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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
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FIRST BAPTIST
OAKBORO

The Communicator

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Bible Stories to Make You Squirm

Join us in May and June as we glean some good truth from some hard stories.

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WARNING: IF YOU KEEP READING, YOU WILL GET A DEEPER GLIMPSE INTO HOW GEEKY YOUR PASTOR IS. Don't say I didn't warn you...

I remember when the first Iron Man movie came out in 2008. It was the summer before Noah was born. The superhero genre that we know today was still in its infancy then. Up to that point we had seen terrific Spider-Man and X-Men trilogies (although the third of each was pretty weak), two awful Fantastic Four

movies (and the more recent reboot was even worse), a Ghost Rider movie with Nicolas Cage that was just silly, and the first of what would become a superb, genre-defining Batman series from director Christopher Nolan.

Then came Iron Man. Iron Man was just different. It wasn't dark like Nolan's Batman. It was filled with humor but wasn't silly like Ghost Rider or Fantastic Four. And it was set more firmly in the real world than the Spider-Man or X-Men trilogies had been. For my money, it was the best of the bunch to date. What's more, it brought with it the promise of more. Much more. Eventually we learned that the newly-formed Marvel Studios had plans for a story arc that was unlike anything any other film studio had attempted. It would span more than a decade and include a grand-total of 23 different films all telling one gigantic story. All we knew at the time, though, was that Marvel was building something, it was going to culminate in a two-part Avengers film, and it was going to be good.

This past weekend all of that waiting finally came to fruition with the release of Avengers: Endgame. The excitement around the world was palpable. As evidence, its opening weekend box office ticket sales worldwide were almost \$2 billion. That's billion with a B. In one weekend. It will easily become the highest-grossing film of all time and will in all likelihood set a mark that won't be eclipsed for a very long time. I had the pleasure of seeing it on Saturday afternoon with our big boys and can tell you with absolute confidence that it more than lived up to its hype. It was all I had hoped it would be and more. I laughed, gasped, cheered with delight, and cried like a baby. It was worth the wait.

But eleven years was a long time.

Waiting for something you want to see happen is hard, isn't it? It's particularly difficult when the time of waiting stretches out beyond what we had mentally prepared ourselves to face. The hard comes in several different phases and forms as well. It comes as disappointment. It comes as frustration. It comes as difficulty staying focused. Keeping all of that hard at bay can be a tall order. For Marvel Studios, they managed it by releasing at least two story-building films per year between Iron Man and Avengers: Endgame. Their famous post-credits scenes consistently teased

the audience that there was more to come. The story was building, and they needed to be patient while the tension built to its eventual climax.

Let me make the spiritual connection for you here: As followers of Jesus, we live in a season of waiting. Only ours has gone on a lot longer than eleven years. We have been waiting since the day of Christ's resurrection for the day of His return. And let's be honest enough to say that the waiting has been hard. At times we've gotten it right and right in grand fashion. But at least as often we've gotten it wrong; sometimes devastatingly wrong. Still, we wait because the Lord has not yet returned as He promised.

What are we supposed to do in the interim? Well, Marvel Studios gives us a pretty good clue. We keep our eyes on the ultimate prize. We regularly take time to remember that all of this waiting is going somewhere. We remember that everything we face between now and then is shaping who we will be when that day arrives. While we live in the details of daily life, we don't let them drag us down so far that we forget there is a larger story being written whose conclusion will be epic beyond anything Endgame could hope to achieve. And we don't lose sight of the fact that in the waiting we can still find great joy and experience soaring successes which contribute to the final scene in powerful ways.

But how? How do we do all of that? By remaining diligent in prayer. Prayer—when we get it right—lifts our eyes from our present circumstances to the God who is bigger than they are. We do it by consistently immersing ourselves in the Scriptures. The Scriptures give us the contours of the big story that is still being written and, studied diligently, can help us see how our story fits into the larger whole. We do it by serving from the overflow of God's love in our lives. Those efforts are what build the foundation on which the final kingdom of God will rest. We do it by being faithful in reminding the world around us that there is indeed a bigger story being told with our lives. It is a story of which they will very much want to be a part when the final scene arrives.

In other words: We've got to be the church. We've got to be consistent followers of Jesus no matter what rises up to stand in our way. The journey is rarely easy and there will be times of failure and setback. But as we keep moving forward together, we will all be there to celebrate with joy and gladness when the climax arrives. And our path as a community toward this end is clear: We are to be creating a place where people can connect to grow in Christ and reach out for His kingdom.

Let's keep moving together, enjoying the show as we go.

Pastor Jonathan



Sunday, May 12
Parent-Child Dedication

See
Pastor Jonathan
For Information



JULY 21-25, 2019

VOLUNTEERS/TEACHERS ARE NEEDED IN ALL AREAS.
SEE LISA WAITS NOW!



WOW! It's time again for some of that GREAT ice cream the youth serve at the Cruise-Ins. If you haven't visited them to sample some, highlight it on your calendar and make plans to come out *May 24*, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Youth Camp
Confirmed: June 24-29



Take a moment to make new church member **Marcie Burrow** feel at home in our church family. She made a profession of faith a few weeks ago and will be baptized on *May 19*.

Contact information: 7345A Hill-Ford Rd
Oakboro, NC 28129
(704) 322-9855

In Honor



The Blessed Assurance Class made a contribution to the Building Fund in honor of **Hope Gaston**.

In honor of **Mae Brooks** and **Vickie Yandle** and their hard work in WMU, **Harold & Louise Floyd** gave a donation to the Building Fund.

In honor of **Proverbs 31 Wannabes**, **Brayden Meadors**, **Hope Gaston** and **Ronell Taylor**, contributions were given to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering by **Mae Brooks**.

A donation was made to the Annie Armstrong Offering by **Mae Brooks** in honor of **WMU ladies**.

The Worship Choir made a contribution to the Building Fund in honor of **Ted Parker**.

In honor of **Louise Floyd's birthday**, a donation was given to the Building Fund by **Kevin and Hunter Floyd**.



In memory of **Judy Johnson**, a donation was given by **Eddie & Linda Arrowood**.

Reaching Out for God's Kingdom

This past year, our WMU and Wannabes joined Big Lick Baptist's WMU in being a blessing to the students and families of Arlie Boggs Elementary in Eolia, KY. This coal-mining community is a place of incredible need. Because of the impact of this blessing and the ongoing needs of that community, we are going to do it again. Each month from May to November, we are going to gather nonperishable foods items to provide several meals for the students and their families. Collection Sunday will be the **first Sunday of each month**, and our goal will be to gather 140 of each item--one for each child in the school--starting with boxed macaroni and cheese. Mark your calendars and be on the lookout for what each month's item will be. Then, we will celebrate in style as we marvel at the awesome work God will do with our faithfulness. Make plans to join in the fun as we reach out together to advance God's kingdom.





“Dear FBC Oakboro Family,

Your many prayers for Mom, Grandma to Jonathan & Lisa, as her health declined and cards after her going to be with her Lord & Savior, have been a comfort and encouragement to us. Thank you for remembering her with a contribution to the church building fund. You are a blessing to our family in so many ways! With love,” Jana & Jim Waits

“Dear Brothers & Sisters at 1st Baptist Oakboro –

I wanted to personally thank you for the amazing missions meal y’all did for the community & West Stanly Christian Ministries. Your donation of over \$2,000 will help in many ways. \$2,000 helps about 20 families with utility assistances. It also could be used to buy over 10,000 pounds of food for our pantry. \$2,000 is also about what it takes to help about 10 families of 4 at Christmas. In short, your \$2,000 will help meet many needs in this area but will also be the means that God will use to deliver & reinforce His message of love & forgiveness to the West Stanly area & those in need that live here. Your church has truly set itself apart as a committed body of believers in this community. God bless you!”

Robert Britt

Church Volunteers

Date	Greeters	Nursery/Children's Church
May 5	Shea & Ashley Morton – Sunday School Mary Nelms – Worship	Cheryl Cameron, Sheila Hinson Meredith Broadway
12	Mandy Smith – Sunday School Harold & Louise Floyd – Worship	MOTHER'S DAY Renee Watkins
19	Gerald & Bonnie Lee - Sunday School Doris Hatley – Worship	Julie & Presley Poplin Matt & Melanie Hudson, Marilyn
26	Mike McClellan – Sunday School Thomas & Ellen Meadors – Worship	Ashley Morton, Sandra Chance April Tucker
Jun 2	Rita Crisco – Sunday School Ted Parker - Worship	Lori & Allison Efird Andy Castelloe

Date	Deacon of the Week	Stewardship
May 5	Thomas Meadors	Jim Cameron
12	Shea Morton	Lynn Edwards
19	Nick Wadkins	
26	Chip Alsobrooks	Usher
June 2	Doug Burgess	Jimmy Copple

The West Stanly Players
Presents

THE GREAT GATSBY

By F. Scott Fitzgerald
Adapted for Stage by Scott Lew

May 3, 4, 5, 10 & 11 at 7:30 p.m.
May 5 at 2:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$8 in advance
\$10 at door
\$15 reserved seating

THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER | MAY 2, 2019
12:00 p.m.

Oakboro Memorial Park on Main Street
★ PRAY FOR AMERICA ★

LOVE ONE ANOTHER
LOVE ONE ANOTHER. JUST AS I HAVE LOVED YOU JOHN 13:34

NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG #LOVE1ANOTHER

“A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.” John 13:35

Our Record of Giving

Budget Goals – April	30,789.50
Budget Receipts – April (includes March 31)	27,325.48
Budget Goals – YTD	215,526.50
Budget Receipts - YTD	198,496.63
Budget Variance	-17,029.87
Special Offerings	
Building Fund	1,650.00
Wednesday Meals	235.00
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering	1,037.00
Youth Camp Deposits	100.00
Scholarship Fund	845.00

At The Well Experience
Women's Conference 2019

Set Free



Cheryl Fellores Christy Edwards Michelle McNair Nikki Kendall

Please join us for a day of inspiration through songs, drama, speakers, comedy, and so much more!

You still may register
www.atthewellexperience.com

May 4, 2019
Event 10am
Lunch to Follow

SUNDAY, JUNE 2
9:00 A.M. - GRADUATE BREAKFAST
11:00 A.M. RECOGNITION SUNDAY



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Relay For Life Notes

Survivor Banquet is Tuesday, *May 7*, at 6:30 p.m. at Highland Baptist Church, New London NC. If you are a cancer survivor or are currently in the battle with cancer, you are invited to come and bring 1 guest with you. Please email rflstanly@gmail.com or call (704) 463-0639 to RSVP.

T-Shirts: If you're interested in ordering a t-shirt, please sign up on the bulletin board as soon as possible.

Bring your entire family, bring your friends and neighbors for a magical night of Disney® in Oakboro. Relay For Life is Friday, *May 17*, 6:00 p.m. 'til Midnight at Oakboro Fire Department. Our team theme: FROZEN, and we will have the dunking booth.

Luminaria Dedications: Forms are available on the glass table and other locations to make a \$5 donation to Relay For Life in memory of a loved one, in honor of someone who has survived or is battling cancer or in appreciation of someone who is or has been a caregiver for a loved one. This will help light our pathway while we remember and celebrate our loved ones.

See Sandra Chance, Meredith Broadway with questions.



A special thank you to everyone who attended and was involved in the Sunday Night special services in April: the Children's Choir – April 7, the Handbell & Worship Choirs – April 14, and the Oakboro School of Music Recital – April 28. Each was a true blessing to me personally, and I hope you were blessed and encouraged with the ministry of music.

Meditation: God's Spirit is truly present around us . . . with us . . . in us. In truth and in tenderness, in healing and in harmony, in welcome and in wisdom, in love and in laughter, in song and in silence in justice and in joy, in peace and in power, in comfort and in counsel, in mystery and in music.

God's Spirit is truly present around us . . . with us.
Thanks be to God! -- Written by Mary Kay Beall

Dana B. Jenkins



- May 3 Seth Morton
- 4 Ellen Little
- Bill Thomas
- 7 Peggy Carey
- 10 Elijah Morton
- Shaphan Morton
- 11 Nancy Haywood
- Danny Poplin
- 12 Doyle Hatley
- Frances VanHorn
- 13 Mandy Smith
- 14 Shelbie Davis
- 16 Andrew Smith
- 17 Janice Watts
- 19 Brayden Meadors
- Jessica Jenkins
- 20 D. J. Poplin
- Joe Copple
- 21 Judy Tucker
- Everett Hatley
- Jax Mabry
- 24 Mark Hinson
- 29 Roy Lee Helms
- 31 George Baggie
- June 1 Gretchen Castelloe
- Jeff Bowers
- 3 Matt Hudson

Please contact the office with any revisions that need to be made to the birthday calendar.



First Baptist Church
322 N Main Street
PO Box 10
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Weekly Sunday Schedule 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship</p>			<p>5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place 6:45 p.m. Missions Night for ALL Ages 7:45 Worship Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>12:00 p.m. Oakboro Memorial Park</p> <p>* PRAY FOR AMERICA * LOVE ONE ANOTHER THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER MAY 2, 2019</p>	<p>8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast in Youth Center 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. SET FREE At the Well Conference in Fellowship Building</p>	
<p>8:00 a.m. Deacons' Meeting 11:00 Worship & Baptism in Church Sanctuary 3:00 p.m. Scholarship Committee Meeting <i>Scholarship Offering Received</i></p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p>	<p>6:30 p.m. Relay For Life Survivor Banquet at Highland Baptist 7:00 p.m. WMU Spring Session at Centerview Albemarle</p>	<p>5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place 6:45 p.m. Preschool Choir, TeamKid, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:45 Worship Choir Rehearsal</p>			
<p>11:00 a.m. Parent-Child Dedication</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p>		<p>5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place 6:45 p.m. Preschool Choir, TeamKid, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:45 Worship Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>6:00 p.m. - Midnight RELAY FOR LIFE American Cancer Society at Oakboro Fire Dept.</p>		
<p>11:00 a.m. Worship & Baptism in Church Sanctuary 5:00 p.m. <i>Proverbs 31 Wannabes</i></p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p>	<p>9:30 a.m. HOPE Fellowship to America's Roadhouse Restaurant in Asheboro</p>	<p>5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place 6:45 p.m. Preschool Choir, TeamKid, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:45 Worship Choir Rehearsal</p>		<p>6:00 p.m. Youth Serve Ice Cream</p>	
	<p>8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p>		<p>5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place 6:45 p.m. Preschool Choir, TeamKid, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:45 Worship Choir Rehearsal</p>			



June 2: Graduate & Scholarship Breakfast & Recognition

