



THE WINDOW

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

Volume 53

May 20, 2020

No.10

Reservations Please!

It is with a cautious optimism that I announce, on behalf of our church leadership, that Sunday morning worship in our sanctuary will resume on June 7, 2020. However, our worship experiences together will continue to look rather strange for weeks and, likely, months to come. Let me count the ways worship will look remarkably different from the last time we were all together in our sanctuary.

1 – We desire no more than 74 people in our sanctuary at one time. This is the maximum amount of people we can have and maintain adequate social distancing. On one configuration, among others, this number allows for 28 people in the center section, 10 people on each of the wings, 20 people in the balcony, and 6 people on the chancel (platform and choir loft). If you add these numbers together you get 74 people. This mapping of our sanctuary allows for a limited number of people on each pew and calls for two empty pews between each occupied pew.

We must have a firm hold on the number of people planning to participate in sanctuary worship. **Therefore, if you plan to be present for sanctuary worship on a given Sunday, we ask that you call the church office or email/text me or Anita and reserve your spot by noon on Friday.** If our number gets larger than 74, we will then move to two services – one service at 8:30am and the other service at 11:00am. This schedule will allow time to disinfect the sanctuary in between services.

2 – When you arrive in the sanctuary, you will see bulletins placed in the pews. **We ask that you sit anywhere you see a bulletin.** Thus, each week we will have an informal seating chart that will enable us to gather in an environment where the

risk of infection is greatly reduced. Of course, families will be permitted to sit together without social distancing requirements.

3 – Since we are likely to have elderly and other high-risk people in our sanctuary, we ask that everyone wear a mask. You can bring your own mask. Or we will have them available for you, along with hand sanitizer, at each of the four entrances/exits to our sanctuary. Anita and I will wear a mask when we are not speaking. Perhaps we can have a contest to see who has the most stylish mask, spirited mask, or colorful mask. Furthermore, with the masks on, we will be able to have congregational singing.

4 – There will be no Sunday School or nursery for the time being. Therefore, parents are encouraged to bring their children with them to worship if they choose. **However, we do ask that if the child needs attention that parents take the child out of the sanctuary for the good of the larger gathered community.**

We understand, of course, that not everyone will feel comfortable returning to worship in our sanctuary; especially, perhaps, those persons in the higher risk categories. **If you are not yet comfortable with a return to the sanctuary, do continue to join in via Facebook Live and the radio station (99.3 FM).** For those who are ready to return, let us all do so with respect and care for our neighbor by following the guidelines above until it becomes safe for us to remove masks and position ourselves closer together.

In Christ,
Trey



Worshipping Together

May 24, 2020

Ascension of the Lord

11:00 am

The Good Stuff

John 2:1-11

Lou Ann Gilliam

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship General Assembly

The 2020 CBF General Assembly was originally scheduled to take place in Atlanta in late June. But due to the pandemic, the annual gathering will now be held virtually, June 25-26. Proclaimers are Rev. Dr. Paul Baxley, Executive Coordinator, CBF; and Rev. Mary Alice Birdwhistell, Senior Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Waco, TX. Plenary Speakers are Rev. Dr. Emmanuel McCall, Pastor-Emeritus, First Baptist Church, East Point, GA; and Jade and Shelah Acker, field personnel, serving in Kampala, Uganda. Register at cbf.net/general-assembly-2020.

Passport Summer Camps 2020 An Update

We have received updated information about this summer's virtual Passport Youth Camp and Passport Kids Camp. We are pleased to share that both virtual camps are open to all FBC youth (Grades 6-12) and all FBC children (Grades 3-5). Grades listed are for the 2019-2020 school year.

There will be eight weeks of theme-specific daily devotions (in PDF format and on the d365 app) and six weeks of theme-specific Passport programming. Among other things, there will be a question of the week to answer, virtual parties, and a variety show open to as many Passport campers who want to watch. The deadline for submission of a video for the variety show is Monday, June 22.

The youth and kids camps will occur at the same time. Here is an introduction to the schedule.

- Sun., June 7 Theme song premiere.
- Mon., June 8 Daily devotionals begin.
- Sun., June 14 Week 1 of 6 virtual camps begin.
(Students are not required to participate in all 6 weeks.)
- Fri., July 24 Last week of virtual camp; daily devotionals continue.

Stewardship Options

Due to our current inability to meet in person, there have been questions about making electronic financial contributions to the church. While we do not have online giving, do you know that your bank can send a check to the church on your behalf?



You simply make arrangements with your bank and the bank will send the check for the amount you request each month or each week or whatever frequency you decide. We have a very small handful of people that do this now. Perhaps you would like to give this a try as well. However you give, please know our church is stronger due to your generosity.

Worship Flowers

During this time of sheltering in place, persons who have signed up to provide worship flowers have the option of observing our usual practice, or using the lovely peace lily that one of our families provided. The choices have varied from Sunday to Sunday. At the appropriate time, please let the church office know of your preference. Here is the schedule for June.

- June 7 Oliver Fleming
- June 14 Anita Thompson
- June 21 Doug & Nancy Cobbs
- June 28 Spencer & Dolores Matthews



May 17, 2020

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Weekly Need | \$ 9,130.28 |
| Weekly Offering | \$ 6,365.22 |
| Difference | \$ -2,765.06 |
| YTD Needs | \$ 182,605.60 |
| YTD Offerings | \$ 155,614.79 |
| YTD Difference | \$ -26,990.81 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Capital Campaign Weekly Total | \$ 100.00 |
| Benevolence Weekly Total | \$ 50.00 |

Thank you for your generous gifts!



2020

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| | 1 • 3p: Staff Mtg | 2 | 3 • 6p: Adult Bible Study | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 • 11a Sanctuary Worship Resumes  Trinity Sunday | 8 • 3p: Staff Mtg | 9 | 10 • 6p: Adult Bible Study | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 2nd Sunday after Pentecost • 11a Worship | 15 • 3p: Staff Mtg • 7p: Building & Grounds Committee | 16 • 6p: Deacons' Mtg. | 17 • 6p: Adult Bible Study | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 3rd Sunday after Pentecost • 11a Worship  HAPPY FATHER'S DAY | 22 • 3p: Staff Mtg | 23 | 24 • 6p: Adult Bible Study | 25 Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Virtual General Assembly June 25-26 Register at: cbf.net/general-assembly-2020 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 4th Sunday after Pentecost • 11a Worship | 29 • 3p: Staff Mtg | 30 | | | | |



1 Nancy Bracy
3 Adam Bracy
4 Anita Thompson

5 Alan Myers
9 Jenny Burden
10 Leah Woodard
11 Edward Copeland Sr.
12 Susan Earley
12 Andy Woodard
14 Carol Jean Fretwell
14 Joyce Leary
15 Lanie Byrum

15 Chuck Revelle
15 Bernice Umphlett
16 Wilhamina Sessoms
17 Jerry Alexander
18 Calvin Harrell
18 Barbara Holloman
18 Ruth Overman
18 Buzzy Swain
19 Carroll Thompson

21 Mike Henderson
22 Eloise Miller
23 Stuart Pierce
25 Luann Joyner
27 Michael Perry
27 Leroy Pierce
28 Betty Joyner
29 Eva Early
30 Liza Pierce

If we have neglected to acknowledge a birthday, please call the church office.

SERVING IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Week of May 24 - 30, 2020

Minister on Call

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam, 398-7321

Deacons on Call

Charles Hughes, 287-8403

Brandon Zoch, 862-5767

Sound System—May 24

Walt Pierce

Food Pantry— May 15

Henry Byrd & Margaret Winn

Sanctuary Flowers— May 24

Tom & Carol Jean Fretwell

Food Pantry— May 29

Millie & Jack Britt

Week of May 31—June 6

Minister on Call

Rev. Anita Thompson, 395-0061

Deacons on Call

Rick Burns, 209-4058

Peggy Springfield, 287-5119

Sound System—May 31

Rick Burns

Floral Offering—May 31

Worship Decorating Committee

Food Pantry – May 29

Jack & Millie Britt

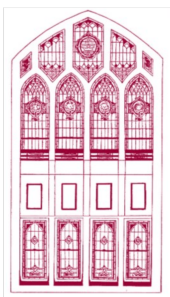
The FBC Ministers

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

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email office@fbcahoskie.org

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