

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

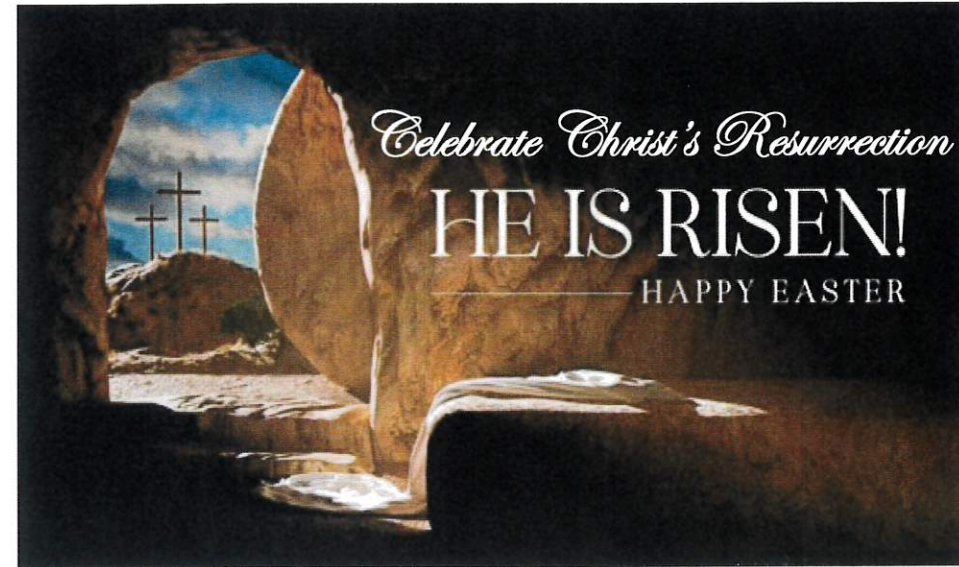


FIRST BAPTIST
OAKBORO

The Communicator

VOL. XXXVII No. 4

April 2026



Jesus said to her, "*I* am the resurrection
and the life. The *one* who believes in me,
even if *he* dies, will live. *Do you believe?*" John 11:25

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



ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



When God sets about accomplishing something significant to advance His kingdom, He's really not limited in terms of how He goes about that. He is perfectly capable of creating something entirely out of nothing. If the universe itself and all the life in it wasn't too hard for Him, a kingdom-advancing project certainly falls within His realm of possibility. He's advanced His kingdom by way of a talking donkey, so animals aren't out of the question. We really do serve a creative God.

But in spite of the variety available to Him, God's favorite route to advancing His kingdom is to work through His people—people like you and me. Now, in one sense, this seems entirely less impressive than His doing something more...spectacular...to advance His kingdom. I mean, what's using someone as unimpressive as me to do something when He could use a miracle? But in another sense, the fact that God can use broken and imperfect servants—and even people who aren't aware they are serving Him or have no intention of serving Him—to accomplish His kingdom-advancing plans is pretty spectacular. It takes a real master to achieve masterful results with imperfect tools. Well, God is in the business of doing that very thing.

Yet what does it look like when God works through His people to accomplish His purposes? In a word, it looks like faithfulness. When we are faithful to obey His commands, His work gets accomplished. It gets accomplished directly through us because when we do what He says the way He says it, His kinds of works are the natural result. It also gets accomplished indirectly by people witnessing our faithfulness and being inspired to acts of faithfulness of their own which God then uses to advance His kingdom.

In this way, our faithfulness to the path of Jesus is doubly important. In fact, sometimes, the direct impact of one person's faithfulness pales in comparison to the indirect impact. God may use their faithfulness to accomplish a little bit in terms of obvious kingdom advancement, but He will use the people who are inspired by our faithfulness to accomplish even more.

The preacher who preached the Gospel when a young Billy Graham was in attendance on the night that he gave his life to Christ may not have done all that much in terms of direct kingdom advancing himself, but the indirect impact through the faithfulness of Billy was obviously exponential by comparison.

Let me give you a more directly relevant example for the First Baptist Oakboro family. Just a few weeks ago we said goodbye to Mae Brooks. Well, that's not quite right. We said, "We'll see you soon." After a century plus of journeying through this world, she finally went to be with Jesus more directly while she waits for the day of His return with all the saints who are already gathered there.

Now, Mae's kingdom impact was obviously sizable. We all know the stories. We have lived the stories. We are part of the stories. But as compared with some, her

impact wasn't always direct. Instead, God used her tenacious, consistent faithfulness to point others toward Jesus; a lot of others toward Jesus. And the full kingdom impact of those others remains to be seen, but we are already starting to see and experience some of those returns.

Perhaps most notably, this past month we received a very, very generous donation to the building fund in her memory and honor. That gift will go a long ways toward making sure not only that we can build, but that we are able to free up resources that will need to go to that project in the short term more quickly so we can redirect them to other even more missions-focused causes sooner than we would have without this gift. This gift will not only serve to advance God's kingdom in powerful ways, but it will enable even more kingdom advancing to happen more quickly than would have been otherwise possible.

All because of Mae's faithfulness.

If that is the impact of the faithfulness of one person, imagine what all of us together could accomplish if we were similarly committed to faithfulness to God's call and command in each of our own lives and together as a body.

Imagine if each of us practiced the kind of faithfulness of one member who was walking past me on the way out after a recent service that included the celebration of new members for the second week in a row with a huge smile on his face. He stopped and shared with me that this was exactly the kind of thing he prayed for every night. He said that he prays specifically for people by name out loud. And he is seeing the answers to his prayers in the things that are happening in this church week by week.

Imagine if we were all so committed to serving as God calls us that we never had to put out a request for any kind of help. It was always there when we needed it.

Imagine if we were all committed to practicing sacrificial generosity together, giving God the opportunity to show us how He can take a little and make it abundantly more than we need so that we can bless others.

Imagine if we were all committed to inviting friends and neighbors and even family who don't know the Lord to church, not as a generic invitation, but a personal one that included our commitment to being their ambassador to get connected.

Imagine if we took the courageous step of letting some of our walls down so that we could experience a greater and deeper relational intimacy together, opening the door to more loving accountability and encouragement as we walk the path of Christ as a body.

Imagine if we were all faithful. Together. To the glory of God. What couldn't our God accomplish for His kingdom through us then? Let's commit to it together and continue rejoicing together at all He does – *Pastor Jonathan*

OUR RECORD OF GIVING

March

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Budget Goals | \$ 33,329.75 |
| Budget Receipts | 33,377.00 |
| Budget Goals – YTD | 199,978.50 |
| Budget Receipts – YTD | 193,099.70 |
| Budget Variance | - 7,868.80 |
| <i>Special Offerings</i> | |
| Building Fund | 207,532.66 |
| The Gathering Place | 955.00 |
| NC Children's Homes | 100.00 |
| Annie Armstrong North America Offering | 325.00 |
| WMU Heck Jones Offering | 200.00 |
| Scholarship | 100.00 |
| Deacons | 69.00 |
| CentriKids Camp Deposits | 125.00 |
| CentriFUGE Camp Deposits | 850.00 |
| Youth Camp: Raffle | 9,980.00 |

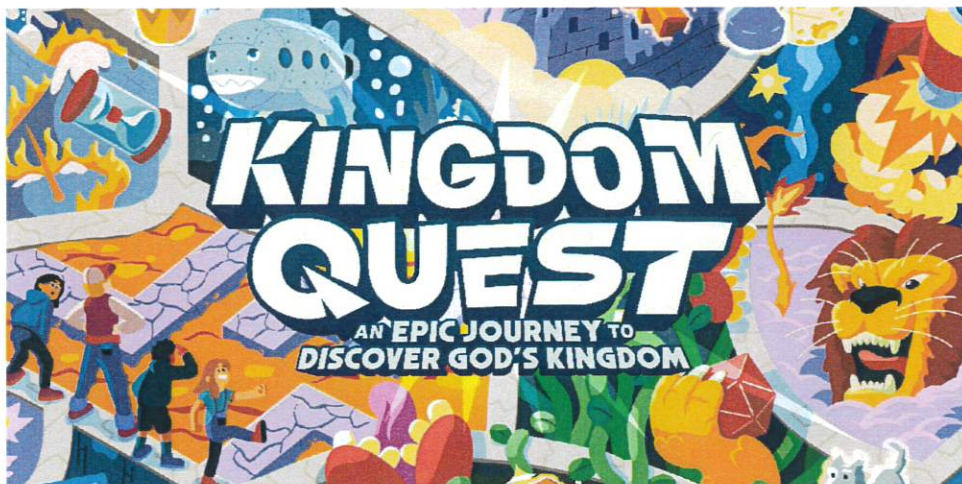


Seniors 60 and older are invited to a nutritious midday meal at your local Senior Nutrition Lunch Site operated by Stanly County Senior Services Department.

- Lunch is catered by Golden Corral–Asheboro
- Cost: Donations accepted & appreciated; not necessary
- Diners must eat at the site (no takeouts)
- Please call by 12:00 the day before to reserve your lunch

RSVP by calling:
Oakboro Senior Nutrition Lunch Site
626 N Long Street, Oakboro
(704) 485-8211

For more information, please call Joy Richardson
(704) 986-3773 (8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.)



Vacation Bible School is on the way!

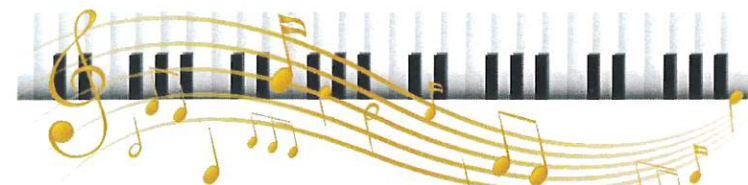
Sunday, May 31-Wednesday, June 3

Meal at 5:30 p.m.

Classes 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Wednesday is Family Fun Night

It takes a BIG team to make VBS special, and we'd love for you to be part of it. Watch for volunteer sign-ups coming soon!



The Oakboro School of Music Recital

will be

Sunday, April 26, 2026

6:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church of Oakboro

Fellowship Building

Dana Jenkins is the teacher of voice and piano, and she encourages you to come and hear these music students.



Food Roundup

Bring your donations to FBO by April 22. Items will be taken to the Association Office.



FOOD ITEMS

- Pasta
- Pasta sauce
- Mac & cheese
- Rice
- Flour
- Sugar (granulated & brown)
- Baking mixes (cake, brownie, muffin, Bisquick, pancake)
- Cooking oil & sprays (vegetable, olive, shortening, Pam, Baker's Choice)
- Cereal (cold & hot)
- Canned fruits
- Canned vegetables
- Gravy mixes
- Coffee, tea & hot cocoa
- Sauces (ketchup, BBQ, soy, Worcestershire, steak sauce, teriyaki, cheese, sweet & sour, hot sauce)
- Snack foods (sweet & savory-fruit snacks, jerky, pretzels, cheese crackers, etc.)

HOUSEHOLD & CLEANING SUPPLIES

- Laundry detergent
- Fabric softener/dryer sheets
- Trash bags (large & small)
- Household cleaners
- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Napkins
- Tissues (Kleenex)
- Paper & plastic tableware
- Zip-top bags (sandwich, snack, quart, gallon)

PERSONAL CARE

- Soap
- Toothbrushes
- Lotion
- Baby wipes

OTHER ESSENTIALS

- Batteries (AA, AAA, C, D)

There are lots of opportunities to give and serve. Please help where you can!

Spring Conference

Featuring keynotes by **Mike Sparks with Tar Heel Leadership**

- 5 pm: Keeping Yourself Spiritually Healthy to Lead
- 7:10 pm: Leading During Conflict

Early Bird Breakouts, 4 pm

- Coalition for Christ: Partnering for Community Impact
- Pastors Leading Leaders (staff & volunteers)
- How to Zombie Proof your Sunday School

Registration **FREE** for UBA pastors & church leaders

Dinner Breakouts, 6:15 pm (Free box dinner included!)

- Certificate Program: Leadership Development

- WMU Women Study: Serving Others
- Deacon Training: The Biblical Deacon

Operation Christmas Child Monthly Collection

Don't limit yourself to suggestions

APRIL

"FRESHEN THINGS UP"

EX: COMBS, BRUSH, TOOTHBRUSH, WASHCLOTH, HAIR TIES, BAND-AIDS

2-4 Years Old

5-9 Years Old

10-14 Years Old

BOY

GIRL

FBO Prices Orchestra \$20

General Admission \$15

Contact Delinda in the office or Julie Poplin (980) 621-5056

MOBILE PANTRY

GROCERY ASSISTANCE

Thursday, April 2

7:30 a.m. until

Oakboro District Park

Volunteers Wanted & Needed

Relay For Life 12th Annual Benefit Concert

April 18, 2026

6:00 p.m.

Stanly Agri-Civic Center

20032 Hewitt Rd., Albemarle, NC

(704) 986-3666

Tickets: \$23 - Orchestra
\$18 - General Admission
Group Discount for 10 or more
For tickets, scan the QR Code

(704) 985-8303 or (704) 986-3666

Bear Creek Cabinet Shop, Inc

Ty Burris



In Loving Memory

In memory of Mae Brooks, donations were given to the Building Fund by:
Marilyn Huneycutt
Eddie & Linda Arrowood
Edna Tucker & Family
Patricia Stevens
Eddie & Amanda Lowder
Leisel and Bob Owen
Archie Love Family
Larry Tucker

A donation was made by Bud & Teresa Smith to the Scholarship Fund in memory of Mae Brooks.

Contributions were made to the Building Fund in memory of Judy Tucker by:
Marilyn Huneycutt
Eddie & Linda Arrowood
Sue Greene
James & Dianne Hudson

In memory of Doyle Hatley, a donation was given to the Building Fund by Eddie & Linda Arrowood.

In memory of Mae Brooks and Judy Tucker, a gift was presented to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering by Tracy & Lisa Lowder.

In memory of Joyce Little, Doug and Ann Burgess made a donation to the Scholarship Fund.



Thank You.

*“Dear Church Family,
The outpouring of love and gifts to the building and scholarship funds have blessed us. MaMae loved the church and its members, and she loved her Lord. Every gift in her memory is an investment in eternity and the Kingdom work. May the Lord bless you for being such generous and happy givers.
Love in Christ,”
The Mae Brooks “MaMae” family*



The following joined or reunited with our church family in March. Make them feel welcome and at home with our congregation.

Teresa Curry
420 Peachtree Road
Oakboro, NC 28129
(704) 425-7826

Bobby Edwards
813 Laurel Oak Ave
Oakboro, NC 28129
(704) 207-6043

Dave, Debbie & Austin Canfield
12079 Hazard Road
Oakboro, NC 28129
(704) 918-0311

Edward & Pat Hill
8196 Hills View Road
Oakboro, NC 28129
(704) 438-0041 – E
(704) 438-0230 – P

Rachel Lewis
323 W Eleventh Street
Oakboro, NC 28129
(336) 354-7373

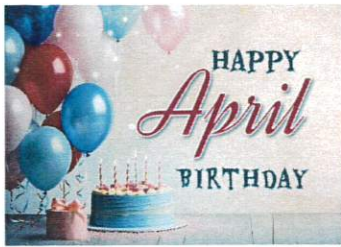


Faith & Fireworks Night

We have purchased a limited number of seats for the Kannapolis Intimidators Faith Night on **May 29**. Please sign up on the fellowship building bulletin board if you and/or your family and friends wish to go along. Tickets are \$10 each, and a concert and fireworks show are scheduled for that night.

**Scholarship Applications
for high school seniors are
available in the
fellowship building
entranceway.
Due April 15**





CONNECT
GROW
REACH



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

- April 2 Kay Smith
Emma Kimbrough
6 Rita Crisco
8 Jimmy Copple
Shelley Hines
11 Beverly Parr
12 Noah Young
14 Kathryn Morton
16 Thomas Meadors
Lillianne Crisco
Thea Ellis
20 Chip Alsobrooks
21 Cooper Smith
22 Lisa Waits
25 Jane Baucom
28 April Tucker
29 Katlyn Thompson
Mike Hughes
- May 2 Della Morton
3 Kathy Simes
4 Ellen Little

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----|---|---|--|--|---|
| Weekly Sunday Schedule 9:00 a.m. Sunday School (Live & Zoom) 10:00 a.m. Worship | | | No Services or Activities | | 7:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Mobile Food Pantry at Oakboro District Park 12:00 p.m. Greater Oakboro Business Association (GOBA) Lunch Meeting | Good Friday Service Community - Worship - Reflection April 3, 6:00pm |
| JESUS IS RISEN CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION | | 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer Group | | No Services or Activities | | 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. |
| 11:30 a.m. Deacons' Meeting & Lunch 3:00 p.m. Relay For Life Meeting 4:00 <i>Proverbs 31</i> <i>Wannabes</i> | | | 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer Group | 7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. YMCA in Fellowship Building & Youth Center | | 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Faith Alive Ministries Kickball Tournament & Day at Oakboro District Park 6:00 p.m. Relay For Life Concert: at Stanly Agri-Civic Center Karen Peck & New River & The Hoppers |
| Children's Ministry goes to Stars & Strikes | | 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer Group 6:00 p.m. Gideons Pastors' Banquet in Fellowship Building | 4:00-7:00 p.m. School of Music Rehearsal in Fellowship Building 6:30 p.m. <i>Ladies' Care Ring</i> <i>in Youth Center</i> | 2:45-5:20 p.m. School of Music Rehearsal in Fellowship Building 5:30 Gathering Place <i>(please sign up)</i> 6:30 Bible Study for ALL Ages 7:30 Worship Choir | 2:45-5:20 p.m. School of Music Rehearsal in Fellowship Building 5:30 Gathering Place <i>(please sign up)</i> 6:30 Bible Study for ALL Ages 7:30 Worship Choir | |
| 6:00 p.m. <i>Oakboro School of</i> <i>Music Voice & Piano</i> <i>Recital</i> in Fellowship Building | | 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer Group | | 5:30 Gathering Place <i>(please sign up)</i> 6:30 Bible Study for ALL Ages 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal | | |

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