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First Baptist Church
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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST BAPTIST OAKBORO

The Communicator

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1916-2026

CELEBRATE HOMECOMING

October 11, 2026

110 Years

in the Lord's Service

PO Box 10
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I generally aim for this space to be inspirational. After all, as a pastor, inspiring my faithful fellow church members is a big part of my job. This time, though, I'm going to do something just a bit different. I'm going to focus on being practical.

In the next few weeks and at long last, we are going to begin construction on our building project. To say this has been a long time coming is an understatement. I've been in ministry now for 18 years. This process started when I was still just getting my feet wet. This church body has been waiting for years to see this project come to completion. It isn't going to look the same as we had originally planned, but God has had a plan throughout this process, and His plans are always better than ours. His timing is always better than ours.

All of that is worth celebrating, and we will be doing that this coming month as we officially break ground on Homecoming Sunday, ***October 11***. That is going to be a special day that you will not want to miss.

But when we do, and when the construction phase of this project actually gets started, we are going to lose access to just nearly all of the old sanctuary building. Our hope (and prayer!) right now is that we will be able to maintain access to the sanctuary throughout the renovation. In our conversations with representatives from Stokes Construction, they seemed confident that won't be an issue for us. They have a good relationship with the County's Inspections Department. Make that a point of prayer just in case.

What that is all going to mean is that we are going to have to do some things differently than we are accustomed to doing them. To put it mildly: this will be an inconvenient process. And it is going to feel like it lasts longer than we will be wishing it did. But we do have a plan for navigating our way through it.

For Sunday mornings, we are going to merge all of our adult Sunday school classes into one large group that will meet in the Fellowship Building. We will still have coffee available, and we might look to have some other treats here and there along the way as well. That is going to be a time of fellowship and learning and growing together. I will be communicating with our adult Sunday school teachers soon, and we will work out a rotation that works for all of them. That means you are going to get to hear from some different teachers with different teaching styles than you usually do which is always a good thing.

This will be a great time to invite people to Sunday school who aren't already connected with it because larger groups offer less pressure and stress to new people than small ones do. You can hide in a large group in ways that are impossible in a small group meeting in a small room.

While that big gathering is happening, the youth Sunday school class will still be meeting in the Youth Building, but in the front area outside of Pastor Dave's office. Meanwhile, we will combine our kids' groups into one larger group that will meet in the larger room of the Youth Building. That just leaves the nursery. The plan for that right now is that a combination of Delinda's, Wes's, and especially my office will serve that purpose for us. I've already begun the process of packing up books to move out bookshelves and clear out my desk to make space for gliders, toys, pack-and-plays, and playmats. When it comes time for children's church, they will all head over to the Youth Building as one big group. We'll play with ways to maximize the effectiveness of that time in that space once we experience it a couple of times.

On Wednesday nights, the adults will meet for Bible study just like we have been in the old sanctuary. The difference will be that we will have to walk all the way around the building to go in the front door in order to get there, and there won't be any restroom access once we are inside. We will be limited to the sanctuary and only the sanctuary. The youth will meet like they normally do in the Youth Building. The kids' groups will stay in the Fellowship Building. That will mean we will be cleaning up from dinner a little bit earlier than usual so their teachers have the chance to make the space ready for what they have planned that night. Be ready to help clear tables and move tables and chairs if necessary for them when you finish eating.

As for things like the Sunday school and counting office, that will relocate to Delinda's office and share space with the nursery folks. Children's choir rehearsals after services on Sunday will be able to meet in the old sanctuary (with the caveat of no bathroom access). Wednesday evening children's choir rehearsals will be able to happen in the old sanctuary as well, but we'll have to build in some travel time for them. And, with the fencing going up as I watch writing this, the kids will soon have access to their new, secure play yard across Fourth Street from the Fellowship Building. We will need dedicated helpers to walk them over there (especially once it gets dark before dinner is finished!), and to watch over them while they play.

The choir rehearsal and warmup room on Sunday mornings is still an open question, but Wes and I are actively thinking about solutions for that.

Other than that, this should all be a piece of cake!

Truly, though, yes, this is going to be a lot. It is going to be hard and frustrating at times. It will most definitely be inconvenient. But we are doing it for a reason. We are doing it because God has brought us to this place of expansion and growth, and as we keep following His lead with the same spirit that has brought us this far, He is not going to slow down in advancing His kingdom through us.

So, keep doing what you are already doing. Keep covering all of this in prayer. Keep welcoming new people warmly. Keep inviting new guests to come see what God is up to here. Keep loving one another and making disciples as you go. Keep being faithful to follow His lead, and together we will keep on seeing His kingdom expand.

Pastor Jonathan

OUR RECORD OF GIVING

Budget Goals	**28,509.52**
Budget Receipts	**27,053.00**
Budget Goals – YTD	**28,509.52**
Budget Receipts – YTD	**27,053.00**
Budget Variance	**-1,456.52**
Special Offerings	
Building Fund	**16,564.33**
The Gathering Place	**1,400**
NC Children's Homes	**100.00**
Scholarship	**25.00**
Deacons	**4.00**
Youth: Fall Retreat Deposits	**250.00**
Children's Ministry Donation	**25.00**
NC Missions Offering	**375.00**





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

HOPE Fellowship's trip to the mountains with stops at Ashe County Cheese Factory and one of the West Jefferson churches with the beautiful frescoes was another great outing.

They're going to stay local with breakfast at Sunrise Grill in Locust on ***October 15*** at 9:00 a.m. If you're in the area and available, then you're invited to come. Tables will be reserved, so please sign up by October 7, so we can have an accurate headcount.

A return trip to Narroway Theatre is scheduled for ***October 24*** to see **The Gospel According to Tennessee**. If you haven't already talked to Betty Huneycutt, please do so if you would like to go, as tickets are selling fast.

The annual Myrtle Beach Christmas show trip is planned for ***November 15-18***. Please pick up the information from the glass table in the fellowship building entrance, call the church office or see Betty Huneycutt if you're interested, so we can ensure that enough rooms are on hold.



In Loving Memory

*In memory of **Jim Davis**, donations were given to the Building Fund by:*
JOY Sunday School Class
Doug & Ann Burgess
Lynn Edwards
Eddie & Linda Arrowood
Deborah Tucker
First Baptist, Oakboro

*Tracy & Lisa Lowder made a contribution to the Building Fund in memory of **Dennis Bucher** and **Joe Copple**.*

*A donation was made to the Building Fund in memory of **Sherry Hatley** by Deborah Tucker.*



*In honor of **Barbara Carpenter**, a donation was made to the Building Fund by Gerald & Bonnie Lee.*

*A contribution was given to the HOPE Fellowship by Kim Goodman in honor of **Doris Hatley's birthday**.*

*In honor of **Renée Watkins's birthday**, a contribution to the Building Fund was made by Kim Goodman.*

*The Blessed Assurance Sunday School class gave a donation to the Building Fund in honor of **Hope Gaston**.*

"Dear Church Family, thank you for the cards, calls, visits, meal, and prayers following Jim's passing. Every expression of kindness and sympathy was deeply appreciated. We are truly blessed to be part of such a caring church family.
Love" The Family of Jim Davis





WE NEED YOU!!!!

Be sure to sign up on the sheet in the fellowship building to decorate your vehicle and remember to bring in candy to make treat bags.



Attention, Parents of FBO Students:

It's time to fill out the Student Permission form. Please scan the QR Code to complete the permission form for your child(ren).

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.



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



CONNECT GROW REACH

(Updated)

Hello October

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

October
2 Hope Gaston
Sandra Chance
BJ Jenkins
Amy Yow
7 Scott Broadaway
Ann Eudy
9 Summer Mauney
12 Gavin Hudson
Marisa Sisson
14 Hayden Hagadorn
Riley Hagadorn
15 Linda Arrowood
Jonathan Waits
Arabella Smith
Rhonda Whitley
16 Graham Tucker
Larry Burgess
17 Cheryl Cameron
18 Gerald Lee
19 Matthew Thompson
Will Hyatt
21 Lorrie Hatley
22 Wiley Little
25 Missy Wadkins
Angelina Smith
Ed Simes
26 Terrell Watts
28 Eddie Arrowood
30 Cortney Davenport

November
1 Bud Smith
Michael Thompson
3 Cooper Hudson
Gray Crisco

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
Weekly Sunday Services **9:00 a.m. Sunday School** **10:00 a.m. Worship Service**				1	2	8:00 a.m. 3 Men's Breakfast & Work Around the Church 1:00 p.m. Baby Shower in honor of Leah & Will Hyatt and Andrew & Elizabeth Smith
4	5 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer at Betty Huneycutt's 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting for All in Youth Center	6 6:30 p.m. Deacons' Meeting	7 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place *(please sign up)* 6:30 Bible Study for All Ages 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal	8	9	8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 10 3:00-5:00 p.m. Baby Shower in honor of Shelby & Hunter Floyd
9:00 a.m. HOMECOMING 11 1:30 Covered Dish Lunch 4:00 p.m. *Proverbs 31 Wannabess*	7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. 12 YMCA at FBO 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer at Betty Huneycutt's 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting for All in Youth Center Columbus Day	13	14 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place *(please sign up)* 6:30 The Sisterhood Bible Study 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal	15 9:00 a.m. HOPE Fellowship Trip to Locust at SUNRISE GRILL	16	6:00-9:00 p.m. 17 YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT FACING THE GIANTS
Join Us! FBO KIDS FALL FAMILY MEET-UP PIZZA · PUMPKINS · FELLOWSHIP OCTOBER 18TH PIZZA + TRIP TO DEER RUN FARM	19 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer Group at Betty Huneycutt's 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting for All in Youth Center	20 6:30 p.m. *Ladies' Care Ring in Youth Center*	21 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place *(please sign up)* 6:30 Bible Study for All Ages 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal	22	23	24 3:00 p.m. HOPE Fellowship to Narroway Theatre in Ft. Mill, SC *The Gospel According to Tennessee*
Oakboro Community TRUNK or TREAT Candy! Food Trucks! Bring your Treat Bag! DATE 25 OCT · TIME 4:30PM UNTIL 6:30PM · LOCATION OAKBORO FAIRGROUNDS	26 9:00 a.m. Two or More Prayer Group at Betty Huneycutt's 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting for All in Youth Center	27	28 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Place *(please sign up)* 6:30 Bible Study for All Ages 7:30 Worship Choir Rehearsal	29	30	31