

**From the Pastor's Desk:**

*A man went to the Pastor of his church and said, "I won't be attending Church anymore." Pastor said, "May I ask why?" A man went to the Pastor of his church and said, "I won't be attending Church anymore." Pastor said, "May I ask why?" He said, "I see people on their cell phones texting and typing during the service, some are gossiping, some just aren't living right, some are sleeping, some are staring at me, they are all just hypocrites." The Pastor was silent. Then he said, "Can I ask you to do something for me before you make your final decision?" He said, "Sure, what's that?" He said, "Take a glass of water and walk around the church two times and don't let any water fall out of the glass." He said, "Yes I can do that!" He went and got the glass of water and walked around the church two times. He came back and said proudly, "It's done." The pastor asked him these questions; "Did you see anybody on their phone; Did you see anybody gossiping; Was anybody living wrong; Did you see anyone sleeping?" He said, "I didn't see anything because I was so focused on this glass, so the water wouldn't spill out" He told him, "When you come to church, you should be just that focused on God, so that you don't fall. That's why Jesus said, 'Follow Me', He did not say follow them." Don't let your relationship with God be determined by how others relate with God. Let it be determined by how focused you are with God. AMEN...*

(Source: Ricky Stokes Ministry)

What is your focus? Are you judgmental versus forgiving? Are you easily offended, therefore ready to offend? Is your walk with Christ obvious to everyone that you encounter? Remember, HE does not judge or condemn us, so why should we feel the need to judge and condemn others! Your relationship with God is personal and is personalized! He loves you and wants the best for you... Stay Focused, Stay Strong...THE BEST IS YET TO BE!



# August 2023

# Newsletter

**Our Memory Verse for August is:**

My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of his correction:  
For whom the Lord loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.

Proverbs 3:11-12 KJV

**August 2023 Bible Readings**

Day 1	Job 39-42	Day 17	Psalms 54-57
Day 2	1 Timothy 1-3	Day 18	Psalms 58-61
Day 3	1 Timothy 4-6	Day 19	Psalms 62-65
Day 4	2 Timothy 1-4	Day 20	Psalms 66-68
Day 5	Psalms 1-5	Day 21	Psalms 69-72
Day 6	Psalms 6-10	Day 22	Psalms 73-76
Day 7	Psalms 11-15	Day 23	Psalms 77-78
Day 8	Psalms 16-20	Day 24	Psalms 79-82
Day 9	Psalms 21-25	Day 25	Psalms 83-86
Day 10	Psalms 26-30	Day 26	Psalms 87-89
Day 11	Psalms 31-34	Day 27	Psalms 90-93
Day 12	Psalms 35-37	Day 28	Psalms 94-97
Day 13	Psalms 38-41	Day 29	Psalms 98-102
Day 14	Psalms 42-45	Day 30	Psalms 103-104
Day 15	Psalms 46-49	Day 31	Psalms 105-106
Day 16	Psalms 50-53		

# SAVE THE DATE

## Events this Month:

- Sunday, August 13th: Mission Team Meeting @ 4:00pm in the FMC**
- Monday, August 14th: Levada Driver Circle Group @ 2:00pm in the FMC**
- Monday, August 14th: Leadership Team Meeting @ 7:00pm in the FMC**
- Saturday, August 19th: Block Party 10:00am to 2:00pm**
- Sunday, August 20th: Sunday School Teacher Appreciation**
- Monday, August 21st: Vera Hocutt Circle Group**
- Monday, August 21st: Administrative Team Meeting @ 7:00pm in the FMC**
- Monday, August 28th: Deacon Meeting @ 7:00pm in the FMC**
- Tuesday, August 29th: O.W.L.S. Meeting @ 9:30am in the FMC**
- Every Wednesday:**
  - Mission Marketplace Open for Shopping 7:30am to 12:00pm**
  - Wednesday Night Meal 5:00pm to 6:00pm**
  - Wednesday Bible Study Groups at 6:30pm (Adult, Youth & Children)**



## August Birthdays

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1st Susie Peoples    | 13th Mike Harris     |
| Rixie Stevens        | Jeany O'Neal         |
| 2nd Jennifer Stevens | Leamon Strickland    |
| 4th Lauren O'Neal    | 14th Rachel Baggett  |
| Pam Rice             | Julie Swinson        |
| 5th Tonya Bailey     | 15th Billy Godwin    |
| Whitt Garner         | 16th Clara Hocutt    |
| Landon Mack          | Brooke Dillon        |
| Jimmie Narron        | 17th Natalie Bailey  |
| Carolyn Privette     | Jessika Madjar       |
| Bobby Stevens        | 18th Timothy Hale    |
| 6th Brandon Baker    | 19th Hannah Headrick |
| Al Driver            | Ryan Scott           |
| Tammy Edwards        | 21st Kathy Wheeler   |
| Jimmy Faison         | 22nd DJ Scott        |
| Pat Pettit           | 24th Joshua Boyette  |
| 7th Peggy Allimon    | Brandie Denton       |
| 8th Chrissy Hunter   | Pasty Dillon         |
| 9th William Currin   | Justin Lane          |
| Carolyn Felming      | Kenny Worley         |
| 10th Greg Johnson    | 28th Kaylyn Parker   |
| 11th Landon Bailey   | 29th Dennis Badger   |
| Melissa Worley       | Betty Harris         |
| Mackenzie Clark      | Horace Shirley       |
| Brooke Hargreaves    | 30th Caroline Creech |
| 12th George Creech   | Joyce Creech         |
| Pat Horton           | Katie Moore          |
| Sam Morris           | Amber Pittman        |
| Katelyn Whitley      | 31st Connie O'Neal   |



## August Anniversaries

- |                              |
|------------------------------|
| 3rd Brandon & Julie Carroll  |
| 4th Tony & Phyllis Alford    |
| 5th Tony & Allyson Creech    |
| 6th Sean & Suza Bannon       |
| 7th Dennis & Ann Badger      |
| 10th Thomas & Vikki Brock    |
| 15th Ray & Cecilia Gardner   |
| 21st Wesley & Rebecca Dunbar |
| 23rd John & Nita Edwards     |
| 24th Johnny & Brooke Scott   |
| 25th Mike & Betty Harris     |
| 26th Bill & Susie Hinnant    |

## Update on the New Church Directory

The Directory Committee has completed the design process of the directory and the design has been submitted to Universal Directories for draft printing. The draft is due back to us in a couple of weeks. After proofreading the draft, the final directory will be printed and ready for distribution. It is anticipated to be ready for distribution in August. We would like to express a special thank you to Ashelyn Briggerman for her assistance on the directory. She completed the design using the committee's inputs and prepared the directory front cover, inside front cover, staff page, inside back cover, and the back cover, along with the post cards and note cards we were able to get with our credits for having such good participation in getting pictures made for the directory. When you see Ashelyn, give her a special shout out for her assistance. And a special thank you to all that had your pictures taken for the directory. Thank you. The Directory Team: Ricky Watson, Joan Watson, Lou Holland, Jean Hocutt, Carrie Sellers, David Hughes

## On Hold....



We will resume this process soon. Please be in prayer for this area of ministry for our Church:  
\*Children's Director Search Committee

## Recurring Prayer Needs

- |                       |                      |                    |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Shawn Allen           | William Hocutt       | Bob Richardson     |
| James Bailey          | Carl Holt            | Brandon Richardson |
| Mike Bailey           | Joan Hunter          | Christi Sasser     |
| Elaine Barham         | Bruce Jacobs         | Connie Scott       |
| Nancy Batchelor       | Oscar & Shirley Lane | Betty Seibert      |
| Judy Boswell          | Dennis & Cathy       | Kathy Smith        |
| Lester & Fonda Boyd   | Lockleair            | Ray & Donna Smith  |
| Greg Clay             | Emma Maidon          | Jane Strautnieks   |
| Linda Coffey          | Pam Maynor           | Eldie Strickland   |
| Lynn Crump            | Ricky Narron         | Marie Strickland   |
| Charles Driver        | Jonathan Newell      | Julie Swinson      |
| Kim Eatmon            | Kenneth Nowell       | Sue Thomasson      |
| Phyllis Edwards       | Carol O'Neal         | Charles Vinson     |
| Gayle Haines          | Mike O'Neal          | Dale Weathers      |
| Anita Hales           | Aleisha Parr         | Brandy Williams    |
| Randy Hales           | Kay C. Perry         | Lee Williford      |
| Linda Hammett         | Pat Pettit           | Robert & Betty     |
| Mike Harris           | Irene Pope           | Williford          |
| Janice Hill           | Larry Price          |                    |
| Mike & Georgia Himmel | Joan Privette        |                    |

## New Prayer Needs

- Wayne Batten
- Melanie Brock
- Jan Diehl
- Jackie French Family
- Elizabeth Hocutt
- Jax Hopkins
- Donna K. House
- Randy O'Neal
- Yvonne Parrish Family
- David Ragan
- Unspoken Requests
- Family that lost home to Fire on Tuesday

**Senior Adult Team (Olivia Cooke-Team Leader):**

**OWLS-Older, Wiser, Livelier, Seniors (Leaders Olivia Cooke and Patsy Narron):**



Summer and the heat is here and we have been in the middle of it and kept on going. (You can't stop the Energizer Bunnies) For our monthly meeting on July 25<sup>th</sup> we relaxed in the A/C with a great devotion by Patsy, a game of Bingo and of course out to eat in Garner at Carolina BBQ. We want to thank Patsy and Ricky for making and delivering the fruit baskets, it has been a blessing to all!

Also on July 28<sup>th</sup> we toured the Billy Graham Library, they have made some updates and it was wonderful.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> while in Charlotte, we went to see the play "Sampson". (It will run through September) Everyone no matter how young or old should see this great play. We are to honor our God and our Country. All 10 of us received a blessing from both events. Special thanks to our bus driver, Jimmy Faison for all that he does to make sure we are safe.

Come join us on our next monthly meeting on August 29<sup>th</sup> for Fun, Fellowship and Food. See you on our next trip. (Don't forget to sign up for the Ark trip.)

God Bless,  
Olivia Cooke, Patsy and Ricky Narron



**Youth Team (Christin Brown-Team Leader):**

The Youth are joining the Children's programs in their Mission Project, Christmas in August. We are collecting items for some missionaries to help aid them in their ministry and outreach! The shopping cart is available for the items in the FMC. Handouts are also available in the Information Center with further details of each Missionary and their Ministry that we have chosen.

- New Socks
- New Shoes
- Walmart gift cards
- Individual hand sanitizer
- Deodorant
- Pencils
- 24-count crayons
- Colored pencils
- Kid's scissors
- Glue sticks
- Construction Paper (various colors and white)
- Loose-leaf filler paper
- Staplers/staples
- Clear tape
- Wawa gas gift cards
- Walmart gift cards
- Sam's Club gift cards
- Visa gift cards
- Amazon gift cards
- Publix gift cards



**Property Management Team (Ross Carroll-Team Leader/Steve White-Co-Leader):**

We are waiting to get the FMC kitchen A/C replaced. We are still waiting on the insurance adjuster at this time before we proceed in repairs for the fence and basketball goal. As we have mentioned before, if you see anything that needs our attention, please let us know. Thank you and God Bless!

Today		August 2023		Month	
SUN 30	MON 31	TUE Aug 1	WED 2	THU 3	FRI 4
SUN 6	MON 7	TUE 8	WED 9	THU 10	FRI 11
SUN 13	MON 14	TUE 15	WED 16	THU 17	FRI 18
SUN 20	MON 21	TUE 22	WED 23	THU 24	FRI 25
SUN 27	MON 28	TUE 29	WED 30	THU 31	FRI Sep 1
SUN 3	MON 4	TUE 5	WED 6	THU 7	FRI 8
SUN 10	MON 11	TUE 12	WED 13	THU 14	FRI 15
SUN 17	MON 18	TUE 19	WED 20	THU 21	FRI 22
SUN 24	MON 25	TUE 26	WED 27	THU 28	FRI 29
SUN 31	MON 1	TUE 2	WED 3	THU 4	FRI 5

## What are our Ministry Teams up to?

### Pastoral Team (Bobby Sellers-Team Leader/Ricky Narron-Co-Leader):

The Deacons are continuing to still, reach out to our shut in, with calls, cards, and prayer. Deacon nominations are in, church vote will be this month. Thank you.

### Administrative Team (David Hughes-Team Leader/Ricky Watson-Co-Leader):



We held our monthly meeting on July 17, 2023, in accordance with our job description. We continued to review the previous monthly financial report, including the income, expenditures, all Ministry Team's expenditures for the month, as well as the investments. We also reviewed the items that were being brought to the July Church Conference, including adding additional money to the budget for the Mission Team, The Baptist Men, the Administrative Team, and the Fellowship

Team. These were being updated as the budgeted expenditures were going to go over the budget due to unexpected expenses if no changes were made.

A link to the Constitution & By-Laws has been added to the Church's Webpage. To access the Constitution & By-Laws, click on the link on the Church Webpage and enter when prompted, enter the password BTCbylaws1599. The password is necessary to allow **only** our church members to review these documents, as they are private to the Church.

Continuing with the review of the Constitution & By-Laws, this month we are providing Article X, Affiliation.

**If you do not have a copy of the Constitution & By-Laws, please contact the Church Secretary for a copy.**

If you have any questions concerning the Administrative Team or our meetings, please contact one of the members. They are: Chair: David Hughes Members: Ricky Watson, Allette Hale, Kelly Currie, Juan Trippe, Crystal Baker, and Joyce Creech (ex-officio).

#### ARTICLE X

*(Revised and Adopted 5/15/2019)*

##### **Affiliation**

A. General

This church is a free, autonomous, independent body, congregational in nature with authority to determine for itself in the manner set forth in this constitution, free of any outside control, authority or power, whether governmental or otherwise, the use of its property and all church policies.

B. Association

This church recognized the value and mutual helpfulness in the voluntary association of churches which are in such agreement in faith and practice as to make possible a spirit of fellowship and goodwill. It is recognized that association and cooperation between such churches will influence the missionary, educational and benevolent interest of each other. The church does, therefore, declare its intention, as far as conscience will allow, to work in mutual cooperation with other Baptist groups of like faith and doctrine.

C. Affiliation

Upon adoption of this constitution this church shall be deemed to have affiliated itself with the Triangle East Baptist Association.

D. Cooperation

Upon adoption of this constitution this church shall be deemed to be in friendly cooperation with the aims and purposes of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina as set forth in the constitutions of these autonomous bodies and through duly elected messengers, will participate in their deliberative assemblies, and shall, as we are able, support the missionary, benevolent, and educational programs of each.

### Discipleship Team (Jeany O'Neal-Team Leader/Tonya Bailey-Co-Leader):

Sunday School is available from 10:00 -10:50 in the following locations:

#### **Children's Classes: Education Building**

Nursery 1: Ages birth - 2 years (1st Floor)

Nursery 2: 2 - 3 years (1st Floor)

Bible Learners: (4 years-2nd Grade) (2nd Floor)

Bible Discoverers: (Grades 3rd-5th) (2nd Floor)

Youth: Grades 6th - 12th (2nd Floor)

#### **Adult Classes: Education Building**

Journey- Young Singles & Couples (2nd Floor) (Various Topics)

Mildred Driver Class (1st Floor) (Lifeway Lessons)

JOY: Ladies Class (1st Floor) (Lifeway Lessons)

Andrew Batten/Gary Hocutt Class: Men's Class (1st Floor) (Lifeway Lessons)

#### **Adult Class: FMC**

Growing in Jesus Class (1st Floor) (Various Topics)

**Anyone interested in teaching a Sunday School class, please call or email the Church with your contact information and interest.**

### Worship Team (Susan Andrews -Team Leader/Dana Hocutt-Co-Leader)

- On August 20 we will celebrate our Sunday School Teachers for their dedication to the teaching of God's word.
- Anyone interested in serving on the Worship Team, please let Dana Hocutt know as she will be the Worship Leader beginning in September.
- Thank you for your attendance on Sunday mornings!

### Mission Team (Annette Ragan-Team Leader/Sandy Trippe-Co-Leader):

The Missions Team continues its activities in the Missions Marketplace Flea Market. Business continues to thrive, allowing us to help those in need where we can. Your Missions Team is now starting to plan for Fall Fest, usually held the 2nd week of November. We need active participants to join us in this planning process. New, fresh ideas are always appreciated, and, of course, help is needed before, during, and after the event. A Missions Team meeting will be Sunday, August 13th @ 4:00pm to start these discussions, and you are welcome to attend!

### Children's Team (Wayne Batten-Team Leader):

Evangelism Block Party Coming Up SOON!!! We will be hosting another Block Party on Saturday, August 19 from 10 am until 2 pm. Please help us out by signing up as volunteers and helping that day. We normally have an opportunity to witness to more than 100 young people, many of whom are not church. The Block Party is a great opportunity to share the Word of God with our community. We need all ages to make this event a success. Please sign up today and get your sign-up sheets to Pam or Wayne.

Our Children participated in the National Night Out with Johnston County Sheriff and local emergency teams. Our children (and some of the parents) twisted a lot of balloons and shared BTC info with a lot of people. We are hoping to see some of them at Church soon.

Children's Church continues to GROW. We recently had a Sunday with 16 children attending. It is amazing to watch them grow and learn about God. Thanks to our Youth volunteers who help us each Sunday. Thanks to Pam and Don for making this such a great ministry.

Wednesday night programs continue for Mission Friends and Journey Kids. These programs introduce the world of missions to our children. Thanks for bringing your children on Wednesday nights.

Thank You All the parents for bringing your children to Church for these events. We are looking forward to many new adventures in 2023.

Thanks again to all of you for making this such a wonderful Church.

Wayne & Pam

