



THE WINDOW

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

Volume 51

December 19, 2018

No. 23

Thoughts on Full Time

By now every member of FBC Ahoskie should have received a letter from our deacons proposing I transition from part-time pastor to full-time pastor. Per the letter, a church-wide discussion is scheduled for this Sunday, December 23rd, at 9:30am and then our church membership will vote on this recommendation on Sunday, December 30th. In preparation for the discussion and vote, allow me to offer my thoughts about this development.

I have sensed a tug to move in this direction for a while now. In fact, I have had conversations with a few members of our church leadership in the past about transitioning from part-time pastor to full-time pastor. One immediate obstacle was the realization that our church cannot match the combined income I make between Chowan University and First Baptist Ahoskie. I confess, with disappointment in myself, that this reality caused me pause.

Until now, that is.

Recently, my eyes were opened to a handful of professional and personal realities. First, my heart is in our church. Of course, I continue to find it rewarding to share my knowledge with undergraduate students. And I may still teach a class in the future, if the opportunity arises. However, the prospect of devoting my full energies to our collective work here in Ahoskie grows more and more attractive each day.

Through the years, I have strived to lead each congregation I have served to develop a strong church culture. My desire was always to serve God, through Christ, with a group of people who give a high priority to the church. In the past, the evidence suggests I failed in this endeavor. Our

church, however, feels different. I do not mean to suggest that we have arrived. However, as I interact with you, I get the impression that more and more of our people are trying to give the church higher priority than they have in the past. This excites me. And this makes me dream about our future growth possibilities – both missional and numerical.

Lou Ann is very much in favor of this move. While all is well now, she believes my current role as both professor and pastor is not sustainable. I see her point as both positions require a significant amount of time and effort. It is worth remembering that we developed our current pastoral model not because FBC Ahoskie could not maintain a full-time pastor; rather we developed this model to accommodate my initial desires. And I am thankful for your patience with me.

The tug has now become so strong that I believe the time has arrived for our church to have, once again, a traditional full-time pastor. What do you think?

In Christ,
Trey



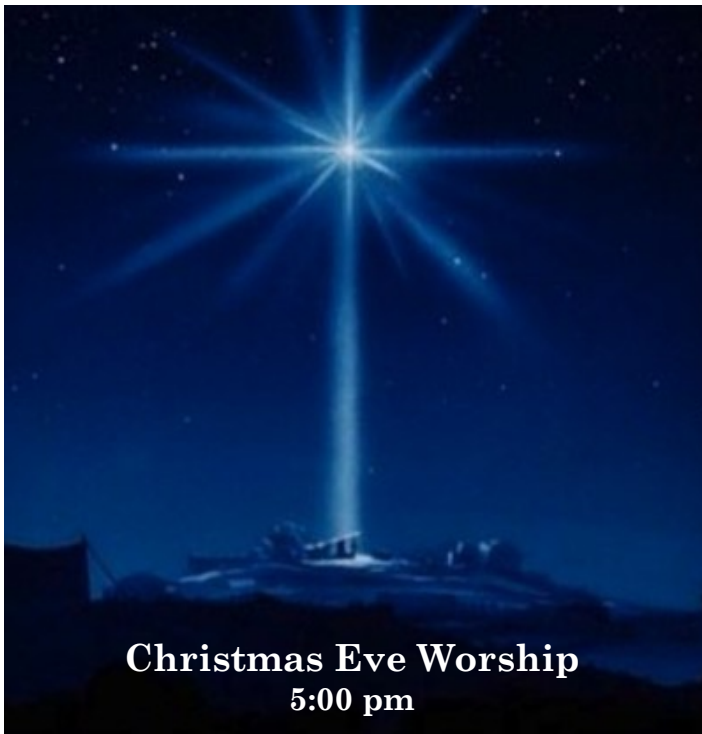
Worshiping Together
December 23, 2018

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Appalachian Winter

Presented by the Christmas Choir,
Vocal Ensemble, and Chair

Dedication of Adalyn Margaret Britt



Christmas Eve Worship
5:00 pm

**Operation Inasmuch
Christmas Day Lunch**
11:30 am to 1:00 pm

We are honored to host once again our annual Operation Inasmuch Christmas Day Lunch. We are pleased to partner with:

Ahoskie Christian Center
Ahoskie United Methodist Church
Brantley's Grove Baptist Church
Canaan Missionary Baptist Church
Church At the Crossroads
First Presbyterian Church
Jordan Grove Baptist Church
Open Arms Church
Pleasant Plains Baptist Church
Second Baptist Church, Union
St. Thomas' Episcopal Church
St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church

. . . to provide a free, delicious, hot meal, and fellowship for anyone in our community who would like to come.

First Baptist can use a few more cakes. If you'd like to volunteer for any of these, please sign up on the bulletin board on the 2nd floor hallway, or call the church office.

And if you'd like to help with set up, serving, delivery of meals to the homebound, or clean up, come join us! No sign up necessary.



Epiphany Sunday Breakfast
Sunday, January 6
9:00 am

Instead of having our usual First Wednesday meal and program, we're going to gather for breakfast on January 6 to celebrate the day of Epiphany, and to assemble comfort bags for Chowan University Campus Ministry. There's no charge or sign up for the meal, but we are asking that each person bring a can of soup for the comfort bags.

Church Directory

A new church directory will be available soon. We're currently going through all photos to see who we may need pictures of. If you are uncertain as to whether we have a current picture of you/your family, please send or bring a picture you would like for us to use. Please send them to Heather Joyner at heather@fbcahoskie.org.



December 16, 2018

Weekly Need	\$ 8,555.00
Weekly Offering	\$ 18,859.00
Difference	\$ 10,304.00
YTD Needs	\$ 427,750.00
YTD Offerings	\$ 413,071.79
YTD Difference	\$ (-14,678.21)
CBF- Global Missions Total	\$ 3,608.00
Benevolence Weekly Offering	\$ 600.00

Thank you for your generous gifts!

JANUARY

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie • 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>Every Sunday</u> 9:45a: Sunday School 11a: Worship	<u>Every Monday</u> 3p: Staff Meeting 5:45p: Girl Scout Troops	1 Church Office Closed for New Year's Day	2 •3p: Junior Garden Club •6p: Adult Bible Study	3 •1p: Women's on Mission (WOM) Group 5	4 •9a: Christian Women's Job Corps (CWJC) •6:30p: Girl Scout Cookie Rally, FH	5
6 Epiphany Sunday •9a: Churchwide Breakfast •11a: Communion	7	8 •10a: Women on Mission Group 2 •3p: CWJC Board	9 •10a: Ahoskie Garden Club Children's Activities Resume	10 •12p: JOY Fellowship	11 •9a: CWJC	12
13 Baptism of the Lord •4p: Chairo •5p: Sanctuary Choir Sun. Reh.	14 •7p: Building & Grounds Mtg.	15 •7p: Deacon's Mtg.	16 •12p: Ahoskie Woman's Club Mtg.	17	18 •9a: CWJC	19
20 2nd Sunday after Epiphany •4p: Chairo •5p: Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	21	22	23	24	25 •9a: CWJC	26
27 3rd Sunday after Epiphany •4p: Chairo •5p: Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	28	29	30	31	<u>Every Wednesday</u> 5p: Children's Music & Missions 6p: Adult Bible Study 6p: Christ Kids: Gr. 1-5 7p: Sanctuary Choir 8p: Vocal Ensemble	



1 Jeanne Benthall
 1 Virginia Chitty
 1 Peyton Outlaw
 1 Joyce Umphlett
 2 Oliver Fleming
 4 Lauren Harrell
 6 John Boyd

6 Betsy McSwain
 7 Rosa Swain
 8 Bennett Pierce
 8 Lou Wilson
 9 Mollie Britton
 9 Makynley Roberts
 16 Henry Byrd
 16 Tyson Frederes
 17 Bryan Harrell

17 Bonnie Revelle
 18 Billy Presley
 20 Jack Britt
 20 Debbie Rawls
 21 Tony Bracy
 21 Linda Minton
 23 Kendall Harrell
 24 Bess Leary
 25 Lisa Frederes

25 Erik Kirksey
 26 Beverly Bazemore
 26 Jerri Harrell
 26 Dana Wiggins
 27 Malcolm Copeland
 27 Chris Slachta
 27 Isabella Woodard
 30 Lauren Baker
 31 Jean Hudson

SERVING IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Week of December 23-29

Minister on Call

Rev. Anita Thompson, 395-0061

Deacons on Call

Bryan Harrell, 370-8440

Debbie Magette, 209-7021

Extended Session - December 23

Babies: Kari Pierce & Taylor F. Rose

Ages 1 & 2: Jessica Brinkley, Georgia Copeland
& Bess Leary

Ages 3-5: Eva & James Early

Floater: Judy H. Pierce

Ushers - December 23

Carolyn Arrington, Tim Frei, Duck Harrell,
Patricia Hughes, Mollee Frei Lamm & Spencer
Matthews

Balcony— Keith Rawls & Dawson Rose

Sound System - December 23

Rick Burns

Floral Offering - December 23

Billy Greene/Worship Decorating Committee

Home Delivered Meals - December 24

CLOSED

Food Pantry - December 28

Melanie Byrum & Vicky Overman

Week of December 30- Jan 5

Minister on Call

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam, 398-7321

Deacons on Call

Charles Hughes, 287-8403

Don Joyner, 396-1957

Extended Session - December 30

Babies: Sylvia Britt & Kay Byrd

Ages 1 & 2: Gail Holloman & Nancy Freeman

Ages 3-5: Lyndsay Britt & Drew Phillips

Floater: Mary Page Pierce

Ushers - December 30

Ed Copeland Jr., Jane M. Hollingsworth,
Camille Pierce, Pate Pierce, Peggy Springfield
& Carroll Thompson

Balcony— Brad & Colby Hauser

Sound System - December 30

Frank Britt

Floral Offering - December 30

Worship Decorating Committee

Home Delivered Meals - December 31

CLOSED

Food Pantry - January 4

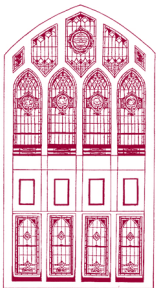
Melanie Byrum & Judy H. Pierce

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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