

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

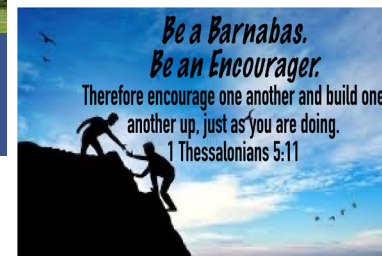


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THANK
you!



From Pastor Hal

Issue #151
May 3, 2023
252-235-3868



Let me begin this newsletter by thanking each of you for your prayers, text, calls, and expressions of love. Some of you have been the mission team for the church. You visited and reached hurting hearts within the family. THANK YOU for standing in the gap to minister to others in our absence. It was certainly good to sleep in our own beds last night and be home. I am looking forward to attending the church service this evening. A special thanks to Brother Reuben Cason for bringing our mid-week message this week to allow me a little healing time.

Reflections

One of the wonderful things about being in the valley of sorrow is that God will sometimes turn it into a valley of vision. The inability to enjoy normal vacation activities allowed Cindy and I to take some sharp turns down streets we wouldn't have chosen to visit. It is my understanding the Tesla automobile has a self-driving mode that allows the occupants to be driven to a destination without their assistance. The car will drive itself! Amazing! These past ten days the Lord was driving our life into unwanted places. There wasn't much we could do to control the situation. When I physically fought to turn down the street the Lord wanted us to travel, God made it impossible to continue. We were literally in 911 mode. We found ourselves in the valley of sorrow on vacation. May I ask you a question? "How can we love someone without prayer?" Calls, texting, visits, gifts, and companionship (like Job's friends) are wonderful. And those expressions of love are great. But can they change the outcome? The greatest action by a Christian for someone else is found in our prayer life. Praying isn't about a transcendental experience where we rise to God for an "out of this world" experience. Even though prayer will bring us closer to God and inevitably move us closer to the image of Christ. No, the purpose of prayer is being with God and feeling His presence. We aren't hunting for an experience, but we are inviting God into our life experience.* We want Him to be in us and we want to be in Him. This past week the Potter took a piece of clay and molded it into the pottery He needed. God touched my life and did what I could not do. There was learned helplessness that forced the clay to stop and submit. God was teaching that I am helpless without Jesus. Have you ever been on a roller coaster and there is a sudden 90-degree turn? Your whole body is shifted by the sudden change in direction. When God moves our life 90 degrees in another direction, let me encourage you to take your hands off the wheel of life. The Lord may even take us down a street we don't want to go. It's Ok. Even in the valley of sorrow, even when we travel down streets that cause us pain, even when the destination isn't clear, trust the Lord. He is weaving a story in our lives that will speak for eternity. Please join me in becoming helpless. Join me in prayer today as we bow and say to our wonderful Savior, "I am yours and you are mine and I will willingly travel down any street you choose for my life. I love you, Jesus!"

Thank you again for all your prayers. They are a precious gift to Cindy and me. We love our church family.



I would also like to thank all of you who supported the Harvest Children's Home this past weekend. Rev. Carl Miller shared some good news about the home, and he also shared that our church had given almost \$50,000 in the past 20 years to the children's home. We added \$2,000.00 to that amount this past Sunday. Praise the Lord!! Our church family is so generous. It reminds me of what D.L. Moody once said, "What makes the Dead Sea dead? Because it is all the time receiving, never giving out anything. Why is it that many Christians are cold? Because they are all the time receiving, never giving out anything." Thank you, Lord, for a church that is alive to reach the lost and possesses a desire to help the less fortunate. A church that gives!



Let me make you aware of a few events at the church in the upcoming days. I apologize the May calendar is not finished to help you plan.

This Thursday (tomorrow) is the National Day of Prayer. The sanctuary will be open from 10-12 if anyone would like to stop by for a time of prayer. I will be in the sanctuary from 10:30-11:30. Please let me know if you have something you'd like me to lift to the Lord. May I also encourage every member to use your Wednesday prayer sheet to lift our nation and the needs of our church family. This Saturday is our monthly Sonshine Club meeting. We will gather in the Family Life Center at 5:00 PM. The Johnsons will be serving hamburger steak/gravy, mashed potatoes, lima beans, corn, rolls, and tea. If you are a senior, we hope you will plan to join us. It's a wonderful time to have fun and enjoy some great fellowship. We do ask that each person donate \$5 to help cover the cost of the great meal. Brother Jonathan has a Propel activity scheduled for May 13th. He will take them to Goldsboro for an afternoon of fun at the skating rink. The activity will be from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

And lastly, the church has a phenomenal Mother's Day service planned for Mother's Day (the 14th). The service will start at our normal time of 10:30 a.m.

Our prayer needs this week are...

Listed below is our prayer list for this week.

- Kay Dew- Brother Kay is out of the hospital and doing well. Of course, he is still in a lifelong battle with cancer and needs our prayers.
- Patricia & Gene Register- Ms. Pat continues to need our prayers as she receives dialysis. Gene is doing well recovering from his surgery.
- Tim Riggs- Please pray for our former pastor. His kidneys are not working, and he needs a kidney transplant.
- Halie Braswell- She has been diagnosed with Nutcracker Syndrome. Please pray for directions to the right doctors and wisdom for decision-making. She will go to a specialist at Duke in June.
- Melisa Belcher- Melissa is much better. Thank you for your prayers. But let's continue to pray until she is completely healthy.
- Brenda Dawes- Please pray for Ms. Brenda and Fred. She has taken a turn for the worse and stands in need of a miracle.



- Billy John Dew- Let's keep praying! His hemoglobin count is very low and he can't walk without his walker.
- Bailey Christian Childcare
- Glenda Carroll- Please pray for Glenda. The tumor seems to be stable, but she needs our prayers. Let's ask God to heal her and remove the brain tumor from her body. She goes to UNC on August 11th.
- Teresa Medlin- She is doing much better but is still trying to regain her strength.
- Dottie Massey- Ms. Dottie is doing better. But she still is weak and trying to regain her strength.
- Earlene Pitts- Many of you know she has been struggling with Parkinson's disease for years. She is having a very difficult time. Please pray for Brother Gene and Ms. Earlene as they navigate this season of life.
- Joyce Batchelor- She is continuing to improve but still needs our prayers.
- Anne Landin- She is home and still recovering from her fall.
- Christy Bryant- Christy has had two abrasion surgeries on her legs. Praise the Lord, they have helped alleviate some discomfort. Let's pray for complete healing so this woman of God may continue to serve the Lord in such a selfless manner.
- Faye Bottom- This is Dottie Massey's cousin and Dottie asked us to pray for her.
- Bobby Dew- Brother Bobby has a blood clot in one eye and has lost his vision in that eye. Specifically, pray the doctors will have wisdom and the problem remains isolated to one area.
- Jimmy Barnes- Jimmy's levels are great, so they are moving his treatments to every three months.
- Geraldine Tuck- Ms. Geraldine continues to see the Great Physician guide her recovery from the mini-stroke. Her health is continuing to improve, but she is still trying to regain full mobility in her arms.
- Pastor Hal- My intestinal obstruction appears to be removed. The doctors did say the obstruction could return. Please pray for complete permanent healing of the lower intestinal area.
- Cindy Jones - Cindy has recently been having heart issues. Her heart is going into A-Fib about once a week. She is taking medication and we ask the Lord for miraculous healing.

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



<u>April 26th</u>	
Wednesday Night	N/A
<u>April 30th</u>	
Sunday School	84
Sunday Worship	122



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April 2023

"He is not here: for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." Matthew 28:6 KJV

Dear Ministry Partners,

This month we celebrate Easter - The resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ! In a more general sense, Spring flowers speak to us of new life and new beginnings. What a special time of year.

Just this past month, at the Hope Center, our pregnancy care center in Greeneville, Tennessee, we certainly had much to celebrate: the delivery of a brand new, X75 MYLAB System by Esaote Ultrasound Machine! We are praising God for this wonderful tool that gives expectant mothers a window to the womb.

This gift was made possible by a generous anonymous donor, several churches, individuals and a grant through the Psalm 31 Project. (The grant will pay for training on the machine, as well!)

Thanks to the generosity of you, our faithful friends, we will be able to celebrate many more new lives and new beginnings through those lives who will be saved through this powerful tool.

Thank you all for your faithfulness to this ministry - and Happy Easter! HE IS RISEN!

In Christ,

Jim McComas
Executive Director

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

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



CHOSEN PEOPLE MINISTRIES

PARTNERS IN MINISTRY

241 EAST 51ST STREET | NEW YORK, NY 10022-6502 | TEL 212-223-2252 | WWW.CHOSENPEOPLE.COM

May, 2023

White Oak Hill Free Will Baptist Church
3967 W Hornes Church Rd
Bailey, NC 27807-9517

Dear Friends,

In Brazil, we planned a hike with our volunteers to Pedra do Telégrafo so we could invite Israeli backpackers to hike with us and talk with them about the gospel. There was just one problem: our volunteers invited countless Israelis to join us with no success. The morning of the hike we woke up very early to head out, and we were surprised when Igal* texted us about 10 minutes before we left for the hike. He was an Israeli staying in Rio de Janeiro, and he wanted to come with us. We were overjoyed at this last-minute addition to our group, and we would soon learn that this was a divine appointment from the Lord! The volunteers went to pick up Igal from his apartment while Jenna and I went ahead to the trailhead.



When Igal met me, he exclaimed, "I hear you believe in Jesus, and you're Jewish." This was exciting and interesting to him! It turns out that on the one-hour drive to the hike, one of our Israeli volunteers who believes in Jesus explained to him the basics of what we believe. On the hike, we were able to get to know him more and talk more about faith. Igal is a philosophy major at an Israeli university and he recently concluded that God exists after being an atheist for years. Now he was on a journey to figure out what he believes about God. His assumption was that the God of Israel must be the true God. That assumption led us to talk with him about the promised Messiah of Israel who is Jesus.

Our conversations with Igal continued when he came to stay at our guesthouse for two nights. On Sunday morning during breakfast, Igal asked us a question that sparked a two-hour conversation about salvation by works vs. salvation by grace. We could see the wheels turning in his brain as he considered that salvation is not based on anything that we do but that we obey God because He changes our hearts. This was mind-boggling to him!

Igal seemed so close to believing in Jesus! Also, he thinks so philosophically that I could see him leading many others like him to Messiah if he does come to faith. We are planning to visit him when we go to Israel next month. Pray that God continues to work in Igal's life and that he comes to faith. Pray that he would experience the salvation by grace through faith that we talked with him about.

In Messiah,

The Arnolds

Stephen and Jenna Arnold

*Name changed