



THE WINDOW

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

Volume 52

January 9, 2019

No. 1

Like a River

I was asked recently, "Trey do you have a peace about becoming full time at the church?" I quickly responded, "Like a river!" And, it is so. I have a strong sense that we have made, not only the right decision, but a wise decision. My only concern about this transition is that our congregation might now become a bit too relaxed. We have been on a roll lately and, perhaps, part of our recent success has been due to the realization that without a traditional full-time pastor, other people must carry their load. We have all worked hard and this must continue.

Indeed, the evidence suggests that 2018 was a good year for FBC Ahoskie. Our North Street house is a fully functioning transitional home for women. I was encouraged recently when I ran into one of the women, currently living in the house, at the hospital. I ran into her there because she works at the hospital. We are loving our neighbors *and* helping our neighbors get on their feet again. In a similar vein, last year we restructured our benevolence outreach. Anna and LaCount Anderson now meet with people from our community, in need of financial assistance of some sort, on Tuesdays from 10am-3pm. They talk with these folks in need, decide if we can assist them or not, and even provide counseling so that they might find themselves in better future circumstances.

Our final 2018 numbers are encouraging. I am pleased that in addition to our revenues exceeding our expenses, we will exceed our budget for 2018 by about \$2100. This is a nice development because it means that we did what we said we would do when we agreed to the 2018 budget at the end of 2017. Our average Sunday morning worship participation for 2017 was 160 people. Our average Sunday

morning worship participation for 2018 was 175 people. I am confident you are as pleased as I am with our worship participation number moving north by 15 people.

In addition to all of this, there is simply an enthusiastic spirit within our church that is contagious.

While I strive to serve our church well, I remind you of something I said when I was installed as pastor. Our church has existed since 1804. I have been with you since 2017. Our church has done quite well, throughout its history, without me. **We** were responsible, under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, for the successes of 2018.

And now that I serve our church as a traditional full-time pastor, **we** must continue to work together to love God and to make Christ known in our community and beyond.

In Christ,
Trey



Worshiping Together

January 13, 2019

11:00 am

Baptism of the Lord

The Cool Factor

Romans 12:1-8

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam

Worship Choir

Sanctuary Choir

From the Associate Pastor

Over the Christmas holidays, I had the joy of attending a Sunday School class Christmas party. I was delighted to receive the invitation, and looked forward to what I knew would be a nice evening with wonderful people. I was not disappointed.

A buffet of homecooked foods was spread before us, and an additional area, filled with desserts, offered its delicious temptation. Following the meal, we were treated to a meaningful devotion which included a gift to take home. The evening ended with robust singing of carols around the table. It was indeed a very good evening. Thank you, for inviting me!

The good food did not surprise me; the members of that Sunday School class are fine cooks. The good hospitality wasn't a surprise either. But what did surprise me was how good the singing was. Carol after carol I heard beautiful voices singing those familiar Christmas melodies. And some of those voices were even providing beautiful harmony!

During the singing, someone said something like, "Anita, we don't sound like a professional choir, but we can make a joyful noise." I responded, "What I'm hearing is far better than a 'joyful noise'. Y'all need to be singing in one of our choirs!" I don't think they thought I was serious. Everyone chuckled, then we continued to sing.

As I was driving home that evening, I continued to reflect on the good singing I had heard. Why *aren't* they singing in one of our choirs? We need them. They may think we don't, but we do. They may think they're not good enough, but they are.

No doubt you've noticed that there are times when our choir loft is not as full as it has been in the past. Some folks have passed away and others have moved away. Some have retired due to health issues. Whatever the case, we are fewer in number than we were. You, like those good singers in that Sunday School class, may think that our music ministry doesn't need you, but the truth is, we do.

If you've never experienced a church choir rehearsal, choose one and come join us for a trial run. If you've tried singing in a choir before and didn't have a good experience, I hope you'll try again. I think you'll find it worth your time. I believe it will refresh your spirit.

Now, to the members of that Sunday School class let me say that I hope this article will not result in a vetoed invitation to your 2019 Christmas party!

Grace & peace,



Food Pantry Volunteers Needed



The Ahoskie Food Pantry provides emergency food assistance to citizens of Hertford County. It is supported by churches and individuals in our community, and is governed by a board of directors. It receives clients Monday through Friday from 9:30 am until 12 noon. Qualifying recipients may receive food assistance up to five times per year.

Volunteers serve approximately once a month, manning the Food Pantry from 9:00 am to 12 noon. Besides greeting clients and preparing food boxes, volunteers also restock shelves. If you would like to volunteer, either as a regular worker or a substitute, please contact Vicky Overman at 252-396-5729.

Sunday Activities Resume

Sunday, January 13

- 4:00 pm Chair Music Ensemble Rehearsal (Grade 6-Adults)
- 5:00 pm Youth Group (Grades 6-12)
Sanctuary Choir Sunday Rehearsal
- 6:00 pm Youth Snack Supper (Grades 6-12)



January 6, 2019

Weekly Need	\$ 8,639.45
Weekly Offering	\$ 13,146.56
Difference	\$ 4,507.11
YTD Needs	\$ 8,639.45
YTD Offerings	\$ 13,146.56
YTD Difference	\$ 4,507.11

CBF- Global Missions Total	\$ 4,093.00
Benevolence Weekly Offering	\$ 318.00

Thank you for your generous gifts!

Update on North St. House and Christian Women's Job Corps

First, let me thank each and every person or family who selected an angel off of our Angel Tree. All the Angels were taken the first Sunday it was up! What a testimony to the hearts and Christian love of our members. All of the people receiving your gifts would not have received much, if anything, had it not been for your love and generosity. Thank you for being His hands and feet in our community.

Also, many thanks to all who participated in the West Chowan Baptist Association project which brought cleaning, hygiene, and food items to our North Street House and some of our participants. We received enough through the combination of churches to last perhaps the entire year. God is good and so are His people.

The North Street residents had a nice Christmas and are working hard on their goals. The house looks just as nice inside as the day we opened it. So far since June, we have assisted 6 different people by allowing them to live in the house for a while. We are anticipating some turnover in late February or March as they move to independence.

I love my church family and thank you all for all you do to make Christian Women's Job Corps and our North Street House possible.

Pat Byrd, Director
Christian Women's Job Corps

Upcoming Meetings

Monday, January 14

7:00 pm Building & Grounds Committee

Tuesday, January 15

7:00 pm Deacons'

Church Directory



We hope to complete the new directory by the end of January, and would like to include all resident members as well as regular attenders. 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.

The Week Ahead



Sunday, January 13

9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship
4:00 pm Chair Music Ensemble
5:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Sunday Rehearsal
5:00 pm Youth Group: Gr. 6-12
6:00 pm Youth Snack Supper

Monday, January 14

1:30 pm Church Staff Meeting
5:45 pm Girl Scout Troops
7:00 pm Building & Grounds Committee

Tuesday, January 15

7:00 pm Deacons' Mtg.

Wednesday, January 16

12:00 pm Ahoskie Woman's Club Mtg.
5:00 pm Children's Music & Missions
6:00 pm Adult Bible Study
6:00 pm Christ's Kids: Gr. 1-5
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
8:00 pm Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal

Friday, January 18

9:00 am Christian Women's Job Corps

Youth Super Bowl Party



Sunday, February 3rd
6:00 p.m.

At the home of the Gilliams
620 Lakeview Dr., Murfreesboro

Altar Flowers for Worship



The 2019 Altar Flower Schedule is posted in the first floor hallway. There are many open dates available to place flowers in our sanctuary for worship services. Flowers may be provided in memory of or in honor of persons, or may mark an accomplishment or milestone. Or you may just want to take an open date for no specific reason.

If you would like to take one of the open dates, write your name on the flower schedule, or call the church office to let us know what date you desire. Listed below are dates that are open at this time:

•January 27 •June 2 & 16 •September 15
•March 3 •July 14 & 21 •October 20
•May 19

SERVING IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Week of January 13-19

Minister on Call

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam, 398-7321

Deacons on Call

Don Joyner, 396-1957

Debbie Magette, 209-7021

Extended Session - January 13

Babies: Jean Parker & Debbie Rawls

Ages 1 & 2: Justin & Sarah Freeman

Ages 3-5: Jessica Britton & Anna G. Dawson

Floater Needed

Ushers - January 13

Heath Britt, Lee Byrum, Gloria Freeman, Pike

Harrington, Charles Hughes & L. Taylor Rose

Balcony— Larry Freeman & Henry Joyner

Sound System - January 13

Henry Daniels

Floral Offering - January 13

Carroll Thompson & Anita Thompson

Home Delivered Meals - January 14

CLOSED, MLK, Jr. Holiday

Food Pantry - January 18

Vicky Overman

Week of January 20-26

Minister on Call

Rev. Anita Thompson, 395-0061

Deacons on Call

Gloria Freeman, 395-0370

Peggy Springfield, 287-5119

Sunday School at Creekside Care - January 20

Hannah Brown Class

Extended Session - January 20

Babies: Kari Pierce & Taylor F. Rose

Ages 1 & 2: Susan Earley & JoAnn Herring

Ages 3-5: Alex & Sarah G. Britton

Floater: Melanie Byrum

Ushers - January 20

J. C. Doughtie, Tim Frei, Mollee Frei Lamm,

Spencer Matthews, Fletcher Pierce & Nat Riddick

Balcony— Dawson Rose & Isabella Woodard

Sound System - January 20

Walt Pierce

Floral Offering - January 20

Vicky Overman & Family

Home Delivered Meals - January 21

Frank & Penny Rose

Food Pantry - January 25

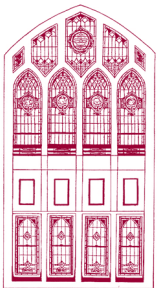
Henry Byrd & Margaret Winn

The FBC Ministers

Trey Gilliam, Pastor • trey@fbcahoskie.org • 252-398-7321

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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