



# First Baptist Church of Wallace, NC

## First Family

July 2021



### ***Doing Missions in a Post-Denominational Age*** ***— The institutions we once leaned on are in decline and conflict***

As a child, I didn't know the word "Baptist" could be used without the word "Southern" in front of it! We weren't just Baptists, we were Southern Baptists. We were a part of this huge family that had national resources, and connections on the State and Local levels.

But during the 1980s, as I got my seminary education, Southern Baptists entered into an internal power struggle. At that time, it was more theological. We were fighting over whether women could be deacons and pastors and missionaries. People were judged by whether or not they were "conservative enough." And, as is often the case in power struggles, some very non-Jesus-like behavior was used in the battle.

Out of that battle, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) was born — a group of former Southern Baptists who believed women did have a place in ministry. That it was not inconsistent with the Bible for women to serve as deacons, missionaries, or even pastors.

About 10 years ago, because our church has women deacons, and because we allow women to lead, even as the "preacher" in worship, we changed our primary affiliation to the CBF.

But the split did not end the struggles. Now, as the Southern Baptist Convention met in June, the new battle was over cultural and moral issues — racial equality, and how the denomination has handled issues of reported sexual abuse by church leaders.

Meanwhile, the CBF is not without controversy and struggle as they become more accepting of homosexual and transgender individuals — the LGBTQ+, alphabet soup of contemporary sexual identities. They have gone too far for more conservative members, and not far enough for the most liberal members.

As a Christian congregation that is traditional in theology, accepting of women in ministry, and loves all people even if we don't endorse all

the new sexual variations as "normal and completely acceptable"... It's hard to find a comfortable home in today's Baptist institutions.

That is, in my opinion, why churches talk less and less about denominational identity, and do more of their own "home grown" mission projects.

Groups like Samaritan's Purse, through whom we are doing our Clean Water Well Project, and who are the organizers behind Operation Christmas Child, give us a channel to do missions all over the world without the denominational struggles and compromises. And for that option, I am very thankful.

So we currently still have connections to the Southern Baptist Convention and, even more, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. But as denominations move farther from us in their politics and theology, I think the clock is ticking on those relationships.

— *Pastor Al Thompson*

## **Worship**

### **Sunday School Stories**

This summer, we're diving into some of the Bible's most powerful stories — stories of victory and failure, stories of faith and doubt. And the most important thing about these stories is that they speak directly to our lives today. They show us the secrets of spiritual victory and greater blessing. So don't miss a single week!



**June 27** — Hold My Beer Bible  
1 Samuel 14:1-15

**July 4** — Forced to Attend a Barbecue  
Daniel 3:12-30

**July 11** — The Bush is Still Burning  
Exodus 3:1 - 4:17

**July 18** — Who Needs a Boat? Walk on the Water!  
Matthew 14:22-33

**July 25** — What Does God See in You?  
Speaker: Joe Blanchard  
1 Samuel 16:1-13

**August 1** — Behold the Man!  
John 19:1-16



## **Prayer Requests**



### ***Remember in Prayer:***

*Those in our community whom God has called us to lead to Christ and minister to in His love. Alan Baker, James Baker, Donna Jo Bowles, Clayton Brock, Gary Brown, Kelly Cahill, Gregg Carlson, Riley Palmer Dean, Vicky Evans, Carol H. Fields, Michael Fields, Edie Flowers, Robin Henderson, Andy Howard, Amy Smith Johnson, Kathy Landolia, John McCondra, Rocky Mobley, Whitney Murphy, Charles Pierce, Mike Price, Geraldine Register, Linda Rich, LuAnn Rivenbark, Bonnie Robinson, David Savage, Margaret Stallings, Renee Stoppelbein, Stephen Thompson, Marshall Williams, Monica Williford, David Wood, Louise Woods.*

### ***Sympathy to the families of:***

*Jennifer Minter, Ted Mercer, James L. White, IV, & Judith Baker Suggs.*

## **Bible Learner's**



*Another fun gathering was enjoyed by the Bible Learners Life Group as they celebrated June birthdays!*





## Senior Adult Trip, April 25-29, 2022

**Get your luggage out and dusted off!** We are packing up to head out on a 5 day, 4 night trip to Charlotte and Asheville, NC from April 25-29, 2022! This trip is packed with so much to see and do! Some of the highlights include the Billy Graham training center and the Billy Graham library, the Museum of the Cherokee Indian and the Qualla Arts and Crafts Mutual, the Biltmore Estate, the NASCAR Hall of Fame, and the Charlotte Speedway! And there is much more!



The \$800 cost covers 4 nights double occupancy lodging (add \$260 if you room alone) 4 breakfasts, 4 dinners including 2 dinner/show combos, entrance fees, gratuities, and travel. Lunches will be on your own each day.



First Baptist members and regular attendees can sign up now, and Monday, June 28, non-members can begin signing up. A \$100 deposit will hold your seat on the bus. Full payment will need to be paid by Friday, February 25, 2022 @ noon when the office closes for the day. You will not want to miss this fun and exciting trip, so come into the office, fill in the reservation form, and pay your deposit ASAP! I look forward to traveling with you!





# Aquarium Trip



# Aquarium Trip





# Aquarium Trip



# Aquarium Trip





## Senior Adults

### Luncheon, Tues., July 13 @ 11:30 a.m.

Our next Senior Adult covered dish lunch will be on Tuesday, July 13. Our special guests will be from the Fresh Start Rescue group out of Jacksonville. After retiring, Nicole and Mike Spencer started the Fresh Start rescue and farm. They rescue and care for iguanas, snakes, chameleons, geckos, and other exotic wildlife, focusing primarily on reptiles. It takes a lot of years to learn to care for these animals! In addition to the reptiles, they also have goats, chickens, ducks and turkeys on their 5 acre farm. I hope you will whip up a delicious recipe to share and join us as we learn about this rescue effort and meet some of the reptiles. And yes, we will probably see a snake or 2! But don't worry! You won't have to hold them for us! So grab a friend and your covered dish to share, and I will see you on Tuesday, July 13 @ 11:30 for lunch and an exciting program!



## Music Ministry

### Chancel & SonShine Choirs

The Chancel and SonShine Choirs are taking a break for a few weeks. Chancel choir will resume weekly rehearsals on Wednesday, August 25 @ 6:15 pm, and the SonShine choir will resume their monthly rehearsals on Tuesday, September 21. Give some thought to joining either or both of these amazing groups as they lead in the 11:00 worship service.

## Senior Adults



### Mini Golf Day Trip, August 19

Who loves mini golf? I know I do! Know what makes mini golf even better? Being able to play indoors in cool air conditioning on a very hot day. On Thursday, August 19, our Senior Adult Ministries will load up and head off to Captain Jack's mini golf in Greenville! Some details are still to be determined, like where we will have a delicious lunch, but a round of mini golf, lunch, and a stop for ice cream at the Simply Natural Creamery are definite! Please mark your calendars and save the date! And ask a friend if they would like to come with you! You know there is someone living near you who would enjoy going on this outing with you! So get out that pencil and calendar, make a note on August 19, invite a friend, and plan to join us!

## Soundboard

### Soundboard Operator

*Sunday Mornings @ 11:00 a.m.*

We have one person who has volunteered to try learning how to work our sound system for the 11:00 worship services. But this job really needs another person or 2! Won't you consider learning how this system operates and join us in ministry through the sound board? You will get some training and, with multiple people trained, only have to help out a few Sundays a month, or we could schedule a month on and a month off. It just depends on what the operators decide! Give it some thought! We would love to add you to our ministry team!



# Beach Retreat



# Beach Retreat





## Wallace Students



### Summer Announcements

The new Associate Pastor for Students and Children, Jon Britton, and his wife Mary are excited to dive into the ministry that God has gone before and prepared for them here at First Baptist. Below are a few general announcements for the student ministry going into the month of July:

- Parents, please encourage your students to join the FBCW student ministry group on the Team Reach app. This group communication app will be used for direct communication between student ministry leaders and the students themselves. There is a calendar within the app on which upcoming student ministry events will be posted. For more information about how your student can join the group on the app, please contact Jon Britton at [jon.fbcw@gmail.com](mailto:jon.fbcw@gmail.com). The Team Reach app will serve as the primary means of communication between the student ministry leaders and the student congregation. We hope to also use this service to send out devotionals, scripture passages, and other words of encouragement straight to the students.
- Jon plans to host an activity specifically for the boys each week for the rest of the summer. This schedule may be dependent on weather and holidays.
- Jon and Mary plan to host an activity for the girls each week for the rest of the summer. This schedule may be dependent on weather and holidays.
- Students will continue to meet for a combined meal, activity, and time of study on Sunday evenings at 6 p.m. This schedule may be dependent on holidays.

## Thank You

*Dear Beloved Believers of First Baptist Church,*

*Thank you for your faith and trust in our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ! Christ saves, Christ heals, Christ comforts and He answers prayers and answered your prayers for me. I am recovering from a successful surgery of ruptured appendix. May you too experience His loving care for you!*

*Peace, Grace, & Love to You,*

*Patricia Levitan*



## Gospel Partnership

The deacons of our church have voted to host a ministry to the Hispanic neighbors in our community. This ministry is led by Manuel Rodriguez, who has worked for Rich's Heating and Cooling for many years. Manuel is also a neighbor and friend of James Earl Rich and of Morris and Gloria Andrews. They have long been acquainted with his ministry through his church, *Cristo Viene* (which means "Christ is Coming").

*Cristo Viene* will be meeting on Wednesday nights and Saturday nights in the Children's Wing in the Large Group room and in one of the children's classrooms. They meet from 7:00p to 9:00p. They currently have 10-20 people on average.

One major part of the ministry of *Cristo Viene* is the distribution of food to families in need. Manuel purchases food in bulk and they divide it into individual boxes for the families to whom they are ministering.

This church has been meeting at a spot far from Wallace for several years, but most of the people to whom they minister live in the Wallace area. So driving to the distant meeting place was a hardship on the participants and was hindering the ministry. We are thankful that God opened up the opportunity for us to be an enabling partner with Manuel and *Cristo Viene* as they meet needs in Jesus' name.



Manuel and his wife, Maria



## Operation Christmas Child

We are off to a great start on Operation Christmas Child. Two of our small groups have been creative with hand sewing dresses and making dolls out of yarn. The Men's Bible Group have been folding up the boxes for the Bible Learners class to use and have pledged to pay for shipping on a number of boxes.

To encourage members to be involved, our church has purchased 300 cardboard boxes to be used for this year's campaign. Some of our experienced OCC packers may prefer the plastic boxes. They can be ordered online at <https://store.samaritanaspurse.org/p-1-preprinted-shoeboxesplastic-pack-of-12.aspx> at a cost of \$18/12 boxes (minimum order). If you who want to use the plastic boxes but don't want all twelve, talk among yourselves to get enough people together to make the order. If you have questions ask Beverly Benton.



Decide whether you want to pack a box for a girl or a boy for the age groups of 2-4, 5-9, 10-14. Then visit this link <https://www.samaritanaspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/> to determine what you to buy. Also at this site is list of items to NOT include.

### Do Not Include

Candy, toothpaste, gum, used or damaged items, war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures, chocolate or food, seeds, fruit rolls or other fruit snacks, drink mixes (powdered or liquid), liquids or lotions. medications or vitamins, breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers, and aerosol cans.

There will be containers to collect change during the next few months to help pay for shipping. If you want to write a check, make it payable to First Baptist Church and put OCC on the "for" line.

Thanks for your prayers and participation,

Robin Stone and Beverly Benton





## Clean Water + Living Water

Samaritan's Purse will be drilling wells in ten countries in 2021. Great News....our church will be partnering with Samaritan's Purse to pay for one of the community wells!! Clean water is a blessing many of us take for granted. It flows freely from the faucets in our homes for drinking, brushing our teeth or washing dishes or clothing. Sadly, this isn't the case for 750 million men, women and children around the world. Millions depend on water sources that are contaminated, sporadic or many miles away from where they live. Lack of access to clean water causes a vicious cycle of disease and poverty in struggling countries around our world.

The cost of drilling a community well in one of these countries is approximately \$10,000. Our Missions Committee, through the church budget for foreign missions, has set aside \$5,000 to pay for half the cost. The committee has launched a fundraiser to raise the remaining \$5,000. You can write a check or get creative in raising extra money. Perhaps sell some items, you no longer need, on eBay, have a yard sale, one person has committed to donate her earning for June & July from her small, on the side, jewelry business, maybe your children could do extra chores and donate their earnings.....what will you do??

We have been asked, what if we exceed the goal??!! We have options....it would be wonderful to fund two wells or we can purchase household filters with the additional money.

And the best news of all, not only will we be helping Samaritan's Purse provide a community a clean water well, we will be helping them refresh a community thirsty for hope by sharing the sustaining love of Jesus Christ with every person they meet!



*First Baptist Church offered free sign language classes led by Ben Hilliard in Room 303 (History Room) @ 6:15 on Thursday evenings.*



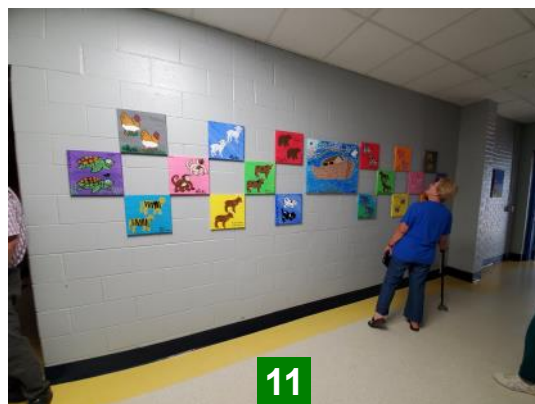
## August Newsletter Submission Deadline: July 15, 2021

Please email articles to  
office.fbcw@gmail.com  
Please make articles brief !





*First Baptist Church's Missions Committee organized a visit to tour Charity Rebuild Center in Rose Hill on May 29, 2021.*







**Vacation Bible School  
Volunteer Meeting  
Tuesday, June 29 @ 6:30 p.m., R303**

Kids One-Day Bible Camp  
**"GONE FISHING"**

## **Vacation Bible School, July 24**

Kids One-Day Bible Camp  
**"GONE FISHING"**

*Jesus fished for us - we fish for others*

Preschool through Grade 6  
**PARENTS ARE WELCOME  
TO ATTEND WITH THEIR CHILDREN!**

Registration Begins @ 9:30 a.m.

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Cost is: FREE

A Saturday of Fun & Learning Complete With:  
**Bible Lessons! Activities! Snacks! Songs!  
Games! Lunch! Crafts and More!**

First Baptist Church  
408 West Main Street  
Wallace NC 28478

Sign up today by calling the church office:  
910-285-2534

A VBS volunteer meeting is being held at First Baptist Church on Tuesday, June 29, at 6:30 p.m. in Room 303. If you are signed up to volunteer or are interested in volunteering, please attend this very important meeting. Please contact Donna Marshburn at 910-289-8392 for more information.





# Support Group

## Helping SELF: Helping to Support and Encourage Lost Families

**Purpose:** to support and encourage families dealing with drug or alcohol addiction.



This is not a 12 Step program or a how to group. We simply want to let families dealing with addiction know that they are not alone. Are you feeling lost and alone? Are you feeling isolated? Do you feel like “no one can possibly understand”?

We have been and still are experiencing these very feelings. We are stepping forward to share our experiences, vent to each other, and pray for one another and our families. We can learn together what enabling and co-dependency are and how to avoid those behaviors.

We are willing to laugh with you, cry with you, encourage you, support you, pray with you and help you find your way out of isolation. You are NOT alone.

Our next meeting is at First Baptist Church in Wallace on **July 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor.** Park in the back and follow the signs.

Future meeting times and dates to be determined and announced as we find out when we are needed. If you have a different time or day, call 910-284-7101.



## Just for Laughs:

### Vacation Humor



A pastor was walking on the beach with his wife and children. At one point, a young woman walked by wearing an extremely skimpy bikini. The pastor watched her walk by and then said loud enough for his family to hear, “That’s nauseating.”

The pastor’s son responded, “Dad, the way you were staring, you must *really* like being nauseated!”

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A psychiatrist received a scenic postcard from one of his patients who was on vacation in Hawaii. The postcard said, “I am having a great time! I wish you were here... *to tell me why.*”

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*Gather the kids for these Q & A jokes...*

Q: Where do sharks go on summer vacation?

A: Finland

Q: Why don’t mummies go on summer vacation?

A: They are afraid to unwind.

Q: Why don’t basketball players go away on vacation?

A: Because they get penalized for traveling.

Q: Where do sheep go on vacation?

A: To the Baaa-hamas.





## Volunteers

### July Volunteers

**9:00 a.m. Life Café Worship Nursery**

7/4-Robin Stone, Deb Lloyd

7/11-Hope Rich, Robin Stone

7/18-Debbie Williams, Lindsey Blanchard

7/25-Lindsey Blanchard, Debbie Williams

**10:00 a.m. Sunday Life Groups Nursery**

7/4-Susan Bradshaw, Angie Gurganus

7/11-Michelle Coombs, Susan Bradshaw

7/18-Susan Ayers, Michelle Coombs

7/25-Angie Gurganus, Susan Ayers

**10:00 a.m. 3 - 5 Year Olds**

Donna Marshburn

**11:00 a.m. Worship Nursery:**

7/4-Samantha Tucker

7/11-Help Needed

7/18-Gail Cavanaugh

7/25-Sharon Hall



**Tellers:** Sharon Teachey & Barney Nicol

**Ushers:** Friendship Life Group

## Church Staff

### First Baptist Church of Wallace

408 W. Main St., Wallace, NC 28466

Phone: 910.285.2534 Fax: 910.285.7810

www.WallaceFirstBaptist.org

**Dr. Alan Thompson**

Senior Pastor

Email: alan.fbcw@gmail.com/Cell: 910-282-8095

**Mrs. Dee Thompson**

Minister of Music and Senior Adult Ministry

Email: dee.fbcw@gmail.com/Cell: 434-996-2408

**Rev. J. T. Hopkins**

Associate Pastor of Young Adult Ministry

Email: jhopkin2@my.athens.edu/Cell: 931-675-0524

**Rev. Jon Britton**

Associate Pastor of Youth and Children's Ministry

Email: jon.fbcw@gmail.com/Cell: 434-444-1482

**Rev. Arledge Castles**

Associate Pastor of Deaf Ministry

Email: arledge.castles@gmail.com

**Mrs. Kim Longenbach, Administrative Assistant**

Email: office.fbcw@gmail.com/910-285-2534

**Mrs. LaRue Faircloth, Organist/Choir Accompanist**

## On the Record

### Attendance

#### Life Groups

5-30	6-6	6-13	6-20
66	92	90	82

#### Worship

5-30	6-6	6-13	6-20
132	144	159	156

### Budget and Receipts

2021 Budget \$433,490.00

Offering Receipts To Date 6-20-2021 **\$221,792.08**

## July Birthdays

1 Maddox Hawes  
2 Charles Elias  
3 Debbie Piner  
4 Steve Murphy  
6 Stratton Rich  
7 Lorrie Hopkins  
7 Mason Hawes  
8 Gene Pierce  
8 Andy Jones  
9 Katherine Bunch  
9 Janet Walker  
9 Allie Higgins  
10 Becky Judge  
11 Linda Pierce  
12 Mary Britton  
12 Michelle Coombs  
13 Michael Stallings  
14 Larry Batchelor  
14 Ethan Stone



15 Luke Davis  
16 David Worsley  
17 Carries Marshburn  
19 Janice Mills  
22 Alexis Tiner  
24 Dakota Stallings  
25 Grace Perry  
26 Dwight Hall  
27 Margaret Hodge  
31 Anna Russ



## Church Office

**Mon.-Thurs.:** 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
(Closed for Lunch: 12:00-1:00 p.m.)

**Fri.:** 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.





# First Baptist Events

# July 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 
<b>4 Independence Day</b> 9:00 am-Life Café 10:00 am-WallaceKids 10:00 am-Life Groups 10:35 am-Chancel Choir 11:00 am-Worship 6:00 pm-Wallace Students	<b>5 OFFICE CLOSED</b> Holiday 6:00 pm-CrossFit	<b>6</b> 2:00 pm-Staff Meeting 5:45 pm-Worship Band	<b>7</b> 10:30 am-Community Bible Study @ Pizza Corner	8	9	10
<b>11 The Lord's Supper</b> 9:00 am-Life Café 10:00 am-WallaceKids 10:00 am-Life Groups 10:35 am-Chancel Choir 11:00 am-Worship 12:15 pm-Deacon's Mtg. 6:00 pm-Wallace Students	<b>12</b> 6:00 pm-CrossFit	<b>13</b> 11:30 am-Sam Lunch 2:00 pm-Staff Meeting 5:45 pm-Worship Band	<b>14</b> 10:30 am-Community Bible Study @ Pizza Corner	15 News Deadline	16	17
<b>18</b> 9:00 am-Life Café 10:00 am-WallaceKids 10:00 am-Life Groups 10:35 am-Chancel Choir 11:00 am-Worship 6:00 pm-Wallace Students	<b>19</b> 6:00 pm-CrossFit	<b>20</b> 2:00 pm-Staff Meeting 5:45 pm-Worship Band 6:30 pm-Stewardship	<b>21</b> 10:30 am-Community Bible Study @ Pizza Corner 7:00 pm-Helping Self	22	23	<b>24</b> 9:30 am-1:30 pm-VBS
<b>25</b> 9:00 am-Life Café 10:00 am-WallaceKids 10:00 am-Life Groups 10:35 am-Chancel Choir 11:00 am-Worship 6:00 pm-Wallace Students	<b>26</b> 6:00 pm-CrossFit	<b>27</b> 2:00 pm-Staff Meeting 5:45 pm-Worship Band	<b>28</b> 10:30 am-Community Bible Study @ Pizza Corner	29	30	<b>31</b> 