



# THE BAPTIST INFORMER

NEWS OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS & FRIENDS OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FOUR OAKS

## October 2020

*Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.*

Isaiah 43:16-21

### **Mission Statement**

*The family of First Baptist Four Oaks believes in God through Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. To fulfill the Great Commission, we will love, serve, learn, and fellowship together.*

The month of October marks the beginning of a new year for FBC Four Oaks. It is a time for us (as a church) to start afresh with, and commit ourselves to, the mission and ministry of our congregation. It is a time to “start over” with a new sense of anticipation of what the church might accomplish in the coming year. But this year, as you all are aware, is different. Nothing, it seems, will be experienced this coming year in the same ways they have in past years. The landscape of our lives is so unfamiliar. Perhaps that is why the words from Isaiah above seem to have a unique significance at this time

The people of Israel continue in their exile in Babylon, far away from their homes and their temple in Jerusalem. The landscape around them has dramatically changed, and they are trying to contemplate a way forward. The word of God comes to them through the prophet, *I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.* The “new” thing about to happen is God driven and God directed. The people are not in control, they have to rely on God.

But in giving the people hope for the future, God reminds them of another place and another time when the people had to totally and completely rely on God - the time they spent in the wilderness following the exodus from Egypt. Perhaps God is reminding them that the experience of the wilderness wandering could be used as a template for their current experience in Babylon. Perhaps God is reminding them that the same God who brought them through the wilderness is the same God who will bring them through exile, if they will faithfully follow him.

And perhaps, as a reminder to we who are living in a world today where the landscape seems so unfamiliar, God is speaking to us through the experiences of the exodus and the exile, that God is about to do a new thing in our midst. Will we perceive it? I look forward to discussing this topic with you as we make our way through another church year.

Church: 963-2102  
Parsonage: 963-3199  
Preschool: 963-2013

[www.fbcfouroaks.org](http://www.fbcfouroaks.org)

Grace and Peace, John



## Baptist Men's Fishing Trip

The Baptist Men's group is planning a one day surf fishing and fellowship trip on Saturday, October 10th to Fort Fisher Beach. Your sons/daughters are invited to attend as long as they are accompanied by a parent or grandparent. We will plan to leave the church parking lot at 6:am. Four wheel drive daily permits are available for \$30.00 at the park office prior to entering the beach access. We will plan to stop at the local bait shop. Plan to bring your bait bucket, tackle and coolers. Pack your snacks, lunch and your drinks. Those without 4 wheel drive may leave their vehicle at the park office and ride with others. Come and enjoy a great day of fun and fellowship. Please call or text Roy Turner @ 919-980-0032 by October 8th, if you plan to attend.

## YOUTH NEWS

The two options for classes have been going well and started the 3rd week of September. We have one face-to-face class and one online class. We are meeting face-to-face on Tuesdays at 7 pm and Zoom Thursdays at 7 pm.

There is also a recap of the lessons in the updates sent out weekly to Youth and parents.

The face-to-face option is a curriculum from the Fuller Youth Institute called Faith in an Anxious World. There are so many challenges facing our Youth (and adults), especially now. Things are confusing and down-right stressful. I hope these sessions will help Youth learn to trust Jesus during these times and whatever circumstance they face. Reading Mark 4:35-41, 6:45-51 and Luke 5:1-11, we see that Jesus gets in the boat (our mess) with us and keeps us steady. Jesus' presence and trusting him gives us the strength and peace to keep "rowing" in the middle of a storm.

The online study is on God's Character/Attributes using some short videos from The Bible Project and other resources. Having a clearer view of who God is helps us in our response to Him and helps in giving us the ability to recognize when God is working in our lives and the lives of others. So far, we have learned about the tension of God's compassion and character of justice and how those work together studying Exodus 34 and Micah 6:8.

If you have any questions or have something you would like to share, don't hesitate to contact me.

Grace and Peace to all,  
Jami Champagne  
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Youth Email: [fobbcyouth@gmail.com](mailto:fobbcyouth@gmail.com)

### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Faith in an Anxious World Study—Tuesdays @ 7 pm  
Character of God Study via Zoom- Thursdays @ 7 pm

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## Deacon Nominees

We will vote on the following Deacon Nominees on Sunday, October 4th.  
Please keep these nominees, their families, and the entire Deacon Board in your prayers.

Mr. Adam Barefoot (3 year term)  
Mr. Steve Chicki (3 year term)  
Mr. Frank Moore (3 year term)  
Mr. Trent Tucker (2 year unexpired term)  
Mr. Chris Vann (3 year term)



**WMU Watchword:** "... My dear friends stand firm and don't be shaken. Always keep busy working for the Lord. You know that everything you do for him is worthwhile." (1 Cor. 15:58 CEV).

**Events for WMU Mission groups in October 2020:**

**Agape Mission Group will meet on October 1 depending on COVID-19.**

**Dorothy Parker Group will meet on by e-mail.**

**Lib Canaday Group will meet on October 13 depending on COVID-19.**

**Missions for Christ Mission Group will meet on October 4 depending on COVID-19. Some of these WMU groups will meet by e-mail.**

**\*\*\*We will begin to collect information for the new 2020-2021 WMU directory. If you have new group listings for the WMU directory, please submit to Laura Rogers.**

**Beginning in January 2020, we will start collecting items for the Samaritan Purse shoebox for 2020: The item to begin collecting in October is money for shipping and handling money at \$9.00 a box. Remember ages are: 2-4, 5-9, 10-14. If we dream big, maybe we can reach 200 shoeboxes again! Please send the money to the church office and mark your donation for Samaritan Purse shoebox 2020.**

**WMU-NC Red Box Inmate Christmas Ministry is due on November 2** to the JBA office. This year the item for collection is chapstick. The chapsticks should be in an individual ziplock bag. If you purchase multi-packs, they should be separated. The goal is 600 this year. This is a good time to begin collecting during the summer sales. A WMU Red collection box is located at the WMU bulletin board.

WMU-NC sponsored training sessions online in August to introduce the new theme for 2020-2021. The theme is *Relentless*, and the watchword is *Hebrew 10:32-39*. Supplies can also be order online at WMU.org for the new year.

**Autumn Journey Mother-Daughter Retreat is November 6-8. Check on [www.campmundovista.com](http://www.campmundovista.com) for updates.**

**Johnston Community College (JCC) and Johnston Baptist Association are partnering together to offer "Adopting an International Student" program. There are approximately 175 international students attending JCC. Kelton Hinton, JBA Associational Missionary is requesting that any family interested in providing a "family-oriented meal" once a month to contact the JBA office at 919-965-9450 and show your interest. This project will start back in the Fall 2020 schedule.**

The **2020 Freda Parks Creech Woman of the Year award** will be announced at a Sunday morning worship service once we resume services again in the Fall hopefully on Homecoming Day 2020.

**JBA-WMU Baptist Women World Day of Prayer "LIFE!"** is scheduled on **November 2** at 7:00 p.m. The host church is Pine Level Missionary Baptist Church, 110 S Peedin Avenue, Pine Level, N.C. A "Spirit Award" will be given to the church with the most members attending. Carpool will be available if you are interested in attending. Please let Laura Rogers know at 919-219-4528. This meeting will depend on COVID regulations.

**The newly revised Funeral Food Committee sheets are available on the WMU bulletin board. We have tried to keep this updated to better serve everyone. As of August 1, 2020, members from Group 3 will be the next group to serve a meal. Brenda Barnes, Sandra Turner and Laura Rogers are Co-Directors from Group 3.**



## Birthdays

- 01 Emma Ruth Parker  
Denise Hamilton  
Isaac Barefoot
- 02 Evan Barefoot
- 03 Jonathan McLamb
- 04 Grimes Stewart
- 05 Michael Mobley
- 06 Delilah Sharp
- 07 Allen Parker  
Michael Fish  
Vicki Grimes
- 08 Terry Parker
- 09 Greg Jackson
- 10 Anda Abrams
- 11 Elizabeth Fish
- 12 Frank Moore  
Myrtle Lassiter
- 13 Josh Champagne
- 14 Adam Norris  
Sam Gregory
- 16 Alexander Britt
- 17 Susan Sloan
- 20 Jerry Durham  
Mary Leigh Hamilton  
Charley Johnson
- 21 Effie Dunn
- 22 Julia Moore  
Mary Hunter Olive
- 23 Roy Turner  
Luke Clothier
- 24 Zeke Sharp
- 26 Lydia Carberry  
Jaxon Combs
- 30 Jimmy Coats
- 31 Kara Britt  
Keith Coe

## Anniversaries

- 03 Stephen & Tanya Carberry
- 05 Tim & Terri Barbour  
Michael & Wanda White
- 07 Jason & Vicki Lee
- 09 Craig & Elizabeth Boyd
- 12 Tim & Connie Grady
- 15 Cliff & Jessi Sharp
- 22 Bobby & Judy Creech
- 23 Carl & Nancy Langdon

