

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



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



FIRST BAPTIST
OAKBORO

The Communicator

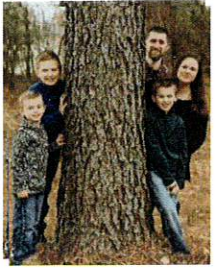
VOL. XXXII No. 7

June 30, 2021



PO Box 10
322 N Main Street
Oakboro, NC 28129
www.fbcoakboro.org

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



Doesn't it feel good to be back? Now, no, things aren't quite all the way back like we want them to be, but we're getting close. Beginning next month, we are going to be moving back to a single worship service. No longer will you be stuck not able to regularly see and worship alongside some of the people you know and love. The reunion will be sweet indeed. We will all get to meet some new people because the church has grown during all of this (and let us be clear that not all that many churches can say something like that). We'll all have to find new seats. We'll hear the sound of a room filled with voices—voices expressing love for one another; voices lifted in prayer; voices ringing out in song.

Not long after this, we will be opening back up the Gathering Place for Wednesday night dinners. If you were on or leading a dinner team before Covid, expect to hear from me sometime in the next month as we prepare for that special day. Over the next couple of months, we are going to begin transitioning all of our adult Sunday school classes back to in-person meetings. But, for those of you who are still more comfortable on Zoom, we are not going to be eliminating that option. Different folks are still at different places, and we are going to make room for everyone to the best of our ability. We are indeed a church where anyone can connect to grow in Christ and reach out for His kingdom.

Starting in September, then, we will bring back the choir. You can perhaps already hear the ringing chorus of hallelujah ringing around the community with that news. And in some parts of the church there have even been a few conversations about a Christmas cantata!

Things are steadily getting back to normal. And you know what? We're coming out stronger. We've learned to love and tolerate differences among ourselves in ways that will be critical for the days ahead. We've learned just how important is the gathering of the saints. We've been reminded that serving our community is non-negotiable. We've built partnerships that will continue to bear wonderful fruit as we move forward together. We've connected with new neighbors and are starting to get a sense of just how many more new neighbors are within our sphere of influence. The harvest is plentiful, and we are the workers.

In many ways, as we celebrate our freedom this month, we are reminded of just how sweet that freedom truly is. We have experienced how much

sweeter even than that is the freedom we have in Christ. There is life to be found there that just isn't available anywhere else. Recent survey data backs this up even beyond our lived experience. The only group of people who have come out of this pandemic with a higher assessment of their mental health than before it all started are active churchgoers. That's it.

Here's what this means and what you need to do. If this is true—and no less than a Harvard medical researcher reported on this data—it means that people need the church. You know this because you've experienced it. You're better off because you've been a part of this body of believers—especially over the last year. Don't keep this to yourself. There are folks around you who are still struggling because they don't know and haven't experienced this incredible, life-changing truth. Share it with them. Invite them to experience it for themselves by coming to church with you. The world needs the church now more than ever. This community needs our church more than ever. You are the secret to that need being met. Invite the people around you to come to church with you. Invite them to experience the wonder of community; of this community. You'll be on track with your mission from Jesus; they'll be glad you did; and the kingdom will advance. There is great work to be done, my friends. Let's get to it together.

Pastor Jonathan



Are you receiving phone messages from the church? If not, and you would like to, please email your name and phone number you wish to use to firstbaptistoakboro@gmail.com or call the office at (704) 485-4313.

November 15-17, 2021 is the date for our annual Myrtle Beach Christmas Show trip for **ALL** ages! A bulletin board sign-up sheet and an informational handout is on the glass table in the fellowship building entranceway outlining what is included. You may contact Betty or Delinda Huneycutt if you are interested.





*"A donation has been given to our church in **Harold Floyd's** memory for all the wonderful people who assisted in his funeral services. Thank you from all of us."*
 Harold Floyd's Family

*In memory of **Harold Floyd**, donations were given to the Building Fund by:*

*Carolyn Hinson
 Doug & Ann Burgess
 Kevin, Erica & Hunter Floyd
 Chip & Dot Alsobrooks
 Jeff & Sandra Chance
 Doris Hatley
 Hope Gaston
 James & Dianne Hudson
 Sue Greene*

First Baptist Church, Oakboro

*Charles & Beverly Story
 Priscilla Foreman
 Deborah Tucker
 Brooks & Jane Barnhardt
 Wiley & Joyce Little
 Ted & Jewell Parker
 Trudie Williams*

Blessed Assurance Sunday School Class

Employees of Seven Oaks Doors & Hardware, Inc.

Larry & Kay Nichols

Charlotte Pipe and Foundry Company, Plastics Division Managers' and Foremen's Club

*In memory of **Harold Floyd**, contributions were made to the*

*Brotherhood by:
 Bea & Kim Goodman
 Gerald & Bonnie Lee
 Mae Brooks.*

*In memory of **Harold Floyd**, a donation was given by Nancy Haywood to the Choir Fund.*

*A contribution was given to the Meals on a Mission by Larry & Sherrie Burgess in memory of **Harold Floyd**.*

*In memory of **Billy Rivers**, donations were given to the*

*Building Fund by:
 Kevin & Erica Floyd
 Deborah Tucker
 Mae Brooks
 Betty Huneycutt.*

Contributions also were given to the Building Fund in memory of

***Martha Rivers** by:
 Deborah Tucker
 Wiley & Joyce Little
 Ted & Jewell Parker
 Jeff & Sandra Chance
 Mae Brooks
 Betty Huneycutt.*

*In memory of her "sweet dad **Wilson Tarlton**," Pamela Wellons made a donation to First Baptist, Oakboro.*

*A contribution to the Building Fund was given by Betty Huneycutt in memory of **Billy Taylor**.*

OUR RECORD OF GIVING

Budget Goals – June	33,130.65
Budget Receipts – June	33,138.00
Budget Goals – YTD	278,678.01
Budget Receipts – YTD	293,565.37
Budget Variance	+ 14,887.36
<i>Special Offerings</i>	
Building Fund	2,390.00
Youth Camp: Donations	736.50
Youth Camp: Deposits	200.00
Brotherhood	200.00
Music Fund	25.00



Next Steps

We've had an awesome couple of weeks in the life of our student ministry. We've been in full swing with game nights, service projects for our kids and, just recently, we've seen 7 students give their lives to Christ. It's easy to get excited about this

because it IS exciting. However, these decisions are the first steps in the lives of these students, not the last. Now, they begin the exciting journey of growing in their faith to glorify God by becoming disciples who make disciples. Enter the church and their families. As the church, our responsibility is to guide these students in their youth to grow in their faith. So, how can we as the church help these young students grow? Paul in his letter to Titus gives us some insight. Look at chapter 2, verses 4-6:

“And so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled.

Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled.”

What's the message here? Help these students. But how? Mainly with self-control. As they begin their next steps, the words of wisdom here for young men is SOLELY to be self-controlled. For young women, it's first on the list for young women who do not have husbands or children, (aka our students). So, the question is how can we help our students be self-controlled in their lives? First, we must be in their lives in the first place. Ask yourself how many students who would say you have a relationship within our church?" If that number is a lot, praise God! How can you deepen those relationships to glorify God by teaching students self-control in their spiritual lives? If that number is not a lot, or zero, how can you form those relationships with students? An easy way is simple: we always need more adults on Wednesdays, in Sunday School, and will need them as we restart children's church on Sundays, too.

It's the job of the family and church to disciple our students, for a good number of students recently, that journey is just beginning. How can you be a part of that process? Pray and act as God would have you move, and I promise you, you will not ever regret it.

Blessings, Nate

Follow our youth ministry on Instagram @fboyouth



“To Our Loving Church Family,

Words will never be enough to express what we feel. During Harold's sickness and death, you were always there through prayers, visits, calls, cards and food you sent.

Being surrounded and wrapped in our Savior's arms has given us an abundant peace beyond all understanding. A lot of Harold's most enjoyable times involved a cooking utensil, a frying pan, a fishing rod or a good ol' church hymn. We are grateful that his last days here included each of these.

Thank you for the love we have been and continue to be shown. May God bless each of you!"

Harold Floyd Family

“Thank you for your gift to our church in Harold's memory. He loved his church; especially the people. He continually talked about going back to church! What a wonderful church family we have! Please pray for me!"

Louise Floyd

In Honor

In honor of Aline Tarlton, a donation was given to the Building Fund by the Blessed Assurance Sunday School Class.

A contribution was made to the Building Fund by Ted & Jewell Parker in honor of Terrell & Janice Watts's 50th anniversary.

In honor of Terrell & Janice Watts's 50th, a donation was given to the Scholarship Fund by Betty Huneycutt.



FBO KIDS

A fun, safe community

where I can grow

to love and serve like Jesus!

JOIN US!

10:00 a.m. Sundays

6:30 p.m. Wednesdays

322 N Main Street
PO Box 10
Oakboro, NC 28129
www.fbcoakboro.org



- July**
- 1 Doug Burgess
Jeff Ross
 - 2 Brennan Broadway
Tracy Lowder
 - 3 Jim Cameron
Bonnie Lee
Cade Turner
 - 7 Jenny Mabry
 - 8 Jonah Russell
 - 11 Sonya Young
 - 12 Nick Barringer
Emerie Smith
 - 16 Sarah Hazelwood
Jonathan Hill
 - 17 Dot Alsobrooks
Dianne Hudson
 - 20 Meya Kippes
Mickey Robinson
 - 21 Essa Mabry
 - 22 Braden Smith
 - 24 Carrie Stroud
 - 25 Jacob Coley
Evan Lambert
Josh Russell
- August**
- 1 Kelli Coley
 - 2 T. J. Smith

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

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>Weekly Sunday Schedule 9:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Worship</p>			1	2	3
				<p>Oakboro 4th of July Rides, Concerts & Activities</p>		<p>9:00 a.m. Parade Followed by Other July 4th Activities</p>
<p>Independence Day 4 10:00 a.m. Sunday School for ALL Students, College/Career, & Mixed Adults Sunday School via Zoom (Joy, Life, Genesis, Blessed Assurance)</p>	5	6	7	8	9	10
	8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer		6:30 p.m. Bible Study for All Ages			
<p>10:00 a.m. 11 Live Sunday School (see above) Sunday School via Zoom (see above) 3:00 p.m. Nominating Committee</p>	12	13	14	15	16	17
	8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer		6:30 p.m. Bible Study for All Ages			
	<p>YMCA Camp: EVERYDAY HEROES ~ FBCO Fellowship Building 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.</p>					
<p>10:00 a.m. 18 Live Sunday School (see above) Sunday School via Zoom (see above)</p>	19	20	21	22	23	24
	8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer		6:30 p.m. Bible Study for All Ages Youth Prayer & Game Night		<p>OAKBORO CRUISE-IN</p>	
	<p>YMCA Camp: EVERYDAY HEROES ~ 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.</p>					
<p>10:00 a.m. 25 Live Sunday School (see above) Sunday School via Zoom (see above)</p>	26	27	28	29	30	31
	8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer		6:30 p.m. Bible Study for All Ages Preschool & Children Prayer & Game Night			
	<p>YMCA Camp: EVERYDAY HEROES ~ 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.</p>					