

# The Visitor

## First Baptist Church of Smithfield

Vol. 1

September 9, 2020

No. 26



### Recalculating...

Our first try got derailed, but we're back on track! Join us for 3 all-church meetings to help gather information from (and about) our congregation—what we love, what we value and our hopes for the future.

Each meeting will be different, so please plan on attending *one from each topic (morning or afternoon)*, as we discuss our past, present, and future hopes and needs.

There will be multiple ways for you to participate—Sunday mornings or afternoon.....in person, online, or by phone!

- 11 a.m. after the service, in the Fellowship Hall socially distanced
- 4 p.m. via Zoom (participate online or by phone)

How to participate:

- Please RSVP by the Wednesday before each meeting, either by calling the church office or online
- If joining in the 4 p.m. Zoom meeting, you will receive log-in and participation information via email or mail

Please make every effort to attend, so we can have the best representation of the needs of our church as we select a new pastor.

\*If November Sunday services take place at 11 a.m., Congregational Conversations will be at 10:00 a.m. If services are at 10 a.m., this will take place at 11 a.m.

Questions? Speak to a member of the Transition Team—*Lauren Alford, Hinton Armstrong, Lacey Barnes, Susan Broadwell, Matt Gardner, Suzanne Johnson, Jo Paul & Robert Walsh*



### 2020-2021 DEACON NOMINATIONS AND VOTE

This time of year, we have the opportunity to nominate five (5) individuals to serve on our Deacon Board. Although we are worshipping each Sunday in our Sanctuary, many people feel at risk or are not comfortable being in an area with a number of people. We want our members to participate in this nomination; therefore, we will nominate and vote on deacons by mail. A letter was mailed on September 1, 2020, with a form to submit 5 names. Included in this letter were the names of the current deacons and those not eligible for nomination along with an addressed envelope for your nominations to be sent back to the church or you may also bring your envelope back to the church office. We ask that all nominations be mailed or brought back to the church by or before September 14<sup>th</sup>. A select number of Deacons will count the votes. A second letter will go out to by the end of that week with a ballot to vote on up to five (5) of the top 10 candidates, with an addressed envelope for you to return your ballot to the office by or before September 28<sup>th</sup>, or you may drop off your sealed ballot at the church office. The five (5) new Deacons will be announced in the Visitor.

## **FROM THE TRANSITIONAL PASTOR:**

First Baptist Family:

September 20 is a big day for our church as we begin the first of three congregational meetings as part of this church's transition process. Dr. Mike Queen, our consultant from the Center for Healthy Churches, will guide us through this process and lead our first meeting on September 20. Our Transition Team will have us prepared for a good first meeting. The key now is that we have a huge "buy-in" from a very large number of our church members. I hope you are planning to be present on Sunday, September 20, either at 11a.m. in the Fellowship Hall or in the afternoon at 4:00 p.m. by Zoom or by phone. Your church needs you to participate! Your voice and ideas are important. We want to hear them.

I realize that this process and idea of congregational meetings is new to many of you. After all, FBC Smithfield has not had a transition between pastors in over forty years and has had two consecutive long-tenured pastors in service back to back. What a great record! However, a transition time has now come to this church. Transition periods can be a wonderful time for a church, not simply an in-between period. There is much to be evaluated, reviewed, studied, and perhaps even changed as we prepare for a new chapter for First Baptist Church. And we want everyone to participate.

The process of transition developed by the Center for Healthy Churches is one of the best models I have seen. Some of you know that I experienced first-hand every step of this process during my tenure as Interim Pastor of FBC, Wilson, as this church carried out this program. This process had a wonderful result for that church with the calling of a very fine new minister. I believe in this model and feel it is going to provide great blessings for this church.

Our meetings will be different in that we will experience some of the content virtually and will have to practice "social -distance." But we can overcome these limitations to achieve our desired result. First Baptist Church has so many strengths and gifts. Now is the time to "develop a new vision" for the church for the days and years to come. I look forward to September 20 and the blessing of launching this experience of congregational meetings with you.

Mike Cogdill  
Transitional Pastor

## **Youth Opportunities**

Youth Group "GLOW" will meet Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:30 pm in the Ministry Center for Snack Supper fellowship and Bible Study.

Snack Supper: Sarah Felts and William Taylor

Youth Group "GLOW" will meet Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:30 pm at the home of Eddie Ball for Snack Supper fellowship and Bible Study.

Snack Supper: Eddie Ball and Patrick Gatlin

"See You At The Pole," Join us for fellowship with a breakfast at 6:00 a.m. Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Ministry center followed by prayer at the Fire Station flag pole.

### Scavenger Hunt, Popcorn and Movie

Scavenger Hunt/Movie & Popcorn Night Sunday, September 27, 4-8 p.m. Meet at the Ministry Center to start the scavenger hunt followed by a movie and popcorn. Snack Supper provided. Please RSVP by September 20<sup>th</sup>. Invite a friend!

Laser Tag & Ropes Course at Xtreme Park Adventures, Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm. Join us for fun & fellowship as we learn about "Growing in Faith During Spiritual Warfare." Please RSVP by September 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **Youth Food Drive Collection for Backpack Program**



Our youth Food Drive for the Backpack Program is September 11<sup>th</sup> to October 11<sup>th</sup>. 150 bags or more of food are delivered weekly to those in need from South Smithfield Elementary School. The Backpack Program needs constant donations of: Juice boxes/pouches, little boxes of cereal, fruit snacks in little bags, fruit cups, water bottles, un-refrigerated milk, Gatorade, peanut butter, individual bags of goldfish/chips, individually wrapped little Debbie snacks. Also needed are plastic grocery bags. There is a grocery cart outside the church office doors for you to drop off your donations. We will pack bags in the Ministry Center on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **New Arrivals**

Congratulations to Jeff and Anna Loney on the arrival of their infant son, Ellis James Loney. The proud grandmother is Cheryl Campbell.

Congratulations to Andrew and Chasity Carroll on the arrival of their infant daughters, Ira Grace Carroll and Lillian Drew Carroll. The proud grandparents are Mike and Lynda Carroll. The proud great grandfather is Carl Lamm.

## **Community Blood Drive**

There will be Community Blood Drive, Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> 1:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. in the Ministry Center Gym. To schedule and appointment visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code "SMITHFIELD"

## Children and Families

Rooted in God's Word...Growing in Faith...  
Living for Jesus!!!



"The LORD Bless You and Keep You,  
The LORD Make His Face to Shine upon You  
And Give You Peace." Numbers 6:24



**Welcome to Worship for First Graders** will be different this year. Materials were delivered to the parents to be used at home. Children's Sermons in August and September will be dealing with elements of worship so

please tune in to the services, watch on-line or attend in person. The on-line services are golden opportunities to engage in conversations about the congregational practices we share as we worship God together. No worries about wiggles & whispers!! We are posting online videos to follow up on the topic of each Children's Sermon. Any family can watch and discuss together!!

**Children & Family Ministries Committee Meeting**  
Ryberg Hall – to socially distance!! Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> 6-7 PM

### Our Known Sick

Hilda Whitley (Smithfield Manor Rehab)

### Annual Food/Supply Drive for BCH

The dates for our Spring Food/Supply Drive for our Baptist Children's Homes has been rescheduled to Monday and Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at Johnston Community College. We will be there from 9:00 to 5:00 and deliver to Cameron Boys Camp on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you desire for us to shop for you, we will be happy to do so as we are able to purchase a great deal more with coupons provided for us. If you desire to purchase non-perishable items, this is certainly acceptable but please check the expiration dates and donate only in date items, as they are unable to accept out of date due to license regulations. There is additional information on the Bulletin Board near the Music Room We will need volunteers to help at JCC. If you can help, please contact us. We are grateful for your faithful support of this Food Drive for the children and staff of BCH. We are blessed to have the privilege to help fill their plates while our love fills their hearts. Harold & Carolyn Tharrington.

### FROM THE PULPIT

September 13

Sermon by Mike Cogdill

"How to Forgive"

Matthew 18:21-35

September 20

Sermon by Mike Cogdill

"Time to Renew the Vision of FBC"

Matthew 16:13-19

### WEEKLY SERVICES & OPPORTUNITIES

#### Sunday

10:00 A.M. Morning Worship in the Sanctuary and broadcast over 1090 AM, 105.5 FM, Facebook, and YouTube

**NOTE:** By vote of the Deacons, face masks are now required in service on Sunday mornings. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

11:00 A.M. Radio Bible Class, taught by June Ward, broadcast over 1090 AM and 105.5 FM

#### Monday

10:00 A.M. Clothes Closet, Ministry Center, end at noon

#### Tuesday

1:00 P.M. Pinecone Christmas Tree Decorating, Craft Room

#### Wednesday

10:00 A.M. Wednesday Morning Bible Study, Ryberg Hall

#### Friday

1:00 P.M. Pinecone Christmas Tree Decorating, Craft Room

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### Hope for Today:

#### **New radio station—new day, new time**

Just want to let everyone know that Hope for Today will begin this Sunday, September 13 at 6 am on Channel 102.3 FM (Country Superstars). On the Tuesday after the broadcast, it will be available on their website ([www.countryss.com](http://www.countryss.com)) anytime you might like to listen to it. You can also listen to the program "LIVE" at the website. This Sunday (9/13) there will be a re-broadcast of Chandler Lasater's message about Love. Also, the program has been on in Richmond, VA for several years. That broadcast is at noon on Saturdays....Station WDZY 1290AM or 103.3FM or you can listen "LIVE" at [www.wilkinsradio.com/ourstations/wdzy-1290am](http://www.wilkinsradio.com/ourstations/wdzy-1290am). If you have any questions, you may call me at 919-631-2939. Terry Carroll

**2020 BUDGET INFORMATION**

**General Fund**

Budget needs per week:	\$16,208.92
Received as of 8/30/20	\$13,289.00
Budget needs Year to Date	\$581,634.55
Received Year to Date	\$510,400.82

**Building Fund**

Needs per week	\$2,922.75
Received 8/30/20	\$1,435.00
Needs Year to Date	\$93,528.00
Received Year to Date	\$60,846.71

**MINISTERIAL STAFF EMAIL ADDRESSES  
AND CELL PHONE NUMBERS**

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**SUPPORT STAFF EMAIL**

janice@fbcsmithfield.org  
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margie@fbcsmithfield.org

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH STAFF**

Transitional Pastor Mike Cogdill  
Minister of Music Braxton Kubasko  
Minister of Youth and Education Brian Theurer  
Children and Family Ministries Coordinator Amy Galloway  
Organist Marshall Tyson  
Director of After School Care Donna Donovan  
Director of Weekday Early Education June Ward  
Administrative Staff Janice Holland, Glenda Strickland  
Margie Crumley

02/9/20

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