

## OUR RECORD OF GIVING

Budget Goals – March	26,037.84
Budget Receipts – March	25,134.00
Budget Goals – YTD	188,774.34
Budget Receipts – YTD	170,597.99
Budget Variance	-18,176.35
<i>Special Offerings</i>	
Building Fund	1,345.00
NC Baptist Children's Homes	100.00
Gathering Place	1,309.00
Annie Armstrong Offering	555.00
Deacons	50.00
Youth Ministry	1,897.00
Youth Ministry: Boston Butt	3,160.00
Youth Camp	160.00



### HOPE Fellowship

Meet us at Sunrise Grill in Locust on Thursday, **April 18**, at 8:30 a.m. Bring any ideas you may have about future outings for the group. For any interested in getting strawberries in Midland after breakfast, we may go if they're available. There's no age limit – if you're available, then you're welcome!

Additionally, **November 11-13** are the dates for the Myrtle Beach Christmas show trip, staying at Beach Cove Resort. More details later.



*In memory of **Joyce Little**, Bud & Teresa Smith made a donation to the Scholarship Fund.*

*A contribution was given to the Building Fund in memory of **Joyce Little** by Kim & Bea Goodman.*

*In memory of **Margaret Furr**, donations were made to the Building Fund by Kim & Bea Goodman and Doris Hatley.*

*In honor of **Frog Pond Performance**, a contribution was given to Meals On a Mission of First Baptist, Oakboro, by Jeff & Sandra Chance.*



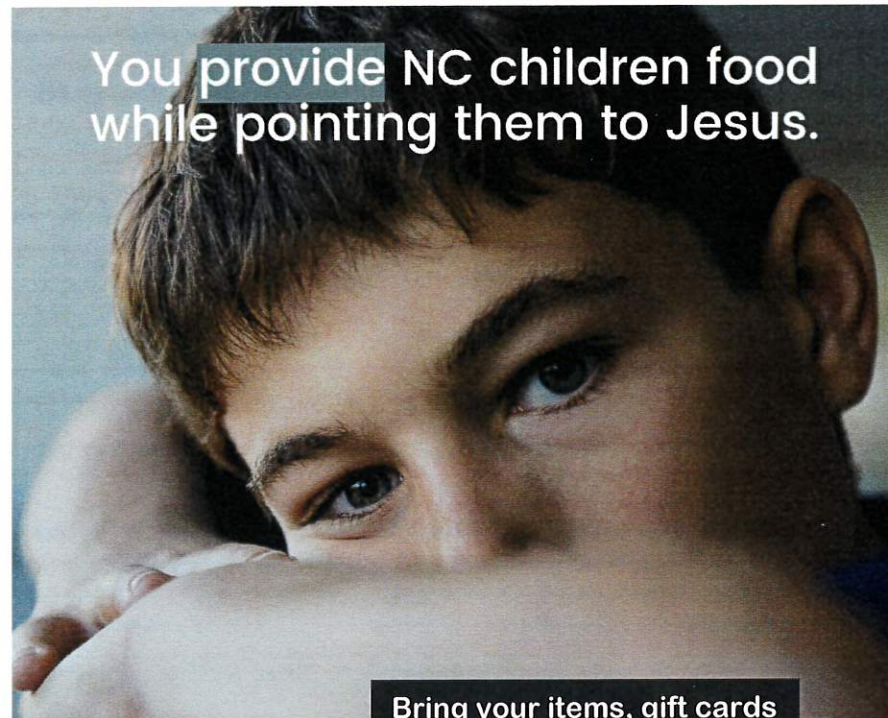
# FIRST BAPTIST OAKBORO

## The Communicator

VOL. XXXV No. 4

April 2024

You provide NC children food while pointing them to Jesus.



Bring your items, gift cards or donations by April 28.



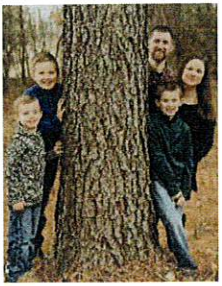
**FOOD  
ROUNDUP**  
BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES



BCHFOODROUNDUP.ORG

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  
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Jesus' final week before His death was pretty action packed. And we have studied all of it in nearly endless detail. I don't necessarily mean that we as a church have (although our series through Mark's passion narrative has been pretty detailed), but scholars have done this work several times over. We can pretty well piece together what happened on every single day of Jesus' last week.

Except for one.

We don't know what happened on Saturday. Well, that's not totally true. We know from Matthew's Gospel that Saturday is when the chief priests who were in charge of the whole operation and the Pharisees who had been following Him around, taking careful note of the things He said and did went to Pilate to ask him to place a guard on the tomb to make sure the disciples didn't try to steal the body in order to give credence to the ridiculous claim Jesus had made about coming back to life on the third day after His death. (I guess they didn't connect the dots all the way from the fact that if He was right about His prediction of His death, then there was at least a chance He was right about His prediction of His resurrection, but we'll leave that alone for now.)

But that's it. We don't have any idea what the disciples or Jesus' other followers were doing on Saturday. They weren't waiting for Him to be resurrected, that's for sure. None of them expected that. More than likely they were hunkered down and hiding out, waiting to see what was going to happen to them next. The anxiety and uncertainty of that moment had to have been intense for them. Their whole world had been turned upside-down and inside-out by Jesus' death. They weren't planning on that. Yet here they were.

As far as they knew, the chief priests and the Romans had succeeded in smashing what they had previously understood as God's plans to pieces. What else were they supposed to think? They were just really beginning to think that Jesus was the Messiah, and then He died, which as far as their thinking on the matter went, meant that He wasn't. Where was God in this? What were His plans?

How much time do we spend living in this kind of a space? How much time do we spend living between what we thought were God's clear and obvious plans and the unknown of what's going to happen next when those plans have been seemingly blown completely to pieces?

This hits us in all kinds of different ways. Maybe it was the loss of a job and the ensuing financial uncertainty that brought to your life. It could have been a devastating medical diagnosis. Perhaps it was a relationship that ended suddenly and dramatically. There are a million other things it could be, but in each instance, we are left in the same place. We are left on Saturday; wondering and waiting to see what God is going to do next. Is He going to do anything next?

Well, the thing about Saturday is that it isn't Sunday.

That sounds like a pretty obvious thing to say, so let's unpack that just a bit. When the disciples and Jesus' other followers were hanging out on Saturday, Sunday hadn't yet arrived. But it was coming. Jesus was in the grave and dead as a doornail, as the saying goes. But He wasn't going to be for much longer. It was only another few hours until the world would change forever. The lives of His followers gathered there in Jerusalem would be changed forever. The power of death was about to be broken. The opportunity for eternal life for anyone who cared to receive it was about to be made available to the world. From then it was only a little while longer until the Holy Spirit arrived and things really kicked into high gear.

They just had to wait. And trust. God wasn't done. They couldn't see it yet. They couldn't even imagine it. But it was coming.

Friends, we still serve this same God today. He hasn't changed a bit. We may live huge chunks of our lives on Saturday, but as the saying goes, "Sunday's comin'."

What we know with absolute assurance is that Jesus rose from the dead. Because of that, God has promised eternal life to everyone who is interested in having it. No one gets left out who doesn't choose to be. Well, no matter what it is we are currently facing in this life, that eternal life is still ahead of us. Saturday won't last forever. Your Saturday won't last forever. Have hope. Jesus rose from the grave. If this is hitting your mailbox on Saturday like we planned, make plans to join us in the morning as we celebrate this great truth together.

*Pastor Jonathan*



### **Attention, high school seniors:**

Scholarship applications are available in the fellowship building entrance or through your high school guidance counselor. The deadline for these to be submitted is **April 15**. The

Scholarship Committee then will meet to select the winners for the various scholarships and will notify the recipients in May.



## How to Transition from Being a Student Minister in Oakboro, North Carolina and Become a Church Planting Missionary to New Orleans, Louisiana.

Catchy title, right? Did it pique your interest? If you were walking through a bookstore and saw a book with this title, you'd probably stop and say "Hey! I go to church in Oakboro; let me see what this is all about!" Well to be honest with you, if I saw this book on a shelf, I'd buy it immediately, no matter the cost. You see, you thought maybe this newsletter post was going to be one where I wrote about how we're going to charge into New Orleans, reach people for Jesus, baptize them all, and turn the city around for the Kingdom of God. You might have thought that it would detail neighborhood analysis, cultural insights, and evangelism tips. You maybe thought how it would be a challenge to make disciples and follow the way that I have planned for the city.

Well, you'd be wrong. (I doubt many of you actually thought that while reading this, though.) The reality is, if someone were to walk up to me and ask: "Nate, how do you transition from being a student minister in Oakboro, North Carolina to become a church planting missionary in New Orleans, Louisiana?" You know what my response would be?

### **I. Have. No. Clue. Whatsoever.**

What do you mean, Nate!?! That's literally what you're doing! How can you go and try to do this without knowing anything about how to do it? My response to that would be: "I don't have any clue about how to do it, but here's the one thing I do know..."

### **I know a God who does know.**

God has all the power to be able to plant this church; he doesn't need me or Marisa to do it. Rather, he's called us out and said, "**Will you be faithful enough to be close enough to me to allow me to work in you?**" Go back and read that question again. I know I did even after I typed this. I even put it in bold after I read it a few times. Y'all, that question breaks me most days. I'm a sinner, and that sin puts me further away from God. The thing I'm learning, though, is that for this journey to be successful, I have to do one main thing right now, and really these next 2½ years as we prepare in Virginia. I must remember and live out the most understated statement ever...

### **I. Need. God.**

I need to be close to him, I need to kill my sin, I need to be faithful, I need to love him more, I need more of his Word, more of his church, and to be more of a disciple of his. I need God.

Will you pray for us that we get more of God? We need him so desperately. But the reality also is, Oakboro needs God, too. A lot of people here think they have him, but they don't follow him. First Baptist Oakboro is here to tell this community it needs God, but it cannot do it alone. This church needs God and his power to reach this community.

Are we ready to look to God and desperately cry out: "God, I NEED You."? "Only you can save us, only you can lead this church, only you can bring people to you both in Oakboro and New Orleans. We need you to do this."

The most wonderful thing though... when we cry out to him... he listens... and he draws near to us. The question is, will we cry out?

### **God.I.Need.You**

Nate

Follow our youth ministry on Instagram @fboyouth



KAREN PECK



NEW RIVER

# 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit Concert



**April 13, 2024**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
Stanly County  
Agri-Civic Center  
Albemarle, NC

## THE KINGSMMEN



Larry Harrell Masonry   CHRIS SARIF BUILDERS, LLC



Bear Creek Cabinet Shop, Inc.  
www.bearcreekcabinets.com   bearcreektwo@aol.com



**Tickets: \$22-Orchestra**  
**\$17-General Admission**  
Group Discount for 10 or more  
www.tickets.com/events/477021  
(704) 985-8303 or (704) 986-3666  
Hosted by St. Stephens Wesleyan Church



Furr Farms Inc.

### MEDICAL PHARMACY



Cancer affects ALL of us in some way! Make plans to attend this concert for a cause at the Stanly County Agri-Civic Center. These are two of southern gospel music's top artists. **Special pricing is available through Delinda for FBCO: Orchestra seating for \$18 & \$15 for general admission.**



**LIFT UP THE WORD**  
**LIGHT UP THE WORLD**

2 SAMUEL 22:29-31

THE 73rd ANNUAL NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER  
THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024



**YOUTH**  
FIRST BAPTIST OAKBROOK

## Bake Auction

May 4, 2024  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

### Fellowship Building

Be thinking of what you can bake and bring to help fund camp and summer activities for our youth!  
**Invite everyone to join in the fun!**

## Contact Us

**Pastor Jonathan Waits**

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**Pastor Nate Sisson**

Mobile: (228) 860-6397

Nate9254@yahoo.com

**Delinda Huneycutt, Secretary**

(704) 485-4313 (office)

dhuneycuttfbc@gmail.com



- April
- 2 Kay Smith
  - 6 Rita Crisco
  - 8 Alyssa Pope
  - Jimmy Copple
  - 11 Beverly Parr
  - 12 Noah Young
  - 16 Thomas Meadors
  - Lillianne Crisco
  - 20 Chip Alsobrooks
  - Ella West
  - 21 Cooper Smith
  - 22 Lisa Waits
  - 24 Axel Lowder
  - 25 Jane Baucom
  - 28 April Tucker
  - 29 Katlyn Thompson
  - Mike Hughes

- May
- 3 Kathy Simes
  - 4 Ellen Little

If changes need to be made to this list, please contact the church office.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
  	<p>1</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p>	<p>2</p> <p>NO GATHERING PLACE OR OTHER ACTIVITIES</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p><b>YMCA in Fellowship Building</b></p> <p><b>IMPACT Mission Trip to Fredericksburg, VA</b></p>						
	<p>8</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Deacons' Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place (please sign up) 6:30 Bible Study for ALL 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:30 a.m. Gideons' Prayer Breakfast in Men's SS Class 6:00 p.m. Relay For Life Benefit Concert at Stanly Ag Center</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer 6:30 p.m. Gideons International Camp Meeting in Fellowship Building</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Ladies' Care Ring in Youth Center</p>	<p>17</p> <p>5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place (please sign up) 6:30 Bible Study for ALL Kids' Game Night 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:30 a.m. HOPE Fellowship Meets at Sunrise Grill in Locust for Breakfast &amp; Outing Ideas</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>FAITH ALIVE KICKBALL TOURNAMENT AT LOCUST HALLPARKS</p>
<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place (please sign up) 6:30 Bible Study for ALL 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Oakboro School of Music Recital</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer</p>	<p>30</p>	<p><b>Weekly Sunday Schedule</b>  <b>9:00 a.m. Sunday School (Live &amp; Zoom)</b>  <b>10:00 a.m. Worship</b></p>			

**Save the Dates: May 4 - Youth Bake Sale**

**June 2-5 - Vacation Bible School**

**June 17-21 - Youth FUGE Camp at Carson-Newman University**

**July 22-26 - Centrikids Camp at Ridgecrest**