



# THE WINDOW

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

Volume 52

July 10, 2019

No. 13

## 20%

I read recently that, on average, Sunday morning worship participation drops 20% during the summer months. If my math is correct, our summer drop is right at this 20% number. During January through May of this year, we averaged 190.45 people participating in Sunday morning worship. During the month of June, we averaged 157.8 people participating in worship. For the month of June, we averaged 17.14% fewer people in worship. And we still have July to go.

I remind you, during the heat of the summer slump, that it is *very* important for us to keep our eyes on worship participation numbers. It is *very* important for you to keep your eye on how many Sundays you and your family miss. I have suggested that each church member make it their goal to miss no more than one Sunday per month, or 12 Sundays in a year. If FBC Ahoskie church members are not *very* attentive to how much church they miss, a conversation like this is likely in five years: One person says to another, over lunch at an area restaurant, "I was at First Baptist Ahoskie last Sunday morning for my granddaughter's baptism. Would you believe, in that big sanctuary, there were only 27 people?"

Our church is *very* vulnerable to decline. We must not let our guard down. If we do, the results will be disastrous for the future vitality of our church. I like living in our area of the world – northeastern, NC. We have the Chowan River in our backyard, beaches just a couple of hours away, and big cities one to two hours away. However, Ahoskie is not a big city. We do not have an influx of people to attract to our church. Furthermore, our church seeks to be faithful to the good news of Jesus the Christ during a time when people simply do not participate in the life of a church with the frequency and attention they once did. Add to all this a good economy and our church steps up to the plate with two

strikes against us before the first pitch is thrown.

Therefore, if you are a member of FBC Ahoskie it is *very* important that you raise the level of your commitment to our church. I issue this challenge not only in terms of Sunday morning worship participation but also in terms of wider service. What abilities do you have that can be used to the glory of God within our faith community – teaching, hospitality, singing in the choir, church facilities maintenance, etc. We need more and more of our people rearranging their calendars in support of church worship services and activities. We need people planning vacations around our summer day camp. We need people coming back from trips in time to participate in Sunday morning worship. We need people deciding to leave to visit family *after* worship on Sunday instead of before.

Add a few more babies and a sensitivity to inviting new people to be a part of our faith family to a high level of commitment from our church members, and we will be in good shape in five years. If not, there might be 27 people gathered in our sanctuary for a baptismal service.

In Christ,  
Trey



## Worshiping Together

July 14, 2019

11:00 am

*The 5th Sunday after Pentecost*

*Consequences of Good*

Esther 3:1-11,15

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam

Worship Choir

The Sanctuary Choir

## Get to Know Us!



Henry Pierce, age 7  
 Bennett Pierce, age 5  
 Lucy Pierce, age 2 1/2  
 Parents are Brent & Kari Pierce

## 2019 NC Baptist All-State Youth Choir - Concert Schedule

Two of our high school youth, Steven Hollingsworth and Jane Marie Hollingsworth, were selected for the 2019 NC Baptist All-State Youth Choir. On July 14, All-State-ers will gather at Campbell University to begin rehearsals before heading out on July 17 to present concerts in Raleigh and eastern NC. Anita is planning to attend the July 20<sup>th</sup> concert in Greenville. If you'd like to join her, meet at FBC's West St. parking lot at 3:30 pm. Here is the full concert schedule:

- Wednesday, July 17  
 7:00pm, Butler Chapel at Campbell University
- Thursday, July 18  
 7:00pm, Snyder Memorial Baptist Church, Fayetteville
- Friday, July 19  
 7:00pm, Oxford Baptist Church, Oxford
- **Saturday, July 20**  
**5:00pm, Oakmont Baptist, Greenville**
- Sunday, July 21  
 10:45am, Greystone Baptist, Raleigh
- Sunday evening, July 21  
 6:00pm, Hayes Barton Baptist, Raleigh

### Stewardship Statement

June 30, 2019

Weekly Need	\$ 8,639.45
Weekly Offering	\$ 5,235.00
Difference	\$ -3,404.45

YTD Needs	\$224,625.70
YTD Offerings	\$206,842.80
YTD Difference	\$ -17,782.90

CBF- Global Missions Total	\$ 4,426.00
Benevolence Weekly Offering	\$ 1,000.00

*Thank you for your generous gifts!*

### Stewardship Statement

July 7, 2019

Weekly Need	\$ 8,639.45
Weekly Offering	\$ 10,205.83
Difference	\$ 1,566.38

YTD Needs	\$233,265.15
YTD Offerings	\$217,048.63
YTD Difference	\$ -16,216.52

CBF- Global Missions Total	\$ 4,426.00
Benevolence Weekly Offering	\$ 342.00

*Thank you for your generous gifts!*

### Save The Date!

Our 2nd Annual "Get Everyone Here Day" will be Sunday, August 25. There will be worship, a meal, and a picture.

### 2019-2020 Church Year Leadership

Our Nominating Committee is currently working to match members' ministry gifts with places of service.



On page 3 of this newsletter, you'll find a list of FBCA's committees, along with a description of their function and details regarding their make-up.

If you are sensing a call to serve in a particular ministry, please let a committee member know of your desire.

Committee members are Malcolm Copeland, J.C. Doughtie, Butch Hassell, Henry Joyner, Arlene Raiford, and Mary Ann Umphlett.

**The Committees of First Baptist Church of Ahoskie  
2019-2020 Church Year**

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DETAILS</b>
Audio Services	On a rotating basis, operates the sound system for weekly worship services, funerals, weddings, and other programs and activities.	•Non-rotating committee.
Bereavement	Upon the death of a church member, prepares and serves a meal in our Fellowship Hall for the family of the deceased and out of town guests.	•Non-rotating committee.
Bracy Scholarship	Meets each Spring to review scholarship applications and recommend recipients.	•2 members. •One year term.
Building & Grounds	Maintains the church property.	•9 members (+2 deacon reps). •4 year term. •Meets monthly.
Children's & Youth Ministry Council	Oversees our ministry with children (birth—Grade 5) and youth (Grades 6-12).	•12 members. •Serve 3 years. •Meets as needed.
Columbarium	Monitors Columbarium needs and requests.	•3 members. •Serve 3 years. •Meets as needed.
Development	Handles property purchases.	•3 members. •Serve 3 years. •Meets as needed.
Finance	Monitors the financial health of the church; prepares and presents annual budget; makes recommendations as needed.	•9 members (+2 deacon reps) •Serves 3 years •Meets as needed.
Hostess	Facilitates church-wide meals and receptions. Assists caterer with Wednesday night meals.	•Non-rotating committee.
Investments/ Endowment	Monitors investments and endowment funds, and makes recommendations for use of said funds.	•5 members. •Serve 5 years. •Meets as needed.
Missions	Coordinates local missions and service opportunities for individuals, small groups, and the entire church family.	•9 members. •Serve 3 years. •Meets bi-monthly.
Music	In partnership with the Minister of Music, makes decisions regarding the church's music ministry.	•6 members. •Serve 3 years. •Meets as needed.
Senior Adult	Oversees our ministry with senior adults.	•6 members. •Serve 3 years. •Meets as needed.
Technology	Consults regarding technological needs and difficulties.	•3 members. •Serve 3 years. •Meets as needed.
Ushers/ Greeters	On a rotating basis, serve as a greeter for worship services & other events; take up the offering.	•4th Grade students through adults may serve as Ushers.
Wedding	On a rotating basis, serve as the Wedding Coordinator for weddings held at First Baptist Church.	•6 members. •Serve 3 years. •Meets as needed.
Worship Decorating	Coordinate with the church staff in decorating the church, particularly the sanctuary, for the Seasons of the Church Year, and other occasions.	•Non-rotating committee.

# SERVING IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Week of July 14-20, 2019

## Minister on Call

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam, 398-7321

## Deacons on Call

Jim Wiggins, 287-9790

Lee Wilson, 332-4563

## Extended Session—July 14

Babies: Jean Parker & Debbie Rawls

Ages 1 & 2: Justin & Sarah Freeman

Ages 3-5: Jessica Britton & Mary Page Pierce

Floater: Joyce Leary

## Ushers - July 14

Heath Britt, Pike Harrington, Bill Magette,

Fletcher Pierce, Edgar Swain & Carroll

Thompson

Balcony— Henry Joyner & Keith Rawls

## Sound System—July 14

Walt Pierce

## Floral Offering - July 14

Ernie & Austine Evans

## Home Delivered Meals - July 15

Frank & Penny Rose

## Food Pantry—July 19

Pansy & Robert Earl White

Week of July 21-27, 2019

## Minister on Call

Rev. Anita Thompson, 395-0061

## Deacons on Call

Austine Evans, 398-2724

Debbie Magette, 209-7021

## Sunday School at Creekside Care

Hannah Brown Class

## Extended Session - July 21

Babies: Kari Pierce & Taylor F. Rose

Ages 1 & 2: Susan Earley & JoAnn Herring

Ages 3-5: Alex & Sarah G. Britton

Floater: Melanie Byrum

## Ushers - July 21

Carolyn Arrington, Gloria Freeman, J.C.

Doughtie, Nat Riddick, Frank Rose & Peggy

Springfield

Balcony— Larry Freeman & Colby Hauser

## Sound System - July 21

Rick Burns

## Floral Offering - July 21

Trey & Harriet Byrum

## Home Delivered Meals - July 22

Austine Evans & Mary Ann Umphlett

## Food Pantry - July 26

JoAn Downs, Patrise Godwin & Marilyn Mize

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## The FBC Ministers

Trey Gilliam, Pastor • [trey@fbcahoskie.org](mailto:trey@fbcahoskie.org) • 252-398-7321

Anita Thompson, Associate Pastor • [anita@fbcahoskie.org](mailto:anita@fbcahoskie.org) • 252-395-0061

Elizabeth Villegas • Minister to Youth & Children • [elizabeth@fbcahoskie.org](mailto:elizabeth@fbcahoskie.org) • 757-434-6235



## *The Window*

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie

Main and West Streets

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