



THE WINDOW

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

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No. 5

From the Associate Pastor

In the late 1960's and early 70's, American teenagers were dancing and singing to the music of Creedence Clearwater Revival (*Proud Mary*), The Hollies (*He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother*), and Joe South (*Walk a Mile in My Shoes*). But teens participating in their church youth choirs were still singing traditional sacred music that, though beautifully inspirational, didn't sound anything like the music they were listening to on their radios. Then came the advent of the Christian youth musical. The first was *Good News: A Christian Folk Musical*, which premiered at the Glorieta Baptist Conference Center in the summer of 1969. Instead of using only piano and organ accompaniment, it called for guitars and drums, and did indeed have a folk music sound and style. It quickly gained popularity and led to the publishing of other Christian folk musicals like *Tell It Like It Is* in 1970, and *Celebrate Life* in 1972. Of the three, *Celebrate Life*, has best stood the test of time. This year marks its 50th anniversary.

The year after *Celebrate Life* premiered at the 1972 Church Music Conference at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Bob Dills, FBCA Minister of Music & Youth (1964-1978), introduced it to the Senior High Choir. Billy Mobley, pastor, led a companion Bible study assisted by the four students who portrayed disciples of Jesus: Steve Fleming, Louis Mizelle, Bill Mobley, and Keith Renner. *Celebrate Life* was first presented at FBCA on August 19, 1973. If you talk with any of those students who presented the musical, they will tell you it was a spiritually formative experience.

In the summer of 1981, under the direction of Don Gober, FBCA Minister of Music & Youth (1979-1991), the Senior High Choir along with college students who were home for the summer, began rehearsing *Celebrate Life*. The second week of

August, forty students and chaperones headed to Stone Mountain, GA, performing *Celebrate Life* at churches along the way. Upon their return, they presented the musical at FBCA on August 10. If you talk with any of *those* students who presented the musical, they will tell you it was a spiritually formative experience.

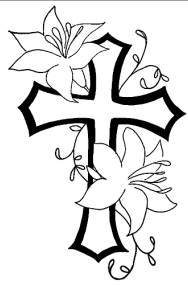
Ten years ago, FBCA held a Youth Choir Reunion at which we presented *Celebrate Life* in recognition of its 40th anniversary. Seventy-eight former youth choir members gathered to share cherished *Celebrate Life* memories, and sing again this musical that had been and still is such an important part of our spiritual journeys. And now, 50 years after the musical first changed the lives of so many, we're presenting it again. We hope you'll come and experience it, either again, or for the very first time. If you do, we're pretty certain it will be a spiritually formative experience for you, too.

Grace & peace,



**A Christian Folk Musical
Presented by the Music Ministry of FBCA**

**Saturday, May 14 | 7:00 PM
and
Sunday, May 15 | 3:00 PM**



Worshipping Together

May 15, 2022

11:00 AM

The 5th Sunday of Easter

A Pastor's Diagnosis

1 Peter 5:5-9

Rev. Dr. Paul R. Gilliam III

Music by the *Celebrate Life* Choir.

Passport Kids Camp 2022

June 27 - 30

Monday - Thursday

Converse College, Spartanburg, SC

For students who are in grades 3-5 for the 2021-2022 school year.

Camp Fee is due by May 16.



Staff Anniversaries



Janice Cesil, our Financial Secretary, began her ministry among us on May 14, 2018. Thank you, Janice, for four faithful years of service.

Jessica Pyle, our Communications Coordinator began her ministry among us on May 17, 2021. Thank you, Jessica, for a great first year.



College Graduates 2022

We'd like to honor our college graduates! If you completed your bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree this spring, please contact the church office and share specifics about your accomplishment.

Celebrate Life Rehearsal Schedule

Saturday, May 14th

8:30 AM Breakfast, *Fellowship Hall*

9:30 AM Rehearsal #1, *Sanctuary*

12:00 PM Lunch, *Fellowship Hall*

1:15 PM Rehearsal #2, *Sanctuary*

3:00 PM Break - *Supper on your own.*

6:00 PM *Celebrate Life* Choir, *Sanctuary*

7:00 PM *Celebrate Life* Presentation #1

Sunday, May 15th

9:45 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM *Celebrate Life* Choir, *Sanctuary*

11:00 AM Worship

2:00 PM *Celebrate Life* Choir, *Sanctuary*

3:00 PM *Celebrate Life* Presentation #2

Reception to follow.

High School Baccalaureate 2022

On Sunday, June 5th, we will honor our high school graduates during the 11:00 AM worship service. They are Lanie Byrum, Jane Hollingsworth, and Isabella Woodard.

Youth Group Wednesday Gathering

The last regular Wednesday night Youth Group gathering is scheduled for 6:00 PM, May 18, 2022, We'll gather at our Green Space for a picnic. The FBC Youth Group is made up of students in grades 6-12.

Adult Bible Study Lunch

Wednesday | May 18, 2022 | 12 PM

FBC Annex



Thank You

Dear Church Family and Friends,

Thank you so much for your prayers and thoughts throughout my recent illness. While I was completely unaware of what was happening around me, Linda has shared how much your support helped her through those difficult days. Since I have been home, your cards and calls have brightened my days. Most importantly, there is no doubt in my mind that your prayers made a difference in my recovery. Thank you again for your prayerful support of me and my family.

With much gratitude,

Jerry Alexander

Stewardship Statement

May 8, 2022

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Weekly Need | \$ 9,143.50 |
| Weekly Offering | \$ 9,127.50 |
| Difference | \$ -16.00 |

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| YTD Needs | \$ 173,726.50 |
| YTD Offerings | \$ 160,670.80 |
| YTD Difference | \$ -13,055.70 |

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Capital Campaign Offering | \$ 150.00 |
| Benevolence Offering | \$ 165.00 |
| Global Missions Total | \$ 7,689.00 |

Thank you for your generous gifts!



First Baptist Church of Ahoskie

June 2022



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|-----|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 Baccalaureate Class of 2022 | 6 | 7 • 10 AM WMU Groups 2 & 4 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| Passport Youth Camp ♦ June 12-17 Greensboro College Greensboro, NC | | | | | | |
| 19 Happy Father's Day | 20 • 7 PM Building & Grounds Mtg | 21 • 7 PM Deacon's Mtg | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |
| Passport Kids Camp ♦ June 27-30 Converse University Spartanburg, SC | | | | | | |
| <p>[One of the scribes asked Jesus.] "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."</p> <p>-Mark 12:28-31 NRSV</p> | | | <u>Sundays</u> • 9:45 AM Sunday School • 11 AM Worship | <u>Mondays</u> • 3 PM Staff Mtg <u>Wednesdays</u> • 12 PM Adult Bible Study • 7:45 PM Sanctuary Choir • 8 PM Vocal Ensemble | <u>Fridays</u> • 9 AM - 3 PM Christian Women's Job Corps (CWJC) | |

June Birthdays

1 Nancy Bracy
3 Adam Bracy
4 Anita Thompson
5 Alan Myers

8 Virginia Davis
9 Jenny Burden
10 Leah Woodard
12 Susan Earley
12 Andy Woodard
13 Doug Cobbs
14 Carol Jean Fretwell

14 Joyce Leary
15 Lanie Byrum
15 Chuck Revelle
17 Jerry Alexander
17 Nat Riddick
18 Barbara Holloman
18 Buzzy Swain

19 Carroll Thompson
21 Mike Henderson
23 Stuart Pierce
25 Luann Joyner
27 Leroy Pierce
28 Betty Joyner
30 Liza Pierce

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 May 15 - 21, 2022

Minister on Call

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

Deacons on Call

Charles Hughes, 287-8403
Kari Pierce, 217-8017

Childcare During Worship - May 15

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

Ushers - May 15

Alex Britton, Kay Byrd, Sophia Byrd,
Lanie Byrum, Lee Byrum, Doug Cobbs

Sound System Operator - May 15

Rick Burns

Security Monitor - May 15

Bill Magette

Floral Offering - May 15

Diane & Larry Freeman

Home Delivered Meals - May 16

Georgia Copeland & Jayne Frei

Food Pantry - May 20

Pansy & Robert E. White

Week of May 22 - 28, 2022

Minister on Call

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

Deacons on Call

Carolyn Arrington, 395-2175
Bill Magette, 209-4676

Childcare During Worship - May 22

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

Ushers - May 22

J.C. Doughtie, Gloria Freeman, Larry Freeman,
Tim Frei, Duck Harrell, Jordan Harrell

Sound System Operator - May 22

Frank Britt

Security Monitor - May 22

Brent Pierce

Floral Offering - May 22

Nat & Lou Riddick

Home Delivered Meals - May 23

Charles & Gloria Freeman

Food Pantry - May 27

Arthur Brown & Vicky Overman