



THE WINDOW

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

Volume 52

December 4, 2019

No. 23

Settling In

We recently had four items matted and framed in order to be hung on a wall somewhere. Of those four items, only one currently hangs on a wall. I will say more about this soon. First, however, I am intrigued by the three pictures that are not yet hung. Two of the pictures are artistic renditions of our beloved city – Edinburgh. The third picture is a drawing of the church building and cemetery where my beloved William Whiston is buried. Whiston's understanding of the early church has been the major object of my research for the past few years. By the way, his birthday is around the corner – December 9, 1667.

I wonder how much longer those three pictures will rest against the dinning room and living room walls. I am optimistic that they will be hung in time for our church-wide Christmas party on December 22. I hope you will come and see them; they are beautiful! We will have been in our house for three years come March 2020. And we still are not fully settled in. There is significant empty wall space in the house, and there are other projects that are clamoring for my attention. It takes a while to settle in; it takes years to settle in.

The fourth item hangs on my church office wall. It is the worship bulletin from October 15, 2017. This was the Sunday when First Baptist installed me as pastor. This was a significant day in my life and in the life of First Baptist. Therefore, the order of worship hangs just behind my computer screen as a reminder of that joyful day when I committed to serve you well as pastor.

It strikes me that I have evolved as your pastor. I began as interim pastor in February 2017, then I transitioned to bi-vocational pastor later that year, and finally I became your full-time pastor in January of this year. Thus, the first Sunday in January



2020 will complete my first year as full-time pastor. And the first Sunday in February 2020 will mark our three-year anniversary. Indeed, it takes a while to settle in; it takes years to settle in!

As we approach our first and third years together, I feel settled. During our worship experience together on October 15, 2017 I was asked: Do you believe in your heart that you have been called by God to the pastoral oversight of this church? My response then was the same as it is today: **I do.** And the vows that I took when I was installed as your pastor, as well as the vows that you took on that day, greet me each morning when I take my place at my desk. What a lovely reminder!

Now that we are settled in, let us continue to work together humbly and cheerfully as the people of God as we promised to do on October 15, 2017.

In Christ,
Trey



Worshiping Together

December 8, 2019 ♦ 11:00 am
The Second Sunday of Advent

Help

Isaiah 11:1-10
Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam

Worship Choir

Chairo Music Ensemble

2019 CBF

Global Missions Offering

Ingathering is December 8

FBC Goal is \$8000



We'll receive this annual offering during the 11:00 am worship service. This offering will be received through March 2020. Please prayerfully consider how you will support the mission work of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Your offering helps provide:

- Life-saving medical care and ministry in hard-to-reach communities.
- Education for forgotten children.
- Food and shelter for people living in poverty.
- Care and support for widows and orphans.
- Loving compassion & community for marginalized people.

Upcoming Meetings

Dec. 8: Deacon Election
Dec. 10: 6pm Missions Committee, *Room 103*
Dec. 12: 6:30pm Girl Scouts Leaders, *Fellowship Hall*

JOY Fellowship Senior Adult Lunch

December 12 at 12:00 pm

Menu: Chicken salad, pimento cheese, and other goodies.

Program: Elizabeth Pittman will sing Christmas music, and provide opportunities for us to sing-a-long.

Cost: \$5 per person. Sign up is requested by 9:00 am Tuesday, December 10.



Christian Women's Job Corps Angel Tree

If you would like to help a CWJC family celebrate Christmas, here's how:

- Select an angel from the tree in the 1st floor hallway. Needs are listed on back.
- Sign the sheet next to the tree; include your name and angel number.
- Keep your angel with gifts when you bring them to church. This helps identify each family's gifts.
- Have gifts at church by Dec. 19. They will be given to the families at graduation on Dec. 20.



All of the families are in Christian Women's Job Corps, attending our classes and/or living at the North Street House. They are all working towards independence and/or a relationship with God. Your love will be a blessing to them on their journey. God bless you all. For more information, please contact Pat Byrd.



**Open House
at the Gilliams**
Sunday, December 22
3:00—5:30 pm

Wednesday Night Meal Servants

Dec. 11: Millie Britt & Lou Ann Gilliam
Dec. 18: Wally McKeel, Jim & Dana Wiggins



December 01, 2019

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Weekly Need | \$ 8,639.45 |
| Weekly Offering | \$ 11,401.00 |
| Difference | \$ 2,761.55 |

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| YTD Needs | \$414,693.60 |
| YTD Offerings | \$388,337.84 |
| YTD Difference | \$ -26,355.76 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Thanksgiving Offering Total | \$ 401.00 |
| Benevolence Weekly Offering | \$ 439.00 |

Thank you for your generous gifts!

Get to Know Us!



Carson Rose, age 2
Hudson Rose, age 3 months
Parents are L. Taylor & Taylor F. Rose

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

First Baptist's responsibilities include cooking a turkey, preparing a large pan of dressing (roaster pan size), and providing cakes for dessert. We will need 10 cakes that will feed approximately 15-18 people each. 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. All food items need to be at the church by 10:00 am on Christmas Day. They can be delivered prior to that day if needed.

And if you'd like to help with set up, serving, delivery of meals to the homebound, or clean up, please call Pat Byrd at 252-332-4122.

December Music Rehearsals

8 Sunday

4 – 6 pm Christmas Cantata Run-Through:
Chairo, Christmas Choir & Vocal
Ensemble

11 Wednesday

5:00 pm Children's Music & Missions
7:00 pm Christmas Cantata Run-Through:
Chairo, Christmas Choir & Vocal
Ensemble

15 Sunday

3:00 pm Instrumental Rehearsal
4:00 pm Christmas Cantata Run-Through:
Chairo, Christmas Choir & Vocal
Ensemble
4:45 pm Children Choristers join rehearsal.
5:15 pm Snack Supper
5:30 pm Age 3—K Music Friends gather in
room 105
6:00 pm Christmas Cantata Presentation 1
7:00 pm Christmas Cookie Reception

18 Wednesday

5:00 pm Children's Birthday Party for Jesus
No Adult Rehearsals

22 Sunday

10:40 am Chairo, Christmas Choir &
Vocal Ensemble in Choir Room
11:00 am Christmas Cantata Presentation 2

Joy to the World!

Annual Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 15 at 6:00 pm

Sunday, December 22 at 11:00 am



Music by the Sanctuary Choir, the Vocal Ensemble, Chairo, the Children's Choristers, and Music Friends, with guest instrumentalists.

A homemade Christmas Cookie Fellowship will follow the December 15th program. Please bring your favorite recipe to share.

Childcare provided for birth—kindergarten.

SERVING IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Week of December 8-14, 2019

Minister on Call

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam, 398-7321

Deacons on Call

Nancy Freeman, 287-9104

Peggy Springfield, 287-5119

Extended Session—December 8

Babies: Joyce Leary & Debbie Rawls

Ages 1 & 2: Bryan & Jessica Britton

Ages 3-5: Bea Harrison & Anna Pierce

Floater: Jamie Burns

Ushers - December 8

Ian Kinlaw, Bill Magette, Pate Pierce, L. Taylor

Rose, Peggy Springfield & Carroll Thompson

Balcony—Andy & Isabella Woodard

Sound System—December 8

Frank Britt

Floral Offering - December 8

Worship Decorating Committee

Home Delivered Meals - December 9

Bill & Susan Earley

Food Pantry—December 13

Melanie Byrum & Vicky Overman

Week of December 15-21, 2019

Minister on Call

Rev. Anita Thompson, 395-0061

Deacons on Call

Bill Arrington, 395-0937

Margaret Winn, 209-1485

Sunday School at Creekside Care

Genesis Class

Extended Session - December 15

Babies: Kari Pierce & Taylor F. Rose

Ages 1 & 2: Alex & Sarah G. Britton

Ages 3-5: Harriet Byrum & Claudia Morris

Floater: Melanie Byrum

Ushers - December 15

Kay Byrd, Lee Byrum, Henry Joyner, Camille

Pierce, Fletcher Pierce & Chip Rose

Balcony—Walt Pierce & Keith Rawls

Sound System - December 15

Frank Britt

Floral Offering—December 15

Worship Decorating Committee

Home Delivered Meals - December 16

Jayne Frei & Carol Jean Fretwell

Food Pantry - December 20

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



The Window

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie

Main and West Streets

PO Box 649

Ahoskie, NC 27910-0649

NON PROFIT ORG.
BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
AHOSKIE, N. C.
PERMIT NO. 64

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

phone 252-332-4003

fax 252-209-0225

email office@fbcahoskie.org

web www.fbcahoskie.org