

### Deacon of the Week:

1st Sunday: Phil Lowery  
 2nd Sunday: Winston Riddle  
 3rd Sunday: Kelly Coons  
 4th Sunday: Josh Becker

### July Wedding Anniversaries

Pastor Drew & Martha Dalton 12



### July Birthdays

Kevin Revis	.....	7
Maia Becker	.....	8
Gayle Padgham	.....	18
Hannah Dalton	.....	23
Sherry Burnette	.....	24



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Old Fort, NC

July 2019

Volume 53, Issue 7

# THE VOICE

### JULY EVENTS

#### SUNDAY:

9:45 - Sunday School  
 11 - Worship Service  
 4 - Adult Choir Practice  
 6 - Children's Choir  
 6 - Adult Bible Study, Youth

#### WEDNESDAY:

6 - Adult Bible Study/Prayer, Youth, Children in Action, Mission Friends  
 7 - Adult Choir Practice

July 4 - Independence Day  
 (Church Office Closed)

July 5 - Church Office Closed

July 7 - Lord's Supper 11 am;  
 Lunch Bunch 3 pm; Deacon's Meeting 7 pm

July 14 - Called Business Meeting  
 Deacon Nominations 11 am

July 14-18 - Vacation Bible School  
 5:30-8 pm; Parents Night July 19  
 6 pm

July 20 - Newsletter Articles  
 Deadline

July 21 - Lunch Bunch 3 pm;  
 Church Council 5 pm

July 28-31 - Youth Deep Impact



## Reflections of a Shepherd

July Fourth is a special day for America. Indeed, it is a special day for humanity. The reason being it is the day that we as Americans celebrate our freedom, our liberty. (And by Americans I mean residents of the United States of America, though recently the term is being co-opted to mean anyone who lives in the American continents). It is the celebration of the birth of our nation, The Great American Experiment as it is sometimes called. It truly is a great day! But freedom, as it is commonly understood today, is a lie; or, at the very least, it is a myth that goes beyond the bounds of logical reason or conventional wisdom. Let me explain.

When our Founding Fathers established our country they set forth to ensure her citizens what was deemed to be "unalienable rights" given to us by our "Creator." Thus our freedom was guaranteed to us by the Almighty Father. As such, our rights would be restrained by things such as morality and ethics. However, today, when many say "freedom;" what they really mean is the "right" to be able to do whatever I want, whenever I want, to whomever I want without the interference of anyone else. Unless of course, what you want is to own a firearm, or pray in school, or object to the moral decline of this country. Our society wants the "right" to be able to do anything they wish without regard to how these actions might impede or infringe on someone else's rights. When they say "free society" what they are really insisting on is anarchy. What they want is the "right" to be able to do what is right in their own eyes.

An astute Bible student will recognize this phrase from the book of Judges. The book of Judges contains some of the most graphic descriptions of the human capacity for violence; as well as the results of this understanding of "freedom." Think about

it, when "everyone did what was right in their own eyes" we have a king eviscerated while he is as my Grandma would say, "sitting" (3:20ff). We have a woman seducing a man in order to drive a stake through his skull (4:17-21). We have a man, who was the son of a prostitute, sacrificing his daughter to Yahweh (11:30-40). We have the Benjamites gang raping a concubine who is then butchered by her owner (19:20-31). In retaliation, the rest of the nation almost decimates the tribe, by my count 90,000 to 108,000 Benjamites died (20:19-48).

Doesn't "freedom" sound grand? Doesn't it sound like paradise? When "everyone does what is right in their own eyes" the results are a land ruled by fear and violence. It isn't the land of the free and the home of the brave. It's more like the land of the fierce and the home of the brutal. Unfettered freedom isn't freedom at all; it's anarchy. Freedom and liberty can't mean that "everyone does what is right in their own eyes."

As Americans we have allowed freedom to be defined by the world and as a result, we now have mother's with the "right" to rip their own children from their womb. We have the government forcing Christians to celebrate same-sex marriage, recognizing one's right while denying another's. We're being denied our "freedom of speech" by accusing us of "hate speech." When "everyone does what is right in their own eyes" no one does, because "every inclination of the human heart is evil all the time" (Gen. 6:5). I believe our Founding Fathers understood that; it is time that we did too.

*Pastor Drew*



### Offertory Prayer:

1st Sunday: Arthur Burnette  
 2nd Sunday: Rhonard MacRae  
 3rd Sunday: Tony Silver  
 4th Sunday: Arthur Burnette

**The Voice**  
 First Baptist Church  
 P.O. Box 10  
 Old Fort, NC 28762

### Church Staff

Rev. Drew Dalton, Pastor  
 Stephen Willie, Minister of Music  
 David Workman, Interim Pianist  
 Susan Willie, Secretary

Pastor Drew 828-448-5659  
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 Website: [oldfortfirstbaptist.com](http://oldfortfirstbaptist.com)

Have a  
Safe and



We will observe the  
**Ordinance of the  
Lord's Supper  
on Sunday, July 7  
at 11:00 am**



**There will be a  
Called Business Meeting  
Sunday, July 14 at 11 am  
for the purpose of:**

**Deacon Nominations**



**Wednesday Night Bible Study**

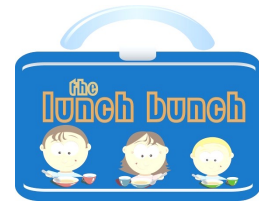
July 3<sup>rd</sup>- Missions Night  
July 10<sup>th</sup>- 1 Timothy  
July 17<sup>th</sup>- VBS: The Incredible Race  
July 24<sup>th</sup>- 2 Timothy  
July 31<sup>st</sup>- Titus

**Sunday Night Bible Study**

July 7<sup>th</sup>- Special Prayer Service: VBS  
July 14<sup>th</sup>- VBS: The Incredible Race  
July 21<sup>st</sup>- Great Hymns of Our Faith: Amazing Grace  
July 28<sup>th</sup>- Deacon's Study

**Vacation Bible  
School**

July 14-18  
5:30-8:00 p.m.  
Family Night  
Friday, July 19  
6:00 p.m.



**Lunch Bunch**

**July 7 & 21  
3:00-5:00 pm**

**Cleff Notes**

As many of you already know, music plays an important role not only in worship but in our lives as well. The more forms of music we listen to, the broader our appreciation of music becomes. Have you ever wondered what life would be like if there was no music whatsoever. Imagine, for a moment, that there is no music and you turn on the radio to hear only vocal announcement and advertisement with no jingles, news and lectures, but no musical interludes, or maybe instead of singing our national anthem at a ball game we only recite an ode instead. Imagine no country music, no pop music, no Christian music, no children's songs or music, no rock, no heavy metal, no easy listening, no crooners, no music stars, no orchestras, no bands, no gospel quartets, no musical anything.

Why do we have music? Because God created music before he created our world and everything in it and He shared music with us as a gift with which we may praise him and with which we may find comfort and through which we find courage and strength and inner peace. In the church we use music for the purpose to the honoring and glorifying God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Our family of faith owns a set of hand bells that have not been used in a very long time. I have asked the Building and Grounds for a space where I can set up these hand bells for practice so that we may once again ring out praise to our Lord. Here's the thing, hand bells require people to ring them. We have a three octave set which would require some 15 people to play them. I have set up a sign-up sheet in the foyer and plan to begin rehearsals in August. I have already found some music for these bells and have spoken to a few others about playing. What we really need is people who are willing to join regardless of their perceived abilities. In this endeavor you will be taught everything you need to know to succeed. Please say yes and sign up this Sunday. I hope to see you there. Rehearsal schedule and place will be announced soon. Thank you.



Sunday, July 21  
at 5:00 pm  
South Classroom

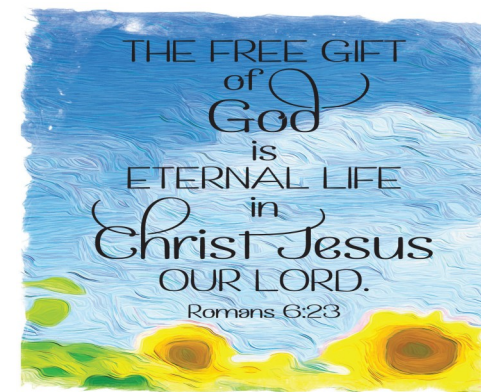
**Church Council:**

Pastor	Church Staff
Church Clerk	Deacon Chairman
Treasurer	SS Director
Building/Grounds Chairman	Prayer Ministry
Senior Adult Director	Security Chairman
Hospitality/Bereaved Rep.	WMU Director
Children's Council Rep.	Baptist Men's Director
Youth Council Rep.	Young Adult Rep.

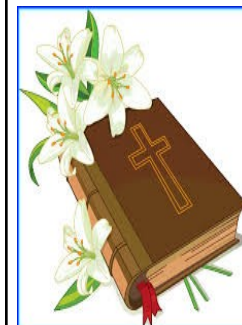


A total of 23 units were collected  
on June 11, 2019.

*Thank you to the volunteers  
from our church who made all  
the donors feel comfortable.*



*With Sympathy*



Our deepest sympathy is expressed to: Jo Shuman in the passing of her brother, Robert Silver; Julie McKinney in the passing of her step grandmother, Dot Ragan; Dr. Don Berry in the passing of his mother, Margaret Berry and to Pastor Drew in the passing of his father, Dan Dalton.



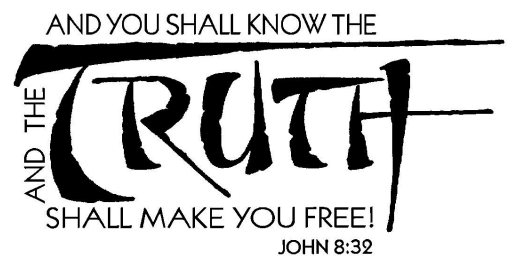
**Thank you from the Relay for Life Team**

Cathy Moore, David Patton, Helen Gilliam & Pastor Drew wish to express our appreciation and gratitude to all who supported this year's campaign, resulting in our donation of **\$1,704.60** to the 2019 McDowell County Relay for Life effort. Primary activities generating these funds included:

Nova & Youth - car wash & hot dog sale in August  
Poor Man's Supper at the Cabins in December  
Terra - Turkey Trot in November & the bike challenge in April  
Purchase of Luminaries & general donations  
Thank you. Thank you. Thank you

On behalf of the Hensley family and everyone involved in the event, we would like to thank you for your support of the fourth annual Eleck Willis Hensley "Heart of a Lion" Scholarship Car Show.

We sincerely appreciate your generous contributions to this fund raising event which will sponsor scholarships awarded in Eleck's name to graduating seniors at McDowell High School each year who are pursuing 2 and 4 year degrees.



**Fall Jubilee in  
Gatlinburg, Tenn.  
September 30-  
October 2, 2019.  
The church bulletin boards  
have more details and my  
contact info.  
Cathy Moore**