



THE WINDOW

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

Volume 54

May 26, 2021

No.10

Reflections on Sunday May 23, 2021

Last Sunday (May 23, 2021), could very well come to be known as our first post-covid worship gathering. It was the first Sunday, since March 2020, that we were able to gather as one body without any restrictions. Masks are now optional. Reservations are no longer required. We can sit anywhere we desire in the sanctuary. We do not have to be six feet, or even three feet, from the next person. I confess that after leading worship with seven other people for a long time; limiting worship to 70 people; and then moving to two services so we could accommodate more than 70 people; I found myself lost in the moment. In fact, I was so lost in the moment that I forgot where we were in the service. Then I remembered it was time for me to preach a sermon!

It seems that others had a similar experience. Everything had extra flavor. I taught the Hannah Brown Sunday School class. The ladies in the class were so pleased to gather again in their usual room. Our worship leaders appeared to have a bit more pep in their step than usual. Penny's call to worship and invocation, Jim's song, and Anita's children's time were all so obviously heart felt and enthusiastic. While preaching Sunday, it felt like *I* was in the heavenlies. Perhaps, that is why the sermon was a bit longer than usual. I did not want to come down!

While I thought our numbers were good considering our current situation, they were not great when compared with pre-covid Sundays. We had 135 people participate in 11 AM worship last Sunday. However, we had 169 people on May 19, 2019 and 166 people on May 26, 2019. So, we still have a way to go. Nonetheless, last Sunday was just what we all needed. Thanks be to God!

It occurs to me also that last Sunday could serve as

the marker for our return to the renovated sanctuary. Recall, that we decided to move forward with our renovations during the heat of covid because the sanctuary was not in use. A wise decision! During the renovations, worship was led from our church fellowship hall. When the sanctuary was complete, we then led worship from the sanctuary and soon began in-person worship with limited capacity. May 23, 2021 was our first Sunday all together in that freshly renovated sacred space.

During my sermon, I stated my desire to bottle up my enthusiasm for the church and give each person a bottle! I am hopeful that the enthusiasm we *all* had on May 23 will carry over to May 30 and beyond. Remember our congregation is vibrant *and* vulnerable. At some point, perhaps in the near future, the *and* will be removed. In other words, we will become either vibrant *or* vulnerable. The outcome is in the hands of the members of FBC Ahoskie. May we *work* towards vibrancy so we can defeat our current vulnerabilities.

In Christ,
Trey



Trinity Sunday

Worshipping Together

May 30, 2021

11:00 AM

Trinity Sunday

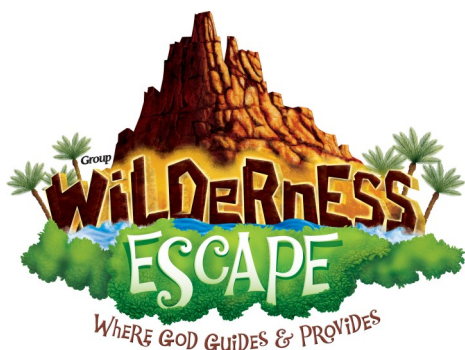
Double Duty

Matthew 28:16-20

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam

Baptism of Tommy Oliver

Summer Church Camp 2021



July 12-15
5:15 PM – 8:00 PM

Thank you, parents, for your input in determining the new dates for Summer Church Camp. We hope this new date allows all to participate, and are looking forward to a wonderful week of camp.

Children will . . .

- Discover truths straight from Moses—one of the Bible's greatest God-followers.
- Caravan with Moses and the Israelites as they escape Egypt.
- See, hear, touch, and even taste what it might have been like to live in the Bible-times wilderness.

Ages & Grades

Age 3 (*by 8/31/21*) to Grade 5
(*2021-22 school year*)

Registration

Registration forms are available in the church office, will be emailed or mailed upon request, or you may register online by copying and pasting the following link.

<https://forms.gle/yMKcYPYk4ikxbAR49>

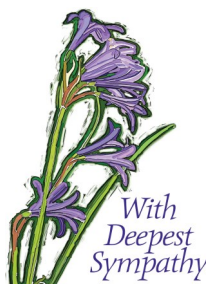
Registration Deadline

July 5

Volunteer Needs

- Decorating team members.
- Age group leaders who lead the same group of children each evening from station to station.
- Childcare providers for leader's children who are under age 3.

Speak with Rev. Thompson if you are willing to volunteer.



In Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to Sharon Roope and family in the May 20th death of her father, E. L. Holloman. A graveside service was held on Monday, May 24, 2021.

Church Conference on June 6

Prior to the beginning of worship on June 6, we will hold a church conference to vote upon the deacon recommendation that we consider changing our Sunday morning schedule to:

9:00 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Worship

Meals on Wheels Volunteers



For the past 14 months, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, employees at the Ahoskie Nutrition Center have taken care of delivering meals

for the Meals on Wheels program. The organization reports that they are ready to return to the practice of using volunteers for the deliveries.

FBC Ahoskie has a long history of providing a team of volunteers to deliver meals on Mondays. Pre-pandemic, we had enough volunteers so that individuals or pairs delivered meals once per quarter. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Jayne Frei at (757) 478-6194.





May 23, 2021

Weekly Need	\$ 8,755.72
Weekly Offering	\$ 10,641.00
Difference	\$ 1,885.28
YTD Needs	\$ 183,870.12
YTD Offerings	\$ 176,682.97
YTD Difference	\$ -7,187.15
Capital Campaign Offering	\$ 500.00
Benevolence Offering	\$ 300.00

Thank you for your generous gifts!

June 2021

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sundays • 10 AM Sunday School • 11 AM Worship		1 • 10 AM WMU Group 4	2 Wednesdays • 6 PM Youth Group • 6:30 PM Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal	3	4 Fridays • 9 AM - 3 PM Christian Women's Job Corps (CWJC)	5
6 • Church Conference prior to Worship	7 • 3 PM Staff Mtg	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 • 3 PM Staff Mtg • 7 PM Building & Grounds Com	15 • 7 PM Deacons' Mtg	16	17	18	19
20 • 12:30 PM Memorial Service for Grady Sumner 	21 • 3 PM Staff Mtg	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 • 3 PM Staff Mtg	29	30			

June Birthdays!

1 Nancy Bracy
 3 Adam Bracy
 4 Anita Thompson
 5 Alan Myers
 9 Jenny Burden
 10 Leah Woodard
 12 Susan Earley

12 Andy Woodard
 14 Carol Jean Fretwell
 14 Joyce Leary
 15 Lanie Byrum
 15 Chuck Revelle
 15 Bernice Umphlett
 17 Jerry Alexander

17 Nat Riddick
 18 Calvin Harrell
 18 Barbara Holloman
 18 Buzzy Swain
 19 Carroll Thompson
 21 Mike Henderson
 23 Stuart Pierce

25 Luann Joyner
 27 Michael Perry
 27 Leroy Pierce
 28 Betty Joyner
 30 Liza Pierce

Please let the office know of any birthdays we may have missed.

SERVING IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Week of May 30—June 5, 2021

Minister on Call

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

Deacons on Call

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

Extended Session - May 30

Babies: Jenni Byrd & Nancy Freeman
Ages 1 & 2: Jamie Burns & Betty Cooper
Ages 3-5: Bryan & Jessica Britton

Ushers - May 30

Carolyn Arrington, Gail Holloman,
Peggy Springfield, Buzzy Swain,
Carroll Thompson, Eley Whitehead
Balcony: Larry Freeman & Henry Joyner

Sound System Operator—May 30

Rick Burns

Floral Offering—May 30

Tom & Carol Jean Fretwell

Meals on Wheels—May 31

Closed

Food Pantry—June 4

Sandra Pierce

Week of June 6—12, 2021

Minister on Call

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

Deacons on Call

Rick Burns, 209-4058
Andy Woodard, 396-1599

Extended Session - June 6

Babies: Bill & Debbie Magette
Ages 1 & 2: Brian & Victoria Outlaw
Ages 3-5: Will & Landis Chamblee

Ushers - June 6

Josh Brinkley, Kay Byrd,
J.C. Doughtie, Gloria Freeman,
Bill Magette, Jane Hollingsworth
Balcony: Brad & Colby Hauser

Sound System—June 6

Walt Pierce

Floral Offering—June 6

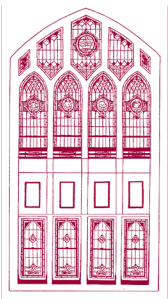
Finette Matthews, Larry & Winnie Matthews

Home Delivered Meals - June 7

Bill & Susan Earley

Food Pantry - June 11

Patrise Godwin & Marilyn Mize



The Window

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie
Main and West Streets
PO Box 649
Ahoskie, NC 27910-0649

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phone 252-332-4003
fax 252-209-0225
email office@fbcahoskie.org
web www.fbcahoskie.org