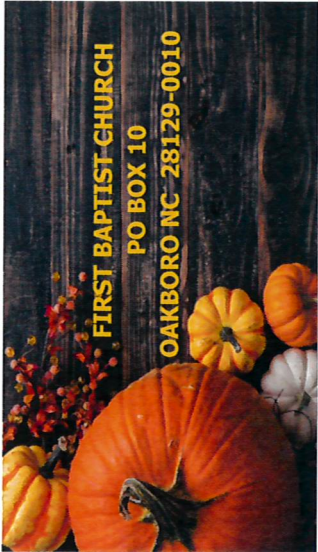



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FIRST BAPTIST  
OAKBORO

The Communicator

VOL. XXX No. 10 October 2, 2019



*You're Invited!*

Homecoming  
SUNDAY

October 20, 2019

*Rev. Lee Proctor, Guest Speaker*

PO Box 10  
322 N Main Street  
Oakboro, NC 28129  
[www.fbcoakboro.org](http://www.fbcoakboro.org)  
[firstbaptistoakboro@gmail.com](mailto:firstbaptistoakboro@gmail.com)

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





The Spirit is moving in our midst. Can you feel Him? I've got to be honest with you: I'm really excited about what is happening in our community right now. In fact, I daresay I can't remember a time when I've been more excited—and that's saying something. I'm excited because the Holy Spirit is moving in our midst. I know some of you have felt that lately as well. There hasn't been anything particularly explosive about His movement so far as I can tell, but that doesn't discourage me at all. Too often we see powerful

explosions of the Spirit that don't have any depth in the hearts of the people where it happens, and the energy fizzles out all too quickly. Instead, there's just a...pulsing of energy, if you will. I get an image of a concert about to kick into high gear, and the guitarist has hit a single note and is holding his guitar up to the amps to let the noise swell before the whole band lands on the downbeat together. We're living in that swell right now. Can you feel it? Three weeks ago we baptized seven. Two weeks ago and this past Sunday, the services were noticeably Spirit-filled, from the first welcome to the final, "Amen." We've seen more guests visiting and folks who have been with us for a little while make the decision to make their membership official. And there's just a sense of energy when we gather together that's almost palpable. Can you feel it? Now, maybe this is all just the natural excitement buzzing about the start of the new church calendar year, but I don't think so. I've only been at this work for 11 years, and I've been a part of some exciting seasons, but I've never experienced anything quite like this. I can't quite put my finger on it, but something is coming. The Spirit is moving. We are on the cusp of witnessing His power in a way that will leave us all irrevocably transformed. That's how the Spirit works, by the way. Once you experience Him like this, you can't ever go back to how things were before; not with any kind of satisfaction anyway. Are you ready for it? As exciting as it is to talk about this kind of stuff, it's not terrible practical or concrete. It may be that you are asking a question very much like this one: What can I do to play a part in this? How can I hasten this explosion of the Holy Spirit's power? I'm glad you asked. There are three things you can be doing as we move forward together in the direction God has us pointed, anticipating eagerly the ripening of the fruits He is already at work in our midst to bring to bear. The first is to pray. No movement of the Spirit has ever come without a season of focused, fervent prayer. When the Holy Spirit first arrived in that upper room, the disciples were all gathered there praying together. When the Spirit came on Cornelius' household, they had been praying and seeking the Lord together prior to Peter's arrival (and the Spirit coming then was partially for Cornelius' household, and partially so that Peter could see that God's kingdom was going to be a lot bigger than he first thought it was). Where there have been outbreaks of Holy Spirit power and kingdom life change across the annals of church history, prayer has always been the secret sauce simmering before the explosion. So, let us pray together. Fervently. Let us pray for the Spirit's coming in our midst. Let us pray for His moving in our community to transform us more fully

into the transformational body of Christ we have been designed to be. Let us pray that He draws all those people to us whom He has called to be a part of this work—especially those who are not yet counted among His followers. Let us pray. The second thing you can do is worship. Nothing puts us in tune with the movement of God in our midst like worship. And, as we have talked about so recently, worship consists of three parts: Recognizing, celebrating, and participating in the character of God. When, as a body of Christ, we make our entire lifestyle one defined by worship, we will be in a place to eagerly receive the work He wants to do in and through us. Let us continue to worship in spirit and truth when we are together but let us commit to carrying a lifestyle of worship with us everywhere we go. The third thing you can do is to obey. When God speaks, it is our job to do what He says. If we are going to experience His power, we must be ready to go when, where, and how He calls us. A moment's hesitation can be the difference between a life transformed and an opportunity missed. A life of obedience that characterizes an entire body only comes because each member is practicing it personally. As you stay committed to prayer and as you live a lifestyle of worship, you are going to hear from the Lord. As quick as you can, turn His commands into actions. Speak to that person. Give that gift. Change that routine. Show love to that hard-to-love individual. Go as you are sent. That's where the real blessing lies; the blessing for you and for this whole community as we practice it together. The Spirit is moving in our midst. Can you feel it? I sure can and I look forward to experiencing the work He is preparing to do in our midst with you as we become each day more this place where anyone can connect to grow in Christ and reach out for His kingdom. Let's get moving together!

*Pastor Jonathan*



*A BIG THANK YOU to Jean Little for the material and for making the drapes for the First Baptist, Oakboro History Room. Also, THANKS to Wiley Little and Chavis Thompson for hanging them.*

*"Dear First Baptist Oakboro, Thank you for your support of our school and community! We appreciate your providing lunch for our staff on our first day back at school. It was delicious and such a treat. Thank you from the entire Oakboro staff!*

*Sincerely," Kelly A. Dombroski*

*"FBCO Family, We are so excited to finally be in this beautiful town! Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts for praying for us, helping us move, and for the pounding of groceries and home supplies. We are excited to see what God has in store for us here at FBCO and can't wait to get to know each one of you! We love you all already! In Christ,"*

*Nate & Marisa Sisson*





## NORMALCY

One month in: Things are starting to gain a sense of normalcy around our home. The house now seems familiar, we have the things we need organized, and the dog has found a new favorite spot in the living room. Routine and normalcy are beginning to set in. Life seems as if it is falling into place for us. But we know that, just like all other families, we're only one day away from the next crisis in our lives. Whether it is a vehicle breaking down, bad news from families back in Mississippi, or sickness that takes away our health, it's not about if the crisis will happen, but when. We know these situations to be all too true in our lives. We call them storms, rough patches, or getting down on your luck. They're a part of normal life. In the good times, like our family is in right now, seldom do we think of the bad times as more than a memory. But how do we cope when those unwelcome hard times arrive?

The answer is, related to what is happening in the exciting Spirit-filled life of our church. As Jonathan writes in this newsletter, the Spirit is doing something great at FBC Oakboro. It's not explosive or extreme, but constant and decisive. It's more of a continuous humming noise than of one made by a loud drum set. The Spirit is working. But how does this relate to the ups and downs of my family? The church is a lot bigger than my family. Take a look at what Ephesians 3: 14-19 has to say: *"For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."*

What's happening here is that when it comes to the good and bad times our families experience, our Father, whom all our families have been named after, have been given this same Spirit that is moving in our church right now. This same energy that is so noticeable has been given to us and our families too. Why? So that Christ gets to dwell in our hearts, and we can be daily transformed more and more like him. We know that a lot of times that is easier said than done. God knows that. That's the purpose of Him giving us this Spirit: To strengthen.

This is how we cope in bad times and good times. This is how our church moves forward. This is how we act more like Jesus: the Spirit.

When the dog at the house is cuddly and loving, the Spirit influences our thoughts and actions. When the dog gets into half a tray of chocolate brownies, and you then force her to cough them back up (happened to us this past Tuesday), the Spirit controls our thoughts and actions. When someone you love is sick and may not make it, the Spirit strengthens. When you or your child hits a home run or makes the winning play, the Spirit strengthens. In every situation, he's constant, he strengthens us toward the same goal, and he will strengthen you if you're willing. Are you in tune to the things of the Spirit in your own life to

where you can hear him? Is being in tune to him a part of normalcy for you? If not, stop, take a moment and pray and ask for that. If you are, still stop, take a moment and pray. Ask yourself if you are pursuing this Spirit as a part of your normalcy. When we do, we'll have the strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth of God's riches.

*Nate*

## HOPE Fellowship Happenings



Mark your calendars for **October 24**, as we will leave the church at 8:45 a.m. for a tour of the Southern Supreme Fruitcake Factory. We **MUST** sign up 2 weeks in advance in order to confirm the tour with them. Also, mark **December 12** as a tentative shopping trip to Gaffney Yellow Mall (Hamrick's) and to see Christmas lights. As always, our events are open to all ages: if you're able and available, then you are welcome!

**Myrtle Beach Christmas Show Trip November 11-13: Deposits for half the cost are due NOW (\$98.50 for individual or \$197 for couple).** If you have not signed up or called the office to reserve your spot, it's not too late. Please do so ASAP, as we will be providing a rooming list and releasing any unclaimed rooms **October 9**. Information and sign-up sheet are located in the fellowship building entranceway.

## Oakboro Regional Museum 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Progressive Event

**Saturday, October 12, 2019, beginning at 1:45 p.m.**

Meet at the Oakboro Presbyterian Church property for hymn singing, horseshoe, cornhole and tea party exhibits. Travel to Oakboro Regional Museum for bluegrass music and "On Quest for Museum Gems" at 3:00 p.m. Next stop will be the Railroad Museum at 4:00 p.m., where there will be model trains and a photo opportunity with Thomas the Train. Beginning at 5:00 p.m., there will be tours of the Coble/Teeter House, hot dogs and face painting. Transportation between the properties will be provided; parking available on Main Street and in Wayside Restaurant and Mathers Realty lots. Call (704) 485-4222 to register by giving name, phone number and number in party, as well as any special needs. You also may visit Oakboro Regional Museum Facebook page for free tickets, click on the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and "get tickets."





We are privileged to have the following members to join our congregation.

**Nate & Marisa Sisson**  
 (by letter of transfer)  
 523 N Central Ave  
 Locust, NC 28097  
 (228) 860-6397  
 Nate9254@yahoo.com

**Nalee & Nate Barringer**  
**Jordan Hunt**  
 (by baptism)

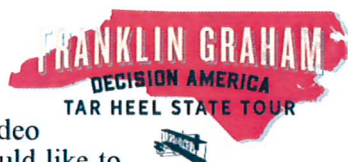
**Billy Hazelwood**  
**Reagan West**  
 (both by baptism)  
 20112 Silver Rd  
 Oakboro, NC 28129

**Cooper Hudson**  
 (by baptism)  
 20073 Crest Rd  
 Locust, NC 28097

**Angelina & Alyssa Smith**  
 (by statement)  
 230 Sunset Lake Road  
 Stanfield, NC 28163

**Shaphan Morton**  
 (by baptism)  
 16148 Liberty Hill Ch Rd  
 Oakboro, NC 28129  
 (704) 485-4783

A group from FBCO will be attending the Hickory, NC event on **October 10**, leaving the church at 2:00 p.m. An overflow crowd is anticipated, but sites will be open for live video streaming. Please see Dana or sign up if you would like to attend.



**October 31**  
 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.  
 Church Parking Lot  
 We need your decorated cars, candy, gum, small gifts.

Red Cross Baptist, Barbee's Grove Baptist and Gleaning Mission also will be helping with this community event.



**Men's Annual BBQ**  
**November 2 at 6:00 p.m.**  
**Mark your calendars!**



*In Honor*

*In honor of **Heather Copple**, a contribution was given to the Building Fund by the Worship Choir.*

*In honor of **Harold & Louise Floyd and Mae Brooks, Jeff & Sandra Chance** made a donation to the Building Fund.*

*In honor of **Blessed Assurance Sunday School class**, a contribution was given to the NC Missions Offering.*



*In memory of **Jimmy Furr**, a donation was given to the Building Fund by **Ted & Jewell Parker**.*

*In memory of **Bertha Rogers**, gifts were presented to the Scholarship Fund by **James & Dianne Hudson**.*

*Connie Waksmunski*

*Mary Adkins*

*Eddie & Linda Arrowood*

*Richard & Reba Tucker*

### CHURCH VOLUNTEERS

	Greeters	Nursery/Children's Church
Oct 6	Eddie & Linda Arrowood – Sunday School Jimmy & Angel Copple - Worship	Cheryl Cameron, Sheila Hinson April Tucker, Meredith Broadway
13	Matt & Melanie Hudson – Sunday School April Tucker – Worship	Matt & Melanie Hudson, Marilyn Huneycutt, Lisa Waits, Angelina Smith
20	Shea & Ashley Morton – Sunday School Tracy & Lisa Lowder – Worship	Ashley Morton, Sandra Chance <b>HOMECOMING</b>
27	Mandy Smith – Sunday School Felix & Mark Hinson – Worship	Angelina Smith Marisa & Nate Sisson
Nov 3	Bonnie Lee – Sunday School Wiley Little - Worship	April & Sophie Tucker Sandra Chance, Julie Poplin

Date	Deacon of the Week	Stewardship
Oct 6	Shea Morton	Eddie Arrowood
13	Danny Poplin	Doug Burgess
20	Nick Wadkins	
27	Chip Alsobrooks	<b>Usher</b>
Nov 3	Doug Burgess	<b>Wiley Little</b>



## Our Record of Giving

Budget Goals – September	30,499.65
Budget Receipts – September	50,152.71
Budget Variance	+19,653.06
<i>Special Offerings</i>	
Building Fund	1,820.00
Wednesday Meals	568.00
Scholarship Fund	150.00
Children: Ice Cream	247.00
Children Camp Donation & Tips	363.00
Deacons' Offering	125.00
NC Missions Offering	946.00

“Pray without ceasing.” I Thess 5:17 In a most recent article of Mature Living (May 2019), Will Graham wrote of a lady named Pearl Goode. She was a widowed nurse in her mid-sixties, living in Pasadena, California in 1949, where Dr. Billy Graham was holding a crusade in Los Angeles. After that crusade, Pearl became a prayer warrior for Dr. Graham. She would continue to support the Crusades by her participation. Later in life, she was not able to travel but she still continued to pray. In an address Dr. Graham gave in 1994, He said, “*she prayed all night many nights, and I could sense the presence and power of that prayer. When she died, I felt it.*” This article made me re-read E. M. Bounds’ book on prayer. I have been so blessed in my life to have many prayer warriors praying for me – please know that there is “Power in Prayer.”

### OVERCOMER

(from the creators of WAR ROOM) “**What do you allow to define you?**” A few of us went to see the movie OVERCOMER

recently. NOW, everyone is invited to join in the 6-week Bible study sessions beginning Wednesday, **October 2**, at 8:30 a.m. The workbooks are \$10. This is a study written by Stephen and Alex Kendrick. All ages are welcome.

### NURSING HOME MINISTRY

The Children’s Choir will minister to Frances VanHorn and the residents at Taylor House in Albemarle on Sunday, **October 20**. We will leave in the church van at 5:00 p.m. and return at 6:30 p.m.

We have been invited to Brookdale Nursing Home in Monroe where Bonnie Richardson is a resident. We will meet at the church Tuesday morning, **October 8**, at 9:00 a.m. We will sing a program of old gospel hymns at 10:00 a.m., eat lunch at Hilltop Restaurant afterward (\$10 for buffet), and return to Oakboro. Come join us for this ministry.

*Dana B. Jenkins*

## Reaching Out for God’s Kingdom



For October, we will collect **canned soup**. Please make sure the expiration dates are good and drop off your donation in the fellowship building by Sunday, **October 6**. The final item to be collected will be **canned fruit**.

Dear friends, A couple weeks ago while studying my Sunday school lesson there was a question printed, “*Can you share a time when someone’s generosity overwhelmed you?*” WOW! That question hit home to me, because in that same week I discovered a bill I was counting on to pay had been paid. I expected to hear “*Mrs. Yandle, your bill today is \$\_\_\_,*” but instead “*you do not owe anything today. In fact, you have a credit to pay down on your next visit.*” Say what?! Who did this? And in secret at that! I am overwhelmed every day how God meets my needs especially when He does it in unexpected ways. I have learned He often does it through our quiet faithfulness. In my case, He did it in the most potent and powerful way! Someone was faithful to God’s command to be generous, and they did it in a way consistent with Jesus’ admonition to not let the right hand know what the left hand is doing. I’ve been the recipient of the blessing. My gratitude is aimed primarily at God from whom all blessings flow. It’s a powerful lesson about how the kingdom of God works that I got to experience personally. That is huge for me! To think someone loved me to pay this debt on my behalf (kind of reminds me of the grace of Jesus paying the price for our sins once and for all!). Just like my gratitude for this act is big, so should our gratitude for our salvation be, only bigger. Thank you, Jesus. My hope in sharing my story is that all of us will be motivated to this kind of kingdom-advancing faithfulness.

In closing, if you are reading this and you are the one who did this beautiful deed, Jesus said, “*when your charitable deed is done in secret, the Father who sees in secret will himself reward you openly.*” I know He will!

Humbly yours, *Vickie Yandle*



On Sunday, **October 13**, we will kick off this year’s Operation Christmas Child shoe box event. Boxes and other related items are here. Start praying for and thinking of what you would like to place in your box. More than toys, OCC impacts lives for God’s kingdom!





- October
- 2 Hope Gaston
  - Sandra Chance
  - 4 Susan Gwyn
  - 7 Scott Broadaway
  - Ann Eudy
  - 12 Gavin Hudson
  - 15 David Love
  - Linda Arrowood
  - Jonathan Waits
  - 16 Graham Tucker
  - 17 Cheryl Cameron
  - 18 Gerald Lee
  - 19 Matthew Thompson
  - 21 Lorrie Hatley
  - 22 Wiley Little
  - 23 Bea Goodman
  - 25 Jewell Parker
  - Missy Wadkins
  - 26 Terrell Watts
  - 28 Eddie Arrowood
  - Zach Broadaway
  - 31 Drew Williams

- November
- 1 Bud Smith
  - Michael Thompson
  - Robbie Foxx
  - 3 Cooper Hudson
  - Gray Crisco

Please call or email the office with any changes to the birthday calendar.



**FIRST BAPTIST**  
OAKBORO  
322 N Main Street  
PO Box 10  
Oakboro, NC 28129  
www.fbcoakboro.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Sat
<p><b>Weekly Sunday Schedule</b>  <b>9:45 a.m. Sunday School</b>  <b>11:00 a.m. Worship</b></p>			<p>1 8:30 a.m. OVERCOMER Study 12:00 p.m. Prayer at Oakboro Park 5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place 6:45 Mission Night for ALL Ages 7:45 Worship Choir</p>	<p>2 12:00 p.m. Greater Oakboro Business Association (GOBA) Meeting</p>	<p>3 8:00 a.m. MEN'S BREAKFAST Fam. Food &amp; FELLOWSHIP</p>
<p>4 8:15 a.m. Deacons' Meeting 4:00 p.m. Handbells Rehearsal 5:00 Children's Choir</p> <p>Eolia, KY Items Due</p>	<p>5 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p>	<p>6 9:00 a.m. Leave for Brookdale Nursing Home in Monroe, Lunch at Hilltop in Monroe</p>	<p>7 8:30 a.m. OVERCOMER Study 12:00 p.m. Prayer at Oakboro Park 5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place 6:45 p.m. TeamKid, Youth &amp; Adult Bible Study 7:45 Worship Choir</p>	<p>8 2:00 p.m. Leave FBCO for FRANKLIN GRAMM Hickory, NC</p>	<p>9 8:00 a.m. MEN'S BREAKFAST Fam. Food &amp; FELLOWSHIP</p>
<p>10 11:00 a.m. Worship Children's Choir Sings 4:00 p.m. Handbells 5:00 Children's Choir Wannabes War Room Bible Study</p> <p>Shoebox Kick-off</p>	<p>11 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer 6:00 p.m. Ladies' Care Ring</p>	<p>12 8:30 a.m. OVERCOMER Study 12:00 p.m. Prayer at Oakboro Park 5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place 6:45 p.m. TeamKid, Youth &amp; Adult Bible Study 7:45 Worship Choir</p>	<p>13 8:30 a.m. OVERCOMER Study 12:00 p.m. Prayer at Oakboro Park 5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place 6:45 p.m. TeamKid, Youth &amp; Adult Bible Study 7:45 Worship Choir</p>	<p>14 2:00 p.m. Leave FBCO for FRANKLIN GRAMM Hickory, NC</p>	<p>15 1:45 p.m. Oakboro Regional Museum 20th Anniversary Celebration Begins</p>
<p>16 11:00 a.m. HOMECOMING with Rev. Lee Proctor 12:00 p.m. Covered Dish Meal 4:00 Handbells 5:00 Children's Choir Sings at Taylor House</p>	<p>17 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p>	<p>18 4:00-9:00 p.m. Annual Association Meeting White Crest Baptist, Mt. Gilead NC</p>	<p>19 8:30 a.m. OVERCOMER Study 12:00 p.m. Prayer at Oakboro Park 5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place 6:45 p.m. TeamKid, Youth &amp; Adult Bible Study 7:45 Worship Choir</p>	<p>20 8:45 a.m. HOPE Fellowship to Southern Supreme Fruitcake Factory &amp; Lunch</p>	<p>21 8:00 a.m. MEN'S BREAKFAST Fam. Food &amp; FELLOWSHIP</p>
<p>22 11:00 a.m. Lord's Supper Celebration 4:00 p.m. Handbells Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Children's Choir</p>	<p>23 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer 9:30 Senior Adult Comm</p>	<p>24 12:00 p.m. Prayer at Oakboro Park NO Gathering Place or Activities 7:45 Worship Choir</p>	<p>25 8:30 a.m. OVERCOMER Study 12:00 p.m. Prayer at Oakboro Park 5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place 6:45 p.m. TeamKid, Youth &amp; Adult Bible Study 7:45 Worship Choir</p>	<p>26 8:45 a.m. HOPE Fellowship to Southern Supreme Fruitcake Factory &amp; Lunch</p>	<p>27 8:00 a.m. MEN'S BREAKFAST Fam. Food &amp; FELLOWSHIP</p>
<p>28 October 31 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Church Parking Lot We need your decorated cars, candy, gum, small gifts.</p>					

**Men's BBQ - Saturday, November 2, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.**