with other adults. Yet, I encourage you to sit and chat with our youth and children. Their insight will astound you and their spirit is strong. They inspire me daily and I know they will do the same for you.

Elizabeth Villegas

PASSPORT

Empowering Students • Embracing the World • Extending Gracesm

PASSPORT Choices (Youth)

June 10-15, 2018

Averett University, Danville, VA

There is still time to sign up for this exciting and fun summer camp. Contact Elizabeth Villegas for more information (elizabeth@fbcahoskie.org or call 757-434-6235).

Passport Choices, for grades 6-12, offers youth a choice of small groups: Echo, Common Threads, Grace Notes, Curtain Call, Color Palette, World Play, Tree Space and High Rise. See passportcamps.org/choice-courses for details.

WMU Bible Study & Prayer Retreat Saturday, March 10

Led by Phyllis Elvington
WCBA Mission Resource Center
8:30 am-Breakfast 9:00 am-Study Noon-Lunch
Please bring your Bibles

Holy Week Worship



Sunday, March 25

11:00 am Palm Sunday Worship

Join us for worship in the church sanctuary as we praise Christ Jesus, who rode to Jerusalem on the back of a donkey while followers waved palm branches shouting, "Hosanna, Hosanna!"



Thursday, March 29

6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Supper and Communion Service

Join us for a family-style meal together in the fellowship hall followed by a service of communion around the table.



Friday, March 30

7:00 pm Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Join us for worship in the church sanctuary as we reflect upon Christ's death through dramatic readings and choral music. (Childcare provided for birth-age 5)



Sunday, April 1

11:00 am Easter Sunday Worship

Join us for worship in the church sanctuary as we celebrate and praise the risen Savior! After the journey through Lent, we will want to join together to proclaim the full glory of Jesus' name and his love for us.



First Wednesday Fellowship

March 14 at 6:00 pm

The Meal

BBQ Chicken, Potato Salad,
Green Beans, Roll, Lemon Chiffon

Sign-up requested by 5:00 pm
Monday, March 12

The Cost

\$6.00 per person;
\$3.00 per child;
\$15.00 maximum per family





Daylight Saving Time Begins Sunday, March 11, 2018

Before retiring Saturday night, don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour!



Baptism on Easter Sunday—April 1

Anyone who is sensing the Holy Spirit's encouragement to be baptized, please speak with Dr. Gilliam, or Rev. Thompson about the possibility of being baptized on Easter Sunday.

A Lenten Worship Practice

During the Season of Lent, the congregation is invited to be seated for the Postlude. We hope that resting together in this way will help us end worship well, and equip us to depart the church building ready to be the church in the world.

Altar Flowers

There are several open dates remaining on the 2018 Flower Schedule. If you would like to place flowers for worship on any of the following dates, please call the church office at 332-4003:

April 22; May 6, 13 (Mother's Day), or 27;
July 22; September 2 or 30



March 4, 2018

| | | |
|------------------------------|----|-----------|
| Weekly Need | \$ | 8,555.00 |
| Weekly Offering | \$ | 10,016.10 |
| Difference | \$ | 1,461.10 |
| YTD Needs | \$ | 76,995.00 |
| YTD Offerings | \$ | 71,460.16 |
| YTD Difference | \$ | -5,534.84 |
| YTD Global Missions Offering | \$ | 5,855.01 |

Thank you for your generous gifts!

The Week Ahead



Sunday, March 11, 2018

- 9:15 am Chairo Rehearsal
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Worship
- 4:00 pm Chairo Music Ensemble
- 5:00 pm Youth Group (Grades 6-8)
- 6:00 pm Youth Snack Supper (Grades 6-12)
- 6:30 pm Youth Group (Grades 9-12)

Monday, March 12

- 3:00 pm Church Staff Meeting
- 5:45 pm Girl Scout Troop 1702

Wednesday, March 14

- 5:00 pm Children's Music & Missions
- 6:00 pm First Wednesday Fellowship Meal
- 7:20 pm Sanctuary Choir
- 8:15 pm Vocal Ensemble

Friday, March 16

- 9:00 am CWJC

Sunday, March 18

- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Worship: *Child Dedication*
- 4:00 pm Chairo Music Ensemble
- 5:00 pm Youth Group (Grades 6-8)
- 6:00 pm Youth Snack Supper (Grades 6-12)
- 6:30 pm Youth Group (Grades 9-12)

Monday, March 19

- 3:00 pm Church Staff Meeting
- 5:45 pm Girl Scout Troop 1702
- 7:00 pm Building & Grounds Committee

Tuesday, March 20

- 6:00 pm Missions Committee
- 7:00 pm Deacons' Meeting

Wednesday, March 21

- 5:00 pm Children's Music & Missions
- 6:00 pm Bible Study, FH
- 6:00 pm Christ's Kids (Grades 1-6)
- 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir
- 8:00 pm Vocal Ensemble

Friday, March 23

- 9:00 am CWJC

SERVING IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Week of March 11-17

Minister on Call

Rev. Anita Thompson, 395-0061

Deacons on Call

Bill Arrington, 332-5267

Pat Byrd, 332-4122

Extended Session—March 11

Birth-Age 2: Jean Parker, Debbie Rawls,
& Lou Riddick

Ages 3-5: Jessica Britton & Anna Dawson

Ushers—March 11

Carolyn Arrington, Lee Byrum, Gloria
Freeman, Alan Myers, Peggy Springfield,
Carroll Thompson;

Balcony— Andy & Isabella Woodard

Sound System —March 11

James Early

Floral Offering—March 11

Newsome Family

Home Delivered Meals—March 12

Susan & Bill Earley

Food Pantry—March 16

June & Otis Payne—Center Grove Baptist

Week of March 18-24

Minister on Call

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam, 398-7321

Deacons on Call

Scott Outlaw, 287-6721

James Early, 395-2163

Sunday School at Creekside—March 18

Genesis Class

Extended Session—March 18

Birth-Age 2: Susan Earley, Jerri Harrell &
JoAnn Herring

Ages 3-5: Alex & Sarah Grace Britton

Ushers—March 18

Jamie Burns, Ed Copeland Jr, Tim Frei,
Mollee Frei Lamm, Spencer Matthews,
Chloe Rose;

Balcony— Larry Freeman & Keith Rawls

Sound System —March 18

Henry Daniels

Floral Offering—March 18

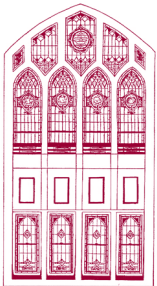
Brown Family

Home Delivered Meals—March 19

Rosa & Edgar Swain

Food Pantry—March 23

Vicky Overman & Melanie Byrum



The Window

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie

Main and West Streets

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Office Hours:

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

Office Closed on Friday

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