



THE WINDOW

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

Volume 54

January 27, 2021

No. 2

Thoughts on Two Sunday Morning Worship Services

I do not know what to expect as we begin with two worship services on Sunday, February 7. Our church can be rather quiet at times. For example, several months ago we moved the sermon from the end of the worship experience to the middle. I have heard one comment about this move. A gentleman informed me he likes the move because he is more alert earlier in the service! Can you guess who made this comment? Right – Charles Freeman! In relation to the coming addition of the 8:30 am Sunday worship service, I have heard from only two people. Both indicated that, even independent of covid concerns, they find the earlier gathering time attractive.

One of those two persons expressed his opinion that two services will increase attendance – I prefer the word participation to attendance. In other words, under normal non-covid circumstances when you add the number of people together from the 8:30am and the 11am service, that number will be greater than if we just had the one 11am service. As I write, I can see some of you shaking your heads in disagreement with this sentiment. Before covid hit, I heard some of our people recall the summer – perhaps as long as 15 years ago – when our church tried two Sunday morning worship services. The way the story comes to me, we had several people who requested an earlier Sunday morning worship service for the summer. So, we offered an early service. However, the participation was very low. As I understand it, some wanted an earlier service during the summer so they could then have the rest of

the day for traditional summer activities.

Here we are, around 15 years later, trying a second Sunday morning worship service again. However, the circumstances are different – very different. It is not summer. Rather we are in the dead of winter. Furthermore, the purpose of the second service is not even to increase participation. Rather, the purpose of the second worship service this time around is to accommodate more people safely as they desire to return to sanctuary worship. As I have said before, I suspect it will be a while before people are comfortable sitting close to other people outside of their immediate family. Even so, I am hopeful that as more and more people become vaccinated, more and more people will return to sanctuary worship. My desire is that we continue to have a safe sanctuary environment for people when they return.



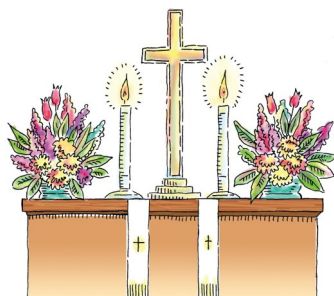
I responded to the gentleman referred to above who offered his opinion that two Sunday morning worship services will increase attendance with, “I heard we had two services a long time ago and the early service just did not catch on.” He said, “Yes, but this is a different day.” I think we can all agree that this is a different day! If, in fact, our two morning worship services increase our overall participation level, then I say let us continue with two services after covid passes off the scene. However, if as in the past participation does not increase, then once the threat of covid passes we will go back to one 11am worship gathering.

In Christ,
Trey

Two Sunday Morning Worship Services 8:30 and 11:00 am

Beginning Sunday February 7, we will offer two Sunday morning worship services. The first worship service will begin at 8:30am; the second at 11am. The 11am service will be live-streamed on Facebook, and broadcast on our local radio station, WQDK, 99.3. Reservations will still be required. And, of course, we will still wear masks and observe appropriate distancing. As it stands now, there will not be a nursery for the 8:30am service. There will be a nursery for the 11am service.

Flowers for Worship in 2021



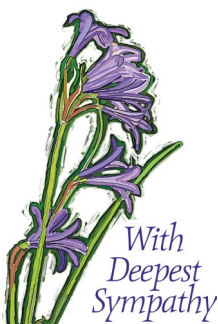
The flower calendar for 2021 is close to being complete. If you usually provide flowers for worship and have not confirmed this with Anita, please do so at (252) 395-0061 or anita@fbcahoskie.org. If you did not provide flowers for worship last year, but would like to do so this year, please contact Anita and she will let you know dates that are available.

Biblical Greek Class

Trey is offering a class on Biblical Greek beginning January 31 at 2:30 pm. Over the course of the study the day and time may fluctuate. Let Trey know if you're interested in participating.

In Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family of Jane Fretwell Holloman who died on January 23. A graveside service will be held on Friday, January 29 at 2:00 pm at the Ahoskie Cemetery. Friends of the family are invited to attend.



Worshipping Together January 31, 2021 The 4th Sunday after Epiphany

The God of Jesus
James 2:1-9
Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam

2020—2021 Global Missions Offering

Our goal for this annual Cooperative Baptist Fellowship offering is \$5000. 100% of our gifts go to CBF missionaries in the US and around the world. We will receive this offering through March 2021.



Wednesday Children Activities

... will resume on February 3 at 5:00 pm. Volunteers are needed to help with the age 3—kindergarten group. Speak with Anita for more information.



January 24, 2021

Weekly Need	\$ 8,755.72
Weekly Offering	\$ 4,995.00
Difference	\$ -3,760.72
YTD Needs	\$ 35,022.88
YTD Offerings	\$ 23,051.60
YTD Difference	\$ -11,971.28
CBF Global Missions Total	\$ 2,136.69
Capital Campaign	
Weekly Offering	\$ 85.00

Thank you for your generous gifts!

2021  2021
February

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Mondays • 3p: Staff Mtg	2	3	4	5 Fridays • 9a-3p: Christian Women's Job Corps (CWJC)	6
7 5th Sunday after Epiphany	8	9	10	11	12  Trey Gilliam's 4th anniversary as Pastor	13
14 Transfiguration of the Lord 	15  PRESIDENT'S DAY • 7p: Building & Grounds Com.	16 • 6p: Deacons' Mtg.	17  Ash WEDNESDAY	18	19	20
21  First SUNDAY IN LENT	22	23	24	25	26	27
28  Second SUNDAY IN LENT		31	Wednesdays • 5p: Children's Music & Missions • 5p: Women's Bible Study		Sundays • 8:30a: Worship • 11a: Worship	


February
Birthdays

2 Kathryn Outlaw
 2 Cheryl Slachta
 4 Inez Bracy
 5 Jordan Harrell
 5 Nancy Perry
 5 Sharon Roope
 7 Butch Hassell

8 Heath Britt
 11 Larry Matthews
 12 Mac Chamblee
 13 Penny Rose
 14 Kade Slaughter
 15 L. Taylor Rose
 16 Boyd Tisdale

17 Avery Byrum
 17 Pat Dixon
 18 Shirley Pierce
 19 Victoria Outlaw
 21 Sarah Mizelle
 21 Mary Page Pierce
 21 Lee Wilson

23 Beth Hassell
 23 Chloe Rose
 24 Mari Wiles
 25 Arlene Raiford
 25 Trent Saunders
 28 E.L. Holloman

SERVING IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Week of Jan. 31 - Feb. 6, 2021

Minister on Call

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam, 398-7321
trey@fbcahoskie.org

Deacons on Call

Carolyn Arrington, 395-2175
Buzzy Swain, 395-0255

Sound System—January 31

Rick Burns

Floral Offering—January 31

Judy H. Pierce

Food Pantry— February 5

Sandra Pierce

Week of February 7 - 13, 2021

Minister on Call

Rev. Anita Thompson, 395-0061
anita@fbcahoskie.org

Deacons on Call

Charles Hughes, 287-8403
Scott Outlaw, 287-6721

Sound System — February 7

Walt Pierce

Floral Offering—February 7

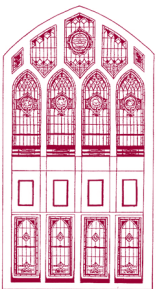
Ruth Ward

Food Pantry— February 12

Pansy & Robert Earl White

A Correction

Flower dedications were left out of the orders of worship on January 17 and 24. We apologize for the error, and provide that information here. On January 17, Vicky Overman provided flowers to the glory of God. On January 24, Joann Herring provided flowers to the glory of God, and in honor of Allie & Avery Byrum.



The Window

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