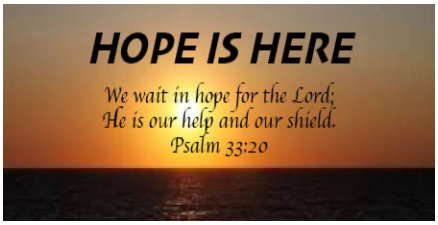
W.O.N.
White Oak Newsletter
White Oak Hill
Free Will Baptist Church

Issue #122
September 28, 2022
252-235-3868

From Pastor Hal



Church Attendance

September 21st
Wednesday Night 85

September 25th
Sunday School 89
Sunday Worship 126

While Cindy and I were in the mountains this past week, we could feel the changes this time of year brings our way each year. The temperatures start to drop, the leaves begin to change colors, the days get shorter, and the water by the hotel seemed to get cooler in one week's time. But there were also some things that remained the same last week at our hotel. For instance, each morning a blue heron and a white egret waded their way up the river in search of breakfast. Their steadfast search for a meal reminded me of the faithful members of White Oak who continue to steadfastly serve the Lord. In Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer, we will find them serving in the nursery, S.S. Classes, hallways, platform, etc. It doesn't matter what is happening around the church, these dedicated, godly servants will be at their posts. The beautiful birds in Dillsboro also reminded me of the faithful members who attend all the services at White Oak. Christians coming to feed on the Word of God and worship the Creator. Your steadfastness is beautiful and your love for Jesus is making an eternal difference. As we enter Pastor's Appreciation Month, thank you for allowing me to be your pastor.

The last quarter of the year is always a very busy time of year for the church. Many of you will ask to use the Family Life Center for various family functions. THAT IS AWESOME! I just want to remind you to call the office as soon as possible to schedule the F.L.C. if needed. The building stays very busy during the last quarter of the year.

sonshine club

Our Sonshine Club will be meeting in the F.L.C. this Saturday at 5 p.m. The Johnsons will be serving Hamburger Steak and gravy, grilled chicken, mashed potatoes, and green beans. Of course, there will be great deserts. YUMMY! Please call the church office if you would like to come and haven't taken the opportunity to sign the sign-up sheet. Thank you!

The Randall District W.A.C. will be meeting at Corinth church this Saturday. Please let Ms. Melisa know if you would like to attend this meeting. They will be leaving the church at 8:00 a.m.

The church would like to host another Security Team Meeting Wednesday, October 12th at 7:00 p.m. Thank you to everyone who is currently serving on this important team. We are asking everyone to attend the meeting if you want to continue to serve as a part of the security team at White Oak. Major Steve Stroud (Wilson Police Dept.) will be facilitating the meeting. Thank you, Brother Steve.

This Sunday the church will launch its annual Operation Christmas Child collection. Let me encourage every member to make Christmas sweeter for children around the world. As a reminder, there is a Gospel message in each shoebox.

We have some exciting mission activities in October. The Groeneveld family will be with us on October 9th. Brother John and his family serve in Togo, West Africa. He is coming to give us an update on the work in Togo. And the last weekend in October, we will raise more awareness for Project Hickory. Of course, the Huffs are dear to our hearts. We want to help them raise the support needed to plant a church. On the last Sunday of the month, we will designate Project Hickory Day. Let me encourage you to give generously.

The N.C. State Fair is in October. Brother Jonathan is taking the Engage Youth to the fair on October 15th. They will be leaving the church at 8:00 p.m.

Our annual Harvest Festival is scheduled for October 29th. The fun will start at 3:00 p.m. This activity is full of games for every age. However, it does take a lot of volunteers to make it successful. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer if you would like to help the church serve the community. And please don't forget to bring your candy donation to the church to fill all the children's baskets. There are flyers in the foyer advertising the Harvest Festival and Homecoming. Take as many as you want to pass out to the community. Everyone is welcome at White Oak Hill. Some exciting things this year will include:

- A costume contest. Whoever has the best biblical costume will win a prize.
- Four jars full of candy will be at the registration table. Participants will guess the quantity in the jar. The closest guess will win the jar.
- A hot dog eating contest. Can anyone eat 10 hot dogs? We will see.
- A Soda drinking contest. Who can drink a Dr. Pepper or Coke the fastest?
- A corn hole contest. Eight throws. The most points win.

Listed below are our prayer updates:

- **Kay Dew**-Kay Dew is still battling cancer areas in his body (primarily his bladder). Let's pray fervently for our dear brother.
- **Gregg Wall**- Your prayers are working. He is doing much better.
- **Shirley Dew**-Ms. Shirley is doing much better. It's so good to see her in church again. Please continue to pray for her and Bro. Bobby.
- **Patricia & Gene Register**-Please pray for her as she continues her dialysis treatment and is waiting for a kidney transplant. Gene's surgery went well, and he is home recovering.
- **Tim Riggs**-Please pray for our former pastor. His kidneys are not working, and he is undergoing dialysis.
- **Sue Bryant**- She and Bob are feeling better, but still recovering from Covid.
- **Sue Bissette**- Ms. Sue has taken a turn for the worse. Her sciatic nerve is giving her a fit. Please pray for pain management and a full recovery.
- **Melisa Belcher**-Her health is improving. But she still needs prayer.
- **Bonnie Hayes**-This is Glenda and Christi's aunt. God has been so good to Ms. Bonnie. She recently had a blood clot in her legs but is doing well. She is now at Wilson Medical receiving physical therapy.
- **Billy John Dew**- We need to cover Billy John in prayer. The cancer appears to be metastasizing.
- **Bailey Christian Childcare**
- **Glenda Carroll**-Please pray for Glenda. She will see the cardiologist again next week.
- **Charles Sherrod**-Bro. Charles spent the weekend in the hospital. Please continue to pray for our dear brother.
- **Elizabeth Deans**- She is experiencing severe back pain. Please pray for wisdom and direction to follow the right treatment plan.
- **Harold Brantley**-Brother Harold had surgery to repair the broken bone. Then he spent a few weeks in rehabilitation. Now he is home and doing much better. Thank you for your prayers!
- **Judith Grant**-Let's pray for our dear sister. I can't go into details, but she needs a special touch of the Master's hand for something that has physically plagued her all year.

Love in Christ,
Rev. Hal W. Jones III
Pastor Hal
Galatians 2:20

FREE CHRISTIAN RESOURCES

Three Ways to Register at RightNowMedia

Link

This link is easy to access to the church's account: https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/WHITEOAKHILL

Text Code

This text code is easy to access to the church's account: WHITEOAKHILL can be texted to 49775.

QR Code

This scannable code is easy to access to the church's account.

Schedule of Services

Sunday

In-Person

Sunday School at 9:30 AM

Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 AM

On-Line

Sunday Morning Online Service at 10:30 AM

Sunday Evening Online Service Only at 6 PM

Wednesday

7 PM - Prayer, Praise & Bible Study

Engage Youth, Propel Kids & Nursery

WOH Services can be seen on either:

Facebook - Hal Jones page

White Oak Hill Free Will Baptist Church - Website

White Oak Hill Free Will Baptist Church YouTube

MISSIONS CORNER!

Please pray for these missionaries!

1 Peter 5:8 reminds us to, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." The Bible also tells us that the Devil is the father of lies. One of the many ways the enemy tries to devour us is by ensnaring us with lies. Lies of doubt and lies of fear. This entrapment is seen here in the lives of the Togolese in their fear of spirits. Togo is a country steeped in spiritism and animism. Daily rituals are carried out in order to appease the spirits, and many Togolese live in fear that the spirits will punish them or their family.

Recently in the clinic, we saw this firsthand. A little 2 month old baby boy was brought in by his parents. Tabitha noticed a cloth bracelet on his wrist. Knowing it was most likely a fetish trinket but wanting to open the door for a spiritual conversation, she asked about the little cloth bracelet. They replied it was for protection against sorcery and spirits. They were afraid for their son and were putting their confidence in a fetish trinket. We shared with him that they don't have to live in fear and we were able share the Gospel with both parents. The father admitted he is on a "bad path" and expressed interest in knowing more about Christ. One of our chaplains spent time with him explaining the Gospel. Please pray that he would turn to Christ!

SPIRITISM and THE GOSPEL

A Togolese pastor recently told us that the Togolese filter everything through a spiritist world view. As Americans, we have more of a naturalist world view. For example, if a Togolese gets sick they often think they have been cursed or have angered the spirits. When an American gets sick, we typically acknowledge that we have been exposed to a virus or bacteria. We typically attribute things like illness to a physical cause; however, the Togolese typically attribute it to a spiritual cause. This world view often affects how the Togolese respond to the Gospel and can cause spiritual struggles even after a Togolese has decided to put their faith in Christ. In order to be effective in ministry, whether presenting the Gospel or discipling a believer we must keep in mind their world view.

Mr Ali, the pastor of the Goudevé church, preached a sermon recently where he challenged the believers to completely forsake their spiritist ways and practices. He reminded them that they can not walk in the old ways once they choose to follow Christ. We can not live in darkness and light! It was an incredibly bold sermon and we are thankful for his stand. Please continue to pray for the Goudevé church that they would be confident in the power of the Lord and that they wholeheartedly put their faith in Jesus alone.

THANKFUL

From everyday moments to difficult moments....we are so very thankful to be able to serve here.

In just one month we will be returning to the U.S. for our scheduled furlough. During this time we will be able to see family (it has been 4 years since we have seen some of them!) as well as share in various churches and conferences all that God is doing in Togo. Please pray that we use this last month wisely as we begin to hand over some of our different ministries and responsibilities. Please pray for our kids and the other missionary kids. They are an extremely close group of kids, more like family really. Several other families are also going on furlough and several of the MKs will be heading off to college. This is a tremendous time of adjustment for their families but also to the missionary team. We are thankful that amidst so many changes, we have a God that never changes!
Please also pray for our upcoming travels. Covid restrictions still make international travel challenging, but we are trusting in the Lord's providence!

A few key days when we would appreciate your prayers:

- June 27th- our family will say "see ya laters" to our Togolese and missionary friends and travel to the capital city of Lomé for Covid testing
- June 28th- 12pm (8am EST) we will board our first of 3 flights
- June 29th- we arrive in Raleigh, NC at 2pm EST

PRAISES:
So many open doors to share the Gospel
Continued growth at Goudevé Church
Furlough schedule filling up with church meetings

PRAYER REQUESTS:
Transitioning of ministries/responsibilities
Spiritual growth of hospital employees
Furlough schedule
Upcoming travel