



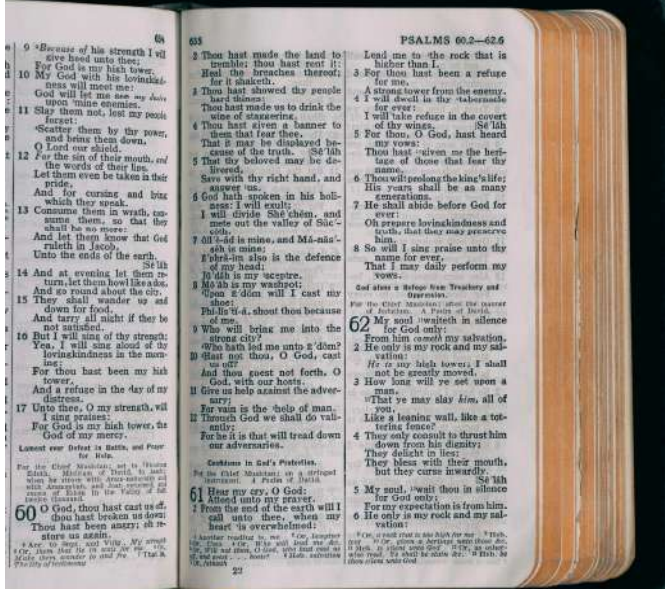
The Messenger

First Baptist Church
Mount Holly, NC

Volume 19, Issue 10
October 2024

Welcome to FBC Mount Holly

Reverend Jeff Allen & Reverend Tori Freeman
We are so grateful for all you do for our church.



A Prayer for our Pastors

We pray that you would inspire our pastors to walk in power, love, and self-discipline (2 Timothy 1:7) as they demonstrate courageous leadership. May you, oh God, satisfy their thirst for you and fill them up so that they are ready at all times to do the good work you have called them to. We thank you for them and pray for your blessings and protection on them. Amen.

HAPPY PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY
Sunday, October 20, 2024

Spiritual Gifts Corner

Do you know what your spiritual gifts are? Could you use some assistance in better understanding the concept and how it works within your life. Check out this short, informative resource, ***What Are Your Spiritual Gifts***, from *The Beat* by Allen Parr on YouTube. Some of you may remember this video from one of our spiritual gifts' discovery sessions a couple of seasons ago. It's a great reminder to revisit occasionally. For others, this may be a new experience and that's fantastic! Either way, we hope you'll find it helpful in your spiritual gifts journey.

In Christ - Your Spiritual Gifts Committee



William Hamilton, a friend, political rival, and associate of Thomas Jefferson, had his feelings hurt by the soon-to-be third president of these United States. This slight turned out to be a misunderstanding between Jefferson and Hamilton, not the one of Broadway fame. In his written response on April 22, 1800, Jefferson wrote,

"I never considered a difference of opinion in politics, in religion, in philosophy, as cause for withdrawing from a friend."

I am fascinated by this thought. We think the political discourse of our day is the most vile it has ever been. But even a cursory glance finds the politics during Jefferson's day to be one of the most contentious eras in American history.

It was a fierce time as our young country was finding its way. Yet Jefferson wrote those words to a political rival with whom he had disagreement. He wished to remain friends even in the midst of disagreement. My naivety does not stretch to the bounds that Jefferson was cordial with all those with whom he disagreed. But to have that spirit about him is something to consider.

In the coming weeks, our country will enter into the poles as we face another election. We all tire of the endless commercials, malicious stories, and the need to be proven right. Yet our politics often drive disagreements which happen at home, work, and over social media. It just cannot be escaped. Battlegrounds appear all around us.

How are Jesus-followers meant to act and talk in days before, during, and after elections? How do Christians engage friends and family on sensitive topics? How can Christians maintain their commitment to their faith while still showing respect and dignity to those who hold different beliefs, recognizing that all people are created in God's image?

Our October worship conversation will center around this topic. I am sure you are wincing at the idea of politics in church. Let me reassure you—our conversation will find itself centered above the political discourse of our day. Scripture is full of examples of those differing in opinions finding a higher way to love one another. May our battlegrounds become common ground where love for God and neighbor unite us.

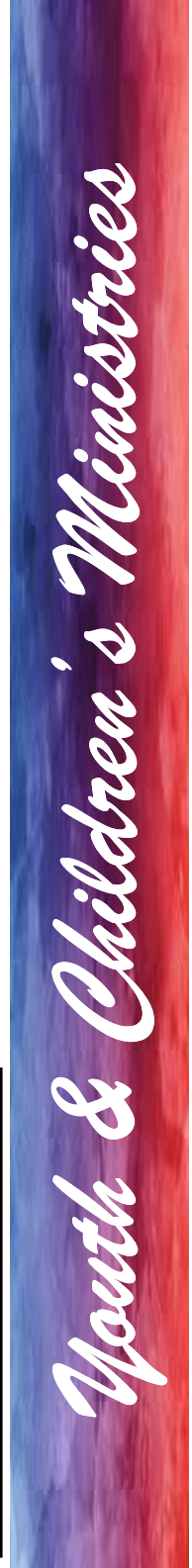
Pastor's Pen

BATTLEGROUND

Oct. 6	Bridging the Divide (World Communion Day)	Genesis 33
Oct. 13	Casualties of Conflict	2 Samuel 2
Oct. 20	Winning Hearts Not Arguments	Titus 3:1-11
Oct. 27	Healing the House Divided	1 Corinthians 1

Telling sTORIEs

We are quickly approaching fall, with colder weather, hayrides, pumpkin carving, and lots of candy this month! As we prepare for our annual Trunk or Treat event on October 20th, I am reminded of the sweatshirt I have worn to this event for the last two years. It says, "Life is Scary without Jesus." I wholeheartedly believe this. Life is scary without the love of our Savior. When we face trials and feel down on our luck, Jesus is our rock. Imagine how difficult it would be to face the things that life throws at us alone. No matter what you are facing today, no matter how tired and worn down you are, or the obstacles you still have to climb, Jesus is there. You can do all things through Christ, who gives you strength. This is a good reminder for our teenagers heading to Caswell at the end of the month. Their theme is "Hold On," focusing on holding on to their identity in Christ. Whatever happens, our identity is in Jesus. Life isn't so scary with Jesus by our side.



TRUNK OR TREAT

**SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 20TH**

5:30pm-7:00pm

First Baptist Church of Mount Holly
300 South Main Street
Mount Holly, NC 28120

We need candy!

Candy collection for our Trunk or Treat begins October 1st. Please bring bags of individually wrapped candy and put it in the lobby.

Look for the sign up in the midweek update for anyone that wants to decorate your trunk and pass out candy.

Youth Beach Retreat 2024

HOLD ON

October 25-27 - Fort Caswell
Middle and High School

cbfnc

Children's Ministry

October 20th - Trunk or Treat



Illumination Student Ministry

October 20th- Help at Trunk or Treat
October 25th-27th- Caswell Fall Retreat
October 27th- No Youth Evening Activities





Music at First Baptist is back in full swing this fall.

**Graceful Praise is busy learning movements to a new song to share in worship.
The Youth Choir is rehearsing. They are sounding so good.
The Adult Choir is singing and enjoying getting together.
Children's Choirs are busy learning new music to sing in worship.
Handbells are ringing.**



Operation Christmas Child 2024

For the month of October, we're asking everyone to donate EXTRA COINS, or by CHECK or ONLINE, to help cover the cost of storage, local and out of country shipping/handling and tracking of our Shoeboxes. OCC covers some of these costs so our donation is only \$10.00 per Shoebox.

You will find empty medicine bottles on our table in The Gathering Place. Please take one or more home to add your EXTRA COINS. Your children and grandchildren may value donating their COINS to our mission.

Please note: *If you donate online, please indicate that it is for **OCC Shoebox Expenses**. Checks must be made payable to **FBCMh** with notation: **OCC Shoebox Expenses**.*

A bin is available in the Gathering Place with an OCC sign requesting that you place your filled MEDICINE BOTTLES in it.

Our OCC Full Circle Speaker (Shoebox Recipient) will join us on Wednesday, October 2nd for Bible Study. You don't want to miss this!

Our Packing Party is Sunday, November 3rd at 2:00PM. Due to your generosity throughout the year, we may have enough to fill about 200 Shoeboxes. Your children and grandchildren are encouraged to join as we will fill those Shoeboxes!

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen!
Matthew 28:19-20

Kay Miller MacIntosh, OCC Project Leader

980-253-7180 kaymmacintosh@hotmail.com

Angel Tree Donations

The Angel Tree will be put up on Sunday, October 20th with Angels for you to take. Instead of purchasing a gift, we ask that you make a donation to the Angel Tree Fund. Make your checks out to First Baptist and in the Memo section put Angel Tree. Donations can be collected at the Angel Tree when staffed, placed in the offering plate, or dropped off to the church office. You can also give online and select Angel Tree Fund.

There will be a shopping day so sign up by the tree if you would like to assist with that and you can be added to the volunteer list. The team of volunteers will shop at Walmart in Belmont.

For questions, contact Christie Batchelor at [704-575-5006](tel:704-575-5006) or christiehb@att.net

We appreciate your support of this ministry!



Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinner Menu

October 2: Pizza or Soup

October 9: BBQ

October 16: Tacos Youth Fundraiser

October 23: Pot Luck

October 30: Stuffed Baked Potato

Salad Bar is available every week.



What's Happening at FBC



Jacquey Denison's Quilting Group made over 300 potholders for our Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes.

Welcome New Member

Claire Casciani

Memorials

Building Fund

In memory of Lauren Crossland by H. Bradlee Smith, Carl & Catherine Schwanke and Aubrey & Brenda Horton.

In memory of Freda Batchelor by Mike & Shannon Harris and Richard & Marie Moore

Bus Fund

In memory of Lauren Crossland by Mary Jane Hinkle. In memory of Freda Batchelor by Mary Jane Hinkle

Let your light shine so people everywhere may see your good actions and praise God in heaven because of it. Matthew 5:16

In Sympathy

Condolences to the family of Missi Fortsch in the passing of her aunt.

Condolences to the family of Lauren Crossland in her passing.

Condolences to the family of Erin Crowson in the passing of her grandmother.

Condolences to the family of Freda Batchelor in her passing.

Childcare Volunteers

Infant

- 10/6-Gabrielle Cox & Sadie Hampton
- 10/13-Rebekah S.R. & Sajiah Taylor
- 10/20-Sadie Hampton & Maggie Pressley
- 10/27-Maggie Pressley & Gina Hough

Toddler

- 10/6-Rebekah S.R. & Sajiah Taylor
- 10/13-Sadie Hampton & Melissa Green
- 10/20-Rebekah S.R. & Sajiah Taylor
- 10/27-Sadie Hampton & Gabrielle Cox

Children's Church

- 10/6-Children Stay in Worship
- 10/13-Youth
- 10/20-Carolyn Snead
- 10/27-Angie Hilderbran & Teresa Painter

- 2 Glenda Rollins, Jennifer Childers, Huntington Hawkins
- 4 Delores Stewart, Katherine Cliatt
- 5 Judy Rollins
- 7 Becky Causby
- 8 Blake Harrison
- 9 Jane Collier
- 11 Mary Martin, Joe Haverty
- 16 Frances Gurley
- 17 Lib Wiles
- 18 Mark Batchelor, Steve Hilderbran, Kathy Teague, Angela McLain
- 20 Alice Jones, Lou Ann Russell
- 23 Jane Rhodes, Linda Richardson
- 24 Daniel Haverty
- 26 Carlos Choren
- 27 Jacob Batchelor, Anna Batchelor, Dickie Thomas, Cornelia Pressley, MacKenzie Greene
- 28 Kasey Petersen, Molly Dean, Janice Still
- 31 Camryn Clawson



Church Security

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| Ricky Wrenn | Sept 30—Oct 6 |
| David Wrenn | Oct 7—Oct 13 |
| Gary Farmer | Oct 14—Oct 20 |
| Keith Piercy | Oct 21—Oct 27 |
| Ken Fortsch | Oct 28—Nov 3 |

Ushers and Greeters

- 6 David Wrenn, Roger Hawkins, Denise Hawkins, Jay Ratliff, Mike Huff
- 13 Dickie Thomas, Stephen Abernethy, Cheryl Lineberger, Jo Ann Rollins, Brandon McCotter
- 20 Ricky Russell, Kevin Collier, Mac Richardson, Tami Piercy, Cornelia Pressley
- 27 John Petersen, Suzanne Griffin, Missi Fortsch, Chris Medlin, Mike Purser



- 2 Charles & Linda Smith
- 15 Chris & Amanda Hensley



First Baptist Church

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Stay connected with FBC
Mount Holly.

YouTube :

First Baptist Church
Mount Holly, NC



FaceBook:

First Baptist Church
Mount Holly, NC



Instagram:

fbcmounthollync



OFFICE SCHEDULE

Mondays

Jeff Allen

Tori Freeman

Kim Payne (remote)

Tuesdays

Jeff Allen

Tori Freeman

Kim Payne

Wednesdays

Jeff Allen

Tori Freeman

Kim Payne (remote)

Thursdays

Jeff Allen

Tori Freeman (remote)

Kim Payne

Fridays

Kim Payne



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MOUNT HOLLY, NC

August 2024

Total Receipts – \$34,329

Bldg. Fund – \$125

Bldg. Fund YTD – \$7,875

Other Designated – \$4,977

Other Designated YTD – \$59,042

2024 Budget – \$538,227

Avg Needs thru 8/31 – \$358,818

Budget Receipts YTD – \$340,923