



THE WINDOW

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

Volume 55

March 9, 2022

No. 3

Calling All Resident Church Members

Are you a resident member of the First Baptist Church of Ahoskie? If you answer yes to the following two questions, then you are indeed a resident member of the First Baptist Church of Ahoskie. 1) At some point in your life, did you walk the aisle at the conclusion of a Sunday morning worship service and request to join our church? 2) Do you live within driving distance of our church facilities? If so, you are a resident church member of the First Baptist Church of Ahoskie, and I want to ask you to dig deep as we emerge from the pandemic.

It appears that our church is experiencing a revival of sorts. Have you noticed? We are scheduled to baptize Henry Pierce, Brittany Smith, and Adrianna Smith this Sunday (3-13-2022). On Sunday February 27, Carl Pierce joined our church. The next Sunday March 6, Nathan and Kimmi Pierce, along with their children Eli and Lilli, joined our fellowship. We plan to baptize Lilli on Easter Sunday! We continue to have a nice handful of Chowan students who participate in worship with us. One of them, Brayden Conboy, joined our church last year. We are also so pleased to welcome our friends from the Methodist and Presbyterian churches.

I anticipate more people will join our church soon.

Wednesday night activities are gaining steam once again. We had 70 people at our Ash Wednesday meal last week. And, of course, we cannot talk about our church without mention of our children. They led us in worship on February 20th. We had 32 children present on that day. Did you know that 201 total people were present for worship on February 20th? Of course, the numbers are higher when the children lead us. However, 201 is the

kind of number we would have had pre-Covid on a children's Sunday.

Speaking of numbers, however, we are not where we were pre-Covid. In 2019, we averaged 181 people for Sunday morning worship. Before Covid struck in March of 2020, we averaged 174 people for Sunday morning worship. So far this year (2022), our average is 144 people for Sunday morning worship.

So, here's calling all resident church members. Will you dig deep and help our church continue with its revival? I ask you to guard Sunday mornings for the purpose of gathered worship. Do not let anything else take priority – not sports, not shopping, not cooking, not sleeping, not yardwork, and not whatever else it is that keeps you away! Numbers are important because they indicate the degree to which people care or do not care. While it is true that God is present with two or three people gathered, it is also true that God is present with 200 or 300 people gathered. And the more voices gathered to sing praises to God for what God has done for us through His Son, Jesus the Christ, the better! And, as I say regularly, the worship of God, through Christ, is one of the most important activities we humans engage in together. Gathered worship reminds us that God is God and we are not.

As your pastor then, and as we strive to regain and even surpass our pre-Covid groove, I remind you that responsible church membership consists of faithfulness to gathered worship with FBC Ahoskie, faithfulness to tithing to FBC Ahoskie, and faithfulness to service through FBC Ahoskie.

In Christ,

Paul R. Gilliam III



Worshipping Together

March 13, 2022

11:00 AM

The 2nd Sunday in Lent

Overlooked People

James 2:1-13

Rev. Dr. Paul R. Gilliam III

*Baptism of Henry Pierce,
Brittany Smith & Adrianna Smith, and
Dedication of Virginia Beale Davis,
daughter of David & Elizabeth Davis*



American
Red Cross

Blood Drive

March 31, 2022 | 1 PM—6 PM

FBCA Fellowship Hall

College Scholarship Applications

James Wilton "Wig" &

Frances Freeman Bracy Scholarship

Frances Bracy established a scholarship in honor of her family and her late husband Wig, desiring to make a college education affordable for church members who may have financial need or for whom college would otherwise be unattainable. FBCA members who will be college students during the 2022-2023 academic year are encouraged to apply.

Oscar Creech Scholarship

This scholarship is named after FBCA's longest tenured pastor who prayed that God would call persons from among the FBCA membership into full-time church-related vocation. FBCA members who have sensed a call to ministry and desire to acquire a theological education are encouraged to apply.

Applications for both scholarships are available in the church office or will be mailed upon request. Contact Jessica Pyle, Communications Coordinator, if you would like an application. Completed applications are due in the church office on April 15, 2022.

Welcome New Members

On Sunday, March 6, 2022, we welcomed into our church membership Nathan and Kimmi Pierce along with their children, Lilli and Eli. Nathan, Kimmi, and Eli join by transfer of letter; Lilli joins by profession of faith. She will be baptized on Easter Sunday, April 17th.

Adult Bible Study & Soup Supper

The Book of James

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 | 6 PM
Fellowship Hall

On March 9th, Pastor Paul will begin a study of the book of James which parallels his Lenten sermon series. Scriptures studied on Wednesday evenings will differ from the scripture texts for Sunday sermons.

In Sympathy



We offer our sympathy to Nancy Perry and family in the March 3, 2022 passing of her husband, Mike. A memorial service was held at FBCA on Sunday, March 6.

Retirement Breakfast for Bland Baker

April 3, 2022 | 9 AM
Fellowship Hall

For 27 years Bland has faithfully served God and our church as Music Associate/Pianist. His last Sunday in this role will be Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022. One way we'd like to offer our thanks to Bland is through a churchwide breakfast. Let's gather on April 3rd to offer Bland our thanks for his fine and faithful ministry among us.

Stewardship Statement








March 6, 2022

Weekly Need	\$ 9,143.50
Weekly Offering	\$ 9,306.28
Difference	\$ 162.78
YTD Needs	\$ 91,435.00
YTD Offerings	\$ 84,785.02
YTD Difference	\$ -6,649.98
Capital Campaign Offering	\$ 1,710.00
Benevolence Offering	\$ 505.00
Global Missions Total	\$ 6,889.00

Thank you for your generous gifts!

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie

April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3  Selton Vaughan's 4th Staff Anniversary • Fifth Sunday in Lent—Communion	4	5 • 10 AM WMU Groups 2 & 4	6 • 10:30 AM Garden Club • 4 PM JR Garden Club	7 • 4 PM CWJC Board Mtg	8	9
10  Palm SUNDAY	11	12	13	14  Maundy THURSDAY • 6 PM Meal & Worship	15  Anita Thompson's 20th Staff Anniversary • 7 PM Good Friday Worship 	16
17  Easter SUNDAY	18 <i>Easter Monday</i> • 7 PM Building & Grounds Mtg	19 • 7 PM Deacons' Mtg	20 • 12 PM Ahoskie Woman's Club	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
“Then he prayed again, and the sky poured rain and the earth produced its fruit.” — James 5:18 NASB		<u>Sundays</u> • 9:45 AM Sunday School • 11 AM Worship • 2 PM Chairo • 3 PM Celebrate Life Choir	<u>Mondays</u> • 3 PM Staff Mtg • 5:45-6:45 PM Girl Scouts Mtg	<u>Wednesdays</u> • 5 PM Children's Music & Missions • 6 PM Youth Group (Gr. 6-12) • 6 PM Adult Bible Study • 7 PM Celebrate Life Choir • 7:45 PM Sanctuary Choir • 8 PM Vocal Ensemble		<u>Fridays</u> • 9 AM - 3 PM Christian Women's Job Corps (CWJC)

April Birthdays

1 Lou Riddick
 4 Adalyn Britt
 5 Colby Hauser
 5 Mike Neal
 5 Debbie Sisler
 7 Rebecca Cale
 7 Carolyn Mitchell
 12 Claire Presley
 15 Gloria Freeman
 16 Charles Hughes

16 Debbie Magette
 16 Kathy McCaskey
 16 Mary-joe Turner
 17 Nancy Cobbs
 18 Abby Alexander
 20 Miracle Deloatch
 22 Arthur Brown

23 Austine Evans
 24 Sarah Newbern
 24 Anna Pierce
 25 Wally McKeel
 26 Anna Dawson
 26 Walt Pierce

28 Jane Hollingsworth
 28 Will Chamblee
 29 Pace Davis
 30 Josh Brinkley

If we have neglected to acknowledge a birthday, please let us know by calling the church office.

SERVING IN THE LOVE OF **CHRIST**

Week of Mar. 13 - 19, 2022

Minister on Call

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

Deacons on Call

Penny Rose, 287-4482
Walt Pierce, 642-7445

Childcare During Worship - March 13

Babies: Nancy Cobbs & Joyce Leary
Ages 1 & 2: Lyndsay Britt, Isabella & Leah Woodard
Ages 3-5: Heather & William Alexander

Ushers - March 13

Bill Magette, L. Taylor Rose, Peggy Springfield,
Buzzy Swain, Carroll Thompson, Walter White

Sound System Operator - March 13

Brandon Zoch

Security Monitor - March 13

Lee Byrum

Floral Offering - March 13

Ollie & Hannah Brown Family

Home Delivered Meals - March 14

Georgia Copeland & Jayne Frei

Food Pantry - March 18

Kay Byrd & Vicky Overman

Week of Mar. 20 - 27, 2022

Minister on Call

Rev. Dr. Paul R. Gilliam III, 398-7321
paulrgilliam@fbcahoskie.org

Deacons on Call

Penny Rose, 287-4482
Walt Pierce, 642-7445

Childcare During Worship - March 20

Babies: Kari Pierce & Cheryl Slachta
Ages 1 & 2: Jordan & Claire Harrell
Ages 3-5: Avery & Harriet Byrum

Ushers - March 20

Heath Britt, Alex Britton, Kay Byrd,
Sophia Byrd, Lanie Byrum, Lee Byrum

Sound System Operator - March 20

Brandon Zoch

Security Monitor - March 20

Henry Daniels

Floral Offering - March 20

Scott & Lisa Outlaw & Family

Home Delivered Meals - March 21

Carol Jean Fretwell & Jerri Harrell

Food Pantry - March 25

Melanie Byrum