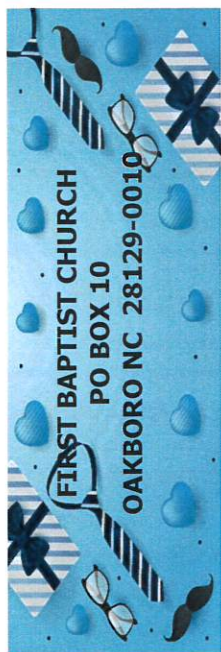


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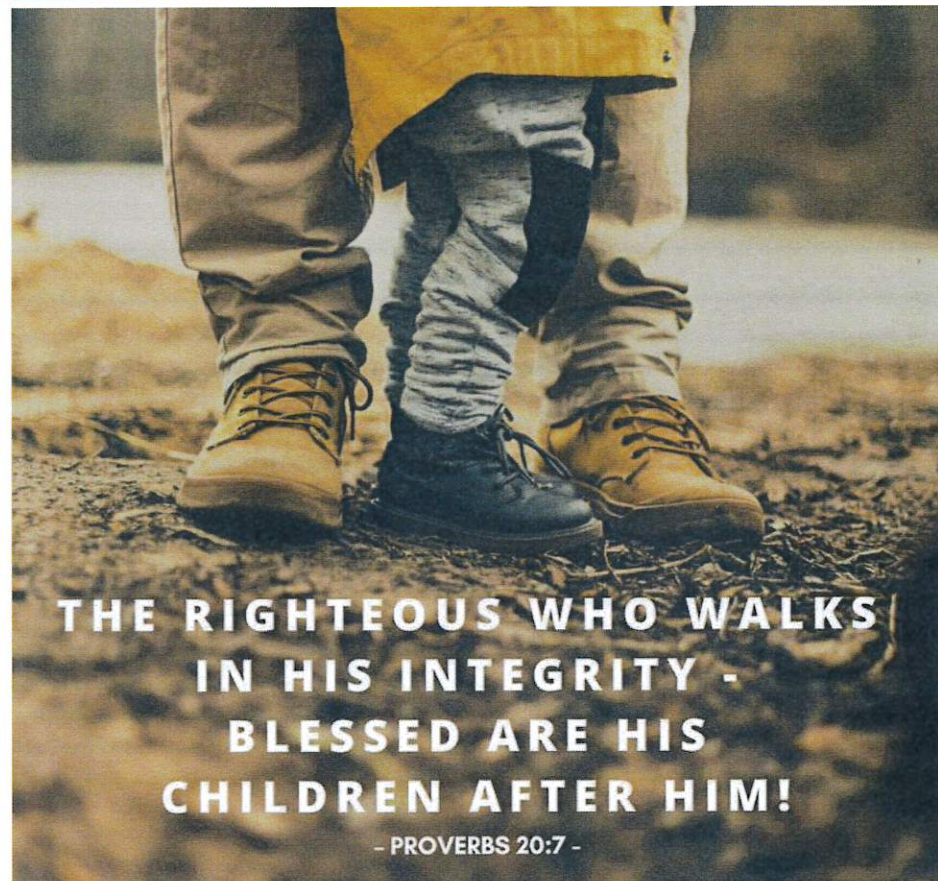


FIRST BAPTIST
OAKBORO

The Communicator

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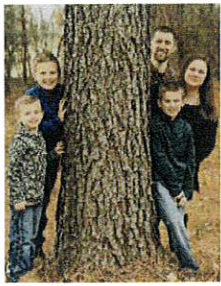
THE RIGHTEOUS WHO WALKS
IN HIS INTEGRITY -
BLESSED ARE HIS
CHILDREN AFTER HIM!

- PROVERBS 20:7 -

Father's Day ~ June 16, 2024

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I think I've spoken before about the fact that I have been slowly studying my way through the Exodus narrative in my personal devotion time. Going into this season I was excited about the first part of the story and less enthused about the second. Once you get through the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai, other than the hysterically and tragically funny story about the golden calf episode, the rest of the narrative is a collection of ancient laws that rarely seem relevant to us, a description of how the Israelites were to build the tabernacle, and a description of how the Israelites built the tabernacle according to those instructions.

In other words...it's kind of boring.

At least at first glance.

Yet as is demonstrated to be true about the Scriptures over and over again, when we take time to mine their riches, we will find treasure. And when we mine veins that we have not explored very deeply before, we'll often be surprised at just how much treasure we will find.

Exodus 25 opens with God's instructions to Moses to collect an offering from everyone who was willing to donate the supplies needed to build the tabernacle. The idea of God's people coming together to give generously and sacrificially to build physical structures that will serve an important purpose in not only their worship, but also in God's larger efforts to reveal Himself to the people around His people who are not yet a part of His people so that they might become His people is a very old and well-established one indeed.

More on that sometime later.

In any event, after making a call for an offering, God tells the people why He wants them to do this. "They are to make a sanctuary for me so that I may dwell among them." This was the purpose of the tabernacle: so that God had a place to dwell among the people of Israel.

Now, did God need a physical place to dwell? Of course not. He's God. He's Spirit. He can go anywhere He pleases. The last thing in the world He needs is a finite, physical place to live. But Israel needed it. They needed the reassurance that God was among them. They needed something they could wrap their minds and by that their hearts around to understand that God was with them. And that's exactly what God wanted

them to understand: that He was with them. That He was among them to dwell with them. That they were in His presence. He wanted them to, over time, develop the conscious thought that where they were, God was.

This was to serve as a motivating force for their words and actions. More than that, though, it was to shape the way they thought about themselves. It was to be the primary factor forming their identity. Where they were, God was.

This was a good system for a long time, but it was never made to be permanent. God always intended to fulfill this first covenant and replace it with an even greater one wherein His presence could be with us—in us—even more fully than He was with Israel. With Israel, although they were to think of themselves as the people of God, they never could quite get past thinking about God's presence as limited to the temple. Under the new covenant and with the revelation of His Spirit in the wake of Jesus' ministry, death, & resurrection, God's presence became officially mobile. Paul told us that we, His followers, are the temple of the Holy Spirit who dwells in us. In other words, anywhere we go, there God is.

But Paul was never talking about believers individually. He was always talking primarily about the church. Where the church is, God is. We are the place where God dwells. And He dwells in us and among us and through us for a very specific reason. He wants to grow His kingdom so that even more people can come to know Him and love Him (for indeed, to know Him is to love Him since He is love).

Let that idea sit on your heart and mind for a bit. The church is the place where God dwells. Where a church is, is a place where the people around that church can experience the presence of God through His people as we take the light of the Gospel and the presence of the Spirit with us everywhere we go. If you want to think about it in these terms, we are all lamps, and the church is the place we go—the community with whom we gather—to fill our reservoirs and trim our wicks so we can shine all the more brightly. To put it even more directly: Where we are, God is.

But God is never content to just sit in one place. He is a mobile God, and He is on the move. He is moving through us into the community around us. Our job in this is to make sure we are going with Him, but also to make sure that we have the capacity to receive and minister to the people He draws to Himself through us so they can experience His presence where He dwells—in us, His people.

This is a high and noble calling. It is one we are pursuing together, one step at a time. We are pursuing the calling of proclaiming the Gospel and making disciples so that God's presence in us might grow and expand to change the world, starting with Oakboro.

Be ready. We're going to take an important step in this direction in the days ahead of us. It will take all of us being courageously faithful and sacrificially generous together. The end goal, though, is nothing short than the expansion of God's kingdom to His glory, our joy, and the transformation of our community. Be praying now about how He is calling you to be a part of it. I can't wait to experience what He is doing together.

Pastor Jonathan



Sending

Well, it's almost time. It has been a fantastic 5 years here at FBC Oakboro. We've started the process of packing boxes, reserving moving trucks, and making travel plans. Seemed like it flew by really quick! I'll have one more newsletter article to write after this one, but I wanted to take the time and just say how awesome the future is going to be for us, both as the Sissons, and as FBC Oakboro. I'm so excited to get to check in on y'all throughout the next season and see just how God is still moving here at FBC Oakboro. And I know He will, because being faithful results in God doing big things. Acts 13 talks about the early church laying hands on Paul and Barnabas and sending them off to the work God had called them to. I'm sure it was an emotional time for them, but God blessed them because of it through new churches and believers. When we get sent by God on June 30, and y'all get to lay hands on us, I'm certain the result will be the same. Why? Because everyone is taking a faithful leap trusting God will work in big ways as a result. Church, thanks for being faithful; I'm excited for the road ahead.

With much, much love,

Nate

Follow our youth ministry on Instagram @fboyouth

OUR RECORD OF GIVING

Budget Goals – May	26,037.84
Budget Receipts – May	20,661.00
Budget Goals – YTD	247,359.48
Budget Receipts – YTD	221,316.00
Budget Variance	- 26,043.48
<i>Special Offerings</i>	
Building Fund	1,025.00
NC Baptist Children's Homes	100.00
Gathering Place	1,080.00
Deacons	30.00
Kids' Camp	300.00
Kids' Ministry	42.00
Youth Camp	525.00
Youth Ministry	435.00
Youth Ministry: Cannonballers	80.00
Youth Bake Auction	785.00
Scholarship	900.00



First Baptist Oakboro VBS 2024

Ages 4–5th Grade

June 9–11th
5:30 Dinner
6–8:00 VBS

June 12th
Family Night
Dinner & Fun
5:30–7:30pm

Register today @

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpOLSdkkCTsnkgOZRK19iD-YKaO5m2pWwrfiYbD6v28kIV_fiSlqA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Share through Facebook, invite your neighbors, family and friends to “Start the Party” with you!



Our prayers and CONGRATULATIONS to all our Graduates:

Iris Mooney graduated from Christ Kidz Preschool, **Rachel Young** graduated from Stanly STEM Early College, **Nate Barringer** and **Cooper Hudson** both graduated from West Stanly High School, and **Valerie Smith** from Stanly Community College

Our scholarship recipients are as follows:

Lainie Michelle Barbee, daughter of Bobby & Jennifer Barbee, received the Tom & Bertha Rogers Memorial Scholarship. She plans to attend NC State University and major in Finance.

The Jeff & Sandra Chance Scholarship was awarded to **Callie Grace Burris**, daughter of Benjie and Kristy Burris. She completed the 2-year Nursing program at Stanly Community Early College and will attend Pfeiffer University to continue studying Nursing.

Thomas Alvarado Chavez was presented a First Baptist Oakboro Scholarship to continue his education at Stanly Community College. He is the son of Nancy Alvarado and plans to study Simulation/Game Development.

Receiving one of Mae Brooks Scholarships is **Mardecia (Kate) Cribb**. She is the daughter of Lainie Lane and will continue her studies in Communications at UNC-Wilmington.

Hannah Furr, daughter of Chris & Kristi Furr received the Alan Smith Memorial Scholarship. She will attend Wingate University to pursue a degree in Nursing.

Another Mae Brooks Scholarship was presented to **Daniela Brendalie Gomez**, daughter of Miriam Salazar. Her plans are to attend UNC-Charlotte or Wingate University, majoring in Exercise Science.

Kaelynn Sue Guyette received one of the Tom & Bertha Rogers Scholarships. She plans to attend Wingate University to major in Psychology. She is the daughter of Scott & Katie Guyette.

Another First Baptist Oakboro Scholarship was awarded to **Marianna Elizabeth Harrison**. She is the daughter of Meredith & John Harrison. Agriculture Business will be her major at Stanly Community College.

Daniela Lopez-Cruz, daughter of Junior Lopez, was presented a Mae Brooks Scholarship. She plans to study Animal Sciences at UNC-Charlotte.

Receiving the Amy Boger Memorial Scholarship is **Jessalyn Hope Simpson**. She is the daughter of Jennifer Flowe and will pursue a degree in Sports Management at Western Carolina University.

Ashtyn Mikah Webb was awarded a Mae Brooks Scholarship to continue her studies at the Cabarrus College of Health Sciences. She is the daughter of Meredith Honeycutt and will major in Nursing.

The Terrell & Janice Watts Scholarship was presented to **Rachel Rae Young**, daughter of Bill & Sonya Young. Having completed the Stanly Early College program, she will pursue her Nursing degree at East Carolina University.



Wallace Crawford
213 W Tenth Street
Oakboro, NC 28129
(980) 721-9993

Take a moment to greet, welcome and encourage our newest church family member. We're excited to see how and where God will use him.



HOPE Fellowship

A trip to Billy Graham Library is slated for Thursday, **June 6**, leaving the church parking lot at 9:00 a.m. After spending some time there, we'll grab lunch at their café or venture to a local restaurant. There's no age limit – if you're available, you are 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 & Honor



In memory of Vera Eudy, Mike Eudy's mother, donations were given to the Building Fund by Eddie & Linda Arrowood and First Baptist Church, Oakboro.

In memory of Lillian Lambert and Ola B. Helms, her mother and mother-in-law, and in honor of all other mothers, Jewell Parker made a donation to the Building Fund.

In memory of Joyce Little, a contribution was given by Larry & Judy Tucker to the Building Fund.

Donations were given to the Building Fund by Jewell Parker and Jim & Cheryl Cameron in memory of Michael Brewer, Jean Little's son-in-law.

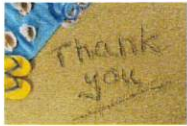
In memory of her parents, Wilson & Aline Tarlton, a contribution was made to the Building Fund by Pam Wellons.

A contribution was given to the Building Fund in honor of Peggy Carey's birthday by Jewell Parker.

In honor of Jewell Parker, Mary Nelms made a donation to the Building Fund.

In honor of Telia & Tim Smith, a contribution was made to the Youth Department by Cliff & Lynn Edwards.

In honor of Danny Poplin, Jim Cameron, and Baptist Men, Bea & Kim Goodman gave a contribution to the Building Fund.



"Thank you church family for your prayers, cards and thoughts during the passing of my mother, Vera Eudy. Sincerely," Mike Eudy

"Dear First Baptist Church of Oakboro, Thank you so much for your faithful giving to our ministry. You help sustain us as we share the gospel with marriages and families in our community and beyond. Praying for your church family. Love," Eva & Jason McLean

Oakboro July 4th Schedule of Events

Sunday, June 23, 2024

6:30 PM - Community Worship Service at Pavilion in Oakboro District Park

Friday, June 28, 2024

6:00 PM - B & K Carnival on the Midway ** \$25 Armband Night**
8:30 PM - **The Entertainers** (Union Power Stage)
11:30 PM - Celebration ends for the day

Saturday, June 29, 2024

6:00 PM - B & K Carnival on the Midway ** \$25 Armband Night**
6:00 PM - Little Miss 4th of July Pageant
8:00 PM - Talent Show sign ups at Oakboro Fire Department
8:30 PM - **Ryan Perry** (Union Power Stage)
11:30 PM - Celebration ends for the day

Monday, July 1, 2024

6:00 PM - B & K Carnival on the Midway ** \$20 Armband Night**
8:00 PM - Talent Show sign ups at Oakboro Fire Department
8:30 PM - 80's Night **Cassette Rewind** (Union Power Stage)
11:30 PM - Celebration ends for the day

Tuesday, July 2, 2024

6:00 PM - B & K Carnival on the Midway ** \$20 Armband Night**
6:00 PM - Local Talent Show
8:30 PM - **The Embers featuring Craig Woolard** (Union Power Stage)
11:30 PM - Celebration ends for the day

Wednesday, July 3, 2024

6:00 PM - B & K Carnival on the Midway ** \$20 Armband Night**
8:30 PM - **Taylor Richardson** (Union Power Stage)
11:30 PM - Celebration ends for the day

Thursday, July 4, 2024

9:00 AM - 66th Annual 4th of July Parade
11:00 AM - B & K Carnival on Midway ** Ride Tickets Only**
Opening Ceremonies
Welcome Remarks - Mayor Chris Huneycutt
Invocation
National Anthem - Pledge of Allegiance & Flag Raising
Miss Stanly County Fire Queen Pageant
BBQ Lunch @ Fire Department (Dine-in or Carry Out)
2:00 PM - Midway Closes
5:00 PM - Midway Opens **Ride Tickets Only**
8:30 PM - **Too Much Sylvia** (Union Power Stage)
10:30 PM - Raffle Drawing
11:30 PM - Fireworks (time subject to change depending on weather)
12:00 AM - Event ends for year



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- June**
- 1 Gretchen Castelloe
Zach Sisson
 - 3 Matt Hudson
 - 4 Ethan Flowers
 - 8 Heather Chaney
 - 9 Sylvia Poplin
Jason Crisco
 - 13 Lucas Chaney
 - 18 Brody Hudson
 - 24 Darla Morton
Matthew Hinson
 - 27 Cliff Edwards
Doug Hinson
Addie Obie
 - 29 Mae Brooks
 - 30 Chris Murray

- July**
- 1 Doug Burgess
Jeff Ross
 - 2 Tracy Lowder
 - 3 Jim Cameron
Bonnie Lee

Please contact the church office with any revisions that need to be made to the birthday calendar.

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
							1
2	3 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer	4 6:30 p.m. Deacons' Meeting	5 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place (please sign up) 6:30 BUSINESS MEETING 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal	6 9:00 a.m. HOPE Fellowship Leaves for Billy Graham Library & Lunch	7	8 	
9	10 8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer	11	12 5:30-7:30 p.m. VBS FAMILY NIGHT Dinner & Fun!!! 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal	13	14	15 7:30 a.m. Gideon Men's Prayer Breakfast 	
							
	17  8:30 a.m. Two or More Prayer 6:30 p.m. Gideons International Dinner Meeting in Fellowship Building	18	19 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place (please sign up) 6:30 Bible Study for ALL 7:30 Worship Choir	20 	21	22	
							
	24  6:30 p.m. July 4 th Worship Oakboro Park Pavilion	25	26 NO SERVICES OR ACTIVITIES	27	28 6:00 p.m. Rides Open \$25 Armbands 8:30 The Entertainers Union Power Stage	29 6:00 p.m. Rides Open \$25 Armbands 6:00 p.m. Little Miss Pageant 8:00 Talent Show Sign-ups at Fire Dept 8:30 Ryan Perry	
30	6:00 p.m. Rides Open \$20 Armband 8:00 Talent Show Sign-ups at Fire Dept "80's Night" 8:30 Cassette Rewind Union Power Stage	6:00 p.m. Rides Open \$20 Armbands 8:30 The Embers Union Power Stage	6:00 p.m. Rides Open \$20 Armbands 8:30 Taylor Richardson Union Power Stage	Weekly Sunday Schedule 9:00 a.m. - Sunday School (Live & Zoom) 10:00 a.m. - Worship			