



THE WINDOW

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

Volume 53

March 18, 2020

No.6

Read This Please!

The threat and realities of the coronavirus have turned the world upside down. And the church is not an exception. Therefore, allow me to address three questions you may have about the life of First Baptist Ahoskie as we live each day in our new realities.

Worship Services and other Church Activities

All worship services and other church activities have been suspended until further notice. I am hopeful that we can gather together in our sanctuary for Easter worship or, perhaps, even before. However, the current situation is so fluid that it is difficult to make any definitive statements in terms of when we can resume normal activities.

In the meantime, however, a small handful of us will lead worship each Sunday morning at 11am. These worship services will be broadcast via the radio station. And, as some have requested, we will livestream them on our church Facebook page. Those, therefore, with internet and Facebook accessibility will be able to hear and see. Everyone, however, should be able to hear via the radio station broadcast on the Bull, 99.3FM. Please remember that the order of worship is posted on our church website each week. Therefore, I encourage you to pull it up, perhaps print it out, and you and your family participate in worship from your home as you would in the sanctuary. If you access the order of worship early enough, you can google the hymns in order to have the lyrics in front of you as we worship together.

Giving

Please do continue to exercise faithful financial giving to our beloved church. Even as our day-to-day routine is on hold, bills continue to come in and we still have a budget that calls for \$9130.28 each

week. Last week's offering was \$3,125. Fortunately, our church is strong financially. In fact, I have never served a congregation with the financial strength that we have. However, even a financially strong congregation will suffer if her members do not rise to the occasion during unprecedented circumstances such as we find ourselves in now. Please do place your offering in the mail or drop it by the church office. And, perhaps, give a little more!

Vote on Deacon Recommendation to Accept the Proposed Capital Campaign Projects

As you know, our congregation is scheduled to vote this Sunday, March 22, 2020, to invest approximately \$300,000 into renovating our sanctuary and the construction of a green space on our North Street lot to begin immediately, with kitchen upgrades and fellowship hall improvements to follow. Due to our current inability to safely gather together this Sunday, March 22, your deacons have decided to carry out the vote as follows.

1 – We ask all church members (remember you must be a church member to vote) to stop by the church office in order to vote **either yes or no** to the above proposal. We will have a ballot here in the church office for you to indicate **either yes or no**. After you cast your vote, we will then ask you to sign your name, on another sheet of paper, simply to record that your vote has been made.

2 – If you are unable to get to the church office, or simply do not feel safe leaving your home at all due to coronavirus concerns, we will send someone to your house, with a ballot, in order to enable you to vote. If you fall into this category, simply call the church office and set up a time for a deacon or a staff minister to come to your house. If you would prefer, the deacon or staff minister does not even need to come into your house. The voting can be done on your doorstep!

3 – Voting will begin on Sunday March 22, 2020 and will end on Sunday March 29, 2020.

4 – Please remember that you will vote either for (yes) or against (no) carrying out all four projects – sanctuary renovations and construction of a green space on our North Street lot to begin immediately, followed by kitchen upgrades and fellowship hall improvements. The motion that our deacons accepted from the capital campaign committee calls for one vote on all four projects. **Therefore, the projects cannot be separated from one other.** If you attempt to do this on your ballot, your ballot will be void. The good news is that, if the vote passes, there will be no need to vote again. We can simply move forward with each project as we raise the money. For more details about the money, please do see my March 12, 2020 congregational letter. However, I remind you here that there are no plans to borrow any money to pay for these projects. Indeed, we are fortunate to have the financial health that we do in our church. I am grateful for your generosity to the cause of the gospel of Jesus the Christ.

In Christ,
Trey

Staff Anniversary

On April 3rd Selton Vaughan will celebrate his 2nd anniversary as our church custodian.

Stewardship Statement

March 15, 2020

Weekly Need	\$ 9,130.28
Weekly Offering	\$ 3,125.00
Difference	\$ -6,005.28
YTD Needs	\$ 100,433.08
YTD Offerings	\$ 86,861.98
YTD Difference	\$ -13,571.10
Capital Campaign Weekly Offering	\$ 100.00
Benevolence Weekly Offering	\$ 10.00

Thank you for your generous gifts!



Worshiping Together

March 22, 2020

The 4th Sunday in Lent

11:00 am

From the Heart

Matthew 18:21-35

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam

Worship Choir

The Sanctuary Choir

A Prayer for our World

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another. Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace. Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace. Jesus Christ, heal us.

- Kerry Webber, altered



April 2020



First Baptist Church of Ahoskie

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sundays • 9:45a: Sunday School • 11:00a: Worship • 4:00p: Chair • 5:00p: Sanctuary Choir	Mondays • 9a: Tellers • 3p: Staff Mtg	• 10a: Women on Missions (WOM) Groups 2 & 4	1 • 10:30a: Ahoskie Garden Club	2	3 Fridays • 9a-3p: Christian Women's Job Corps (CWJC)	4
5  Palm Sunday • 9:15 am Children & Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	6 • 11a: Book Study w/Anita • 6p: Lenten Study w/Anita	7	8	9	10	11
12  EASTER SUNDAY	13 Church Offices Closed for Easter Break	14 • 6p: Deacons' Mtg.	15 • 12p: Ahoskie Woman's Club No Wednesday Activities	16	17	18
19	20 • 11a: Book Study w/Anita • 6p: Lenten Study w/Anita	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 • 11a: Book Study w/Anita • 6p: Book Study w/Anita	28	29	30	Wednesdays • 5p: Children's Music & Missions • 6p: Women's Bible Study • 6p: Youth Group (Grades 6-12) • 6p: Adult Bible Study • 7p: Sanctuary Choir • 8p: Vocal Ensemble	



April BIRTHDAYS

1 Lou Riddick
 3 Bill Arrington
 4 Adalyn Britt

5 Colby Hauser
 5 Mike Neal
 5 Debbie Sisler
 7 Rebecca Cale
 10 Stephanie Rose
 12 Ella Harrell
 13 Claire Presley
 15 Gloria Freeman

16 Charles Hughes
 16 Debbie Magette
 16 Kathy McCaskey
 20 Miracle Deloatch
 22 Arthur Brown
 23 Austine Evans
 24 Sarah Newbern
 24 Anna Pierce

25 Wally McKeel
 26 Anna Dawson
 26 Walt Pierce
 27 Emily Marra
 27 Ian Kinlaw
 28 Jane Marie Hollingsworth
 29 Pace Davis
 30 Josh Brinkley

SERVING IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Week of March 22-28, 2020

Week of March 29—April 4, 2020

Minister on Call

Rev. Anita Thompson, 395-0061

Deacons on Call

Buzzy Swain, 395-0255

Margaret Winn, 209-1495

Extended Session - March 22

Babies: Scott & Lisa Outlaw

Ages 1 & 2: Jessica Brinkley & Georgia Copeland

Ages 3-5: J.C. Doughtie & Sandra Pierce

Floater: Judy H. Pierce

Ushers - March 22

Carolyn Arrington, Josh Brinkley, Lanie Byrum,
Ian Kinlaw, Edgar Swain & Reagan Zoch

Balcony— Andy Woodard & Isabella Woodard

Sound System—March 22

Rick Burns

Floral Offering— March 22

Jessie Simons

Home Delivered Meals - March 23

Georgia Copeland & Margaret Winn

Food Pantry - March 27

Trey Gilliam & Bonnie Revelle

Minister on Call

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam, 398-7321

Deacons on Call

Rick Burns, 209-4058

Brandon Zoch, 862-5767

Extended Session - March 29

Babies: Kay Byrd & Austine Evans

Ages 1 & 2: Nancy Freeman & Sylvia Britt

Ages 3-5: Bill & Debbie Magette

Floater: Betty Joyner

Ushers - March 29

Gloria Freeman, Tim Frei, Jane M. Hollingsworth,
Spencer Matthews, Chip Rose, & Chloe Rose

Balcony—Larry Freeman & Henry Joyner

Sound System—March 29

Frank Britt

Floral Offering—March 29

Gayle Cross

Home Delivered Meals - March 30

Tim & Jayne Frei

Food Pantry - April 3

Sandra Pierce

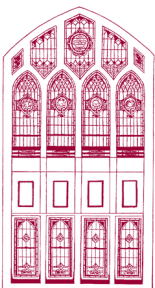
The FBC Ministers

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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

phone 252-332-4003

fax 252-209-0225

email office@fbcahoskie.org

web www.fbcahoskie.org