

FIRST BAPTIST NEWS MAY 2021

Dear Members and Friends of First Baptist,

Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. 2 Peter 1:2-4

So begins the 2nd letter to believers written by the Apostle Peter through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. In these words, we find great assurance of the faithfulness of God's provision.

When we think of God providing, we most often think of our daily physical needs. Certainly, God does provide those, however his provision involves so much more! Here we read that he has given us everything we need to live a life pleasing to him- A holy life!

Sometimes we can become frustrated over old sinful habits that rear their heads in our lives- like a short temper or lust. We can also become disappointed in ourselves when we don't carry out the spiritual disciplines of prayer and Bible study as we know we should.

First, let us know that we have a loving Father who will forgive and loves us unconditionally. Second, let us also know that like any loving human parent, he wants us to succeed in the things he requires of us- he even provides all we need to succeed- his power! (Eph. 6:10-18)

It is the power of God, through the presence of the Holy Spirit within us that can accomplish in us that which we cannot do ourselves. In fact, willpower should be renounced by the Christian. By faith, we should ask the Holy Spirit to empower us to live for Christ. Let us cast off our willpower, our determination- let us lean upon the power of God and our brothers and sisters in Christ to help us live for Jesus. As we ask for these things, God is faithful to provide all we need! Walk in the Spirit my friend, and you will see His power at work in you!

To God be the glory!

Pastor Paul

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
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Senior Sunday

Senior Sunday is May 23, 2021.
Our high school seniors are all
from Lawrence Academy, they are:

Hailey Barnes
Briauna Faulk
Peyton Foster

UNC Pembroke College graduate:
Joseph Griffin

If you are graduating from college,
please call the church office so we
can include your name.

Let us all come out that Sunday
and show our love and support for
these young people as they take
the next step of their journey.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

We will observe Communion on Sunday,
May 2.

Food Pantry truck is scheduled for Monday, May
3 at 9:30 am. Help with unloading is greatly
appreciated.

The Scholarship Committee will meet
Wednesday, May 5 at 6:30 pm.

The Deacons will meet Monday, May 17 at
7:00 pm in the fellowship hall with Steve Barnes
hosting.

Senior Sunday is May 23.

Bible Study ends for the summer Wednesday,
May 26.

The Church Office is closed Monday, May 31
for Memorial Day.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

David & Faith Noell
5-14

Hank & Janie Edmondson
5-23

Charles & Sandra Spruill
5-28

THANK YOU NOTE

*To Our Church Family,
We have been so overwhelmed by the many expressions of kindness
shown to us during this time of my (Beth's) knee replacement
surgery. The cards, meals, phone calls, visits, and most of all –
prayers, have been appreciated more than you will ever know. Thank
you from the bottom of our hearts.*

*God Bless You!
Love,
Ronnie and Beth*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Joshua Brown 5/1
Rex Stotesberry 5/2
John Gray 5/3
Sydney Brabble 5/6
Kay Ward 5/7
Kyle Modlin 5/11
Shelley Brown 5/12
Leverna Copeland 5/17
Renee Sexton 5/17
Ronnie Thompson 5/17
Gracen Rogers 5/19
Kathy Wynne 5/20
Dee Gee Griffith 5/23
Caroline Gurganus 5/25
Larry Nicholson 5/27
Edwina Peele 5/27
Bill Benjamin 5/29
Amy Collins 5/31

NEW ADDRESS

Judy Wright
2398 Thomas Nelson Hwy.
Arrington, VA 22922

PLEASE NOTE

We do not anticipate
having yard sales any time
soon, therefore, please do
not bring any items to the
church. We appreciate all
your support over the
years.

THANK YOU NOTE

*Dear FBC Family,
Mere words cannot express any
gratitude for your loving acts of
kindness following my Mother's
illness and passing. The
thoughts and prayers lifted up
for my family and me were a
great comfort. Thank you for the
cards, phone calls, and visits as
well.
Lastly, I give my heartfelt thanks
to the three FBC members who
took the time and effort to
attend Mom's service in Como.
Seeing familiar faces was truly
comforting and heartwarming.*

*Sincerely,
Dee Gee Griffith*

MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

Mother's Day Offering Baptist Hospital

The gifts of North Carolina Baptists to the Mother's Day Offering bring life-changing hope to hurting patients and families at North Carolina Baptist Hospital. These gifts help patients suffering from serious illness and overwhelming financial need pay their hospital bills – in the name of Jesus Christ and His love. They are drawn closer to Christ in lasting and heartfelt gratitude.

OUR GOAL IS \$1,000.00

BLESSING BOX

Please continue to support our Blessing Box. It is being used to help those in our community who are in need. Almost daily, people are taking and/or leaving items in the box. It will take the efforts of all of us to keep it supplied. You can either place your items in the box or bring them into the church office. Also, the Gail Hardison Circle has a box in the vestibule that you can place items in on Sundays.

BENEVOLENCE FUND

This fund helps people in the community and our own church family with whatever needs may arise, such as light bills, fuel oil, medicines, and food. There is so much outreach right here in our own backyard and this fund helps us do that.

MILE OF PENNIES

Thank you for your support for our Mile of Pennies. We have completed another mile, which is our **37th!!** Remember, it takes \$844.22 to complete a mile. Even thru the covid-19 pandemic the support continued. When we give to this ministry, we are helping to care for the children in the North Carolina Baptist Children's Homes. Thanks for giving!!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

CHURCH FAMILY: *George Boyd, Jim Sawyer, Harry Ward, Phyllis & Robert Dickerson, Beth Thompson, Tracie Wildman, Louie Askew, John Smith, Marguerite Sexton Hart, Kristie Nicholson, Claudia Beacham, Faye McCombs, Oliver and Frances Lucas, Sandy McMurtrie, Clifford Frymier, Barbara Peyton.*

OTHER CONCERNS: *The family of Bertha Anderkin, Heather Brown (Daughter in law of Bobby and Becky Brown), Harry Allen, Mae Oliver, Ricky Smith (Father of Kierstyn Smith), Keith Sawyer, Sherry Foster, Mike Ward, Jonni Kephart, Neal Brown, Don May, Sue Owens, Greg Spruill, William Sexton, Alfonzo Boyd, Rodney Rogerson.*

NURSING HOME RESIDENTS: *Three Rivers- Christine McMurtrie #208; River Trace Nursing & Rehab Center, Washington- Pauline Humphreys #418; Roanoke Landing- Alice Dotson #209, Tim Elks #315; Chowan River Nursing Home- Rae Owens.*



First Baptist Plymouth to take active role for Black Bear Festival!

How exciting it is that the Black Bear Festival will return this year. Although there was an award-winning virtual festival last year, for 2021 it is returning to live events and First Baptist Church is going to have an important role to play at the festival! The festival is the first weekend in June and on Saturday June 5th, FBC will be running the Information Booth. We will need to cover from 9AM to 7 PM. Ideally, we would like to have people do 2 hours shifts with at least two people in the booth at any given time, so we need at least 10 people to share the load! Pastor Paul sees this as a great opportunity to show our presence in the community and our support. Please call the church office to sign up or sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office. Your help will be greatly appreciated!