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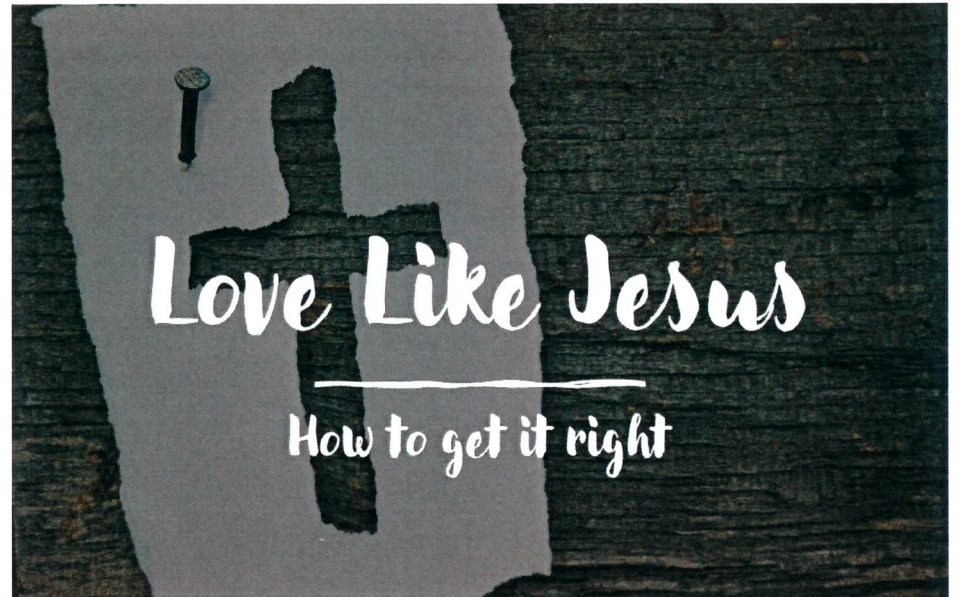


FIRST BAPTIST OAKBORO

The Communicator

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*“‘The time has come’ the Walrus said,
‘To talk of many things:
Of shoes—and ships—and sealing-wax—
Of cabbages—and kings—
And why the sea is boiling hot—
And whether pigs have wings.’”*

When I heard those words from a Lewis Carroll poem in Mr. Brock’s eighth grade algebra class, I knew one thing before and above anything else: It was time for a change.

Of course, in Mr. Brock’s class the biggest change we ever experienced was a shift in our seating chart. But ever since, whenever I feel a season of change coming on, those words echo in my mind. Well, here at First Baptist Oakboro, we are entering a season of change.

For starters, things still aren’t the way they were before. The truth we are perhaps all coming to see at about the same pace—that doesn’t mean we’re all on board with this truth yet, mind you—is that for many of the things we were used to being a certain way, they aren’t going to be that way again. How we do church has been changed by COVID at almost every level and going back isn’t an option available to us. Well, we can try—many churches will—but the world around us has changed. Ministering today with a model from yesterday is guaranteed to neuter our ability to make disciples tomorrow. This means that to a certain extent, embracing change is going to be the name of the game as we move forward together.

Speaking of that, while we do have control over some of the changes we are facing together—that is, although they’ve been forced upon us, we can actively choose to continue making them—we don’t have control over all of them. These will often be among the most difficult to embrace.

Perhaps the premier example of change over which we do not have control in spite of our wishes to the contrary is Dana’s recent announcement of her entering into a new season of life. And the entrance into this new season is being marked by her retirement. Dana’s retirement will mean a whole lot of things won’t look the same around here anymore. That’s going to be tough.

Dana has been serving here at First Baptist Oakboro for thirteen years. Thirteen years is a long time. You were a different person in an entirely different place of life thirteen years ago. The world has changed in powerful and profound ways during that time. But Dana has been here, ministering faithfully to the people of this church and this community. She has ministered to people in every stage of life. Her ministry has covered nearly every aspect of life in this church. There are people in the kingdom of God because of what she has done and allowed the Spirit to do through her over the years. The kingdom itself is bigger than when she started. And for all she has done we are grateful.

She will go leaving a giant, gaping hole. For even that hole, though, we are grateful because it reminds us of all she has done. It reminds us of how we have been changed because of her faithfulness. Dana, from the entire First Baptist Oakboro family: Thank you. Our gratitude is great and deep beyond words. Well done, good and faithful servant.

As for the rest of us, we don’t know what tomorrow will bring. What we know is that it will be different. Seasons change. Ours has and is. But what—or rather who—hasn’t changed is our God. His plans for us are still the same. We are still becoming every day more a people with whom anyone can connect to grow in Christ and reach out for His kingdom. We will still worship together. We will still grow in Christ together. We will still serve this community and beyond together. Our God is still building us into an unstoppable force to transform this community in His image. With all of that in mind, let us lean into who He is and who He’s made us to be, looking forward together to what He has in store in our next season. I, for one, can’t wait.

Pastor Jonathan



In Honor of . . .

A donation was given by Betty Huneycutt to the Lottie Moon Offering in honor of Mae Brooks.

In honor of Dana Jenkins, Mae Brooks made a donation to The Worship Choir.

“God Inhabits Our Worship”

from “Seven Words of Worship” by Mike Harland

“When we worship, God has promised to be present.”

God really does want a real, personal relationship with us.

- In light of who God is and all He has done, our response must be worship.
- As we worship, God has promised to be present.
- Worship is the key to a lifetime of experiencing God.

Jesus Christ is our focus – I Corinthians 3:9-11

Seven simple words: Creation, Grace, Love, Response, Expression, Presence, Experience

Dear First Oakboro Family,

Thank you for allowing our family to walk alongside you on this ministry journey. We could never have imagined the warmth and friendship and the Christ-like bond that we now share with all of you.

I began working February 2008 in Student Services and Family Ministry under the direction of Pastor Terrell & Janice Watts. We love and cherish the friendship that we share with the Watts family. I have always respected and admired Pastor Terrell as a “man of God” and his wisdom and knowledge have been an inspiration for all of us.

I immediately joined the “Two or More” Prayer Group and began to pray with others for the needs in the church family and community. Verse: *“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them.”* Matthew 18:25.

One of the highlights of Pastor Terrell’s ministry was when the church celebrated the centennial celebration. That year-long 2016 celebration will be etched in my mind and heart forever. Verse: *“The Lord has done great things for us, and we were joyful.”* Psalm 126:3

In 2017 the Lord gifted us with Pastor Jonathan & Lisa and their family. They have been a blessing to the church and the community.

The Lord also opened the door for me to lead in Music and Adult Ministries. I have so enjoyed working with all the choirs and with Debbie Edwards, Catherine Thomas & additional accompanists and with the sound and audio-visual teams. I have appreciated the time to sit down and help plan the worship services. Pastor Jonathan is so faithful to study God’s Word daily,

and he continues to seek God’s vision for this church family in this community. Verse: *“I have set the Lord always before me.”* Psalm 16:8

Pastor Jonathan has so lovingly prayed for my family, our church family and this community. Thank you, Pastor!

I have been so richly blessed to work alongside Delinda Huneycutt in ministry and to share special friendship with her and her “growing family.”

I am thankful that the Lord has led Nate & Marisa Sisson here to minister to the students.

A special thank you to Brother Chip Alsobrooks and all the teachers and deacons and my Blessed Assurance Sunday School class and again to the members of the “Two or More” Prayer Group for the many prayers offered on my behalf. I am so thankful for all of them.

I am thankful for every member of the Oakboro Family, and especially to all those that have been shut in during this global pandemic. I have missed you, and I love you dearly.

In this time living here in Oakboro, my mother-in-law Margaret passed away Thanksgiving Day 2016, and my dear husband Craig of 29 years passed away on May 17, 2017. We miss both of them so very much. Thank you for the love and support and prayers you have always shown our family, especially in the deepest times of need.

I look forward to retirement and going to spend quality time with my sweet family, my Jessica & Daniel, my father Dennis, and my sister and brother-in-law, Donna & Neal.

I look forward one day to returning to worship with you as we stand alongside each other and “sing” and “lift our praises” to the Lord. Verse: *“I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.”* Psalm 146:2

There is a table located in the fellowship building hallway with some memorabilia I have collected through the years. There are t-shirts from Children’s Choir musicals and youth camps and ministry projects. There are a lot of bulletins and programs from dance recitals, ballgames, concerts and playbills. Take a look at the table! It has been wonderful! Thank you for the memories.

I love each of you deeply!
Dana Bucher Jenkins



*In memory of Nate Sisson's grandmother,
contributions were given to the Building Fund by
Ted & Jewell Parker
Jim & Cheryl Cameron
First Baptist Church, Oakboro*

*Donations were made to the Building Fund
in memory of **Billy Taylor** by:
Jim & Cheryl Cameron
Ted & Jewell Parker
Mae Brooks
Brooks & Jane Barnhardt
First Baptist Church, Oakboro*

*A contribution was made to the Building Fund by
Jim & Cheryl Cameron in memory of **Joyce Allmon**.*

*In loving memory of **Amy Boger**, a donation was given to the Building Fund
by Scott & Melodie Marcus.*

OUR RECORD OF GIVING

Budget Goals – January	31,711.20
Budget Receipts – January	33,838.75
Budget Goals – YTD	139,529.28
Budget Receipts – YTD	155,284.52
Budget Variance	+ 15,755.24
<i>Special Offerings</i>	
Building Fund	1,640.00
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering	205.00
Meals on a Mission	25.00
NC Baptist Children's Homes	100.00

"Dear Church family,

On behalf of The Gideons International I wanted to give a word of thanks to all who donated in December to the Birthday for Jesus offering. The total amount of this offering was \$425 for which we praise the Lord. The offerings you generously donated will allow The Gideons to place 85 full Bibles as a birthday gift for Jesus to be placed somewhere in the world. We pray that men, women, boys and girls will come to Christ because of your offering. God has promised that His Word will not return void. Isaiah 55:11 Thank you for caring and sharing in this missionary effort. "

Doug and Sheila Hinson



*Join us as we
and honor
Dana Jenkins
and
celebrate her retirement
at both worship services
Sunday, February 14, 2021*



- February**
- 3 Eddie Henry
 - 11 Micah Waits
 - 12 Joe Watkins
 - 14 Margie Helms
 - Erica Tucker
 - 15 Jim Davis
 - 21 Theo Burris
 - 22 Mark Smith
 - 23 Sophie Tucker
 - 24 Bill Young
 - 25 Melanie Hudson
 - Rick Baucom
 - 26 Kim Goodman
 - 28 Daniel Jenkins
 - 29 Taylor Morton

- March**
- 1 Vickie Yandle
 - 2 Katie Broadway

Please email or call the church office with additions to or deletions from the calendar.



FEBRUARY

FIRST BAPTIST
OAKBORO

322 N Main Street
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Monday-Thursday 8:15-10:30 a.m. 1:00-3:00 p.m. Fellowship Building Open for Students-- Internet Access	8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer		6:30 p.m. Bible Study for All Ages		7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. YMCA - Fellowship Building Use
10:00 a.m. Sunday School for ALL Students, College/Career, & Mixed Adults Sunday School via Zoom (Joy, Life, Genesis, Blessed Assurance)	8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer		6:30 p.m. Bible Study for All Ages		7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. YMCA - Fellowship Building Use Meals On a Mission
Special Worship Services to Honor Dana Jenkins' Retirement 10:00 a.m. Live Sunday School Sunday School via Zoom  Valentine's Day	8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer 6:30 Gideons Meeting in Fellowship Building		6:30 p.m. Bible Study for All Ages		7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. YMCA - Fellowship Building Use
10:00 a.m. Live Sunday School (see above) Sunday School via Zoom (see above)	8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer		6:30 p.m. Bible Study for All Ages		7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. YMCA - Fellowship Building Use
10:00 a.m. Live Sunday School (see above) Sunday School via Zoom (see above)	Weekly Sunday Schedule 9:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Worship				