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FIRST BAPTIST
OAKBORO

The Communicator

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HOMECOMING

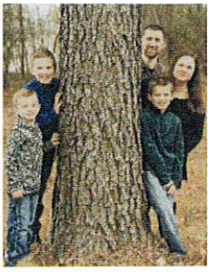
Save the Date and Join Us!
October 15, 2023

with Dr. Andy Prince
Stanly-Montgomery Associational
Mission Strategist

Covered Dish Luncheon After Worship
Invite Others to Come with You!

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

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When Moses was giving the people of Israel his exceptionally long farewell address that we now have collected for us as the book of Deuteronomy, toward the end of his message, he laid out for the people the various blessings and curses that would accompany their decision to obey or disobey God's commands. The gist of that part of his message was that if they didn't do what God said, they would go the way of the Egyptians

who had once held them in slavery. Everything that God had done to Egypt He would do to them. On the other hand, if they actively sought to obey His commands and to live within the guidelines He had given them as a nation, He would pour out blessings on them at every level.

Now, we don't have anything like that kind of a message in the New Testament. We can't turn to the latter chapters of Deuteronomy and find parallels for the things we should expect to experience as a church (much less as a nation) if we would just get on the obedience train a little more consistently. Any preacher who says otherwise is doing a grave disservice to his audience.

In fact, in the New Testament in places like Matthew 10 or 1 Peter 4 or 2 Corinthians 11, we find almost the very opposite of what Moses told the gathered Israelites. When we are faithful to the task Jesus left us of proclaiming the Gospel and advancing His kingdom, we are going to experience all kinds of persecutions and hardships. The world is going to come after us with everything it has. The enemy will come after us as a church and as individuals. Key members will have more frustrations and tragedies unfold in their lives than they ever imagined they would face at any one time. The church will find itself subjected to setbacks & limitations from various local authorities. There will be roadblocks and other kinds of obstacles to our advancement. Nothing will seem to go right.

And in the midst of all of that, if we are pursuing with faithfulness our goal of becoming fully the church God made us in Christ to be, we will experience joy and peace and hope and boldness and growth unlike anything we thought or hoped to expect. We will see new leaders raised up, new missions begun, new members added, facilities expanded, renewed energy and focus brought to our discipleship ministries, and so on and so forth. God's blessings will unfold among us in powerful ways that defy worldly explanation. Out of all of this, He will be glorified, and we will be empowered to do even more together to advance the Gospel.

Friends, is this not just what we have been experiencing together as a people? God is moving in our midst. He is moving in exciting and powerful ways. We are seeing the blessings of faithfulness come to pass, and it feels really good. We are coming to understand more clearly together what it means to be the church. As we give these kinds of things a renewed focus and effort, we will gradually see even more kingdom good come of it. Disciples will be made. Lives will be transformed by the Gospel. The kingdom will be expanded.

So then, what can we do with all of this? What can you do to see all of this exciting momentum continued and extended? Start with prayer. There are a lot of things going on in our ministry as a church right now, and more are coming quickly down the pike at us. If we are not covering every single facet of our ministry with prayer from start to finish, none of it will accomplish anything of lasting significance. Prayer is the fuel and the engine that will keep driving us forward, keeping us on track with God's plans for us as we go.

As you pray, if you are indeed a member of this church, make sure you are a fully functioning member. Make sure you are here more than you aren't. Make sure you are in a place where you are both learning and passing along what you have learned to others. That doesn't have to be in a formalized setting, but if it isn't happening at all, you're not on track with Jesus' call on your life as one of His followers. If you're running short on ideas for where that can happen, allow me to introduce you to one of the 40 or so students who are here most Wednesday nights. Make sure you are serving to put the gifts Jesus has given you for the building up of His body in love to use in building up His body in love. Make sure you are practicing the discipline of sacrificial generosity so that you don't get owned by your stuff and so that we have all the resources we need to accomplish what God has set before us.

There's one more thing: invite someone else to experience all of this with you. A personal invitation is still the best way to add to and grow what God is doing in our midst. There's no age limit on that either. One of the newest families that is connecting on Wednesday nights is here because one of our elementary students spent over a year patiently but consistently inviting his friend to come. Nothing happened until it did, and by report, they loved what they experienced, and plan to keep coming back again and again. If an elementary student can do that, you can too.

God is growing His church here at First Baptist Oakboro, and we are all a part of it. Let's continue to pursue His glory like this together!

Pastor Jonathan



What's Your Name?

By post-Covid church standards, we're actually a big church. According to a 2022 Lifeway research article, 68% of all Protestant churches in the US have less than 100 people attending each weekend. That means that we're in the top 30% by just having the attendance that we have. But you may

be saying, Nate, we're a small church, we're in a small town, everyone knows each other. While yes, we're nowhere close to being a church in the top 5% of churches when it comes to attendance, we're still sizeable, and we still have a lot of people! I'll give an example: At the time of this writing, our youth had their annual lock-in. We had 23 students attend and 8 adults join us for the trampoline park. Before we left for Charlotte, I challenged our students with 1 Corinthians 1:10 to be unified as a church, not just as a youth group. The main way I challenged them was I asked if anyone could tell me the names of all the 8 adults in the room that were going to join them at the trampoline park. We had a couple of students able to name a majority of the adults, but alas, no one was able to successfully name them all. The challenge I gave them after that was to simply learn an adult's name that they didn't know beforehand. A lot of them did! Praise God! It was an amazing night of bonding and growth between the students and the adults that chaperoned that night.

Our kids and youth ministries are growing numerically. We have guests almost every week now. We're not a mega-church, but we're also not a small church. However, the call to be unified from Scripture is still there. Where do we start with being unified? Well, a good place is to simply introduce yourself to someone you don't know at church. The main goal of our SWAG nights going forward: every student there knows every adult's name and every adult knows every student's name. That's it – no favorite color, no hobbies, not what they do for a living or what grade they're in. Simply know their name. It may seem like a small task, but think about it, in about a month, we have around 35-40 students Nursery-12th grade that are on our campus at least once; that's a lot of names! It's a task to remember them all!

Now, will you learn every student's name in our church in a week or a month or even 6 months? Of course not, but can you learn one? Well, that seems a bit easier. We have students who desperately need mentors and positive influences in their life, aka, disciple-makers. And God will honor our efforts to disciple them, but before we can get to that, it all starts with:

"Hey, my name is _____, what's yours?" **Nate**



Upcoming Events

Sundays

9:00 Sunday School
10:00 Worship Service

Wednesdays

5:30 Dinner @ The Gathering Place
6:30 Bible Study for all ages

October

10/4 Missions Night
10/21 Pumpkin Patch, 10:00am
10/25 Prayer & Game Night
10/28 Trunk or Treat, 5:00-6:30 pm



November

11/1 Missions Night
11/12 Lunch & OCC Shoebox Shopping & Packing
11/16 Student/Adult Connect Night
11/22 No Activities



December

12/6 Missions Night 12/7 Christmas Parade
12/13 Christmas Party 12/24 Christmas Eve Service
12/20 & 12/27 No Activities



Follow our youth ministry on Instagram @fboyouth



Thank You

*"Dear First Baptist Family,
Words are not adequate to thank you for your outpouring of love and support during this very difficult loss for our family. Your many expressions of kindness—the calls, the visits, the cards, the food, and most especially, the prayers are so sincerely appreciated. We are so blessed to be a part of this loving, caring, and praying church family! May God richly and abundantly bless each of you.*

Love to all,"

The Family of Charles "Chip" Osborne

"Thank you for feeding us last Thursday and Friday. The food was exceptional, as is y'all's commitment to help out all the time. I am truly appreciative of everything.

Thanks" Brett Morton

OUR RECORD OF GIVING

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Budget Goals – September | 26,037.84 |
| Budget Receipts – September | 20,269.00 |
| Budget Goals – YTD | 26,037.84 |
| Budget Receipts – YTD | 20,269.00 |
| Budget Variance | -5,768.84 |
| <i>Special Offerings</i> | |
| Building Fund | 1,900.00 |
| NC Baptist Children's Homes | 100.00 |
| Guatemala Mission Trip | 810.00 |
| Children & Preschool Ministry Donations | 140.00 |
| Youth Ministry Donation | 50.00 |
| Youth Ministry: Lock-In | 660.00 |
| Gathering Place | 667.00 |
| Deacons (Offering & Books) | 215.00 |
| MOM Donation | 100.00 |
| Trunk or Treat Donation | 20.00 |



*A donation was made to the Building Fund by Doug & Ann Burgess in memory of **Chip Osborne**.*

*In memory of **Bill Thomas**, contributions were given to the Building Fund by*

"Big House" White Lake Family

Nancy Haywood

Chip & Dot Alsobrooks

James & Dianne Hudson

Blessed Assurance Sunday School Class

Mary Nelms

Kevin & Erica Floyd

Doug & Ann Burgess

Lynn & Cliff Edwards

Jim & Cheryl Cameron

Brooks & Jane Barnhardt

Doris Hatley

Margaret Snyder

Tony & Brenda Thomas

Bobby & Wanda Little

Doug & Ellen Little

Tracy & Lisa Lowder

Wiley & Joyce Little

Betty Huneycutt & Family

First Baptist Church, Oakboro



*A donation was given to the Music program by Mae Brooks in memory of **Bill Thomas**.*



*In honor of **Louise Floyd**, a donation was made to the Building Fund by the Blessed Assurance Sunday School class.*

PLEASE JOIN US TO
CELEBRATE

**BEA
GOODMAN'S
90TH**

Sunday October 22, 2023
5-7pm

First Baptist Oakboro Fellowship Hall
Dinner will be served

PLEASE RSVP BY 10/10/23 TO
704-485-8607 OR 704-302-6172



We gladly welcome the following as the newest members to join our church family. They all already have been active in the church's activities and services. Be sure to reach out, introduce yourself and encourage them!

Mike & JJ Hughes
(Joined by Statement)
20063 Old Mill Rd
Locust, NC 28097
(832) 722-1959-M (832) 722-0971-JJ

Phil & Christy Morgan
(Joined by Letter)
209 E Ninth Street
Oakboro, NC 28129

A NOTE FROM THE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Please stop by and visit the FBC History Room on the main floor of the church building on Homecoming Sunday, **October 15**, before or after Sunday School. As you leave, light refreshments will be available in the hallway. The History Room also will be open between worship service and the covered dish luncheon. Feel free to visit the History Room while the men set up our tables and chairs for the meal.

OAKBORO COMMUNITY

TRUNK OR TREAT

OAKBORO FAIRGROUNDS

FOOD TRUCKS

CANDY



BRING YOUR TREAT BAG



OCT 28 5:00 - 7:00 PM

Rain Date: October 29, 5-7:00



Sponsored by:
Oakboro Churches & Businesses
Questions? First Baptist Oakboro 704-485-4313

If you would like to donate candy, cash or other items for Trunk or Treat, please bring them to the church by October 18.



What is TRIBE? TRIBE is a after school program for local at risk teens who need a little extra help and hope, academically and socially. TRIBE is a program of Live Again Ministries that was began in 2017. After being paused during the 2020 Covid pandemic, TRIBE was relaunched in January of 2022. TRIBE receives students from local schools through the referral of counselors, administrators, teachers, and other school personnel, as well as from family members, churches, and the court system. TRIBE works students through a curriculum written by Mary Newsome (a former LAM board member, and certified school principal) that teaches students humility, forgiveness, empathy, optimism, compassion, sympathy, patience, cooperation, and gratitude. The goal, to help them understand their feelings, appreciate their past, plan their future, share with the world the beauty that lies within them.

Who leads TRIBE?

Our current director is Thomas Childers. Thomas is the Family Pastor of Mission Church in Locust, NC. He attended Liberty University and received his degree in Christian Counseling. Thomas has worked with teens for over 14 years in ministry and has a passion for seeing them healthy mentally, emotionally, spiritually, and physically.



SCAN ME

or visit: forms.gle/38oqW7pWmNFTBVFU7

How does it work?

Students are bussed from school to a host location (Mission Church is our current host) where students are then fed a meal, helped with homework, given emotional support, then taught through a curriculum that teaches them core emotional and life skills and empowers them with the tools to improve themselves!

Where do you come in? TRIBE relies on adult volunteers to operate. We are only able to accept 4 teens per every 1 adult volunteer leader. We also rely on volunteers to provide meals each meeting for the teens and workers. TRIBE is a non-profit and in such relies on generous donations for funding. We also greatly appreciate prayer partners, as we work with teens who truly need the hope of Christ shown in their lives. So, you can get involved by: Choosing to volunteer as a leader, choosing to gather a team to provide meals, giving to LAM earmarked for TRIBE, or by offering prayer support. You can scan the QR code above or visit our website to learn more and contact us!

Ronny Russell, Executive Director
e-mail: paparon@carolina.rr.com

Business phone:
704-781-5281



Mailing address:
PO Box 333
Locust, North Carolina 28097

Web:
live-againministries.org



- October**
- 2 Hope Gaston
Sandra Chance
 - 7 Scott Broadaway
Ann Eudy
 - 9 Summer Mauney
 - 12 Gavin Hudson
Marisa Sisson
 - 15 Linda Arrowood
Jonathan Waits
Arabella Smith
 - 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
Angelina Smith
Ed Simes
 - 26 Terrell Watts
 - 28 Eddie Arrowood

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| 1 Youth to MOMENTUM Be-Do-Tell at Wingate University | 2 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer | 3 6:30 p.m. Deacons' Meeting | 4 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place <i>(please sign up)</i> 6:30 Bible Study for All Ages Kids' Mission Night 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal | 5 SOUTH STANLY FOOTBALL TEAM MEAL IN FELLOWSHIP BUILDING | 6 7:30 a.m. Gideons Prayer Breakfast in Men's Sunday Sch Class |
| 8 | 9 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer Columbus Day | 10 | 11 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place <i>(please sign up)</i> 6:30 Bible Study for All Ages 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal | 12 | 13 |
| 14 HOMECOMING with Dr. Andy Prince Covered Dish Lunch Afterward | 15 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer 6:30 p.m. Gideons International Camp Meeting in Fellowship Building | 16 6:30 a.m. Ladies' Care Ring in Youth Center | 17 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place <i>(please sign up)</i> 6:30 Bible Study for All Ages 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal | 18 | 19 10:00 a.m. Kids to Pumpkin Patch |
| 20 5:00-7:00 p.m. Bea Goodman's 90th Birthday Celebration in Fellowship Building | 21 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer | 22 SMBA Fall Meeting at Prospect Baptist 4:00 p.m. Afternoon Session 5:30 - Meal 6:30 - Evening Session | 23 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place <i>(please sign up)</i> 6:30 Bible Study for All Ages Kids' Prayer & Game Night 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal | 24 | 25 OCT 28 5:00 - 7:00 PM Rain Date: October 29, 5-7:00 OAKBORO COMMUNITY TRUNK TREAT on OAKBORO FAIRGROUNDS |
| 26 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer | 27 | 28 WEEKLY SUNDAY SCHEDULE 9:00 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL (LIVE & ZOOM) 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP | | | |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

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

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