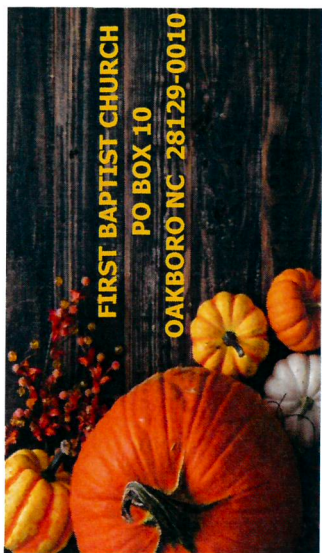


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## The Communicator

VOL. XXX No. 11

October 31, 2019

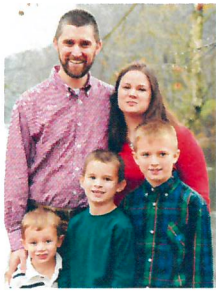
GIVE  
THEM  
**Hope  
& Future**  
JEREMIAH 29:11

SHARING HOPE...CHANGING LIVES  
**Baptist Children's Homes**  
of NORTH CAROLINA  
ANNUAL OFFERING

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





So, we played host to an event that is steadily growing in size and scope. It was only two years ago that we first made a change in doing the same kind of Fall Festival that so many other churches around here do and began hosting an event on Halloween. I still remember the shock and wonder on the faces of the folks who were there that evening as they walked around in utter amazement at the sheer number of people who came. Then last year, there were even more. Also, we gained a sister church helping

us to put on the event and did so with even more overt support from the community. This year we more than doubled the number of participating churches, continued the wonderful community support, and added even more people to the parking lot. If you were there, you know just how much fun it was—even though it was work. If you weren't there, just ask someone who was: You missed a great time.

Other than being a lot of fun, though, why does this matter? I'm glad you asked. Events like this may be a lot of work, but they are important. More than that, the way we are approaching them is even more significant than you might realize. Here's why.

First, churches have long sought to hold community events like our Trunk or Treat. That's not particularly unique or inventive. But, think about when you've seen some kind of a community event held at a church in the past. It probably had one of a number of similar features. There were vendors selling things. It was built around things the people at the church liked or valued and not necessarily what was of interest to the community or their target audience (assuming they even had one in mind). There was some kind of either a sermon or Gospel presentation aimed at a disinterested, but captive audience, or at least an evangelism corner that was probably empty. The extreme alternative to this was no intentional kingdom-advancing element or even an invitation to the church.

Used to, community events along these lines could attract a crowd that included both believers and unbelievers alike. As our culture has continued secularizing, they don't anymore. Most events like this wind up being by church people for church people. That's fine and fun for the church people, but in a kingdom sense, what's the point? Faithful churches don't exist simply to entertain their members.

What we do is different. The differences may be subtle, but they matter. For starters, while we do host the event on our grounds, we're not trying to trick anyone into our building. Just treats here. More than that, in a world where parents have fewer and fewer places they feel really safe about letting their kids participate in the fun of trick or treating, we are being intentional about providing just that without asking for anything in return.

Second, we are intentional about involving the community in making this event happen. From the generosity of folks like Lynn Huneycutt and Oakboro Kid's Club donating all the hotdogs to the Oakboro PD and FD having folks on site to participate in the fun, our goal is not for this to be an us-versus-them event, but rather an opportunity to join with our community in loving our community.

Third, we are intentionally partnering with a growing group of churches so that we can do more together than we can individually. And, this isn't merely a group of churches who think and believe exactly like we do. That is, this isn't a Baptist-only event. In a culture that is divided along so many different lines, and as a part of a movement with a modern reputation of not being able to get along when we don't see perfectly eye-to-eye, the symbolic power of several churches from multiple denominations all working together to love their community is a significant one. It sends the message to a searching world that there is something bigger that unites us than any single thing that might divide us.

And in the end, while we did not to force anyone to suffer through a message they didn't sign up to hear, we were intentional about extending an invitation to return and connect. What this means is that this event was perfectly in line with our identity as a church, with the kind of church our God created us and is shaping us more every day to be—a place where people can connect to grow in Christ and reach out for His kingdom. We are reaching out for His kingdom in order to see people connect with Him to be able to grow more fully into who Jesus made them to be.

Here's the point, my friends: Be proud of your church. Be proud that you are part of a body of believers who are together committed to not simply playing church, but to seeing our community transformed by the power of the Gospel and to be salt and light in a world badly in need of those two things. But don't just be proud, continue—or perhaps start—being active participants in this mission. Let us together strive ever forward to be who our great God made us to be to His great glory and our great joy.

*Pastor Jonathan*

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**For the entire church: join us for**

# **Men's Annual BBQ**

**November 2 at 6:00 p.m.**







*In Honor*

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

*In honor of **Bonnie Lee**, a donation was made to the Youth Ministry by Deborah Tucker.*

*(An excerpt) "Dear Friends, I write to express the extreme gratitude of the board, staff, volunteers, and clients of Stanly Community Christian Ministry for your September 25, 2019 gift of \$360. Thanks to the faithful support of local churches like you, 200 meals are served each day through our Community Tables in Albemarle and Norwood, 1,200 pounds of grocery assistance is given each day through our Food Pantry, and clothing and household goods are provided from our fantastic selection of donated items at the Clothing Closet. The continued support you provide helps us maintain these programs and reach more neighbors in need every day. . .*



*Thank you again for your generosity. Sincerely," Heather Kilde, Executive Director Stanly Community Christian Ministry*



*In memory of **Rebekah Carlyon**, a donation was given to the Youth Ministry by Doug & Ann Burgess.*

*A contribution was given to the Building Fund by Jim & Cheryl Cameron in memory of **Rebekah Carlyon**.*

## HOPE Fellowship Happenings

Everyone is invited to join us for breakfast on Tuesday, **November 5**. We'll meet at Sunrise in Locust for great food and fellowship.



**Myrtle Beach Christmas Show Trip November 11-13: If you are going on this trip AND only paid your deposit, the remaining now is due. You will be receiving luggage tags, an itinerary, and other information soon.**



Nursing Home Visit with Bonnie Richardson and Children's Choir with Frances VanHorn.



Oakboro Choice STEM School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

# Pancake Breakfast!

Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> 8:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.  
Oakboro First Baptist Church 322 N. Main Street

\$5 gets you a stack of pancakes, juice, and syrup

All proceeds will be used to go towards the Oakboro Choice STEM School 8<sup>th</sup> grade Outer Banks field trip!

We will also offer a carryout option for \$5



## Our Record of Giving

Budget Goals – October	24,399.72
Budget Receipts – October	21,587.22
Budget Goals – YTD	54,899.37
Budget Receipts - YTD	71,739.93
Budget Variance	+16,840.56
<i>Special Offerings</i>	
Building Fund	1,025.00
Wednesday Meals	459.00
Meal Designated for Kentucky Expenses	269.00
Kentucky Trip Donations (other)	200.00
Youth Ministry Donations	70.00
Pastor Appreciation	1,038.00

### Why Sing?

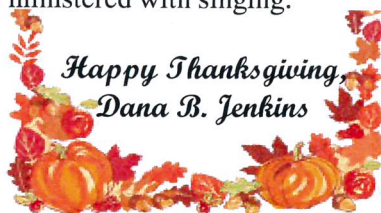
*Singing Is a Command.*

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.” Colossians 3:16 ESA*

Each month we will have a theme scripture verse that answers the question “Why Sing?” I had the opportunity to sing in the choir for the Getty concert in Greensboro a couple weeks ago. Keith and Kristyn were born and grew up in Northern Ireland. They now live mostly in America with their 4 daughters. They sing and play all different beautiful instruments and have 9 hymns in our present choir hymnal. Three of my favorites are “*The Power of the Cross,*” “*In Christ Alone,*” and “*Speak, O Lord.*” The same week, I attended the Franklin Graham Crusade in Hickory and was blessed to hear Jeremy Camp in concert.

I look forward to singing those very faith-based hymns with you in the coming months as we gather for Worship in praise to our heavenly Father. “*Thanks be to God for His indescribably gift!*” 2 Corinthians 9:15.

A special word of thanks to the Children’s Choir for helping lead in Worship on October 13. You sounded beautiful! Also, thank you to those who have gone to the nursing homes and ministered with singing.



The following became part of our church family. If you haven’t already done so, take the time to greet and welcome them!

**Justin & Taryn Barringer**  
*By statement*  
 20839 St. Martin Church Rd  
 Albemarle, NC 28001  
 (704) 791-2496

**Thanksgiving Dinner**  
 Sunday, November 24, at 6:00 p.m.



Invite your family and friends to join you as we fellowship as a church family. Also, bring your favorite dishes to share.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

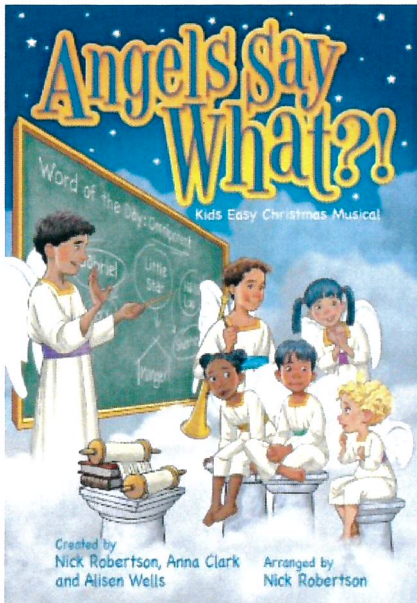
CHURCH VOLUNTEERS		
	Greeters	Nursery/Children's Church
Nov 3	Bonnie Lee – Sunday School Wiley Little - Worship	April & Sophie Tucker Sandra Chance, Julie Poplin
10	Mike McClellan – Sunday School Mickey & Vera Robinson – Worship	Renée Watkins, Deborah Tucker Lisa Waits, Missy Wadkins
17	Rita Crisco – Sunday School Matt & Melanie Hudson – Worship	Danny & Julie Poplin Renée Watkins & Ashlea Mooney
24	Jimmy & Angel Copple – Sunday School Deborah Tucker - Worship	Lisa Waits, Ashlea Mooney Marisa & Nate Gisson
Dec 1	Sue Greene– Sunday School Bonnie Lee - Worship	Lisa & Tracy Lowder April Tucker, Meredith Broadway

Date	Deacon of the Week	Stewardship
Nov 3	Doug Burgess	Jim Cameron
10	Jim Cameron	Chris Johnson
17	Jeff Chance	Usher
24	Cliff Edwards	Usher
Dec 1	Matt Hudson	Gavin Hudson





The Children's Choir presents



Sunday,

6:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Building  
Reception Afterward

December 8,

If you are in kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, it's not too late to join Children's Choir. We meet each Sunday at 5:00 p.m. for one hour. Do it quickly, so you can help us with the Christmas musical!

## BUSY



Fall is a busy time of year! Think about it for a second: for students, this time is filled with midterms, tests, assignments, projects, and more. That's just the academic side of things, too! If you were to include extracurriculars, it gets even more insane, with athletic seasons coming to a close, practices ramping up to get ready for performances, and everything in between. Parents are struggling to keep up with the calendar, much less getting to those things on the calendars! Even with adults in the workforce, things pick up. Farmers are hustling, trying to get the crop out of the fields, employees are looking to those Christmas bonuses and what it'll take to get the higher bonus. Things. Are. Busy. Oftentimes, it seems like church is just one more thing that gets added to the list. Getting kids to youth Bible studies, making the cookies or ice cream, decorating your trunk for fall festival, and trying to keep up with the church calendar is a lot. We fight the urge to have this mindset because we know that the church is sacred to God, and we genuinely love to serve in the ways that God has gifted us in.

So how do we balance life? How do we keep up with the crazy calendar and still be involved in ministry as effectively as we can without burning ourselves out? Scripture has a verse that I think is very relevant on this topic. 2 Timothy 2:2 reads as follows: "And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also."

At first glance this seems like a teaching verse, reserved for the Pastor or Bible Study Teacher. But look closer. Paul is instructing Timothy to pass down what he has heard to faithful believers, who then can teach it to others as well. What Paul is referring to is the Gospel. There is this chain that keeps going through the people in Timothy's church; a chain that is 4-persons long: Paul teaches Timothy, who teaches faithful men, who teach others also.

Paul never teaches the Gospel on his own. Rather, he recruits others to help him. It begins to look like multiplication instead of addition. Paul can take a Timothy or 2, they can take their own, and then those people can take their own as well. It eventually looks like this.

Do you see how this applies to the business of our lives, no matter the season? The business of church life, life in your home, life at school, and life at work are discipleship opportunities waiting to happen. When we take others along with us to help make cookies, make hospital visits, decorate a trunk, watch a practice, build a shed, take food to a shut-in, paint a picture, grill a steak or set up tables and chairs—no matter what the activity—we're actually training that person to know how to do that. Then down the road, we can teach that person to eventually know how to do it on their own. Now the load of busyness is spread out over 2 people instead of 1. And then that person who you discipled can go and do it with someone else and the help multiplies. But it takes effort. It takes commitment. But it's the model that Jesus chose when he picked the 12 disciples to carry out the most important task that there ever had been, was, or will be.

**Nate**





- November 1 Bud Smith  
Michael Thompson  
Robbie Foxx  
3 Cooper Hudson  
Gray Crisco  
Zoey Williams  
5 Kennedy Foxx  
7 Shannon Henry  
8 Donna Coble  
9 Sheila Rich  
10 Lisa Lowder  
Tracey Russell  
Riley Wadkins  
11 Deborah Tucker  
13 Bug Kippes  
Rachel Lewis  
15 Starla Thompson  
17 Sam Jackson  
18 Andy Beatty  
19 Denise Ross  
22 Jonathan Cottle  
24 Tommy Ross  
26 Angel Cottle  
Billy Hazelwood  
27 Alyssa Smith

- December 1 Butch Poplin  
2 Harry Foster

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>Help a child know Christ</p> <p><b>Love</b></p>	<p>NC Baptist Children's Home Offering</p> <p>Week of Prayer: November 17-24</p>	<p><b>Weekly Sunday Schedule</b></p> <p><b>9:45 a.m. Sunday School</b></p> <p><b>11:00 a.m. Worship</b></p>			<p>3:30 p.m. Youth Feed</p> <p>South Stanly High Football Team</p>	<p>8:00-10:00 a.m. STEM School Pancake Breakfast</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Annual Church BBQ prepared by the Men</p>
<p>Daylight Savings Time Ends</p> <p>8:15 a.m. Deacons' Meeting</p> <p>4:00 p.m. Handbells</p> <p>5:00 Proverbs 31</p> <p>Wannabes: WAR ROOM</p> <p>Children's Choir to Spring Arbor</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. HOPE Fellowship</p> <p>Breakfast at Sunrise, Locust</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. OVERCOMER Study</p> <p>12:00 p.m. Prayer at Oakboro Fire Dept</p> <p>5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place</p> <p>6:45 Mission Night for ALL Ages</p>	<p>12:00 p.m. Greater Oakboro Business Association (GOBA) Meeting</p>	<p>5:30 p.m. West Stanly High School Block Party</p> <p>Everyone is Welcome!</p>	
<p>10</p> <p>4:00 p.m. Handbells Rehearsal</p> <p>5:00 Children's Choir</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p> <p>10:45 Group Leaves for Myrtle Beach Trip</p> <p>11:00 Veterans Day Parade</p> <p>VETERAN'S DAY</p> <p>Baptist State Convention</p> <p>Myrtle Beach Christmas Show Trip</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>12:00 p.m. Prayer at Oakboro Fire Dept</p> <p>5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place</p> <p>6:45 p.m. TeamKid, Youth &amp; Adult Bible Study</p> <p>7:45 Worship Choir</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	
<p>SHOEBOX SUNDAY 17</p> <p>12:00 p.m. Children Lunch, then Shopping for</p> <p>4:00 Handbells Rehearsal</p> <p>5:00 Children's Choir</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Homes of Hope Workshop at First Presbyterian - Albemarle</p> <p>WMU preparing meal</p>	<p>12:00 p.m. Prayer at Oakboro Fire Dept</p> <p>5:45 p.m. The Gathering Place</p> <p>6:45 p.m. Preschool Choir, TeamKid, Youth &amp; Adult Bible Study</p> <p>7:45 Worship Choir</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:00 p.m.-7:00 a.m. Older Students'</p>	
<p>24</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Worship in Church Sanctuary</p> <p>Lord's Supper</p> <p>4:00 p.m. Handbells Rehearsal</p> <p>5:00 Children's Choir</p> <p>6:00 Thanksgiving Meal</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p> <p>9:30 Senior Adult Committee</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>12:00 p.m. Prayer at Oakboro Fire Dept</p> <p>NO SERVICES or REHEARSALS</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>29</p>	
<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	



**December 1**

- 8:15 a.m. – Deacons' Meeting
- 3:00 p.m. – Church Council
- 4:00 p.m. – Handbells Rehearsal
- 5:00 p.m. – Children's Choir