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First Baptist Church

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OAKBORO NC 28129-0010

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



FIRST BAPTIST
OAKBORO

The Communicator

VOL. XXXVII No. 8

September 2026

North Carolina
MISSIONS
Offering



"... as the Father has sent Me,
I also send you."

JOHN 20:21

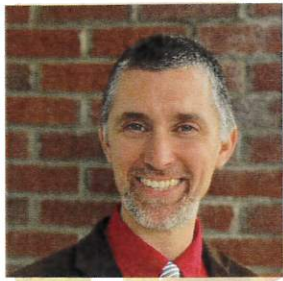


NCMISSIONSOFFERING.ORG

Prayer Guides & Envelopes are located at the
building entrances. Please prayerfully consider
giving to support our state's mission projects.

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



I have been looking forward to writing this particular newsletter article for a very long time. Even as I say that, though, there are some folks in this church who have been looking forward to its being written even longer than that. We have been planning for literally years to build a new space for worship. Like David did to prepare the way for his son, Solomon, to construct the temple, faithful members in the past gave generously and sacrificially to lay the financial groundwork for the project. Almost three years ago, we together committed to our own generous and sacrificial gifts for the project.

We had one set of plans ready to go, but Covid wiped out that entire project. We took a bit of time to regroup, reengaged a different company—a design-build firm that specializes in churches, and after a lengthy process, we have a set of plans that are stamped, approved, and ready to build. Now, after much prayer and conversation, the Long Range Planning Team is ready to present a contractor for the project to the church on whom we will soon vote, thereby at long last setting into motion the physical construction phase of this project. Lord willing and absent unexpected slow downs, we may very well be worshipping together in a new sanctuary by Homecoming of next year.

If that doesn't get you at least a little excited about what God is doing right now at First Baptist Oakboro, I'm not sure what will.

In light of that, there are three things you need to know to be prepared for what's coming.

First, there are two important business meetings coming up that you will not want to miss. I know business meetings aren't always exactly thrilling times (unless fights break out, but ours are usually pretty peaceful and unifying affairs), but these will really matter. The first of these will be our regular quarterly business meeting on Wednesday, **September 9**. At that meeting, among the other normal business we will discuss, I will plan to give as thorough an update on where we are in the process and what lies ahead of us as I can. I will make sure that you know everything I know. And we will get to celebrate a whole lot of wins together, so don't miss that.

The second meeting will be a special called business meeting the following Sunday, **September 13** immediately following the morning worship service. That morning we will officially vote on awarding the project to the contractor the Long Range Planning Team has identified as the best one for the job. We will vote on approving that team to engage with Uwharrie Bank to secure all of the capital we will need for the project. And we will answer any remaining questions about the build going forward.

The following three Sundays, during the sermon, we are going to dream and vision cast together about what God has in store for us. Then, on Sunday, **October 11**, as we have our Homecoming Celebration, we will potentially have some even more exciting things as a part of that service than usual. Stay tuned for more details on that coming soon.

Second, we need to continue standing together to support the work God is doing among us. Support it with your words as you spread the word about all that God is doing in our midst. As you go through the community, bear witness to the work of God and invite people who aren't already following Jesus and connected to a church community to join the movement.

Support it with your prayer. Prayer is the fuel that will keep the engine of God's activity running. We are not ultimately responsible for the growth we are seeing. We are not primarily responsible for the fact that our average worship attendance has grown by 20%...since Easter. God has done that. Our prayers, though, have helped. Those have been the key to unlocking His power among us. They will be the key for seeing His power continue to flow among us, unleashing even more of His kingdom in our midst.

Support it with your finances. Even as we continue to trust in Him to provide for us the resources we need to complete this project, part of His provision has and will continue to come through our faithful, generous, and sacrificial giving that goes above and beyond our normal budget giving. The giving we are collectively doing now will enable us to pay the potential mortgage each month as we watch to see how God will multiply our faithfulness to enable us to eliminate our debt to free up those resources for other kingdom-advancing work as soon as possible.

Third, we need to be ready for things to be a little different for a little while. Once construction starts, nearly the entire old sanctuary building will be inaccessible for a period of several months. How we do Sunday school is going to change for a bit. Where our kids go and when is going to change. When we can set up and tear down tables and chairs (which will only have to happen a few more months... all the deacons said, "Amen!") will change. It's going to be inconvenient & occasionally frustrating for everybody.

But we will all be in it together, and we will go through the chaos for a very clear reason: new space. And if we do this with growing God's kingdom in mind, we will come out ready to make even more disciples and advance God's kingdom even further together.

God has incredible things planned for this community of believers. His work is already being unleashed in us and among us and through us, but there is more to come. Let us keep pursuing Him together in all the ways He enables us, and rejoice together at the increase of His glory. I can't wait! ~ *Pastor Jonathan*

OUR RECORD OF GIVING

Through August 28

Budget Goals	\$ 26,663.80
Budget Receipts	29,617.00
Budget Goals – YTD	339,963.45
Budget Receipts – YTD	372,656.70
Budget Variance	+ 32,693.25
Special Offerings	
Building Fund	7,479.33
The Gathering Place	1,018.00
NC Children's Homes	100.00
Scholarship	25.00
Deacons	25.00
Youth: Fall Retreat Deposits	225.00
WMU Books	385.00
Relay For Life Fundraiser, etc.	3,922.25
Gideons Donation	100.00
Historical Fund for Ornament	15.00



In Loving Memory

In memory of **Mae Brooks**, a donation was given to the Building Fund by Marilyn Huneycutt.

Contributions were made to the Building Fund in memory of

Dennis Bucher by:

Nancy Haywood

Jean Little

Jeff & Sandra Chance

Eddie & Linda Arrowood

Jim & Cheryl Cameron

Lynn Edwards

Doug & Ann Burgess

Hope Gaston

James & Dianne Hudson

Blessed Assurance Sunday School Class

JOY Sunday School Class

First Baptist, Oakboro



In memory of **Joe Copple**, donations were given to the Building Fund by

Jeff & Sandra Chance

James & Dianne Hudson

In memory of **Sherry Hatley**, a contribution was given to the Building Fund by Brooks & Jane Barnhardt.

4

ways to give

in person
Sunday School or
Worship

by mail
PO Box 10
Oakboro NC 28129

online
fbcoakboro.org
Click "partner with FBC"

text
704-228-4013



If you would like to pledge toward the **Building Campaign**, please pick up a card in the fellowship building entranceway, complete it and drop it into the offering plate.

HOPE Fellowship Happenings



The peaches from McLeod's Farms were delicious and Big's Meats & More and Red Bone Alley restaurants did not disappoint. Treasures were seen and bought at Palmetto Peddlers, and now for the next trip.

On Thursday, **September 10**, HOPE Fellowship goes west to the mountains with a trip to Ashe County Cheese Factory and the Frescoes of West Jefferson. Watch your announcements for more information or see Deborah Tucker or Betty Huneycutt if interested. EVERYONE is welcome to go along.



Youth Highlights

Our youth began a 6-week series titled *“Walking with Jesus through the Gospel of John.”* We are praying that this study will lead them into a deeper understanding of the gospel and the fullness of Jesus Christ, who was perfect for us.

On **Saturday, September 12, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**, the youth will take part in a Mission experience at West Stanly Christian Ministries. They will serve as the hands and feet of Jesus, seeking to impact lives and make a real difference in our community.

Looking ahead, the **Youth Lock-In** is scheduled for **October 9–10** at the church.



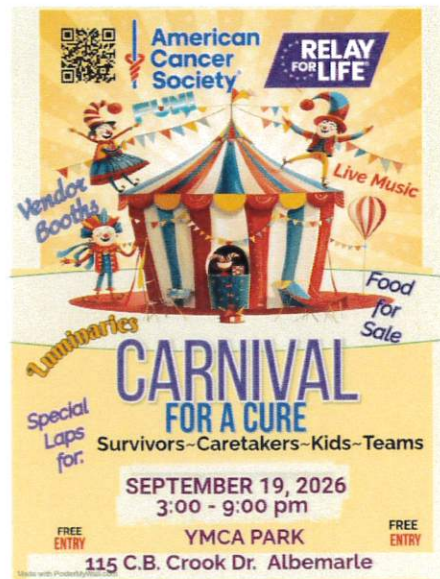
As we continue this journey together, we reflect on John 1:1: *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”* May you find peace and strength by resting in His Word.

In Christ,
Dave



Relay For Life Events

The FBO Relay For Life team encourages everyone to sign up for the team at www.relayforlife.org/stanlync. Look for First Baptist Oakboro in the list of teams, click “join the team.” Here is a QR Code if you prefer to use it.



Postcards and posters for the Relay For Life event are available at the church entrances for you to distribute **EVERYWHERE**. Help spread the word throughout Stanly County!

LOTS of luminaria are needed to line the track September 19, 2026, at the YMCA for the 2026 Relay For Life event. Forms and bags are available at the building entrances. We encourage every church member to dedicate a luminaria in honor of loved ones still with us or a special caregiver, or in memory of

loved ones lost. Feel free to take a bag and decorate it with markers, crayons, paints, pictures, etc. but be sure to put your name as well as the name of the one you are honoring. If you do not wish to decorate yours, complete the form and someone will write the names on them. The cost of each bag is \$5, which should be returned with the decorated bag or the luminaria form.

Please see Julie Poplin or Christy Morgan if you have any questions.



In honor of **Jim & Cheryl Cameron, Tracy & Lisa Lowder and Lorrie Hatley**, a contribution was given to the Building Fund by Hope Gaston.

Welcome New Grandbaby



Scott & Meredith Broadway are pleased to announce the arrival of their newest granddaughter,

Bexlee McRae Hatley. She was born August 22, weighing 7 pounds and 7 ounces, and measuring 20 inches long. Her proud parents are Koltyn & Brennan Hatley, with excited great-grandmother Marilyn Huneycutt. She joins big sister Morgan!

We need college students' addresses to be featured in the "Student of the Week" section of our Announcements. Please call the church office at (704) 485-4313 or email them to firstbaptistoakboro@gmail.com.



"Dear Pastor Waits, Thank you for the opportunity to share about the ministry of The Gideons International with you and your congregations this past Sunday. It was a privilege to be a part of your worship service and share what God is doing through this ministry.

On behalf of the Gideons International and the Stanly South Gideons, I want to thank you for your ongoing support of this outreach ministry. Pastors like you and congregations like yours make it possible for this ministry to reach around the world and make God's Word available to most every person in the free world! Please remember to pray for those who will receive the Good News because of your gifts. May they read His Word and come to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ! I wish to extend a big "thank you" to you and the congregation for the contributions that were given for the Gideons. Some of those funds are used in your own community and some provide Scriptures to the other side of the world! Your congregation's giving is tangible evidence of the support provided for mission outreach locally and beyond. May God continue to bless your congregations and you as you shine His light throughout your community.

Yours in Christ," Keith Steiner



Your Newly Elected Deacons: Jeremy Hines, Matt Hudson, Tracy Lowder, and Thomas Meadors. They will serve the FBO church family along with Jim Cameron, Kevin Floyd, Doug Hinson, Mike Hughes, Chris Murray, Nick Wadkins, and Tommy Wall.

Attention, Parents of FBO Students:

With the new church year rapidly approaching, it's time to fill out the Student Permission form. Please click on the QR Code to complete the permission form for your child(ren).



a little boo
IS ALMOST DUE!



Please join us for a baby shower
in honor of

Hunter and Shelby Floyd

OCTOBER 10TH, 2026 from 3:00-5:00 PM

First Baptist Church-Oakboro
322 N Main St | Oakboro, NC

registered at

amazon.com/shelbyfloydregistry



**FIRST BAPTIST
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PO Box 10
Oakboro, NC 28129
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- September**
- 1 Josh Morton
 - 5 Edith Todd
 - 6 Telia Smith
 - 6 Doris Hatley
 - 7 Wilson Kippes
 - 9 Renée Watkins
 - Justin Barringer
 - Tate Jenkins
 - 14 Chris Huneycutt
 - Caitlin Webb
 - 15 Ellen Meadors
 - Gale Medlin
 - Anslee Yow
 - 16 Laney Castelloe
 - 19 Pam Carrick
 - 20 Sue Greene
 - 22 Wes Tucker
 - JJ Hughes
 - 24 Catherine Thomas
 - 27 Marilyn Huneycutt
 - Ashlea Mooney
 - 28 Andy Castelloe
 - 29 Shea Morton
 - 30 Noah Waits

- October**
- 2 Hope Gaston
 - Sandra Chance
 - BJ Jenkins

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1	2 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place (please sign up) 6:30 Bible Study for All Ages 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal	3	4
5 11:30 a.m. Deacons' Meeting & Lunch with Families 3:00 p.m. Relay For Life Meeting	6 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer at Betty Huneycutt's HAPPY LABOR DAY	7 8	9 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place 6:30 BUSINESS MEETING 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal	10 HOPE Fellowship West Jefferson Trip to Cheese Factory & Frescoes	11 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. Youth Mission Day at WS Christian Ministry
12 4:00 p.m. Proverbs 31 Wannabess Grandparents DAY	13 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer Group at Betty Huneycutt's	14 15 6:30 p.m. Ladies' Care Ring in Youth Center	16 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place (please sign up) 6:30 The Sisterhood Bible Study 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal	17 18 19 3:00-9:30 p.m. Relay For Life @ YMCA Park in Albemarle	20 21 22 23 24 25 26
20 21 22 23 24 25 26	20 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer Group at Betty Huneycutt's	21 Autumn is here...	22 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place (please sign up) 6:30 Bible Study for All Ages 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal	23 24 25 26	24 25 26
27 28 29 30	27 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer Group at Betty Huneycutt's	28 29 30	29 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place (please sign up) 6:30 Bible Study for All Ages 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal	30 Weekly Sunday Services 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	



**UPCOMING EVENTS:
OCTOBER 9 & 10TH**



October 11

**HOME
COMING**

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