

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Permit #3
Oakboro NC

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PO BOX 10
OAKBORO NC 28129-0010

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



FIRST BAPTIST OAKBORO

The Communicator

VOL. XXX No. 7

June 28, 2019

In God



No Trust

PO Box 10
322 N Main Street
Oakboro, NC 28129
www.fbcoakboro.org
firstbaptistoakboro@gmail.com

Rev. Jonathan Waits, Pastor
Office (704) 485-4313
pastorjwaits@gmail.com
(804) 896-4520
www.the-nexus.blog



As we prepare to celebrate the Fourth of July this week, let me share with you some thoughts I plan to share Sunday evening at our Community Patriotic service.

A few years ago, Christian author, speaker, and apologist Os Guinness wrote a book called, *A Free People's Suicide*. In it, this British gentleman offered some advice to Americans and free people everywhere on the price of their freedom; not the cost, but the price. He talked in particular about what he called the golden triangle of freedom.

Guinness argues that freedom, the likes of which we have enjoyed in this country far longer than any other nation in the world has enjoyed something similar, requires something to be maintained. What it requires is virtue. It requires righteousness. A virtuous people need little external restraint on their behavior. They choose what is best for not simply themselves, but for their community, for their nation, of their own generous volition. They don't behave in ways that will impinge on the ability of their neighbors to pursue their own hearts' desires. Their neighbors do the same, and everyone lives happily ever after.

In the absence of virtue, however, we begin to need some external restraints. These restraints are called laws. We don't choose to drive safely on our own and so we have traffic laws with punishments designed to make obeying posted traffic laws more convenient than disobeying them. We don't like paying the taxes that allow for the state to furnish the conveniences and necessities that everyone enjoys, and so there are laws making the cost of not paying taxes far higher than the cost of simply paying them. We don't choose to restrain our public behavior in such a way that contributes to the safety and harmony of the people around us and so there are laws designed to encourage us to do just that. The less virtuous we are on our own, the more laws it takes to keep us within the lines the broader society has deemed necessary for the proper, healthy, happy functioning of public life. And the more laws there are, the less free we are. In other words, the less virtuous we are as a people, the less free we are as a people.

Whether you are a Jesus person or not, this is a point that is hard to deny. The lower our standards of behavior are in general, the stronger the external restraints (i.e. laws) must be to keep us from hurting one another and otherwise interfering in the efforts of the people around us to pursue life, liberty, and happiness. We had neighbors once who had dogs they fairly well just let loose to roam around their yard...and ours. The problem was, they were mean, little dogs who terrorized our kids by chasing and barking at them. This continued for weeks in spite of our patience, but directly, expressing our frustration to them. Finally, one of the dogs tried to bite me. One call to my friend who was the head of animal control later, and the dogs were fenced on the opposite side of the house from then onward. They wouldn't choose wise restraint on their own and so external restraints had to be put in place. Freedom requires virtue.

But, virtue isn't something we can produce on our own either. Virtue doesn't come from within. We do not naturally choose the good and right of our own volition when left to our own devices. The apostle Paul makes this point in his letter to the believers in Rome. In Romans 3:10, quoting from the Psalms, Paul writes this: *"There is no one righteous, not even one. There is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away; all alike have become worthless. There is no one who does what is good, not even one."* He spells it out even more a couple of verses later: *"For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God."*

Where, then, do we find this virtue? Paul spells it out in the two verses before this one: *"But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been revealed, attested by the Law and the Prophets. The righteousness of God is through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe, since there is no distinction."* You see, freedom may require virtue, but virtue requires faith. If we are going to become the kind of people who can live with the freedom so many brave men and women have not only won, but protected, for us, we are going to have to tap into a source of virtue that goes beyond us. And there is no more consistent source to be found than Jesus.

To put a nice little cherry on all of this, then, our freedom is a precious thing. It is a priceless gift. It has been won and guarded over many generations for us to be able to enjoy now to its fullest. But if we want to be able to continue enjoying it for many more days yet ahead of us, Jesus is the place we need to turn. We need Him to not simply save us, but to make us over in His image by the power of His Holy Spirit into the incredible men and women we were created by the Father to be in the first place. If we do that, virtue will come easily, and where there is virtue, there is freedom. As you celebrate your freedom this week and in the days ahead, may you do so in the virtue that comes from a faith that is not merely claimed, but actively lived to the fullest.

Pastor Jonathan



Church Volunteers

Date	Greeters	Nursery/Children's Church
Jul 7	Bobby & Renee Watkins – Sunday School Felix & Mark Hinson – Worship	Lisa Waits, Ashlea Mooney Meredith Broadway
14	Jeff Chance – Sunday School Wiley Little – Worship	Jane Baucom, Kay Smith April Tucker
21	Matt & Melanie Hudson – Sunday School Mickey & Vera Robinson – Worship	Andy & Julie Castelloe
28	Shea & Ashley Morton – Sunday School Matt & Melanie Hudson – Worship	Tracy & Lisa Lowder Lisa Waits
Aug 4	Mandy Smith – Sunday School Deborah Tucker – Worship	Cheryl Cameron, Sheila Hinson Sandra Chance

Date	Deacon of the Week	Stewardship
Jul 7	Tracy Lowder	Eddie Arrowood
14	Mike McClellan	Doug Burgess
21	Thomas Meadors	
28	Shea Morton	Usher
Aug 4	Nick Wadkins	Jeff Bowers

In honor of Mae Brooks and Bill Yandle, the Worship Choir made donations to the Building Fund.

An anonymous donation was given to First Baptist, Oakboro, in honor of Mike & Mary McClellan.

A contribution was given to the Building Fund by the Blessed Assurance Class in honor of Mae Brooks.

In honor of Harold Floyd's 80th birthday, donations to the Building Fund were made by Kevin Floyd and Louise Floyd.



The Preschool/Children's Department thanks you for bringing freezers of ice cream and for supporting them at June's Cruise-in. Next cruise-in is July 26, and ice cream will be served by the Youth beginning at 6:00 in the Youth Center. Please help by bringing a freezer of homemade ice cream or stopping to purchase some.

Our Record of Giving

Budget Goals – June	24,631.60
Budget Receipts – June	21,432.22
Budget Goals – YTD	264,789.70
Budget Receipts - YTD	244,152.21
Budget Variance	-20,637.49
<i>Special Offerings</i>	
Building Fund	1,150.00
Wednesday Meals	333.00
Gideon Love Offering	440.00

text GIVING

Call (704) 228-4013 to register.

JULY 21-25, 2019

GO ONLINE TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN

WWW.MYVBS.ORG/FBCO



**VOLUNTEERS/TEACHERS ARE NEEDED
IN ALL AREAS.**

ITEMS NEEDED: Juice Boxes, Goldfish,
Oreo & Chocolate Chip Cookies,
Popsicles, Single Ice Cream Cups

SEE LISA WAITS NOW!

Reaching Out for God's Kingdom
This month's items for Eolia, Kentucky are **canned pasta**. Collection Sunday will be the **first Sunday of each month**.





A special **THANK YOU** to those who participate in the monthly nursing home ministry. It means so much to the residents and staff of the nursing homes for us to

Nursing Home Visits with David Love & Fran VanHorn



come and share a little “Son”shine. For July, we’ll meet Monday at 1:00 p.m. and go to Alston Brook Nursing Home in Lexington to sing with Bonda Whitley. We invite everyone!



Do you love the world and animals God created for us? Then this trip is for YOU! ALL ages are invited to join as the group will be traveling to Greensboro Natural Science Center. With 10 or more, admission is \$13.34 (tax included), 2 and under are free. We will leave the parking lot **July 15**, at 8:00 a.m., with estimated arrival of 9:45. This is a tremendous science center with beautiful aquarium, 2 levels of exhibits and outside area with animals in their natural habitat. You may check them out on Facebook and their website. On the way back, the group will enjoy late lunch together at delicious Smokey Joe’s Barbecue in Lexington. It’s important to sign up for transportation and lunch headcount.

November 11-13

Annual Christmas Show Trip

Carolina Opry & Legends in Concert

(featuring tribute artists for Elvis, Karen Carpenter, Martina McBride, Alan Jackson, Blues Brothers)



“Thank you all for prayer! Thank you all so much for your kindness during my stay in the hospital and home. You are truly my amazing church family!

Love to all,”

Eddie & Linda Arrowood

“Dear First Baptist Oakboro Family, I cannot begin to express my appreciation and gratitude on behalf of receiving the “Amy Boger Memorial Scholarship.” I am so incredibly and indescribably blessed to have such a thoughtful & giving church family, & to have grown up very close to Amy Boger. I cannot wait to begin my college career studying Nursing at Stanly in the Fall & am so grateful to have been awarded a scholarship by my church family to help me achieve my goals. I cannot wait to see what God has in store not only for me, but for First Baptist Oakboro & all its members! Thank you all again so much! Sincerely,”

Presley Poplin

“Thank you so much for choosing me as one of your recipients for your scholarship. I am truly honored. Lots of love,” Tamara Tami Rice

“Thank you for the use of the sanctuary for my brother’s service. Sincerely,” Oscar Brooks Barnhardt

“Dear FBCO Church Family, I cannot begin to tell you how much each one of you means to me. You all have encouraged, loved, and guided me on my walk with the Lord. Thank you so much for the generous scholarship and for the wonderful study bible. Both will be very useful as I begin my journey as a college student. I will not forget the things you all have taught me, whether through lessons, or by example; love the Lord, be a faithful servant, love others, and trust God’s plan. I love you all! Sincerely,” Gretchen Castelloe

“First Baptist Church of Oakboro Scholarship Committee, Thank you for selecting me for the scholarship. It means a lot to me.”

Jacob Almond

“Dear Oakboro First Baptist Church, Thank you for awarding me the Terrell and Janice Watts scholarship. This really means a lot to me; I plan to put the money to good use at ASU this fall. Thank you for your prayers and encouragement. With love,” Dakota Lincoln

FBO Graduates & Scholarship Recipients



Pictured (front row, left to right): Kenia Saldana, Gretchen Castelleo, Presley Poplin, Bug Kippes; (back row, left to right) Bryson Efird, Jared Caddell, Graham Tucker, Dakota Lincoln, Matthew Thompson. Other graduates and recipients were not available for photographing.

Congratulations to all who accomplished their goal of graduating this year! On Sunday, **June 2**, the preschool, high school and college graduates were honored and recognized in Worship. During the service, the scholarships were awarded to the recipients who were able to attend.



When a few of us attended the NC Missions Conference in March, we had the opportunity to visit 3 different conference classes. I attended Jennifer Rothchild., leading author and speaker. She has a podcast that I have been listening to for several months now. These are notes from a recent episode: *"If you trust God with your life, you can trust Him with the choices and decisions that are looming over you. Stay in His Word!"*

S – Show me your purpose. *"Many are the plans in the mind of man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand" (Proverbs 19:21).*

E – Establish my steps. *"The heart of man plans His way, but the Lord establishes His steps" (Proverbs 16:9).*

T – Teach Me Your Way. *"Teach me your way, O Lord; I will walk in your truth . . ." (Psalm 86:11a).*



MONDAY | JULY 1

6:00pm - B & K Carnival on the Midway ****ARMBAND NIGHT****
 7:00pm - Local Talent Showcase
 9:00pm - ****VALHALLA BAND****
 (Free Concert on the Union Power Stage)
 11:30pm - Celebration Ends for the Day

For more information please visit us on Facebook or www.Oakboro4th.com
 Photo courtesy of Patrick Vaca

TUESDAY | JULY 2

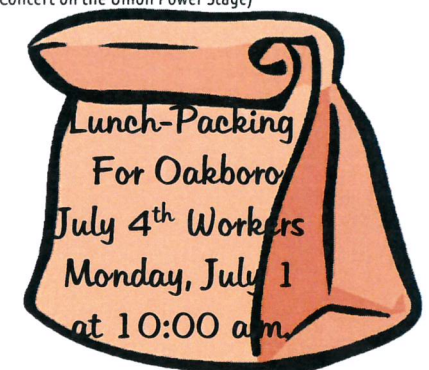
6:00pm - B&K Carnival Co. on the Midway ****ARMBAND NIGHT****
 8:30pm - ****THE EMBERS FEATURING CRAIG WOOLARD****
 (Free Concert on the Union Power Stage)
 11:30pm - Celebration Ends for the Day

WEDNESDAY | JULY 3

6:00pm - B&K Carnival Co. on the Midway ****ARMBAND NIGHT****
 8:30pm - ****BLACKWATER RHYTHM & BLUES****
 (Free Concert on the Union Power Stage)
 11:30pm - Celebration Ends for the Day

THURSDAY | JULY 4

9:00am - 61st 4th of July Parade
 11:00am - B&K Carnival Co. on the Midway
 Opening Ceremonies
 Welcome Remarks - Mayor Joyce Little
 Invocation
 National Anthem
 Pledge of Allegiance & Flag Raising
 Miss Stanly County Fire Queen Pageant
 BBQ Lunch @ Fire Department (Dine In or Carry Out)
 2:00pm - Midway Closes
 5:00pm - Midway Opens
 8:30pm - ****THE TONEZ**** (Free Concert on the Union Power Stage)
 10:30pm - Raffle Drawing
 TBA - FIREWORKS





- July
- 1 Doug Burgess
 - 1 Jeff Ross
 - 2 Brennan Broadway
 - 2 Tracy Lowder
 - 3 Jim Cameron
 - 3 Bonnie Lee
 - 3 Cade Turner
 - 8 Jonah Russell
 - 11 Sonya Young
 - 11 Allie Collins
 - 12 Emerie Smith
 - 13 Joe Huneycutt
 - 16 Jonathan Hill
 - 16 Sarah Ross
 - 17 Dianne Hudson
 - 17 Dot Alsobrooks
 - 20 Meya Kippes
 - 20 Mickey Robinson
 - 21 Essa Mabry
 - 22 Tucker Morton
 - 22 Braden Smith
 - 24 Carrie Stroud
 - 25 Jacob Coley
 - 25 Evan Lambert
 - 25 Josh Russell

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>6:00 p.m. Community July 4th Service Worship Choir presents GOD BLESS the USA</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p> <p>10:00 Ladies Meet to Bag Lunches for July 4th Workers</p> <p>1:00 p.m. Nursing Home Ministry to Alston Brook</p>					
<p>3:00 p.m. Nominating Committee Meeting</p> <p>4:00 Deacons' Meeting</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p>		<p>5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place</p> <p>6:45 p.m. Preschool Choir, TeamKid, Youth & Adult Bible Study</p> <p>7:45 Worship Choir</p>			
	<p>8:00 a.m. HOPE Fellowship to Greensboro Science Center All Ages Welcome!</p>		<p>5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place</p> <p>6:45 p.m. Preschool Choir, TeamKid, Youth & Adult Bible Study</p> <p>7:45 Worship Choir</p>			
	<p>8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p> <p>9:30 Senior Adult Comm</p>				<p>6:00 p.m.</p>	
<p>VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL</p>				<p>Meal at 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>VBS 6:00-8:30 p.m.</p>		
			<p>5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place</p> <p>6:45 p.m. Preschool Choir, TeamKid, Youth & Adult Bible Study</p> <p>7:45 Worship Choir</p>	<p>Weekly Sunday Schedule</p> <p>9:45 a.m. Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Worship</p>		