

Sunday afternoon my mind couldn't help but be busy. The result of the business meeting (listed below) was a complete surprise. My mind was racing to find answers as I left to care for mom and think about the future of our church. Some of you emailed me, others sent a text, and some others gave me a phone call expressing their disappointment with the outcome. And everyone who communicated with me over the last few days had the same question. Why? While I would love to be "Mr. Encourager", I am struggling to answer this question also. So, I thought I would share what I am doing to find personal victory in the middle of a huge disappointment. The Bible repeatedly shares that many Bible heroes asked the same question.

Moses didn't understand why God would bring so much trouble to the Israelites. Exodus 5:22 "And Moses returned unto the Lord, and said, Lord, wherefore hast thou so evil entreated this people? why is it that thou hast sent me?"

Joshua didn't know sin was in the camp when the Israelites were defeated at AI. When their great army suffered defeat, Joshua asked God why. Joshua 7:7 "And Joshua said, Alas, O Lord God, wherefore hast thou at all brought these people over Jordan, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? would to God we had been content, and dwelt on the other side Jordan!"

Gideon cried out to God when the Midianites ruled over the Israelites. Judges 6:13 "And Gideon said unto him, Oh my Lord, if the Lord be with us, why then is all this befallen us? and where be all his miracles which our fathers told us of, saying, Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt? but now the Lord hath forsaken us, and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites."

Job cried to the Lord and said "Why died I not from the womb? why did I not give up the ghost when I came out of the belly?" Job 3:11

Nehemiah (Neh. 13:11); David (Psalm 22;1); Asaph (Psalm 74:1); Isaiah (Isa. 63:17) and Jeremiah (Jer. 14:19) all reached up to the Father to ask why. One more person used this three-letter word.

Jesus cried out at Calvary. Matthew 27:46 "And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

Anne McCue Graham Lotz is the second daughter of Rev. Billy and Ruth Graham. She had this to say, "If we don't figure out how to process the whys of our life, we'll end up cynical, resulting in a catastrophic loss of faith. If we don't answer correctly, we'll grow bitter, resulting in a darkening personality. In Christ are hidden all the mysteries of wisdom and knowledge. We believe He has the capacity of working all things for the good of those who love Him. We know He works all things according to the ultimate purposes of His counsel. We consider all is right that seems most wrong if it be His sweet will."

Jesus taught that the Lord knows when a sparrow falls to the ground. God knows everything. Then Jesus reminded them how much more precious they were than the sparrow. There is nothing that happens in our life that God does not allow. And when we experience problems we do not understand, we can still trust God. And when we trust God, our faith will grow. And isn't that what we all want? To have more faith and a deeper, more personal walk with God. Let's use the events of this past weekend to deepen our faith, and create a closer walk with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 3

7 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,

9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

15 Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

Church family - Let's put the past weekend behind us and reach forth to the wonderful things the Lord has in our future. GOD IS STILL ON THE THRONE! HALLELUJAH!



Last Wednesday we were able to review the financial news for the church in 2022. Along with approving the final numbers for 2022, we celebrated the salvation decision, the baptisms, and the new members who joined our church family last year. The Lord was very good to White Oak last year. Many of you who were not at the meeting pray for your church and give regularly to the work of God. Thank you for your faithfulness!! If you weren't able to be at the business meetings, please see Ms. Glenda and she will be happy to give you the updated reports.



This Sunday we will be holding a baptismal service. So far, Emily Hollyfield, Raphael Salazar, Hayden Taylor, Lisa Whitaker, and Mickey Bissette Jr will follow the Lord in Believer's Baptism. If you have been saved and would like to get baptized along with these other candidates; please let the pastor know your desire to participate. It's going to be a great Sunday!!



I appreciate the Carrolls and Jonathan Price taking the young people to the paintball range this past weekend. Everyone had a great time!!



Some upcoming activities for the family in February

- This Thursday the teams in our basketball league will scrimmage in the F.L.C. Please pray for the teams and volunteers. We still need a few people to keep the scoreboard and a few people to work in the concession stands. Please let Charles Price or Glenn Dew know if you can help.
- We have scheduled a "Dinner and a Movie Night" for the church on February 8th. The church will serve pizza and sodas. The title of the movie is "Fireproof". This would be a great opportunity to invite some friends to the church. The kids will have their own movie in the former sanctuary. The service will start at 6:30 instead of 7. Please mark your calendars.
- My son Chaplain Hal Jones will be our guest preacher on February 12th. We hope to make this service a special Valentine's Service.
- Put the word out. The Miller family will be joining us on February 19th. They were such a blessing when they came to church last year. Please let everyone know.
- Youth news!
- 1. Jonathan will be taking the Propel-age kids bowling this Saturday. They will leave the church at 4 p.m. The cost is \$20. A sign-up sheet is in the foyer.
- 2. Jonathan has scheduled a Polar Ice-Skating activity for the teenagers. They will go ice skating on February 18th. The event is from 12-3 p.m. Please sign the sheet in the foyer if your teen is interested in attending.



The National Association home office just sent a schedule of special offerings for the denomination this year. I would like to share those in this newsletter to help you prepare. A copy of it will be in the Sunday School hallway.

Feb. 26-Welch College Fund Offering April 30-Rest of the Family Offering August 27-International Missions Offering November 19-North American Missions Offering



Church family, we still need to pray for the right person to join the team as the Office Administrator. Please ask the Lord to continue to give Ms. Glenda good health. She has been so kind in staying until the position is filled. Let's pray for the Lord to open hearts and open doors



Listed below are our prayer needs this week.

- Kay Dew- Please continue to pray for our dear brother as he battles cancer. The chemotherapy isn't working to reduce the size of the cancer. The doctors are going to try something different.
- Gregg Wall- Let's continue to pray for Gregg. He is back at work, but he not 100% healed.
- Patricia Register-Ms. Pat continues to need our prayers as she battles poor health.
- Tim Riggs-Please pray for our former pastor. His kidneys are not working, and he is undergoing dialysis.

- Melisa Belcher- Melissa is much better. Thank you for your prayers. But let's continue to pray until she is completely healthy.
- Billy John Dew- Let's keep praying! His hemoglobin count is very low. As a result, he has no energy.
- Bailey Christian Childcare
- Teresa Medlin-She was diagnosed with Pneumonia this past week.
- Dottie Massey- Ms. Dottie is getting better, but it's a slow recovery process.
- Lucille Beasley-Ms. Beasley is having some health problems.
- Joyce Batchelor-She is continuing to improve but still needs our prayers.
- John Grant-Jim and Judith Grant's son is doing much better. But let's continue to pray.
- Grace Fullerton-Bonnie Joyner's granddaughter is having some serious medical issues and the doctors are trying to diagnose the problem.
- Alaina Blalock-She is the daughter of Collin and Ashley Blalock. They think she may have a rare lung disease. These are dear friends of Randy/Faye Bissette.
- Taylor Grissom-Taylor has just been accepted as a flight attendant for Frontier Airlines and will soon be headed to school. Let's pray for this young lady as she takes flight into a new career.
- Faye Bottom-This is Dottie Massey's cousin. She is in the hospital and Dottie asked us to pray for her.

Love in Christ,

Rev. Hal W. Jonus III

Pastor Hal Galatians 2:20

MISSIONS CORNER!

Please pray for these missionaries!



FAMILY FOOD BASKET 6321 Old Raleigh Road Sims, NC 27880 PO Box 461 Bailey, NC 27807 Telephone: 252-291-0093

January 9, 2023

Dear Faithful Supporter,

As we go into the New Year, we want to acknowledge your support for the Family Food Basket in 2022. We can't begin to adequately express our gratitude for the outpouring of love shown for all those in need this past year. Kindness comes in many ways, but it always comes from the heart. We can always bring sunshine to the lives of others that are having a struggle.

This ministry helps meet the physical needs of an average of 170-190 families per month. Your food and monetary donations are greatly needed and appreciated. Most importantly, continue to pray for all those involved as we follow Jesus' example in Matthew 25:40, in as much as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.

This program has impacted many lives in our communities in which we serve. Not only do we help feed families, we also pay a portion of their utilities and prescription bills.

Everyone knows that the economy has taken a toll on so many families. The food bank is seeing the results of how it has affected our community. With your help, we can continue to be a blessing to these families.

Thank you for remembering the Family Food Basket with your generous donations of money, food, and gift cards to our families in need. Our neighbors continue to need our assistance in 2023. We pray that we can count on you to continue to support this ministry. We could not make it without people who have a big heart for folks in need! God is good! May God bless you all!

Come visit us anytime. We are open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Best Wishes for a Wonderful New Year!

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Rebecca Dew Administrator

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"Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

January 2023

Dear Friends,

Greetings in the name of the Lord. I trust this note finds you doing well and enjoying God's blessings in this new year.

January is a month of new beginnings: many will make resolutions to better their personal lives such as to lose weight, be on time, read more, and many others. Some of us will have made resolutions to better our spiritual lives, such as praying more or having a more consistent devotional time.

January 2023 marks our 84th year at Family Ministries ministering to the most broken and vulnerable in our midst. Thanks to friends like you and your generous, faithful support, we are praying that there will be many that will experience NEW LIFE in Christ through the outreach of this ministry this year.

While a new year brings new, exciting opportunities, rest assured some things will never change: We are still declaring the blessed old story of salvation, sharing that glorious old news of new life in Christ, and declaring that Christ is still the answer to this worlds problems!

In this New Year, we at Family Ministries are thankful for faithful friends like you that have stood with us down through the years.

A Happy New Year to you and your family. We love and appreciate you all.

In Christ,

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Jim McComas

Executive Director

Note: No goods or services were received in exchange for this contribution.

COME JOIN US FOR MEN'S BASKETBALL LEAGUE STARTING FEBRUARY 9TH



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/WHITEOAKH-ILL

Text Code

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

OR Code

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



COME JOIN US FOR... The **Millers**



Southern Gospel Music Sunday, February 19th 10:30 AM

White Oak Hill FWB Church 3967 West Hornes Church Road Bailey, NC 27807 (252) 235-3868

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