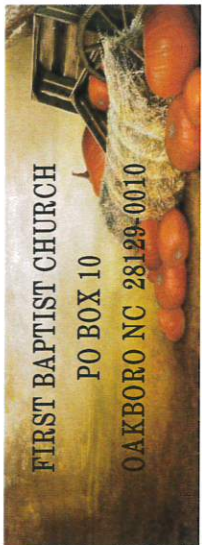



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Oakboro NC



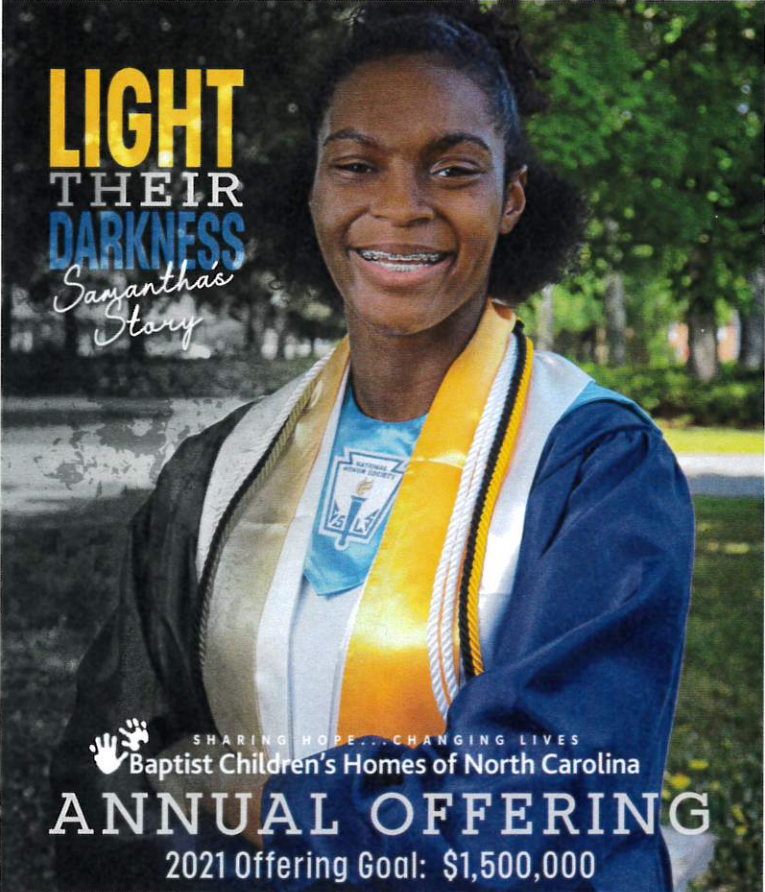
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# FIRST BAPTIST OAKBORO

## The Communicator

VOL. XXXII No. 11 October 29, 2021



# LIGHT THEIR DARKNESS

*Samantha's  
Story*

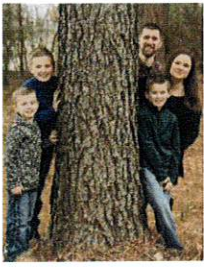
SHARING HOPE...CHANGING LIVES  
Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina

## ANNUAL OFFERING

2021 Offering Goal: \$1,500,000

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

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



What does it look like to be a follower of Jesus? According to Jesus Himself, it looks like loving your neighbor. That, of course, begs a rather important question: What does it look like to love your neighbor? Well, we have talked several times before about what love is. Love is an intentional decision to see someone else become more fully who God designed them to be. If we are going to talk about loving our neighbors like

Jesus loves us, that definition gives us the terms in which we need to be thinking. When we are intentionally committed to seeing the people around us, to seeing our neighbors, become more fully who God designed them to be, what does that look like?

It looks like praying for them. When was the last time you prayed for your neighbor? I'm not talking about praying for some act of physical healing in their life. And I'm not talking about some generic prayer for the salvation of the lost either. I'm talking about praying specifically, by name, for a neighbor (whether someone who physically lives next door to you or someone in the community) you know is not a follower of Jesus to experience Him in such a way that drew them in that direction? When was the last time you prayed for the opportunity to share the Gospel with an unbelieving neighbor? All evangelism starts with prayer. If we're not doing that, we are missing out on opportunities to love our neighbors the way Jesus does.

What else? How about meeting their needs? You know this personally. When someone meets a need you have, you are thus more inclined to listen to what she has to say. You are more likely to give him the time of day. Do you know what your neighbors' needs are? Certainly there are the basics: food, shelter, clothing, and so on and so forth. But just because your neighbor has all of those particular boxes checked off doesn't mean you are completely off the hook. What other things might your neighbor need?

How about friends? We live in a lonely culture that is getting lonelier all the time. Does your neighbor have any good relationships that are staving off the loneliness that might otherwise grip her life and drag her to a dark place? Are you in a position to be that friend? Could you be your neighbor's friend? If your neighbor has kids, he needs to know his kids are being looked after and cared for. How could you help address that need? Your neighbor needs to be connected to a community where he can grow to better reflect the character of Christ. Have you invited your


neighbor to church? As we spent several of the last few weeks talking about, this is someone God has designed us as a church rather specifically to be.

Your neighbor needs to hear the Gospel. Have you ever considered sharing the Gospel with your neighbor? This is one of the greatest acts of love. It is not something that can come out of nowhere, but over time, in bits and pieces, you can gently steer your conversations in this direction until you finally earn the opportunity to share the full Gospel with him.

As we move into the holiday season this month and next, and as the challenges facing our culture and world continue to stack up, we are going to be faced with more and new opportunities to ministry the Gospel and love our neighbors in practical, meaningful ways. The question is: Will we take them? As you go through this next month, I would encourage you to be on the lookout for the Gospel opportunities God is placing in your path. They won't always be easy or convenient to take, but if we will all commit to taking them as they come, we will together see this community impacted in incredible ways. Let's rise up this season and be the church He has created us to be.

*Pastor Jonathan*

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**Nate & Marisa's  
Drop-in  
Baby Shower**

**November 21, 2021 | 3-5 PM**

**First Baptist Oakboro Fellowship Hall**

PLEASE DROP IN ANY TIME BETWEEN 3-5PM  
AS WE CELEBRATE  
THE UPCOMING ARRIVAL OF BABY SISSON  
REGISTERED AT: AMAZON & WALMART

## OUR RECORD OF GIVING

Budget Goals – October	25,742.44
Budget Receipts – October (through 10/27)	26,774.11
Budget Goals – YTD	51,484.88
Budget Receipts – YTD	48,610.85
Budget Variance	- 2,874.03
<i>Special Offerings</i>	
Building Fund	1,415.00
NC Missions Offering	600.00
Meals on a Mission	120.00
Youth Deposit	900.00
NC Baptist Children's Homes	100.00
Sales Tax Refund	2,161.58
Pastor Appreciation	915.00
Shoebox Postage	45.00



*“Dear Church Family, We are unable to adequately express our heartfelt appreciation for the kindness shown us during our mother’s illness and passing to her new life in heaven.*

*Whatever you did: called or visited, provided food, sang to her, sent cards, contributed Bibles to share God’s Word, and most importantly prayed, we are forever grateful.*

*May God bless each of you always.*

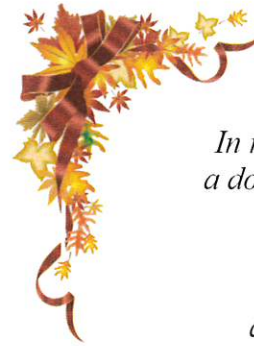
*Love to all,”*

Jean Little & Family of Margaret Burgess

*“Dear First Baptist, Thank you so much for always showing love and support to me and my family. We are very blessed to have such a caring church family. Many of you called, texted, came, cooked, prayed during this difficult time, and we appreciate it more than words can express. ‘I can only imagine’ what my Daddy is experiencing, but I will one day.*

*Thanks again for being so kind to me. Love,”*

Lisa Lowder



## *In Memory*

*In memory of **Jeanette Barrier**, Bill Yandle’s sister, a donation was made by Brooks & Jane Barnhardt to the Building Fund.*

*In memory of **Dianne Stewart**, a donation was given to the Building Fund by Eddie & Linda Arrowood.*

*Contributions were given to the Building Fund in memory of **Margaret Burgess** by:  
Louise Floyd  
Eddie & Linda Arrowood  
Brooks & Jane Barnhardt.*

*In memory of **Tommy Tucker**, Lisa Lowder’s dad, contributions were given to the Building Fund by:  
Louise Floyd  
James & Dianne Hudson  
Eddie & Linda Arrowood  
Doug & Ann Burgess  
Brooks & Jane Barnhardt.*

*A contribution was made to the Building Fund by Mae Brooks in memory of **Ted Lilly**.*



**SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 30  
6:00-7:30 P.M.  
OAKBORO PARK**



## Among the People

This past week has been a week where we at First Baptist Oakboro have stepped up. We've seen our community hurt this past week with the passing of Ted Lilly, but when his family needed a space to eat after his funeral, our fellowship hall was immediately there for them. This past Monday was a YMCA day due to kids being out of school; guess where the YMCA met? You guessed it, fellowship hall. As I write this, yesterday, a charitable organization used our parking lot to hand out free diapers to the community. This past weekend, by the time you probably read this, we'll be partnering with Red Cross Baptist and FBC Locust to throw a block party at West Stanly High to serve students and parents. The next day, we'll be serving families from all over with our annual fall trunk or treat. Read this verse of Scripture and see if you see any potential parallels.

*Acts 2: 46-47. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.*

This sounds a lot like what God is doing here, right? Having favor with all the people. God is allowing us to use what we have to serve our community. And guess what, people are being added to our church, just like the Acts 2 church as well. Praise God!! Take a moment now, to thank him for this: it's really awesome. But then, take a moment and read verse 42 of this chapter. It reads: *And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.*

We can celebrate all these wins God is bringing us. But if we forget verse 42, verses 46-47 become for nothing. Are we as church members devoting ourselves to the teaching of Scripture? Is it one of the main things we come to church for? Seeing others, playing games, enjoying food, serving – they are all wonderful things, but without the Word, they lose their value. Not only that, but secondly, are you devoted to the fellowship here as well? Is coming together the most valuable thing in your week? Or are there other things that have precedence? When we get this right, as it looks like so much of what we're seeing in our church right now, God starts to move! We've seen Him move in Oakboro, but He's not done. I'm excited to see what God has for us next. Until then, I'm excited to open the Word with you all and all our students and thankful for the opportunity to do it with you in person.

**With much love and great thanks to God our Father, Nate**



Please take the time to greet and get to know the families that have joined our church family.

### Scott & Denise Nightingale

16515 Buster Rd  
Oakboro, NC 28129  
(573) 590-4028  
[scottnightingale@gmail.com](mailto:scottnightingale@gmail.com)

### Stephen & Jenna Obie

783 Hathcock-Glen Dr  
Oakboro, NC 28129  
(207) 577-5224 - Steve  
(207) 577-1379 – Jenna  
[sobie31@outlook.com](mailto:sobie31@outlook.com)  
Children: Asher & Addie

### Shannon & Heather Chaney

16049 Liberty Hill Ch Rd  
Oakboro, NC 28129  
(704) 502-6575  
[heatherelizabethchaney@gmail.com](mailto:heatherelizabethchaney@gmail.com)  
Children: Lucas & Mason Jones



The Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes are due Sunday, *November 7*. A list of items is available on the table with the boxes.

Here are some suggestions for WOW Items to include:

Doll

Soccer ball - (Include a manual air pump so the ball can be reinflated.)

Stuffed animal

An outfit of clothing to wear

Small musical instrument (such as a harmonica or woodwind recorder)

You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself, your family, or group. If you include your name and an address, the child may be able to write back.

**DO NOT INCLUDE:** Candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes; glass containers; aerosol cans.

*Important  
Dates You  
Don't Want to  
Miss!*

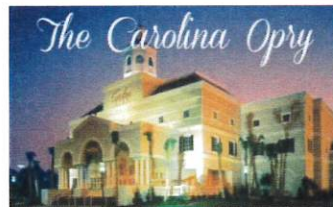
**MEN'S BBQ**  
**NOVEMBER 6 ~ 5:00 P.M.**  
**DRIVE-THROUGH/TAKE OUT**



**November 8-9**  
**NC Baptist State Convention**

 **FORT CASWELL**  
*Be-Do-Tell Fall Youth Retreat*  
*November 12-14*

*November 15-17*  
*Annual Myrtle Beach*  
*Christmas Show Trip*  
*Leave Monday at 10:30 a.m.*



  
*Oakboro Christmas Festivities*  
*Thursday, December 2*  
*Tree Lighting, Parade,*  
*Carols and Treats*



**Oakboro School of Music**

**Reopens November 2**

**With 30-minute, private lessons**

**In Voice and Piano**

**For more information, or to register,**

**Please contact Dana Jenkins via**

**Voice, text or email**

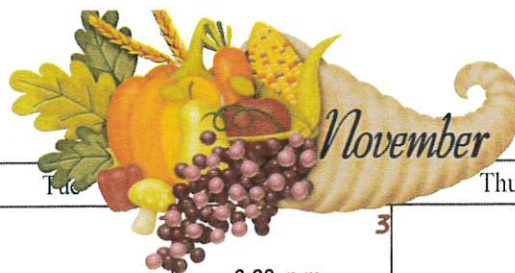
**(704) 985-6075**

**[danajenkins@mac.com](mailto:danajenkins@mac.com)**

*Handbells*

*Rehearsals Start*  
*Sunday, November 7*  
*Weekly at 4:00 p.m.*  
*To prepare for*  
*Christmas*





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

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

- December**
- 1 Butch Poplin
  - 2 Harry Foster
  - 3 Kristen Beatty

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

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer	2	3 6:30 p.m. Missions Night for ALL (Brotherhood, WMU, Kids) 7:30 Adult Choir	4	5 5:00 p.m. Men's BBQ	6 Turn Clocks Back	7 Offering Emphasis <b>NC Baptist Children's Homes</b>
8 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer	9	10 6:30 p.m. Bible Study 7:30 Adult Choir	11 HAPPY VETERANS DAY	12 Youth: Fall Retreat at Caswell November 12-14	13 Turn Clocks Back	14 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Due
15 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer			16 6:30 p.m. Bible Study Youth Game Night 7:30 Adult Choir			17 NC Baptist State Convention
18 6:30 p.m. Deacons			19 Myrtle Beach Christmas Show Trip November 15-17			20
21 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer 7:00 p.m. Gideons Meet in Fellowship Building	22	23	24 NO SERVICES OR CHURCH ACTIVITIES	25 HAPPY THANKSGIVING	26 OAKBORO CRUISE - IN!	27 Nate & Marisa's Drop-in Baby Shower November 21, 2021   3-5 PM First Baptist Oakboro Fellowship Hall
28 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer	29	30	<b>Weekly Sunday Schedule</b> <b>9:00 a.m. Sunday School (Live &amp; Zoom)</b> <b>10:00 a.m. Worship</b>			