



W THE INDOW

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No. 14

Young Adults and the Church, Oh My!

If you are in your 20s, 30s, or 40s please do NOT stop reading! If you are in your 20s, 30s, or 40s, you need to know that you are coveted by church leaders. In fact, you are often the center of our conversations. When I returned home from the beach last Friday, the most recent copy of *Nurturing Faith* was in our mailbox. *Nurturing Faith* is a Baptist news publication. I point to the titles of two brief articles about young adults: 1) "Losing their religion: Younger adults are less religious, and not only in the US" and 2) "Why millennials are really leaving religion".

Young adults are a difficult puzzle for the church to solve. Why are young adults leaving the church? Why are they not as active as their parents and grandparents were when they were young adults? What can we do to convince young adults that a full-on commitment to the church will enhance their lives? It is not just church leaders, however, who hold this concern. I recently heard an elderly church member say, "The young people just aren't interested."

The following words from the article "Losing their religion" offer a succinct summary of the situation: "In the post-World War II years, younger Americans reported attending [church] at least as often as their elders ... That trend peaked in the late 1950s, when people ages 30 to 39 attended church as frequently as people age 60 and over. But church attendance among young people has fallen ever since."

Here at First Baptist, we have young adults. However, it is true that our young adults are not as active in the life of our church as our senior adults. And it is true that our young adults are not as frequent in their worship participation as our senior

adults. Trust me on this, I have the best seat in the house on Sunday mornings! Many of our senior adults simply do not miss 12 Sundays in a year. And it is not because they have nothing else to do. It is because participation in the life of the church enhances their day-to-day living. Trust me on this too – I talk to these people a lot!



If you are in your 20s, 30s, or 40s, I ask: will you give the 12 Sundays chal-

lenge a go? As of this writing, we have 63 people signed up for the 12 Sundays challenge. Not bad – we are only 17 people short of our goal of 80. I note, however, that the great majority of the people signed up are well passed their 40s. We do have two folks in their late 20s and one person in her early 30s who have decided to try and miss no more than 12 Sundays for a year. Kudos to them!

So, young adults, can I entice more of you to give the 12 Sundays challenge a go? Will you commit to missing very little church for one year? I suggest if you do, you will experience a more satisfying life. Your marriage will have a stronger foundation. Your children will be better prepared to handle the pressures of adolescence. And, most important, the radiance of Christ that you put forth will shine brighter.

In Christ,
Trey

Church Conference Sunday, August 19 at 10:50 am

To vote on the Nominating Committee report for the 2018-19 Church Year. The report was mailed on August 7.



Worshiping Together

August 12, 2018

11:00 am

Woman's Missionary Union
Focus Sunday

Fan the Flame

2 Timothy 1:3-7

Mrs. Lou Ann Gilliam, Guest Preacher

Lou Ann Gilliam is the Director of Church and Community Relations at Chowan University. She coordinates Chowan's annual SeniorFEST event and promotes the work of Campus Ministry. She especially enjoys working with students and members of the Chowan Christian Service Association (CCSA).

A North Carolina native, Lou Ann is proud to have grown up in the mill village town of Ranlo in Gaston County. She received both her undergraduate and Master of Divinity degrees from Gardner-Webb University.

2018 Heck-Jones Offering



Our Church Goal: \$2000

State Goal: \$400,000

Beginning Sunday, August 12, as we observe our annual Focus on WMU (Woman's Missionary Union) Sunday, we will begin to receive this offering which is the primary source of support for the missions and ministries of WMU NC.

This offering is named after two past, beloved leaders of WMU NC, Miss Fannie E. S. Heck and Mrs. W. N Jones (Sallie Bailey). In 1886, Fannie Heck, age 23, had been asked to chair the newly formed Women's Central Committee of Missions. She suggested that 16 year old Sallie Bailey be invited to serve as corresponding secretary. Together, Fannie and Sallie caught the vision of what God wanted to do through the organization—to teach missions, pray for missions, do missions, and support missions.

Chowan Freshman Move-In Day

Saturday, August 18

Our church will join other churches in our community as we form a "Food Court" inside the Hawks Nest at which freshmen and their families may take a break from moving into the dorms by enjoying a free lunch. Lunch will be served from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm.

You're invited to participate by making a batch of homemade cookies or helping serve. Servers will meet at church at 10:00 am. Let Rev. Thompson know if you plan to help in any way.



Caring for Our Youngest

We are a church blessed with a large and wonderful group of preschool age children. And we have four more on the way before the end of the year!

In order to offer our best ministry to this age group we are expanding our Extended Session ministry (care during worship) from two classes to three. Beginning the first Sunday in September we will have a Bed Babies room, a Toddlers room, and an Age 3-K room.

To date we are almost fully staffed thanks to Debbie Magette who has stepped forward to serve as Nursery Coordinator for the 2018-19 Church Year. If we could get four more adults to volunteer to serve just six Sundays for the year we will be fully staffed. Please contact Debbie Magette if you are willing to be one of those four.

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsals Resume

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm beginning August 15

Sundays at 5:00 pm beginning September 16

12 SUNDAYS

CHALLENGE



The "12 Sundays Challenge," issued by our pastor, challenges the church to make a commitment to try and miss no more than 12 Sundays in a year (from August 19, 2018 to August 18, 2019).

On Sunday, August 19, in order to kick-off the "12 Sundays Challenge" we are planning a "Get Everyone Here" Day. Join us for worship, a group picture on the Main Street steps, and a church-wide lunch.



Get Everybody Here
SUNDAY
AUGUST 19

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

As we look toward the Operation Christmas Child ministry for 2018, please note these options:

- (1) Collect items and pack your own box/boxes.
- (2) Donate \$25 (includes \$9 shipping fee) for each box you wish to sponsor. Items will be purchased and boxes filled on your behalf.
- (3) Donate items all year! Place items in the OCC green & red box in front of the library each month to go toward the boxes. A picture will be placed above the box monthly showing focus items to be collected, however all appropriate items are welcome any time.

It is our desire that these options will make it easier for everyone to help share the Good News of Christ through a gift-filled box, bringing hope to a child in need.

All monies may be given to the church office, (checks made payable to FBC Ahsoskie, Inc., with OCC written in the memo line). Our 2018 goal is 150 boxes, and together we can surpass our goal.

—Melanie Byrum, OCC Coordinator for FBC

Prayer Chain 2018-19 Church Year

For many years Gayle Cross has been the faithful coordinator of our Prayer Chain Ministry. Thank you, Gayle, for using your gifts in this way. For the 2018-19 Church Year, Gayle is passing that mantle to Peggy Springfield. Thank you, Peggy, for following in Gayle's footsteps.

As Peggy plans for the new church year, she needs to hear from current participants to learn if they would like to continue serving. If you're not currently part of the Prayer Chain Ministry but would like to be, you are encouraged to contact Peggy too. She may be reached at 252-395-1017 or peg1nc@yahoo.com.

Columbarium News

When our Columbarium was planned, in addition to the inurnment of ashes, plans included an opportunity for persons to honor the memory of a loved one by having his/her name engraved on a plaque. These plaques will be mounted on granite slabs which will be located on the inside of the brick columns. The cost for the plaque is \$250. If you would like more information about this opportunity, please speak with Jamie Burns or Lee Wilson.



August 6 marked the one year anniversary of Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam's ministry as pastor of FBC. Congratulations, Trey!

Stewardship Statement

August 5, 2018

Weekly Need	\$ 8,555.00
Weekly Offering	\$ 7,958.92
Difference	\$ (-596.08)
YTD Needs	\$ 265,205.00
YTD Offerings	\$ 255,468.77
YTD Difference	\$ (-9,736.23)
YTD Global Missions Offering	\$ 6,448.97

Thank you for your generous gifts!

SERVING IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Week of August 12 – 18

Minister on Call

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam, 398-7321

Deacons on Call

Bryan Harrell, 370-8440

Debbie Magette, 209-7021

Extended Session - August 12

Birth-Age 2: Sandra Pierce, Stephanie Rose,
& Taylor F. Rose

Ages 3-5: Anna Pierce

Ushers - August 12

Representatives of our Woman's Missionary
Union ministry will serve as ushers.

Sound System - August 12

Frank Britt

Floral Offering - August 12

Ruth Overman & Family

Home Delivered Meals - August 13

Jayne Frei & Margaret Winn

Food Pantry - August 17

Vicky Overman & Barbara Roberson

Week of August 19—25

Minister on Call

Rev. Anita Thompson, 395-0061

Deacons on Call

Charles Hughes, 287-8403

Don Joyner, 396-1957

Extended Session - August 19

Birth-Age 2: Jessica Brinkley, Melanie
Byrum, & Debbie Magette

Ages 3-5: Harriet Byrum & Kari Pierce

Ushers - August 19

Heath Britt, Pike Harrington, Jane Marie
Hollingsworth, Steven Hollingsworth,
Nat Riddick, Peggy Springfield;
Balcony—Walt Pierce, Fletcher Pierce

Sound System - August 19

James Early

Floral Offering - August 19

Earl, Linda & April Futrell

Home Delivered Meals - August 20

Edgar & Rosa Swain

Food Pantry - August 24

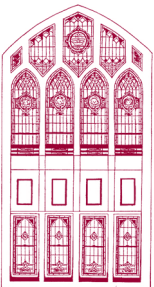
Bonnie Revelle

The FBC Ministers

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The Window

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