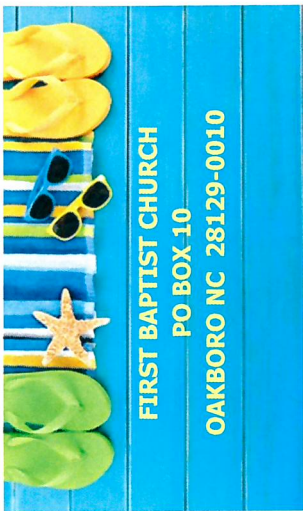


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First Chronicle of First Baptist Church, Oakboro

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June 27, 2018

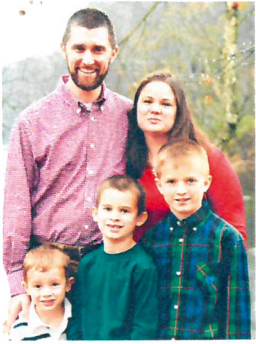
Has anything Jesus said ever left you *puzzled?*

Hard Sayings

Join us this summer for our new preaching series as we wrestle with some of Jesus' more challenging teachings.

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This is the season for celebrating our nation. This Wednesday we celebrate our 242nd birthday. For 242 years we have been a beacon of freedom and hope for the world. Now, we haven't always lived up to the high and moral language of our founding documents, but no nation has ever come as close to offering as much freedom and economic opportunity for as many people for as long as ours has. Warts aside, we should be proud of that heritage.

But as we celebrate, we should also consider this: The freedom we enjoy doesn't come out of nowhere. The very fact that freedom is such a new concept in the broader history of the world should lead us to ask where it came from and how it has been maintained so long here when so many others have seen it come only to have it slip away in a relatively short amount of time. For instance, the French Revolution exploded about the same time ours did, but theirs lasted only for a few years, devolved into tyranny, and Napoleon rose from the ashes.

Well, the first thing freedom needs is individuals willing to defend it. For some, the existence of freedom is seen as an abomination. Their worldview not only doesn't allow for it but leads them to conclude that no one else should have it as well. Unless we are willing to defend our gift, we will not be able to keep it for long. Thankfully, we have a long history of brave men and women willing to do just that. Our gratitude for them—for you—and their sacrifices should never be small.

More than just physical defenders, though, freedom requires virtue. The whole point of law in just societies is to restrain human failings. People won't do what is considered right (whether such considerations are accurately reflective of reality or not is a different matter) by the majority on their own and so laws are passed to force them to do so anyway under the threat of punishment for refusing. When such laws increase in number, freedom vanishes. A naturally virtuous people, though, do not need such legal restraints as they pursue what is right of their own accord.

The problem with this is that people are not naturally virtuous. We need something external to us to propel us in this direction. This external thing is faith. Specifically, a faith that encourages its adherents positively on toward virtue, not as an act of mandate, but as one of gratitude. Even more specifically, the Christian faith is the one thing that has encouraged virtue in its followers over a long period of time to the betterment of whole cultures and societies. When a society loses its faith, eventually it loses its virtue; and when it loses its virtue, eventually it loses its freedom.

In this there is both a warning and an encouragement. On the one hand, as our society continues to give up faith for secularism, our cultural commitment to virtue will continue to fade. And as that happens, our freedom will shrink under the proliferation of laws designed to restrict and shape our behavior in certain directions. The encouragement, however, is that as followers of Jesus, we are in possession of the one thing that can prevent this loss from happening. The very best way to celebrate our freedom, then, is to commit to doing what it takes to maintain it for another 242 years: ***Proclaim the Gospel and make disciples.***

This Fourth of July—and in the days that follow—celebrate your freedom by sharing your faith with someone who needs to hear about it. Be a part of the reason our grandchildren and great-grandchildren will still be celebrating the Fourth of July long after we are gone.

Pastor Jonathan

Join Us
Community Patriotic Celebration
Sunday, July 1 at 6:00 p.m.
Fellowship Building -- First Baptist Church of Oakboro

Adult Choir Presents
"FREEDOM"
Musical Selections by the Handbell Choir
Message by Rev. Jonathan Waits



First Baptist Oakboro will begin "Meals on Wheels" ministry on Saturday, **July 14**. A very special THANK YOU to Rita Crisco and Chip Alsobrooks for continuing to press forward and seek all the proper channels to be able to be certified to provide and deliver to as many as 27 senior adults in the Oakboro area. We are scheduled to prepare and deliver the lunch meal the second Saturday of every month. We will need many volunteers for this ministry; please see Rita or Chip to volunteer. Thank you!

Our Record of Giving

Budget Goals – June	\$ 23,405.40
Budget Receipts – June	19,902.00
Budget Goals – YTD	251,608.05
Budget Receipts – YTD	234,208.46
Budget Variance	-17,399.59
<i>Special Offerings</i>	
Building Fund	1,585.00
Youth Ice Cream	450.43
Youth Camp Caswell Deposits	10.00



Stanly Community Christian Ministries is asking for donations of **paper products and cleaning supplies** (toilet tissue, facial tissue, paper towels, etc.)

Your help in this monthly mission is greatly appreciated!



It's That Time!!!

The Nominating & Stewardship Committees are preparing their reports for the upcoming new year.

If there is an area within the church that you feel you are being led to serve, please contact a committee member or call or email the office. If you are a department head or committee chair, and you need funds designated to your ministry, now is the time to let them know.

Nominating Committee: Jane Baucom, Louise Floyd, Nancy Haywood, Doug Hinson, Matt Hudson, Chris Huneycutt.

Stewardship: Eddie Arrowood, Jim Cameron, Sandra Chance, Lynn Edwards, Betty Huneycutt, Ellen Meadors

**A Note
From
WMU**

There will not be a WMU meeting in July but wanted to remind you that the monthly support for Danielle Brady with CRU still is due.



"Pastor Jonathan Waits, Thanks to you, the youth, and church members for graduation breakfast and service. It was a very special day for my family and me. Continue to pray for me as I attend Western Carolina."

Bailey Huneycutt

"Dear Scholarship Committee, Thank you very much for the breakfast, recognition service, and for awarding me the Bud and Teresa Smith Scholarship. I am looking forward to the next phase of my education at UNC Charlotte. Your gift will be helpful toward my college expenses. I really appreciate your thoughtfulness! Sincerely,"

Masden J. Thomas

"Dear Church Family, Thank you so much for your generous scholarship. I will surely miss my church while I'm at App State. I was so proud that so many of my classmates also received awards. Our church truly does care and I'm proud to be a member.

In Christian love,"

Brayden Meadors

"Dear First Baptist Church, What an honor it was for me to receive the Amy Boger memorial scholarship. I want to thank you all. Please pray for me as I begin a new chapter in my life as I will begin my college career at UNCC. Again, thank you for allowing me to receive such a wonderful scholarship in memory of such a wonderful lady."

Andrew Godwin

"Oakboro First Baptist, I wanted to extend my gratitude to you for your generous scholarship that I received a few weeks ago. I'm sorry I could not attend the recognition breakfast. Your gift is greatly appreciated and will help both my family and me while paying for college.

Much love and thanks again,"

Reagan Crump

"Dear First Baptist Church Oakboro family, Thank you for the invitation to participate in Graduate Sunday including the delicious breakfast. It is an honor and privilege to be selected as a scholarship recipient and I am grateful for the assistance. Please remember me in your prayers as I start this new chapter in my life.

Love,"

Anna Marsicano



- June 30 6:00 pm – B & K Carnival Co. on the Midway
6:30 pm– Little Miss Pageant (Sponsor: Oakboro Auto Group)
8:30 pm - ****Too Much Sylvia**** (On Union Power Stage)
- July 2 6:00 pm B & K Carnival Co. on Midway ***ARMBAND NIGHT***
6:30 pm – Talent Showcase
8:30 pm - ****Band of Oz**** (On the Union Power Stage)
- July 3 6:00 pm B & K Carnival Co. on Midway ***ARMBAND NIGHT***
8:30 pm - **** Tim Clark Band**** (On the Union Power Stage)
- July 4 9:00 am - Parade
11:00 am – B & K Carnival Co. on the Midway
Opening Ceremonies
Miss Stanly County Fire Queen Pageant
B-B-Q Lunch @ Fire Dept. (Dine In or Carry Out)
2:00 pm – Midway Closes
5:00 pm – Midway Opens
6:00 pm - ****Valhalla**** (On the Union Power Stage)
8:30 pm - ****The Tonez**** (On Union Power Stage)
10:30 pm – Raffle Drawing
TBA – FIREWORKS (Sponsor: Charlotte Pipe and Foundry)

If you are making a cake for the fire department, please deliver by July 3 to the fire department or the church.



In honor of **Mae Brooks**, a donation was given to First Baptist, Oakboro, by her daughter: Linnie Wright.

In honor of **Jimmy Foxx**, Robbie Foxx's dad, the Adult Choir made a contribution to the Building Fund.

The Blessed Assurance Sunday School class gave a donation to the Building Fund in honor of **Bea Goodman**.

In honor of **Chip Alsobrooks** and his ministry to the church family, a contribution was made to the Building Fund by Mae Brooks.



In memory of **Sarah Paul Drye** and **Judy Turner**, donations were given by **Doris Hatley** to the Building Fund.

In memory of **Sarah Paul Drye**, Geneva Beachum made a donation to the Building Fund.

A contribution was given by First Baptist, Oakboro, to the Building Fund in memory of **Dolores Howell**.

Church Volunteers

Date	Greeters	Nursery - Worship
Jul 1	Mandy Smith – Sunday School Butch Poplin – Worship	Andy & Julie Castelloe
8	Gerald & Bonnie Lee – Sunday School Tracy & Lisa Lowder – Worship	Tracy & Lisa Lowder
15	Mike McClellan – Sunday School Jane Baucom – Worship	Cheryl Cameron Sheila Hinson
22	Rita Crisco – Sunday School Felix & Mark Hinson – Worship	Matt & Melanie Hudson Marilyn Huneucutt
29	Danny & Julie Poplin – Sunday School Bobby Watkins - Worship	Ashley Morton Sandra Chance
Date	Deacon of the Week	Stewardship
Jul 1	Matt Hudson	Eddie Arrowood
8	Shea Morton	Bettu Huneucutt
15	Dannu Poplin	
22	Chip Alsobrooke	
29	Jim Cameron	



THANK YOU to the chaperones and leaders who went with the youth to experience Camp Caswell this year. **THANK YOU** to the Youth and Parents for taking the time to join in the fun! From all the pictures & testimonies, it is clear that EVERYONE had a TERRIFIC time growing closer to God and to each other.

6:30 p.m. ~ Youth
Homemade
Around at Youth Center



Vacation Bible School

July 15-19, 2018

It's here!! We need you to help. If you haven't volunteered – or been volun-told – see Melanie Hudson or Julie Castelloe NOW! Please go to our VBS Event on Facebook or website www.fbcoakboro.org and click on the VBS picture in "Upcoming Events" to register either as a volunteer or a student.

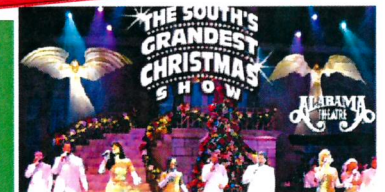


Christmas Show Trip
Myrtle Beach, SC
November 26-28, 2018

Package Includes:

- Meet & Greet @ Baywatch Resort
- 2 nights' oceanfront accommodations
- Baggage handling, all taxes & fees
- 2 hot breakfast buffets at resort
- 1 all-you-can eat buffet at Captain Bennett's Seafood
- AND Supper at Pirates Voyage
- * Alabama Theatre Christmas *
- * Pirates Voyage Christmas *
- Prices: \$195 per person (2 to a room)
- \$261 - single
- \$188 per person (3 to a room)
- \$185 per person (4 to a room)
- Deposit for 1/2 due October 21
- Remainder due November 14

EVERYONE is welcomed to go on this trip. If interested, please call or email the church office to ensure we have enough rooms reserved. Sign-up sheets will be placed on the bulletin boards.



BIRTHDAYS
Look Who's Celebrating!

- July
- 1 Doug Burgess
 - 2 Brennan Broadway
Tracy Lowder
 - 3 Jim Cameron
Bonnie Lee
Cade Turner
 - 6 Stuart Mabry
 - 7 Jenny Mabry
Leslie Bates
 - 9 Brandy Laakso
Mandy Seamon
 - 10 Tim Cratty
Breanna Honohan
 - 11 Sonya Young
Allie Collins
Haley Efir
 - 12 Emerie Smith
 - 13 Joe Huneycutt
Schadd Phillips
 - 16 Jonathan Hill
Sarah West
 - 17 Dianne Hudson
Dot Alsobrooks
 - 18 Johanna Martin
 - 19 Cody Smith (Mr.)
 - 20 Meya Kippes
Mickey Robinson
Kandyn Davenport
 - 21 Essa Mabry
 - 22 Tucker Morton
Braden Smith
 - 24 Carrie Stroud
 - 25 Jacob Coley
Evan Lambert
Josh Russell

HELLO
JULY 2018

First Baptist Church
322 N Main Street
PO Box 10
Oakboro, NC 28129
www.fbcoakboro.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 4:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting 6:00 p.m. Community Patriotic Service	2 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer	3	4 Oakboro Parade & July 4 Festivities No Services	5	6	7
8	9 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer	10	11 5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place 6:45 p.m. Preschool Choir, TeamKid, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:45 Adult Choir	12	13	14 MEALS ON WHEELS
15	16 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer GAME ON!	17 WMU/Baptist Men "Homes of Hope" Meal	18	19	20	21
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JULY 15-19 - 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.						
22	23 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer 9:30 a.m. Senior Adult Committee	24	25 5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place 6:45 p.m. Preschool Choir, TeamKid, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:45 Adult Choir	26	27 6:30 p.m. Youth Serve Ice Cream During Cruise-In	28
29 11:00 a.m. Lord's Supper	30 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer	31	August 1 5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place 6:45 p.m. Missions Night for ALL Ages 7:45 Adult Choir	Weekly Sunday Schedule 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship		