



# THE WINDOW

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

Volume 55

April 20, 2022

No. 4

## Momentum!

There is some curiosity about the number of people we had for Easter worship (April 17). So, I thought I would let you know what our numbers have been recently for Sunday morning worship. We appear to be returning to where we were pre-Covid. Though, we are not there yet.

March 6 = 142 people

March 13 = 184 people

March 20 = 196 people

March 27 = 165 people

\*\*\* average for March = 171.75 people \*\*\*

April 3 = 146 people

April 10 (Palm Sunday) = 215 people

April 17 (Easter Sunday) = 271 people

Because our Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday participation numbers are so good, **we simply need 168 people in worship this Sunday to average 200 people in worship for the month of April.** Will you do your part to make certain we exceed 168 people in worship this Sunday (4-24-2022)?

The Sunday after Easter is often referred to as low Sunday. One reason for this designation is because usually there are a lot less people in worship than there was for Easter Sunday. **If you are a member of FBC Ahoskie, will you make as much effort to be present for worship this Sunday (April 24) as you did for Easter Sunday?** Let's do our best to avoid low Sunday. If you are an inactive member, will you return to worship this Sunday? We need all inactive members back in our congregation making their

unique contributions to the advancement of the Kingdom of God here in Ahoskie and beyond.

I strongly believe with high commitment levels from our church membership, as well as the numerous visitors we have with us now, our church could average 200 people in worship on Sunday mornings. The numbers above indicate we have this potential. Remember: a growing and vibrant church requires God's movement in our midst and hard work from our people. There is no question that God is at work in our congregation. We continue to have new people join our church. We baptize on a regular basis. We reach out to the needy in our back yard and beyond. Have you seen all the children that contribute so much joy to the life of our fellowship! God is doing God's thing. Now, *we* must invest the necessary hard work. Easter was so good this year. Let's build on that momentum going forward!

In Christ,

Paul



## Worshipping Together

April 24, 2022

11:00 AM

*The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter*

*In This*

1 Peter 1:1-9

Rev. Dr. Paul R. Gilliam III

**Adult Bible Study Lunch**  
Wednesday | April 27, 2022 | 12 PM  
Fellowship Hall



Dear Church,

As I continue to reflect on our Easter Sunday worship service, my “cup runneth over.” There were so many high and holy moments: the choir’s powerful proclamation of “He is Alive,” Lilli’s baptism, our precious children squeezing into TWO rows for the Children’s Time, Pastor Paul’s thought-provoking message inviting us to follow the Apostle Peter’s lead in taking a deeper look at the Easter Story, your joyous singing of the hymn of response, “Because He Lives,” and our welcoming Tommy Mitchell as an official member of FBCA. What a day!

But then there was more. Thank you for so beautifully expressing your love and appreciation to Bland Baker upon his retirement. For 27 years he has faithfully and skillfully served as pianist for all manner of choirs, innumerable soloists, and more worship services than we can adequately count. He’s left a mighty big pair of flip flops to fill!

Thank you, too, for so beautifully expressing your love and appreciation to me for the 20 years I have served as your Associate Pastor. When I left Ahoskie to go to seminary in Louisville, KY, I often wondered where God would send me upon completion of my seminary education. Who would have guessed it was right back to Ahoskie! Thank you for welcoming me home and allowing me the pleasure of ministering to and with you these 20 years. It has been my great joy.

Grace & peace,



### Baptism Congratulations



Congratulations to Lilli Willis who was baptized on April 17, 2022. Lilli is the daughter of Nathan and Kimmi Pierce, and sister of Eli.

### Welcome New Member

We are pleased to welcome Tommy Mitchell into our membership on April 17, 2022. Tommy comes from Ahoskie United Methodist Church.



## Children's End-of-Year Program

Wednesday, May 4, 2022

The schedule for our Children’s Music & Missions End-of-Year Program is as follows:

- 5:00-6:00 PM Children’s Music & Missions Gathering  
(Last meeting of 21-22 church year.)
- 6:00-6:45 PM Churchwide Meal in Fellowship Hall
- 6:45 PM End-of-Year Program in Sanctuary

## Happy Anniversary, Anita!

April 15, 2022

On behalf of the entire First Baptist Church, happy 20 year employment anniversary to our own, Anita Thompson. We are so blessed that you have the vision to make our music a worshipful experience for young and old, the courage to do what sometimes seems impossible and the talent to make it all happen so seamlessly.

Thank you and CONGRATULATIONS.  
Penny Rose, Deacon Chair



## Celebrate Life Weekend 2022

May 14 | 7 PM

May 15 | 3 PM

## Stewardship Statement

April 17, 2022







Weekly Need	\$ 9,143.50
Weekly Offering	\$ 4,000.45
Difference	\$ -5,143.05
YTD Needs	\$ 146,296.00
YTD Offerings	\$ 138,732.30
YTD Difference	\$ -7,563.70
Capital Campaign Offering	\$ 100.00
Benevolence Offering	\$ 0.00
Global Missions Total	\$ 7,689.00

*Thank you for your generous gifts!*



# May 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2	3 • 10 AM WMU Group 4	4 • 10:30 AM Garden Club • 4 PM JR Garden Club	5	6	7
8 	9	10	11	12	13	14 Janice Cesil's 4 <sup>th</sup> Staff Anniversary! • 7 PM Celebrate Life 
15 • 3 PM Celebrate Life	16 • 7 PM Building & Grounds Mtg	17 Jessica Pyle's 1 <sup>st</sup> Staff Anniversary! • 7 PM Deacon's Mtg 	18 • 12 PM Ahoskie Woman's Club	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 	31				
Greater love has no one than this, that a person will lay down his life for his friends. —John 15:13 NASB 		<u>Sundays</u> • 9:45 AM Sunday School • 11 AM Worship • 2 PM Chairo • 2:30 PM Celebrate Life Choir	<u>Mondays</u> • 3 PM Staff Mtg • 5:45-6:45 PM Girl Scouts Mtg	<u>Wednesdays</u> • 12 PM Adult Bible Study • 5 PM Children's Music & Missions • 6 PM Youth Group (Gr. 6-12) • 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)



2 Violet Williams	14 Ashlee' Perry	18 Suzanne Newbern	27 Tom Fretwell
4 Nancy Harrell Baker	15 Patti Byrd	18 Judy G. Pierce	28 Howard Brown
7 Kay Byrd	16 Finette Matthews	19 Pike Harrington	28 Paul Gilliam
7 Michael Harrell	17 Bryan Britton	20 Graham Lawrence	28 Mollee Frei Lamm
9 Richard Alexander	17 Camille Pierce	24 William Alexander	31 Donna Burden
9 Jessie Simons	17 Tyler Slaughter	24 Peggy Springfield	
11 Gates Vaughan	18 Lily Ann Brinkley	25 Duck Harrell	

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 Apr. 24 - 30, 2022**

**Minister on Call**

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

**Deacons on Call**

Claire Presley, 287-6132  
Chuck Revelle, 862-6322

**Childcare During Worship - April 24**

Babies: Debbie & Keith Rawls  
Ages 1 & 2: Georgia Copeland & Debbie Greene  
Ages 3-5: Jessica, Josh & Lily Ann Brinkley

**Ushers - April 24**

Charles Hughes, Patricia Hughes, Camille Pierce,  
Pate Pierce, Nat Riddick, Frank Rose

**Sound System Operator - April 24**

Brandon Zoch

**Security Monitor - April 24**

Brian Outlaw

**Floral Offering - April 24**

Tony Marra

**Home Delivered Meals - April 25**

Jayne Frei

**Food Pantry - April 29**

Anita Thompson & Carroll Thompson

**Week of May 1 - 7, 2022**

**Minister on Call**

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

**Deacons on Call**

Claire Presley, 287-6132  
Chuck Revelle, 862-6322

**Childcare During Worship - May 1**

Babies: Karen Daly & Lisa Outlaw  
Ages 1 & 2: Bill & Debbie Magette  
Ages 3-5: Landis & Will Chamblee

**Ushers - May 1**

L. Taylor Rose, Peggy Springfield, Buzzy Swain Jr.  
Carroll Thompson, Walter White, Eley Whitehead

**Sound System Operator - May 1**

Chris Slachta

**Security Monitor - May 1**

Scott Outlaw

**Floral Offering - May 1**

Dot Newsome

**Home Delivered Meals - May 2**

Carol Jean Fretwell & Jerri Harrell

**Food Pantry - May 6**

Patrise Godwin