

First Family News

October 2021- December 2021

Volume 9, Issue 5
October/December 2021



From the Pastor's Desk

Like I said on my first Sunday with you as Interim Pastor, I am humbled and honored to be asked to serve in this position at this critical time in the life of our church. Part of my job is to help you get ready for our new pastor and to aid in a smooth transition. In light of that, let me encourage you to do these three things:

1. Be Prayerful

A lot can go wrong as the search for a new pastor moves forward. We need God to reveal to us what should transpire all along the way. From the selection of the committee to the approval of our new pastor, we need God to reveal His will to us, and prayer- more than anything else- makes that possible... so be prayerful.

2. Be Patient

This process will take some time. We don't want to hurry the process and get ahead of the Holy Spirit. It takes time to get resumes, to go through them and pick possible candidates, to meet with them and hear them preach, and settle all the details that must be dealt with...so be patient.

3. Be Prepared

Be prepared to accept some changes. Our new pastor needs to be able to be himself, and lead the church in the way that best utilizes *his* spiritual gifts. Let's not try to pour him into our mold, but rather let's be flexible and let God mold him into the likeness of Christ not the likeness of Charlie Carter...be prepared to change.

If we do these three things, we will be more likely to find the man God has for us and to have a smooth transition for him and for us.

Blessings,

Don



Sunday, December 5, 2021
Presented by the
After School Music Club- 6:00 P.M.



Sunday, December 12, 2021
Presented by
The Celebration Choir
11:00 A.M.



Join us Sunday, December 19th for “A Night of Christmas Music”

Mark Your Calendars Now!!!



Greetings! I'd like to first provide everyone a quick update of our Sunday morning

Bible Study (Sunday School). Since we have all returned to worship on Sundays following the pandemic shutdown, we have seen a steady increase in our members returning to Sunday School. While I typically don't use attendance numbers as the primary method to measure the growth and success of our Bible study ministry, it does give us a snapshot on one of the ways God is working in our ministry. We shouldn't immediately discount the numbers by saying "numbers aren't everything" Yes, numbers aren't everything, but they are metrics that represent real people and real changed lives. Sunday School effectiveness must also be measured by the spiritual growth of members. One important aspect in defining achievement is having metrics by which one can even engage the question, "What does a successful Bible study ministry look like? The Bible provides a helpful symbolic definition of success; Jesus says in John 15 "abide in me" and "whoever abides in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit." These verses provide us with our metrics for success: abiding in Christ and bearing much fruit. Bearing fruit is a helpful symbolic idea of success. Rick Warren once said, living things grow, growing things mature, and maturing things reproduce. Success in ministry must reproduce something— successful ministries bear fruit. And because God is working in our Bible study ministry, that's what we're experiencing. Not a Sunday morning goes by where I don't see visitors in our classes. Thank you to everyone for making these visitors feel welcome!



Our Sunday evening Discipleship classes are going very well. I've heard many positive comments from class members and it's a blessing to see God making disciples in our church and creating a disciple making culture. As we go forward into 2022, we will be offering more discipleship classes so I ask you to pray on how you can be a part of this ministry, whether as a facilitator or a participant. Currently we have 50-60 participants on Sunday evenings.

And finally, I want to give an update on our participation in the Interchurch Fellowship ministry. The ICF is made up of about 25 churches in the Southport Oak Island area and our church participates by giving monies to support the ministries of the group. Last month we were able to provide shelter for many homeless families in our community as well as serving 370 families and 918 individuals at the food pantry. Please continue to pray for all of our ministries as God continues to work through us to grow our church and better serve Him. As I have learned in Experiencing God, He is ALWAYS at work...we just have to join Him.

In Christ, Jeffery Stutts

island youth

REACHING FOR HIGHER GROUND
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF OAK ISLAND

October

10/10 5:30p Sunday Supper
6:00p Bible Study
10/13 6:00p Church
Supper
7:00p Bible Study
10/17 5:30p Sunday Supper
6:00p Bible Study
10/20 6:00p Church
Supper
7:00p Bible Study
10/24 5:30p Sunday Supper
6:00p Bible Study
10/27 6:00p Church
Supper
7:00p Bible Study
**Pack Halloween
Party-In-a-Box**
10/31 12:30p Deliver
Halloween to Good
Shepherd & Lunch

November

11/3 6:00p Church Supper
7:00p Bible Study
11/7 5:30p Sunday Supper
6:00p Bible Study
11/10 6:00p Church
Supper
7:00p Bible Study
11/14 5:30p Sunday Supper
6:00p Bible Study
11/17 6:00p Church Supper
7:00p Bible Study
11/21 5:30p Sunday Supper
6:00p Bible Study
11/28 2:00p Planet Fun
Bowling

December

12/1 6:00p Church Supper
7:00p Bible Study
12/5 5:30p Sunday Supper
6:00p Bible Study
12/8 6:00p Church Supper
7:00p Bible Study
12/12 5:30p Sunday Supper
6:00p Bible Study
12/15 6:00p Church Supper
7:00p Bible Study
12/17 7:00p **Christmas
Party**
12/20 6:00p Church
Supper
7:00p Bible Study

Thank you for your continued prayers for our Youth Ministry!

-Lauren

www.fbcoi.org/youth-ministry / 910-368-5800 / laurenmccoyoki@gmail.com

It's a great time to be a child of God at First Baptist Church of Oak Island, amen?

Our children are back in the groove and working diligently to write God's Word on their hearts. In Children's Church, they are wrapping up a study on the Miracles of Jesus and will begin a study that teaches about the coming of Christ and the gift He is. Thank you to all those who volunteer during the worship hour and teach these lessons!



On Sunday evenings, TeamKID is a time we gather and learn how to be "All In" with God. We hear Bible passages that show us examples of how others have served God and connected with his people, hear about modern day examples of missionaries doing the same things, then learn about how we can serve God and love His people ourselves.

On Wednesday evenings, during Children's Bible Study, we're diving into the Gospel Project and learning how everything in the Bible points to Jesus and speaks of God's great love for us. During this time, we are also gaining skills that help us navigate the Bible like learning the Books of the Bible and the major and minor divisions. We are also working on memorizing scriptures so we carry God's Word with us always.

We had a wonderful time together at our Serve in September event, practicing being Acts 1:8 Christians. We packed pencil pouches full of school supplies for friends at the Baptist Children's Home, tied fleece blankets for disaster victims, and created jump ropes for Operation Christmas Child boxes. We hope the congregation will add them to boxes the assemble. Thank you to the GA leaders for partnering with me as leaders of this event.

Looking ahead, our annual Trunks of Treat outreach is October 31 from 6-7:00. This year's event will continue to be a drive through. Monetary donations to purchase candy and giveaways is appreciated. Attendees will receive a bracelet making kit with a tract that tells the Gospel story in addition to candy and treats. If you'd like to help stuff candy bags, make plans to join Beth Key on October 29 at 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall. If you'd like to help distribute bags during the drive thru, please let Beth Key or Jeff Stutts know. Thank you to the Evangelism Committee for co-sponsoring this outreach event.

On November 5 at 6:00, the children will gather for a fun evening of pizza, games, and mission projects. Part of our fun will include making a treasure to add to the WMU Thanksgiving boxes and creating a way to help the congregation remember their Annie Armstrong offerings. Thank you to the WMU for allowing us to be a part of those projects.

In December, we are looking forward to worshipping with our congregation in all the ways we celebrate Jesus' birth. We will be taking a break from Children's Church in order to be present at each of those services.

As always, thank you for your continued prayers and support of the ministry programs that help our youngest believers grow like Christ in Luke 2:52- in wisdom, in stature, and in favor with God and man. Your prayers are a treasure!

In His love,

Beth Key

Baptist Men



The Lord has called me back to the Baptist Men's/ Brotherhood Director position. I will be relying on His help and on the men's help as I did before. Please be ready and willing to respond when He calls you to help.

We are continuing the Handyman Ministry and will continue Disaster Recovery as needs arise.

I also plan to do some Bible Studies to help us grow in Christ.

Please pray about joining in our Men's Prayer Team. We meet the fourth Thursday of each month to pray for our church, leaders, and other concerns we may have. Prayer is a very important part of a healthy church.

I hope to schedule a meeting for planning soon. Watch for emails and announcements. If I don't have your email address, please give it to me so you can keep informed on projects, meetings, etc. I sent out an email Sept 15th about ramp repair, if you did not receive this email, then I don't have a current email address for you.

In Christ's service

Ken Palmeter



The Evangelism Committee is off to a great start. We have an enthusiastic team who is ready to work during this upcoming church year. As we look ahead for the next few months, we are sponsoring the annual Trunks of Treats on October 31st from 6:00 until 7:00. This will be a drive-thru style much like last year due to covid precautions. We still expect a great turnout and look forward to sharing the love of Jesus with the

families that participate. If you would like to help stuff treat bags, please meet in the fellowship hall on Friday, October 29th at 10:30 am. Also, Beth Key is collecting monetary donations to help with the purchase of candy. In the month of November, we will be distributing Thanksgiving meals to local families in need. More information to follow on how you can help us with this endeavor in the upcoming weeks.

For December we are continuing the Living Nativity ministry and it will be a drive-thru style like last year as well. We will be asking for volunteers to help with this production. Please consider how you can help with this important ministry.

That gives you a small taste of what we have in store. We are brainstorming on other ministry and outreach ideas. If you have an idea, please don't hesitate to contact a member of the committee and share this with us. We appreciate your partnership as we strive to make Jesus known to those outside our church walls.

Respectfully submitted, Anna Carlson- Evangelism Chairperson



Welcome all. I am new to the job of WMU Director. With Gods guidance and your help, I will do my best to lead our women's mission groups.

The Piecemakers have been making corn hole bean bags for the senior center. They are also making sewing kits for the Christmas Shoe Boxes. These sewing kits will be available for people to add to the age-appropriate shoe boxes. Check with a member of that mission group to obtain a kit.

During August and September, the Mary Greene Mission Group led us in collecting 66 backpacks for Matthew's Ministry. These backpacks are used each weekend to provide food for children in our local schools. We also received the State Missions offering during the month. Thanks to your generosity \$8032.65 was given to support the ministries of church planting across the state, Baptist associations and NC Baptists on Mission.

During October, our women's mission groups collected 280 pairs of ladies' crew socks for the state WMU's annual Red Box Ministry. Associations across the state provide different items for these gift boxes for incarcerated women in North Carolina at Christmas time.

The Mission Action Group will again be leading our church in Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. Shoeboxes will be in the Welcome Center Sunday, October 24. We will also have some boxes available for pickup in the church office. Please return your boxes along with \$9 per box by Sunday, November 14. Please note in the packing guide the "do not include" items such as toothpaste, candy, food items, war related items, liquids, etc.

In November the adult mission groups are partnering with the Evangelism Committee by providing food items for Thanksgiving baskets for families in our community.

November also marks the preparations for the Brunswick Baptist Association Toy Store. The Annual Toy Store Golf Tournament will be Saturday, November 20 at Ocean Panther Run Golf Course at Oak Ridge Plantation. If you would like to volunteer to help, put together a team or sponsor a hole or door prize, get in touch with me for more information. The Toy Store will be held at Supply Baptist Church December 10 and 11. Toy Store shopping lists will be available November 17 and we will collect items through Sunday, December 5. There will also be information about ways you can volunteer to help before and during the Toy Store.

During December, we will be receiving the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions. Week of Prayer guides and offering envelopes will be mailed to you in late November. Our goal for this year is \$8,000.

As we move into 2022, we hope you will be relentless in living an authentic faith life in Christ, and witnessing to others.

Denise Justice
WMU Director



October

- 02 *Roy Joyner*
05 *Lulann Sharpe*
07 *Lois Bridges*
09 *Meta Carriker; Joanne Williford &
Andy Broadwell*
10 *Ken Johnson*
13 *Jill Eubanks & Carol Overpeck*
15 *Chad Staradumsky*
17 *Lisa Barker & Hester Williams*
18 *Donna Joyner*
20 *Helen Ferree*
21 *Russ White & Sylvelin Witmer*
25 *Denise Justice*
28 *Jennifer Gibby & Cammie
Ratcliffe*
29 *Harriet Seekins Browning &
Linda Carter*

November

- 01 *Justin Weaver*
02 *Travis Thompson*
04 *Megan Spivey*
05 *Wayne Hyer*
06 *Brenda McLendon*
07 *Christa Todd*
08 *Michelle Cheeks; "Punkin" Stutts &
Tommy Williamson*
10 *Margie McAteer*
12 *Catie Alice Cummings*
13 *Ann Duncan & Don Whitener*
20 *Martha Hair & Kelly Williamson*
21 *Diane Lowery; Elizabeth McCrary &
Barbara Inabinett*
23 *Anna Carlson & Drew Ward*
26 *Mike Adams & Dwight Hinnant*
27 *Paula Spence & Elizabeth Warren*
29 *Kathy Weathers*

<i>December</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>Isabella Kerns</i>
<i>01 Ray Malott</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>Cindy Cribb</i>
<i>02 Billy Gilbert & Katie Del Key</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>Ginger Broadwell</i>
<i>04 Bob Epps & Hope Hyer</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>Carroll Brown</i>
<i>06 Steve Watts</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>Linwood Nottingham & Cynthia Tart</i>
<i>07 Carolyn Pofok</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>Varie Warren</i>
<i>08 Chris Parrish; Bob Allen & Tim Carpenter</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>Robert McLendon & Steve Smith</i>
<i>09 Charlene Ward & Brian Richardson</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>Lauren Beheler</i>
	<i>29</i>	<i>Greg Mills</i>



We will have a Called Church Conference on Wednesday, December 15th for the purpose of voting on the church budget for 2021 and to elect our Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer. A copy of the proposed budget may be picked up in the Welcome Area. Please direct questions about the proposed budget to the Stewardship Committee.



Christmas Eve Worship Service

Our Christmas Eve Service will be Friday, December 24th at 7pm. This is always a special time of worship as many from the community join us as we prepare for the celebration of our Lord's birth. I hope you will make plans to join us.

OCTOBER

October 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Youth- 5:30p Sunday Supper 6:00p Bible Study TeamKid- Children-6pm Discipleship- 6pm	4 ASMC- 4:00pm	5 GriefShare- 6:30pm Property & Space-7pm	6 Wed. Night Supper- 6pm Children's Bible Study- 6:30pm Children & Youth Prayer Meeting/ Bible Study- 7pm	7 Lena Early- 7pm	8	9
10 Youth- 5:30p Sunday Supper 6:00p Bible Study TeamKid- Children-6pm Discipleship- 6pm	11 ASMC- 4:00pm Deacons- 7pm	12 GriefShare- 6:30pm	13 Mission Action- 11am Wed. Meal- 6pm Children's Bible Study- 6:30pm Children & Youth Prayer Meeting/ Bible Study- 7pm	14 Mary Greene- 6pm	15 BBA Annual Meeting	16
17 Youth- 5:30p Sunday Supper 6:00p Bible Study TeamKid- Children-6pm Discipleship- 6pm	18	19 GriefShare- 6:30pm Stewardship- 7pm	20 Wed. Meal- 6pm Children's Bible Study- 6:30pm Children & Youth Quarterly Conference- 7pm	21 Piecemakers- 10am	22	23
24 Youth- 5:30p Sunday Supper 6:00p Bible Study TeamKid- Children-6pm Discipleship- 6pm	25 ASMC- 4:00pm	26 GriefShare- 6:30pm	27 Wed. Meal- 6pm Children's Bible Study- 6:30pm Children & Youth Prayer Meeting/ Bible Study- 7pm	28 Men's Prayer Group- 7pm	29 Trunks of Treat Candy Bagging- 10:30am	30
31  Trunks of Treats- 6pm-7pm Youth Delivery Good Shepherd						

November 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 GriefShare- 6:30pm Property & Space-7pm	3 Wed. Night Supper- 6pm Children's Bible Study- 6:30pm Children & Youth Programs Prayer Meeting/ Bible Study- 7pm	4 Lena Early- 7pm	5 Children's Games & Missions-6pm	6
7 Youth- 5:30p Sunday Supper & Bible Study TeamKid- Children-6pm Discipleship- 6pm	8 Deacons- 7pm	9 GriefShare- 6:30pm	10 Wed. Night Supper- 6pm Children's Bible Study- 6:30pm Children & Youth Programs Prayer Meeting/ Bible Study- 7pm	11 Mary Greene- 6pm	12	13
14 Youth- 5:30p Sunday Supper & Bible Study TeamKid- Children-6pm Discipleship- 6pm	15	16  6:30pm	17 Wed. Night Supper- 6pm Children's Bible Study- 6:30pm Children & Youth Programs Prayer Meeting/ Bible Study- 7pm	18 Piecemakers- 10am	19	20 BBA Toy Store Golf Tournament- 
21 Youth- 5:30p Sunday Supper & Bible Study TeamKid- Children-6pm Discipleship- 6pm	22	23 Stewardship- 7pm	24 No Wednesday Night Supper	25 	26	27
28 Planet Fun Bowling Trip- 2pm (Youth)	29	30 Staff Mtg.- 11am				



December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Lottie Moon International Missions Christmas Offering Goal: \$8000			1	2 Lena Early- 7pm	3 <i>Living Nativity- 7pm</i>	4 Children's Rehearsal- 10am <i>Living Nativity- 7pm</i>
5 Children's Musical- 6pm	6	7 Property & Space- 7pm	8 Mission Action- 11am 7pm- Prayer Mtg	9 Mary Greene- 6pm	10 BBA Toy Store-Supply Baptist 	11 BBA Toy Store-Supply Baptist 
12 Celebration Choir Musical- 6pm	13  Newsletter Info Due Deacons- 7pm	14	15	16 Piecemakers- 10am	17  Youth Christmas Party-7pm	18
19 Night of Christmas Music- 6pm 	20	21	22 No Wednesday Night Supper	23 Men's Prayer Group- 7pm	24 	25 
26	27 Church Office Closed	28 Stewardship- 7pm	29 No Wednesday Night Supper	30	31	