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First Baptist Church
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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

# FIRST BAPTIST OAKBORO

## The Communicator

VOL. XXXVII No. 10 November 2026




**Prayer guides and envelopes are on the tables at building entrances.**

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At long last the moment is almost here. What moment? The moment when all the construction begins. As I have been announcing for the last couple of weeks, we have an official if still somewhat tentative start date for the construction process of Monday, November 16. If our faithful postal service has delivered this in a timely manner, that should be about two weeks after you read this. (You read all of these, right?!?)

If you aren't fully versed in how we are going to handle all of the chaos, go back and read my newsletter article from last month. You can find that on our website. Click the "Newsletter" tab at the top of the page, and then select "October." I laid out the plan for the next few months in as much detail there as I could.

What I want to talk about for just a minute with you this month is how we are going to get through all of this chaos. The short answer is with patience. A lot of patience.

Of course, if you've been journeying with me here at First Baptist for very long, you know I'm not usually much for leaving things at just the short answer, so let's explore this just a little bit further.

I think there are four things we are going to need as a body if we want to get through the season we are about to finally and officially enter into with our sanity—not to mention our community—intact.

The first thing is indeed patience. The kind of godly patience we need here is a Spirit-inspired willingness to operate on somebody else's schedule rather than our own. If we try to put our own plans and agenda first during this process, we are going to set ourselves up for a lot of frustration and heartache, not to mention conflict. If you've ever been a part of building or renovating a building, you are probably already well acquainted with this fact. While we can and should pray for a smooth process (more on that in a moment), the likelihood that we experience some unexpected bumps along the way that make things take longer than we'd prefer is high.

Here are two things to know that will help us sail through those times should they come. First, none of these things that surprise us will be surprises to our God. Not a single one. He's already accounted for all of them, and has a plan already in place to guide us through them. When and as we trust in Him and respond to them from out of His character, we will get through them and discover the even better plans He has for us on the other side than we had for ourselves. Second, and closely related to this, just because these things may prevent us from moving forward on our timetable doesn't mean our timetable was the best one. All of this is unfolding right in the time God intended for us. Apparent setbacks will simply be His way of keeping things on His right track. Let's plan now to praise Him for the interruptions to what we expect, and to respond with patient faithfulness as we see what He has planned next.

Speaking of that kind of looking forward, the second thing we are going to need to get through this process successfully is vision. God is taking this church somewhere exciting. As we have talked about before, we have grown almost 60% in the last four years alone. That doesn't happen unless God is up to something big. He has plans for us to have a profound impact on the Oakboro community and beyond as a church. He has plans for us to make more disciples and transform more lives with the Gospel than ever before. This building is a part of those plans. He is going to use it to do even more of what He has already been doing. The curiosity traffic alone that we will likely see because of the building process will multiply our opportunities for impact as a church.

What we are going to go through we are going to go through so that God can through us proclaim His Gospel to more people, make more disciples, and grow His kingdom. That's the why. If we keep that fact as our primary point of reference, subordinating everything else to that, we will always be able to keep moving forward joyfully and faithfully, weathering with grace and poise whatever challenges pop up along the way.

The third thing we need is something we have talked about many times before: Prayer. As much as we have been covering this process in prayer up to this point, we can't stop now. Prayer is the fuel that will keep our engine running. It is the secret that will unleash all the resources of our limitless God to aid us in the journey. It will be the thing that sees obstacles removed, rough places made smooth, and valleys filled so that we can walk forward toward God's kingdom on a broad boulevard of grace. If you have been praying faithfully over this process, don't stop now. Instead, double down on prayer. As we seek Him together, His power will be unleashed among us in ways that will leave our heads spinning with delight at what He accomplishes in, through, and for us along the way.

The last thing we are going to need is a renewed commitment to our mission. That's our why; the reason we are doing what we are doing. God made us to be a people with whom anyone can connect to grow in Christ and reach out for His kingdom. This new building and the renovations we are doing in the old building are going to facilitate our doing just that in powerful ways. At the end of all of this work, we are going to be making God's kingdom even bigger than before. But we don't have to wait for then to do that work. We can be growing God's kingdom through this process. When things get frustrating and we are feeling cramped and inconvenienced and we are tired of having to do things differently, we can remember that God made us to grow His kingdom, and that this is all helping us toward that end.

Things are going to be challenging in the days ahead. But our God is good and He is taking us somewhere exciting. So we will press forward with gratitude and grace, with joy and wonder, so that we can together see just all that He has in store for us and for the world around us through us. I can't wait!

*Pastor Jonathan*

## OUR RECORD OF GIVING

| | |
|---|---|
| **Budget Goals** | **28,509.52** |
| **Budget Receipts** | **28,068.00** |
| **Budget Goals – YTD** | **57,019.04** |
| **Budget Receipts – YTD** | **55,121.00** |
| **Budget Variance** | **-1,898.04** |
| ***Special Offerings*** | |
| **Building Fund** | **18,887.16** |
| **The Gathering Place** | **1,487.00** |
| **NC Children's Homes** | **100.00** |
| **Scholarship** | **25.00** |
| **Deacons** | **60.00** |
| **Youth: Fall Retreat Deposits** | **1,650.00** |
| **Children's Ministry Donation** | **25.00** |
| **NC Missions Offering** | **40.00** |
| **Pastor Appreciation** | **1,660.00** |
| **MOM Donation** | **100.00** |
| **Miscellaneous (online giving fees)** | **65.65** |
| **Shoebox Shipping** | **110.00** |
| **WMU Book** | **15.00** |
| **NC Missions Offering** | **40.00** |



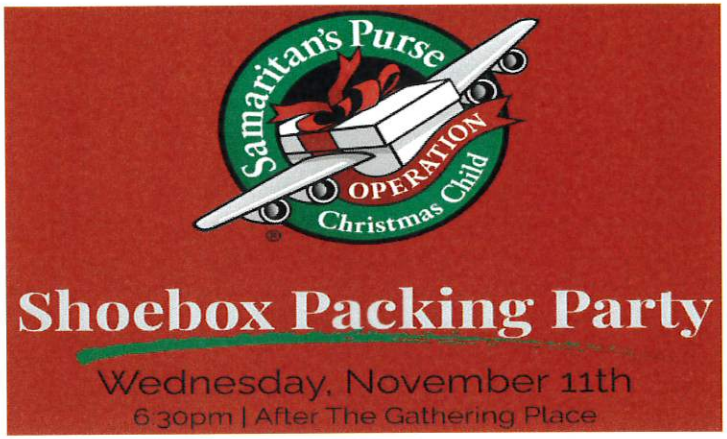




## Want to Help Process Shoeboxes?

**December 12 ~ 6:00-10:00 p.m.**
**Charlotte Processing Center**

This is such a meaningful event to participate in. Those who've participated in the past want to go back. If you haven't been, make this the year you join FBO. Space is limited as we only have 50 spots to fill. Please sign up on the fellowship building bulletin board to go with FBO group. You won't want to miss it!







## HOPE Fellowship Happenings

**Southern Supreme Fruitcakes and More** will be the next destination on Thursday, ***November 5***. We will leave at 8:30 a.m., have a group tour, shop, and then have lunch at Classic Family Restaurant. A sign-up sheet is located on the fellowship building bulletin board for your convenience and to get a headcount for the tour & lunch.

The annual Myrtle Beach Christmas show trip is planned for ***November 15-18***, leaving FBO at 1:45 p.m. If you signed up to go, please see Betty Huneycutt to remit payment. If you haven't picked up or received an itinerary, also see her or call the church office.



## In Loving Memory

*In loving memory of **Mae Brooks**, a donation was given to the Building Fund by Roy W. Brooks, Jr.*

*In memory of **Bea Goodman's birthday**, Kim Goodman made a donation to the Building Fund.*

*A contribution was made by Kevin & Erica Floyd in memory of **Harold & Louise Floyd**.*

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## In Honor

*In honor of **Charles and Beverly Story**, a donation was given to the Building Fund by Kevin & Erica Floyd.*

*A contribution was made to the Building Fund in honor of **Aubrey Mae Masiello** by Mike & JJ Hughes.*

*In honor of **Pastor Jonathan's birthday**, Kim Goodman gave a donation to the Building Fund.*

*In honor of **Conrad James Smith**, Mike & JJ Hughes made a donation to the Building Fund.*

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## Volunteers Are Needed

Please join us at Oakboro District Park as we distribute food to the area's needy on Thursday, ***November 5***, beginning at 7:30 a.m. Please see Chip Alsobrooks for more information on this.

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We FOUND your LOST items. Please look at them in the fellowship building entrance and take them home if they belong to you.









FBCO Women's Ministry

## Pancakes and PAINTING



Mark Your Calendars Girls!

Saturday, November 7th

9:00 am • $3.00 per person

Fun! • Fellowship! • Food!

**Please sign up to ensure adequate supplies and pancakes are available.**




Please introduce yourselves to the newest members of our church family and make them feel at home!

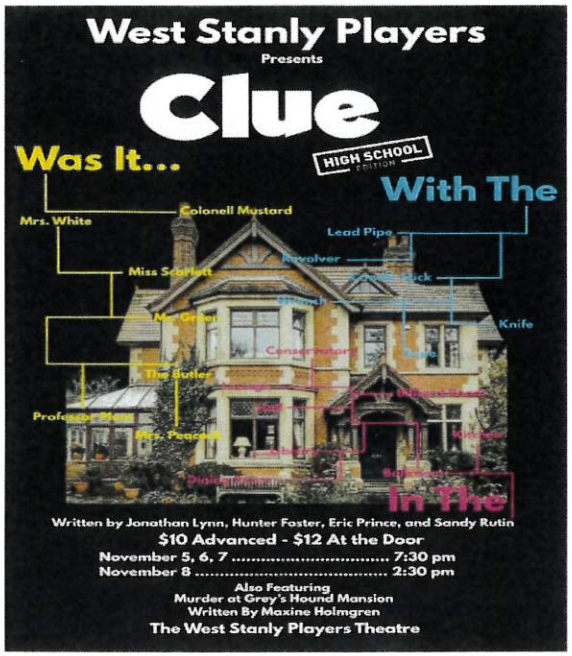
**Chris & Wendy Canupp**
**Emory**
16695 Silver Road
Oakboro, NC 28129
(704) 724-9355 – Chris
(980) 215-4617 – Wendy

**Curtis & Meredith Austin**
**Paisley**
746 Hathcock Glen Drive
Oakboro, NC 28129
(704) 806-2909 – Curtis
(704) 322-6508 – Meredith

**Matthew & Stephanie Treece**
**Whitley, Hollis, Pierson**
21023 Huneycutt Mill Road
Albemarle, NC 28001
(704) 991-5522 - Matthew
(704) 984-3273 - Stephanie

**Tony & Courtney Capotosta**
**Mia, Leo**
214 E Ninth Street ~ PO Box 275
Oakboro, NC 28129
(704) 418-0140 – Tony
(704) 920-0456 - Courtney

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**Get your tickets today from Wes or April Tucker.**




This month we welcomed two little ones into our "patch."



*Aubrey Mae Masiello*
was born October 13, weighing 7 pounds and 11 ounces, healthy and full of hair. Johnny & Meagan are her parents, and her proud big sister is Evelynn. Congratulations to the entire family!



On October 21, Andrew and Elizabeth Smith welcomed
*Conrad James Smith.*
He weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces and measured 21 inches long. Big brother Henry is so excited to have the new little one around. His grandmother is Mandy Smith, with great-grandparents, Doug & Ann Burgess and Mary Wilkins.




**You are invited – and bring others with you – to come and enjoy some of the best BBQ and side dishes around. If you'd like, please bring tea, soft drinks and/or desserts to share.**

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## Church-Wide Thanksgiving Dinner

Invite others, come and gather with your church family on Sunday, ***November 22***, at 5:00 p.m. to count your blessings and share a meal. The church will purchase hams and turkeys, and everyone is asked to bring side dishes, desserts and/or tea, water or soft drinks to complete the menu.




**November**

1 Bud Smith
Michael Thompson
3 Cooper Hudson
Gray Crisco
4 Shannon Baucom
Myra Beatty
6 Cindy Thompson
8 Donna Coble
9 Sheila Rich
10 Lisa Lowder
Riley Wadkins
11 Deborah Tucker
Dave Canfield
12 Levi Hines
13 Bug Kippes
Rachel Lewis
George Gibson
15 Starla Thompson
18 Andy Beatty
19 Denise Ross
David Yow
25 Lucas Mullis
26 Angel Copple
27 Alyssa Smith
28 Steven Davenport
29 Allison Toepperwein-Eury
30 Ed Hill

**December**

1 Butch Poplin
3 Kristen Beatty

Please call or email the office with any changes to the birthday calendar.

CONNECT GROW REACH

# November

FIRST BAPTIST OAKBORO
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| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1   | 2 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer at Betty Huneycutt's 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting for All in Youth Center | 3 7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. YMCA in the Fellowship Building & Youth Center   | 4 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place *(please sign up)* 6:30 Bible Study for All Ages 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal | 5 7:00 a.m. Mobile Food Pantry at Oakboro Dstrict Park 9:00 HOPE Fellowship Trip to Southern Supreme Fruitcakes & More, then lunch at Classic Family Restaurant | 6 Clue By WS Players Nov. 5, 6 &-7 at 7:30 p.m. | 7 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast in the Youth Center 9:00 a.m. Pancakes & Painting in the Fellowship Building |
| 8 2:30 p.m. Clue by WS Players 4:00 p.m. *Proverbs 31 Wannabess in the Youth Center* Handbell Choir Rehearsal | 9 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer at Betty Huneycutt's 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting for All in Youth Center | 10 6:30 p.m. Deacons' Meeting *Ladies' Care Ring in Youth Center* Note: Change of Date | 11 7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. YMCA at FBCO 5:30 The Gathering Place *(please sign up)* 6:30 OCC Shoebox Packing Party The Sisterhood 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal | 12 | 13 4:00 p.m. Youth Leave for Caswell November 13-15 | 14 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.  5:30 p.m. Church-wide BBQ cooked by the Men |
| 15 4:00 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal Youth Return from Caswell | 16 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer Group in Fellowship Building 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting for All in Youth Center | 17 | 18 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place *(please sign up)* 6:30 Bible Study Kids Thanksgiving Party 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal | 19 OCSS Cross Country Banquet in the Fellowship Building | 20  | 21 |
| 22 4:00 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal 5:00 Church-wide Thanksgiving Dinner in Fellowship Building | 23 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer Group at Betty Huneycutt's 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting for All in Youth Center | 24 | 25 7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. YMCA in the Fellowship Biuilding & Youth Center | 26   | 27 | 28 |
| 29 4:00 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal | 30 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer at Betty Huneycutt's 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting for All in Youth Center | | | | | |

Myrtle Beach Christmas Show Trip: November 15-18

**Weekly Sunday Services**
**9:00 a.m. Sunday School**
**10:00 a.m. Worship Service**