



THE WINDOW

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No. 15

Let's Do It Again!

So, how did it go? The 12 Sundays Challenge that is – how did it go for you? We started the 12 Sundays Challenge on August 19, 2018. A significant number of people decided to sign up for the challenge. I still have the list in my desk drawer! I have no way to know how many people decided to give the challenge a go but did not make their decision public. However, I am pleased that some chose to go undercover as well.

The goal of the 12 Sundays Challenge was to miss no more than 12 Sunday morning worship services in the sanctuary of First Baptist Church of Ahoskie for one year. While the final numbers for August are yet to be determined, here is a comparison of our average number of worship participants for each month prior to the start of the 12 Sundays Challenge and then each month during the 12 Sundays Challenge:

Eleven Months Before the 12 Sundays Challenge

Sept. 2017: 136.25 people
Oct. 2017: 160.8 people
Nov. 2017: 170.25 people
Dec. 2017: 173.2 people
Jan. 2018: 155 people
Feb. 2018: 161.25 people
Mar. 2018: 171 people
April 2018: 177.25 people
May 2018: 155.75 people
June 2018: 156.25 people
July 2018: 152.2 people

Eleven Months of the 12 Sundays Challenge

Sept. 2018: 177 people
Oct. 2018: 200.25 people
Nov. 2018: 181 people
Dec. 2018: 241 people
Jan. 2019: 186 people
Feb. 2019: 162.5 people
Mar. 2019: 181 people
April 2019: 236.75 people
May 2019: 186 people
June 2019: 157.8 people
July 2019: 166.25 people

*** 11month average before the 12 Sundays Challenge = 160.83 people

*** 11month average during the 12 Sundays Challenge = 188.68 people


In light of the above numbers, let's do it again beginning August 25! I am making a list (and checking it twice!) once again this year. If you would like to sign up for the 12 Sundays Challenge, beginning August 25, let me know (text, email, phone, in person). I am hopeful that everyone who committed to the challenge last year will do so again this year. And I am hopeful that our list will grow this year with a nice number of new people making the commitment to miss no more than twelve Sundays in the coming year.

A quick reminder as to why we do this: First, the gathering together for the worship of God is what makes the church distinct from every and any other organization. Worship is the most important activity that the church of Jesus the Christ carries out. Second, the consistent gathering together of God's people

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for worship leads to mature Christian discipleship. Finally, if First Baptist is to avoid existence as yet another once significantly larger church in a state of rapid decline, we must recommitment ourselves regularly to faithfulness to the church. In other words, and more bluntly, if we are to avoid a future Sunday morning baptismal service with only 27 people in our sanctuary we must keep a close eye on how much church we miss.

In Christ,
Trey



Worshipping Together
August 11, 2019
11:00 am
The 9th Sunday after Pentecost

If You Say So!
 Luke 5:1-11
 Rev. Robbie Parker

FBCA was Rev. Parker's childhood church home where he responded to a call to ministry. He served as our church's Associate Pastor from 1975 to 1977. He served as pastor of Aulander Baptist Church, and retired as pastor of Memorial Baptist Church in Williamston, NC in 2016.

Worship Choir
 The Sanctuary Choir

Nominating Committee News

Thank you for the beautiful ways you have responded to members of our Nominating Committee as they work toward staffing our ministries for the 2019-2020 Church Year. The committee's report is being mailed this week. As you read it, please give thanks for the many who have said "yes", and please prayerfully consider filling any of the vacancies that remain.

On Sunday, August 18, a Church Conference will be held at 10:50 am for the purpose of voting on the Nominating Committee report.

Members of the Nominating Committee are: Malcolm Copeland, J.C. Doughtie, Butch Hassell, Henry Joyner, Arlene Raiford, and Mary Ann Umphlett.



Save The Date! August 25, 2019

Our 2nd Annual "Get Everyone Here Day" will be Sunday, August 25. We'll gather for worship, take a group picture, and share a meal.

Chowan Freshman Move-In Day Saturday, August 17



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.

Our Missions Committee is coordinating this ministry. If you'd like to help represent FBCA by setting up our station and serving students, please speak with Rev. Thompson.

Benevolence Ministry Update

LaCount & Anna Anderson, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) field personnel in Northeastern NC, assist us on Tuesdays with our Benevolence Ministry. They will not be with us in August. Our Benevolence funds are currently low. Please give as you feel led.



August 4, 2019

Weekly Need	\$ 8,639.45
Weekly Offering	\$ 12,732.90
Difference	\$ 4,093.45
YTD Needs	\$267,822.95
YTD Offerings	\$250,656.58
YTD Difference	\$ -17,166.37
CBF- Global Missions Total	\$ 4,442.00
Benevolence Weekly Offering	\$ 481.00

Thank you for your generous gifts!



**Sanctuary Choir &
Vocal Ensemble
Rehearsals Resume
August 14**

Sanctuary Choir
Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:00 pm
For students in grades 9-12 and adults.

Vocal Ensemble
Wednesdays 8:00 - 9:00 pm

Looking Ahead . . .

Children's Music & Missions

Resumes September 4
There are two age groups:
• Age 3—Kindergarten
• Grades 1-5

Chairo—Intergenerational Music Ensemble

Resumes September 15
*Students in grades 6-12 and adults
of all ages are invited to sing.*

**Welcoming the New Church Year
Begins September 1**



1. Sunday School Promotion on Sept. 1

- ★ New 1st graders join the Grades 1-5 class in room 104.
- ★ New 6th graders join the Youth class in room 308.

2. Bible Presentation on Sept. 1

During worship, our new 1st & 6th graders will be presented bibles.

**3. Regular Wednesday Night Schedule
Begins Sept. 4**

- 5:00 pm Supper Line Opens
- 5:00 pm Children's Music & Missions
 - ★ Ages 3-K, Room 105
 - ★ Grades 1-5, Choir Room
- 6:00 pm Adult Bible Study, Sanctuary
- 6:00 pm Christ's Kids: Gr. 1-5, Room 103
- 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- 8:00 pm Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal

4. Picnic in the Park, Sept. 8 at 6:00 pm

Annual Hamburger and Hot Dog Cookout hosted by our deacons at the Ahoskie Creek Recreational Complex

Get to Know Us!



Corbett Britton, age 3
Wells Britton, age 1
Parents are Alex & Sarah Grace Britton

In Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family of Verdie Chitty who passed away on August 2, in Smithfield, NC. Her funeral was held on August 6 at Garrett-Sykes Funeral Home.

Upcoming Meetings

Sunday, August 18

10:50 am Church Conference: Vote on Nominating Committee Report

Monday, August 19

7:00 pm Building & Grounds Committee

Tuesday, August 20

6:00 pm Deacons' Meeting

SERVING IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Week of August 11-17, 2019

Minister on Call

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam, 398-7321

Deacons on Call

Nancy Freeman, 287-9104
Peggy Springfield, 287-5119

Extended Session—August 11

Babies: Jean Parker & Debbie Rawls
Ages 1 & 2: Justin & Sarah Freeman
Ages 3-5: Bea Harrison & Anna Pierce
Floater: Joyce Leary

Ushers - August 11

Kay Byrd, J.C. Doughtie, Jane M.
Hollingsworth, Bill Magette, Nat Riddick &
Edgar Swain
Balcony— Brad Hauser & Dawson Rose

Sound System—August 11

Henry Daniels

Floral Offering - August 11

Malcolm Copeland

Home Delivered Meals - August 12

Jayne Frei & Margaret Winn

Food Pantry—August 16

Virgia Nichols & Wanda VanNeil

Week of August 18-24, 2019

Minister on Call

Rev. Anita Thompson, 395-0061

Deacons on Call

Bill Arrington, 395-0937
Margaret Winn, 209-1495

Sunday School at Creekside Care

Genesis Class

Extended Session - August 18

Babies: Kari Pierce & Taylor F. Rose
Ages 1 & 2: Bill & Debbie Magette
Ages 3-5: Harriet Byrum & Claudia Morris
Floater: Melanie Byrum

Ushers - August 18

Heath Britt, Lee Byrum, Dorothy Howell,
Patricia Hughes, Spencer Matthews & L. Taylor
Rose
Balcony— Andy & Isabella Woodard

Sound System - August 18

Walt Pierce

Floral Offering - August 18

Linda, Earl & April Futrell

Home Delivered Meals - August 19

Buzzy & Rosa Swain

Food Pantry - August 23

June & Otis Payne

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

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie
Main and West Streets
PO Box 649
Ahoskie, NC 27910-0649

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phone 252-332-4003

fax 252-209-0225

email office@fbcahoskie.org

web www.fbcahoskie.org