



W THE INDOW

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

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No. 7

Church and Summer

During our last deacons' meeting, I brought to our deacons' attention that the summer months are around the corner. Before long, school will be out, days will be warm, and vacation season will be upon us. I asked our deacons to be especially sensitive concerning how much *First Baptist* church they miss during the summer months. I made them aware that I begrudge no one time away, especially during the warm weather months. I then requested: 1) they resist the temptation to skip church on a Sunday when they are in town, and 2) when they hear a voice saying that they have missed too much *First Baptist* church, they might be obedient to that voice. I do not know the magic number as to what constitutes too much missed church. Each person must decide that for himself or herself.

I would like to direct the same request to the rest of our church community. With the summer months almost upon us, please be sensitive as to how much *First Baptist* church you miss. And when you sense that you have missed too much, please make the necessary adjustments.

I make this request for a couple of reasons. First, someone observed recently that our church has good energy. I agree! While it is true that there is much more to a meaningful worship experience than large numbers, it is also true that strong worship participation engenders a natural and good energy among people. Thus far this year we are averaging 165 people in Sunday morning worship. This is quite good. I've noticed that when we hit the 160 and above mark, our sanctuary has a cozy full feel to it. And when our sanctuary achieves this cozy full feel, there is an extra dose of good energy!

Second, we have a nice handful of people visiting with us for Sunday worship. In fact, I know of two people who plan to join our church on Pentecost

Sunday – May 20. I am hopeful that this handful of visitors will grow into two handfuls. Have you ever pulled up to a restaurant and immediately noticed a parking lot mostly empty? It makes you wonder about the quality of the food, doesn't it? For the sake of a good first impression, I am hopeful that our numbers do not dip too low this summer.

During my fourteen months of service to and with First Baptist, I have noticed that our church *still* has a lot of people that walk through our doors. In fact, I am not persuaded that we are that *significantly* smaller than we were when Oscar Creech concluded his pastorate in 1951. It is just that there is much more competition on Sundays in 2018 than there was in 1951. And, therefore, people attend church less than they did in the 1950s.

I am so pleased that our church has such good energy and momentum. I will be especially pleased if the good energy and momentum can continue through the summer months. Do enjoy your vacations, visits with family, and the like. However, you may feel a tug that says, "I really need to be with *my* church family in worship this week." When you do, will you follow through and take *your* place in *our* beautiful sanctuary for the worship of God??

In Christ,
Trey



Worshipping Together

April 29, 2018

11:00 am

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Roadside Baptisms

Acts 8:26-40

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam

Worship Choir: The Children Choristers

From the Associate Pastor



As we turn the calendar from April to May, we welcome several exciting Music Ministry opportunities at FBC.

The details are below. I hope you will plan to attend, and will invite your neighbors, co-workers and friends to join you.

Grace & peace,

Anita

Wednesday, May 2
Children's Music & Missions
End-of-Year Program
 6:00 pm Meal • 6:45 pm Program

Sunday, May 20 at 4:00 pm
All Creation Sings!
 Presented by the Music Friends (Age 3-K),
 Children Choristers (Grades 1-6), Chairo,
 the Sanctuary Choir & Vocal Ensemble.

An Ice Cream Fellowship will Follow

Thursday, May 31 at 5:00 pm
The Youth Choir of
Church Street United Methodist Church
Knoxville, TN
 Directed by Anita's ECU Classmate, Tim Ward

Baptism on Pentecost Sunday



On May 20th, Pentecost Sunday, we will celebrate the birthday of the church and, as part of that celebration, we encourage anyone who is sensing the Holy Spirit's encouragement to be baptized, to please speak with Dr. Gilliam, Rev. Thompson, or Mrs. Villegas about the possibility of being baptized on Pentecost Sunday.

Also, we know of two people who've been regular attenders of our church who plan to officially join that day. If you've not yet officially joined, we encourage you to prayerfully consider doing so on the church's birthday.

From the Minister to Youth & Children

What a joy it was to take 13 youth to the North Street house on April 22nd to work and paint the walls. It was an unusual Sunday, since we didn't have a formal lesson and did works of service instead. Rather than the usual question, "What's for dinner?" The youth arrived asking, "What will we be doing?" Instead of wearing jeans or church clothes, we wore our best painting outfit, most of us in old t shirts. We usually split into teams to play different games, but this past Sunday we split into rooms in order to get the most done. Rather than heading to the Fellowship Hall for our meal, we ate in shifts on blankets in the grass. Instead of running out of time to complete our lesson, we worked so hard that we ran out of paint and had time left over. Instead of TALKING about how God wants us to serve our community, we were DOING what God has called us to do, in helping Ahoskie through FBCA.

Indeed, there is beauty in the unusual. May we always be able to see God's hand at work in the mundane as well as in the ordinary.

Elizabeth

From the Communion Committee



The Communion Committee is requesting each of you help expedite the clean-up following communion by disposing of your used communion cup. As you leave the sanctuary, please drop yours in one of the containers at each of the four doors. Thank you.

Stewardship Statement

April 22, 2018

Weekly Need	\$	8,555.00
Weekly Offering	\$	6,244.19
Difference	\$	-2,310.81
YTD Needs	\$	136,880.00
YTD Offerings	\$	127,979.42
YTD Difference	\$	-8,900.58
YTD Global Missions Offering	\$	5,855.01

Thank you for your generous gifts!



May 2018



First Baptist Church of Ahoskie, NC

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday Schedule 9:45a Sunday School 11:00a Worship 4:00p Chairo Music Ensemble 5:00p Youth (Grades 6-8) Sanctuary Choir Reh. #2 6:00p Youth Supper (Gr. 6-12) 6:30p Youth (Grades 9-12)		1 •10a WOM Groups 2 & 4 •7p WOM Group 3	2 •10:30a A. Garden Club •5p Children's M & M •6p First Wed. Meal & Chil- dren's End-of- Year Program	3 •1p WOM Group 5	4 •9a CWJC	5
6 6th Sunday of Easter	7 •5:45p Girl Scout Trp 1702	8 •6p Ahoskie Jr. Woman's Club	9 •3p CWJC Board Mtg.	10 •12n JOY Fellowship	11 •9a CWJC	12
13 7th Sunday of Easter 	14 •5:45p Girl Scout 1702 •7p Bldg & Grounds	15 •6p Missions Committee •7p Deacons' Meeting	16 •12n Ahoskie Woman's Club	17	18 •9a CWJC	19
20  •4p FBC Music Minis- try Spring Concert	21 •5:45p Girl Scout Trp 1702	22	23	24	25 •9a CWJC	26
27 Trinity Sunday  Baccalaureate	28  Church Offices Closed	29	30	31 •5p Youth Choir Con- cert, Church St. United Methodist, Knoxville	Wednesday Schedule 6:00p Adult Bible Study 7:00p Sanctuary Choir Reh. 8:00p Vocal Ensemble Reh.	



- 1 Victoria Harris
- 2 Violet Williams

- 5 Jane Holloman
- 4 Nancy Baker
- 7 Kay Byrd
- 7 Elijah Brown
- 8 Heather Roberts
- 9 Richard Alexander
- 9 Ashley Baker
- 9 Jessie Simons
- 10 Leslie Revelle Lawrence
- 10 Geraldine Tucker
- 15 Pat Byrd

- 16 Finette Matthews
- 17 Bryan Britton
- 17 Camille Pierce
- 18 Lily Ann Brinkley
- 18 Avery Hall
- 18 Suzanne Newbern
- 18 Judy G. Pierce
- 19 Pike Harrington
- 20 Jane Holloman
- 20 Graham Lawrence
- 20 Blake Outlaw

- 24 William Alexander
- 24 Peggy Springfield
- 25 Duck Harrell
- 27 Tom Fretwell
- 28 Bridget Askew Britt
- 28 Howard Brown
- 28 Lachlan Fowler
- 28 Trey Gilliam
- 29 Bob Newsome
- 28 Mollee Frei Lamm
- 31 Donna Burden

SERVING IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Week of April 29—May 5

Minister on Call

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam, 398-7321

Deacons on Call

Nancy Freeman, 287-9104

Peggy Springfield, 395-1017

Extended Session—April 29

Birth-Age 2: Sylvia Britt, Kay Byrd &
Nancy Freeman

Ages 3-5: Lyndsay Britt & Drew Phillips

Ushers—April 29

Jamie Burns, Gloria Freeman, Steven
Hollingsworth, Alan Myers, Chip Rose, &
Chloe Rose; Balcony— Fletcher Pierce &
Isabella Woodard

Sound System —April 29

Frank Britt

Floral Offering—April 29

Nat & Lou Riddick

Home Delivered Meals—April 30

Joyce Leary & Noreen Hannon

Food Pantry—May 4

Jim Daly

Week of May 6-12

Minister on Call

Rev. Anita Thompson, 395-0061

Deacons on Call

Jamie Burns, 332-9461

Margaret Winn, 209-1495

Sunday School at Creekside—May 6

Bess Leary

Extended Session—May 6

Birth-Age 2: Noreen Hannon, Brian & Victoria
Outlaw

Ages 3-5: Landis Chamblee & Elizabeth Davis

Ushers—May 6

Kay Byrd, Ed Copeland Jr., Debbie Greene,
L. Taylor Rose, Peggy Springfield, Edgar Swain;
Balcony— Larry Freeman & Charles Hughes

Sound System —May 6

James Early

Floral Offering—May 6

Bennett & Joe Williams

Home Delivered Meals—May 7

Frank & Penny Rose

Food Pantry—May 14

William & Bess Leary

The FBC Ministers

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Anita Thompson, Associate Pastor • anita@fbcahoskie.org • 252-395-0061

Elizabeth Villegas • Minister to Youth & Children • elizabeth@fbcahoskie.org, 757-434-6235



The Window

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