

Established 1825

MAY 2021

Vol. 61, No. 5

FBC  
*High Point*

THE HERALD

WORKING WITH GOD'S BLUEPRINTS

*Mother's Day*

*Give her the reward she has earned,  
and let her works bring her praise*

*Proverbs 31.30*

*May 9*

Welcome to our new member

**Janet Hritz**

who joined on Easter Sunday.



**Sunday Worship at 11 a.m. in person or via Facebook Live.**

**Virtual Sunday School by Zoom at 9 a.m. to allow time after Sunday School  
for participants to attend worship in person at 11 a.m. if they so choose.**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

405 N. Main St., High Point, N.C. 27260-5088

336-883-0178

[www.fbchighpoint.org](http://www.fbchighpoint.org) – [www.facebook.com/firstbaptisthighpoint](https://www.facebook.com/firstbaptisthighpoint)



## Offering and Income

### March 28, 2021

|                             |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Weekly Budget Need          | \$7,480.00  |
| Tithes & Offerings          | \$11,939.92 |
| Building/Recreation/Parking | \$0.00      |
| Total Budget Receipts       | \$11,939.92 |
| Budget Needs to Date        | \$97,240.00 |
| Budget Receipts to Date     | \$64,383.95 |

### April 4, 2021

|                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Weekly Budget Need          | \$7,480.00   |
| Tithes & Offerings          | \$6,815.00   |
| Building/Recreation/Parking | \$0.00       |
| Total Budget Receipts       | \$6,815.00   |
| Budget Needs to Date        | \$104,720.00 |
| Budget Receipts to Date     | \$71,198.95  |

### April 11, 2021

|                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Weekly Budget Need          | \$7,480.00   |
| Tithes & Offerings          | \$9,000.00   |
| Building/Recreation/Parking | \$4,100.00   |
| Total Budget Receipts       | \$13,100.00  |
| Budget Needs to Date        | \$112,200.00 |
| Budget Receipts to Date     | \$84,298.95  |

### April 18, 2021

|                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Weekly Budget Need          | \$7,480.00   |
| Tithes & Offerings          | \$10,806.91  |
| Building/Recreation/Parking | \$0.00       |
| Total Budget Receipts       | \$10,806.91  |
| Budget Needs to Date        | \$119,680.00 |
| Budget Receipts to Date     | \$95,105.86  |

There are several ways you can support FBC with your monetary gifts.

Online, go to [www.fbchighpoint.org](http://www.fbchighpoint.org), and click on the word "GIVE" in the blue bar. Instructions will appear for giving online with credit and debit cards using Tithe.ly. There are also instructions for setting up an automatic bank draft.

You can still mail checks to 405 N. Main St.

## Gathering together

How good it is to be in worship together again! That was April's "good news of great joy" (it felt like Christmas at Easter to me!). Thank you for your patience and persistence as we continue to practice our health-and-safety protocols under the watchful guidance of the Reopening Steering Committee.

In the meantime, behind the scenes, in March and April, your elected leaders (Deacons, Trustees, Church Council) and the Steering Committee for the pastor search process have invested hours with one another in listening sessions that have identified "Best Things" about First Baptist High Point, "Assets for the Future," "Liabilities for the Future," and "Questions We Need to Answer." Participation has been excellent, as 86% of the leadership has attended, and every attendee has contributed to the conversation. This work of the Leadership Team is setting the stage for congregation-wide sessions that will consider (and add to) the outcomes of the Leadership Team sessions. I want to share a "sneak peek" at some of the top-tier findings from these conversations. Your turn is coming soon, so as you read through these, think about:

- how you would answer the three "leading questions" below;

- what questions you think we most need answers to about our best things, assets, and liabilities; and

- how you would answer the questions the Leadership Team said we most need answered.

Leading Question 1: "If you were speaking to someone who knew nothing about First Baptist High Point, what would you say is the best thing about your church?" The top "best things" (out of 47) identified by the members of the Leadership Team are "the worship service," "the Christ-centeredness" of the church, and "the friendliness of members." (Others included the "great choir" and "excellent Sunday School"). When asked to identify the most important questions we need to answer about these "best things," the top two on the minds of the Leadership Team were "Is our worship style and music type engaging and relevant to people outside our congregation?" and "What are the components that make our worship service our best feature?"

Leading Question 2: "What are the greatest assets or strengths for the future of First Baptist High Point?" the Leadership Team identified 26 assets and rated "our Christ-centeredness," "our people," and "our facilities/physical campus" the most highly. (Others included "sharing the campus with other organizations," "strong Sunday

School," and being "debt free.") The top two questions on the minds of the Leadership Team about our assets were "Given our level of yearly financial resources, how do we best use them to be the church?" and

"How do we effectively utilize our facilities to meet needs of the congregation and the community?"

Leading Questions 3: "What are the greatest liabilities or weaknesses of First Baptist High Point for the future?" members of the Leadership Team were especially concerned about finances and the lack of giving units, the number of members, the aging of the congregation, and the cost of repairs to aging facilities among the 27 they identified. (Others were "need a preacher," "lack of next generation – adults under 40," and "lack of children/youth".) Their most important questions of these liabilities were "How do we increase our giving units?" and "What are the most important features we are looking for in a preacher?"

That last question, "What are the most important features we are looking for in a preacher?" is the reason we are engaged in this process! With the results of these and other conversations yet to come in view, the Pastor Search Committee will develop a "Pastoral Profile" that identifies the most important features in a Senior Minister for First Baptist High Point based on a clear understanding of who we are – and who we understand ourselves called by God to become – and where we are – and where we understand ourselves called by God to go.

Please continue to "pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17) for the Leadership Team, the congregation at large, the Search Committee who will be elected at the conclusion of this process, and the Senior Minister to whom God will lead us.

– Jeff Rogers, Interim Minister

## Sympathy

... to Shirley Garis in the death of her cousin, Jack Thornton.



## Staff

**Dr. Jeff Rogers**  
Interim Minister  
[jeff@fbchighpoint.org](mailto:jeff@fbchighpoint.org)

**Heather Absher**  
Director of Finance  
and Communication  
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**Bettie York**  
Organist

**Gary Pressley**  
Building Superintendent  
[pressleypr@gmail.com](mailto:pressleypr@gmail.com)

**Carol Brooks**  
Herald editor, Webmaster  
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## Financial Report

The first quarter is in the books. Year-to-date giving was \$64,384. Budget is for \$97,236. Our giving is averaging \$4,952/week when we add in the online and credit card gifts.

Spending for the three months was \$63,154, so we're \$1,230 to the good. There's nothing really unusual to report. Our actual expenses are running at \$20k to \$22k per month as anticipated, so we're just covering current costs.

Extra next month: the billing for the gym heater repairs has not been booked yet – that will be \$5,983 to be paid in April. Based on break-even giving, we opted to only do the minimum repairs instead of a full replacement that would have cost \$28,000 – it turns out that was a good decision. We have a large physical plant to keep up and we never know when the next big expense will hit us.

It is worth reminding about the \$10,000

Matching Challenge. During a time when we're just barely breaking even, our mission at 405 N. Main St. could benefit greatly by meeting this challenge. In three months, it has brought in a total of \$1,050. If you are able to participate above your normal giving, please note "Challenge" in the memo line on your check.

Don Myers, Treasurer

Cy Brooks, Stewardship Chair

## Parking Lot Volunteers

To help First Baptist Church in funding our mission work, which includes our Open Door Ministry program, we have a unique opportunity to offer parking for the High Point Rockers baseball team.

There will be 60 home games this season, plus additional opportunities. Time required would be approximately 5:30-7:30 p.m. for weekday games and 3:30-5:30 p.m. for Sunday games.

We have many presently volunteering to assist with our parking teams but, with increased games and additional opportunities on the horizon, we need additional volunteers.

The present baseball time frame is from June through October. Please let us hear from you if interested in helping us help our community and our mission work.

We would be appreciative of one day or as many days as you can dedicate.

You may contact us at [heather@fbchighpoint.org](mailto:heather@fbchighpoint.org) or [charlie@fbchighpoint.org](mailto:charlie@fbchighpoint.org).

Charlie Bowers, Parking Lot Chair



## Trustees

After some cleanup both inside and out, the home on Oakview Road that was bequeathed to the church will soon be for sale. Thanks to David Williams and Cy Brooks. Special thanks to Ray Chambers. Donna Fincher will be handling realtor duties on behalf of the church. Special thanks to her.

Carl Hunnicutt, Trustees Chair

## Thank You

The Adamciks thank everyone for prayers on our behalf and kind encouragement following the passing of our grandfather, Paul Bennett. You have blessed us richly.

Thank you.

John

## Building and Grounds

A big thanks to three generations of the Williams family for cleaning up the area around our sign for Easter. Another big thanks goes to Clyde Hall for the new flower plantings outside the dining room.

Would you like to participate in making the grounds of First Baptist beautiful? Individuals or families could adopt an area with the promise to keep it neat and growing. Contact Carol Brooks, Building & Grounds chair, if interested.

## Prayer Needs

Email [heather@fbchighpoint.org](mailto:heather@fbchighpoint.org) or call Heather Absher at 336-883-0178 with prayer needs. Please provide their address so we may mail the prayer sheet to them. Please get permission to publish their names on our prayer chain and email.



Kiwanis Club of High Point presents  
**Chicken Feed 2021**  
Friday, May 14,  
11:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
First Baptist Church,  
405 North Main Street

*Drive thru and business or home delivery.*

Port-A-Pit BBQ Chicken  
Baked Beans, Slaw, and a Roll \$12.00

Please purchase meal tickets in advance as only a limited number of tickets will be available the day of the event.

Tickets on sale from any Kiwanian or buy tickets or schedule deliveries online at [kiwanishighpoint.org](http://kiwanishighpoint.org)  
Make checks payable to Kiwanis Children's Fund.

*Funds raised will benefit Children's Programs in the High Point area. Our recent projects include a new playground and scholarships for summer camp programs.*

**Don't forget to  
bring items  
to fill our  
Blessing Box!**



We need to fill the box with things that will be a blessing to people in need, like canned food (cans with pop tops are especially helpful), band-aids, diapers, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, hand warmers and more. Grocery and personal items are the most needed. Please consider donating to our Blessing Box as a way to serve others. This is the one thing we can **all** help with. Donations will be collected in the lobby.

## Deacons on Call

**May 2**

Teena Reddeck  
Donna Willis

**May 9**

Diania Baum  
Charlie Bowers

**May 16**

Pam Burgess  
Linda Causby

**May 23**

Rick Hines  
Debbie Edwards

**May 30**

Joy Key  
Wayne Perdue

# Pastoral Care Line

## 881-6480



Postmaster, please send change of address to:

**First Baptist Church**, 405 N. Main St.,  
High Point, NC 27260-5088

## The Church Herald

(USPS 560-820)

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## BIRTHDAYS in



|                  |        |                     |        |
|------------------|--------|---------------------|--------|
| Brenda Pressley  | May 1  | Gerson Counou       | May 15 |
| Hannah Garis     | May 3  | Donna Fincher       | May 17 |
| Linda Winslow    | May 3  | Ray Chambers        | May 20 |
| Jo Ellen Godfrey | May 4  | Barrett Baxendale   | May 22 |
| Carolyn Futch    | May 6  | Martha Lancaster    | May 22 |
| Adam Jones       | May 7  | Helen Lowery        | May 22 |
| Barbara Culler   | May 10 | Trey Perdue         | May 22 |
| Shirley Smith    | May 11 | Lisa Powell         | May 24 |
| Misty Holt       | May 12 | Elizabeth Blackwell | May 26 |
| Linda Swan       | May 14 | Nicole Hutchins     | May 26 |



## CALENDAR

**Sunday Worship**  
**Live Stream Every Sunday**  
**at 11:00 a.m. on**



**Midweek Prayer**  
**and Bible Study:**  
**The Virtual Edition**  
**Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.**