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Finish Strong

In less than two months, 2019 will be in the books. Therefore, I encourage us, the people who make up the community that is First Baptist Church of Ahoskie, to finish strong.

Through the years, I have come to understand my role as pastor to consist of three primary responsibilities. First, I am to keep before you truths you already know. For example, you have been made right with God through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Christ; as Christians we are called to love God and to love neighbor as ourselves; and authentic Christian discipleship is kin to standing in an elevator, full of people, in the opposite direction of everyone else. Second, I am both to push you to higher levels of commitment to Christ and his church and to love you. My goal is to push out of love, not out of anger and/or frustration. And finally, I am to keep the importance of the church in front of you. You are a busy people. The message of the centrality of the church competes with many other voices. If I do not keep repeating over and over again this message of the importance of the church to you and your family, the risk is high that the church will loose to something else clamoring for your attention. My role as your pastor is to help you stay on track in relation to your commitment to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I hope my voice is in your head pushing you to good deeds in Christ!

To this end, I want to push us to finish 2019 strong. One way to evaluate our strength is to look at our numbers. Thus, I regularly keep our numbers before you. Each Sunday, we get a count of the number of people in worship. So far this year (January-October), our average is 180.47 people for Sunday morning worship. For 2018, we averaged 175.32 people for Sunday morning worship. So far this year then, on average, we have 5.15 more peo-

ple in Sunday morning worship than we did in 2018. I would like to see us finish 2019 with our average for Sunday morning worship up to 190 people. And then, looking ahead a bit, I would like for us to average 200 people in Sunday morning worship for the year 2020. With significant effort, these numbers are *not* out of reach.

Transitioning from Sunday morning worship participation to our church's financial status, as of September's financial statement, we have spent out \$30,430.18 more than we have taken in for the year. Our revenue as of September: \$315,368.37. Our expenses as of September: \$345,798.55. Naturally, we want to finish the year in the black and not in the red.

Will you dig deep in order to enable our church to finish 2019 strong? Numbers do not convey the whole picture, of course. However, high worship participation numbers as well as financial figures that exceed expenses demonstrate that a large percentage of our people care about the health of the church; are enthusiastic about the work of the church; and with so many other voices screaming for time and money, give top priority to the church. And this is as it should be in the life of the Christian.

In Christ, Trey



Worshiping Together November 10, 2019 ◆ 11:00 am The 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

A Strong Finish Psalm 98

Worship Choir
The Sanctuary Choir

Muffins for Missions Sunday, November 10 9:00 to 9:45 am

Stop by the Fellowship Hall and purchase a muffin from members of our Grades 1-5 Sunday School class to support their mission project. Through Samaritan's Purse, the

monies will provide chicks and honeybees for impoverished families. Please consider picking up a delicious muffin for breakfast on November 10.



November 11, 2019 Thank you for your service.



Nov. 17: Vote on Proposed 2020 Budget Nov. 18: Building & Grounds Committee

Nov. 19: Deacons' Meeting

Christmas Shoeboxes

All shoeboxes are due the week of November 18-24. Below, is the schedule for FBCA drop off time and dates. Please place your filled box in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, please contact Melanie Byrum, coordinator.



Nov. 18 (Monday): 4:00pm-7:00pm
Nov. 19 (Tuesday): 8:30am-12:30pm
Nov. 20 (Wednesday): 4:00pm-6:30pm
Nov. 21 (Thursday): 4:00pm-7:00pm
Nov. 22 (Friday): 8:30am-12:30pm
Nov. 23 (Saturday): 10:00am-12:00pm
Nov. 24 (Sunday): 4:00pm-8:00pm

Get to Know Us!



Jackson Kinlaw, age 3 Payton Kinlaw, age 11 months Parents are Ian & Angela Kinlaw



JOY Fellowship Senior Adult Lunch November 14 at 12:00 pm

Menu: spiral ham, gravy, mashed potatoes,

cabbage, rolls & sweet potato pie.

Program: Katherine Allen will discuss the books

that she has written.

Cost: \$5 per person. Sign up by 9am,

Tuesday, November 12.

Wednesday Night Meal Servants

Nov. 13: Jamie Burns, Betty Cooper & Wally

McKeel

Nov. 20: Susan Keel, Scott Outlaw & Sandra

Pierce



November 3, 2019

Weekly Need Weekly Offering Difference	\$ \$ \$	8,639.45 8,285.00 -354.45
YTD Needs YTD Offerings YTD Difference	\$3	80,135.80 50,023.03 30,112.77
World Hunger Total Offering Benevolence Weekly Offering Thank you for your genero	\$ \$ ous <u>s</u>	320.00 782.00

Capital Campaign Update

Your Capital Campaign Committee would like to update you on our recent activities. We continue to meet for thorough discussions regarding the mounting needs and desires for our physical plant and the manner in which we can best address them. Our electrical wiring is antiquated and we are waiting for professional advice and related costs. We have listened to a well-researched proposal for the construction of a lovely, basic playground for our large number of little folks. Also, we met again with contractor, James Andrus, in order to secure from him a second estimate on the sanctuary preservation as well as his costs for making improvements to the Fellowship Hall, the kitchen and ground floor rest rooms. He indicated that we will have his estimates within five weeks. We want this estimate in order to compare it to the one that we received earlier from Church Interiors.

Please continue to pray for us as we prioritize our needs and plan Phase II of our Campaign. As always, we welcome your input and your donations. We are excited about this process that will culminate in a facility that is worthy and fundamental for our worship and service!

Lyndsay Britt, Austine Evans, Charles Hughes, Walt Pierce, Bonnie Revelle, Penny Rose, and Buzzy Swain



Annual Christmas Cantata Sunday, December 15 at 6:00 pm

Music by the Sanctuary Choir, the Vocal Ensemble, Chairo, the Children's Choristers, and Music Friends. A homemade Christmas Cookie Fellowship will follow. Please bring your favorite recipe.

We'll also present the cantata on Sunday morning, December 22 for our 11:00 am worship service.

Turn in Your Invoices & Receipts



Please remember to bring your invoices and receipts to the church office for purchases charged to our FBC accounts with local businesses. Thank you!

-Janice Cesil, Financial Secretary

November Missions Project Christian Women's Job Corps

The Missions Committee, our Woman's Missionary Union members, and our entire church family are proud of the ministry that our Christian Women's Job Corps provides for our community. In celebration of this ministry, throughout the month of November, we are collecting the following items for its use. Collection tubs are located on the first floor. Please give as you feel led.

Hygiene

- •Woman's deodorant
- Toothpaste
- •Soap
- Body Lotion
- •Shampoo
- •Conditioner

Laundry

- •Bleach
- •Laundry Detergent

Cleaning

- •Toilet Bowl Cleaner
- •Spray Bleach
- •General Cleaners
- •Dishwashing Detergent

Other Needs

- •Paper Towels
- •Toilet Paper
- •A set of 2 wash cloths & 2 towels. (all same color) (If multiple sets are purchased each set needs to be a different color.)
- •Twin sheet sets.

Children's Mission Day 2019

Saturday, November 9 10 am to 3 pm Oakmont Baptist Church, Greenville



Our grades 1-5 children will participate in this annual event sponsored by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of NC. We'll gather in the FBC West & Main parking lot at 8:15 am and depart for Oakmont Baptist Church in Greenville at 8:30 am. We'll return to Ahoskie by 5pm.

SERVING IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Week of November 10-16, 2019

Minister on Call

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam, 398-7321

Deacons on Call

Jim Wiggins, 287-9790 Lee Wilson, 332-4563

Extended Session—November 10

Babies: Joyce Leary & Debbie Rawls Ages 1 & 2: Anna Dawson & Mary Page Pierce

Ages 3-5: Bryan & Jessica Britton

Floater: Susan Earley

Ushers - November 10

Heath Britt, Lee Byrum, Gail Holloman, Henry Joyner, Fletcher Pierce & Carroll Thompson

Balcony—Brad & Colby Hauser

Sound System—November 10

Frank Britt

Floral Offering - November 10

Oliver Fleming

Home Delivered Meals - November 11

Henry & Pat Byrd

Food Pantry-November 15

Carroll Thompson & Anita Thompson

Week of November 17-23, 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 - November 17

Babies: Kari Pierce & Taylor F. Rose Ages 1 & 2: Alex & Sarah G. Britton Ages 3-5: Gretchen & Reagan Zoch

Floater: Melanie Byrum

Ushers - November 17

Dorothy Howell, Spencer Matthews, Nat Riddick, Frank Rose, Lane Slachta & Reagan Zoch Balcony— Keith Rawls & Justice Zoch

Sound System - November 17

Rick Burns

Floral Offering—November 17

Frank & Penny Rose

Home Delivered Meals - November 18

Buzzy & Rosa Swain

Food Pantry - November 22

Vicky Overman & Judy H. Pierce

The FBC Ministers

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The Window

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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