

# The Channel

Roxboro Baptist Church  
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In Stephen Macchia's book, *Becoming A Healthy Church*, he lists ten characteristics of a healthy church. The following list was compiled after the author took a group of ministers to visit many congregations across America that seemed to be thriving and involved in vital ministries.

**Scripture and Prayer are essential.** The study of scripture and the practice of prayer are the bedrock of our existence as Christ's followers.

**Love, acceptance, and forgiveness.** In every case, the first theme that surfaced was love, acceptance, and forgiveness. The healthiest churches that were visited created an environment of acceptance. People could enter just the way they were, allowing the Holy Spirit to do the refining work within their hearts. No one was subjected to judgmental attitudes.

**Relational integrity.** In the healthy churches that were visited, broken people felt safe because these churches exhibited authenticity and transparency in their relationships. They believed firmly that in order for genuine community to be achieved, the attitude and atmosphere of love needed to be modeled.

**Hunger for personal growth.** The team discovered a consistent hunger for personal growth in both congregations and individuals. People showed a strong desire to know God in an intimate manner. In fact, the most commonly mentioned study guide used in many of these churches was the best-selling work by Henry Blackaby, *Experiencing God*.

**Exciting and authentic worship experiences.** The healthy church gathers regularly as the local expression of the body of Christ to worship God in ways that engage the heart, mind, soul and strength of the people. Worship opportunities must connect people's hearts with the heart of God.

**Relationship-centered ministry.** It was determined from the visits that the healthiest churches are those that are involved in a movement from program-based to relationship-based ministry planning; in effect, a deprogramming of the church. Although many excellent programs and ministries are still being planned and administered on a weekly basis, the

ineffective programs are being consolidated or eliminated. The healthiest churches are free to implement changes and are unencumbered by congregational political systems that discourage shifting and realigning programs according to need.

**Use of personal stories.** This theme could be described as the celebration of the power of story. Many of the churches that were visited understood the importance of ongoing reminders around the theme of life change. Often, the church would write stories of how people had come to faith within their church or community. On a regular basis they had opportunities for public sharing of testimonies to what God had done in their lives in the past week or month.

**Service.** This theme is a worthy reminder of the importance of volunteerism- serving God with all the talent, time, giftedness, passion, temperament, and energy one can muster. The healthiest ministries examined emphasized the "priesthood of all believers." In the healthy churches, not only were people being trained for select ministries, they were taken through a self-evaluation process to assist them in discovering their spiritual gifts, their temperament and passion, their personal mission, and to deepen their insight into God's will and calling.

**Networking.** The healthiest churches understood the need to develop interdependent relationships with other churches and groups within their city and county that had the same mission to minister to the needs of others.

From these characteristics of a healthy church we can see how focusing on, experiencing, and relating to God are highly valued. These findings suggest that at the core of everyone's being is a need to first know God, then to love and be loved, and finally to move forward and make God's love known to others. Let us as a congregation strive to become an even healthier church as we are *Growing and Going in Jesus Name!*

*DuPre*

## Remember in Prayer

Jean Ashley, Diane Austin, John Bailey, Wilma Brooks, Sarah Childers, Dorsey Gillis, Linda Jackson, Linda Masten, Patsy Warren, Darcus Woody, Ruffin Woody



**Duke Reginal** – Jimmy Wilkins

**Cambridge Hills** – Belle Booth (312), Ruby Hall (121), Calvin McMillan (107)

**Roxboro Nursing Center** – Evelyn Walker (214)

**Christian Sympathy** to the family of Dolian Harris who passed away on 10/11.

**Christian Sympathy** to Janice, Bridget and all the family in the death of Mildred Oliver on 10/12.

## Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal



**October 17:** Pork Loin, mashed potatoes and gravy, pinto beans, and salad bar

**October 24:** Chili beans, cornbread, cole slaw, and salad bar

**October 31:** Vegetable soup, assorted sandwiches, and salad bar

### Volunteers:

**October 17:** Nancy Garrett, Nancy Berryhill, Ken Childers, Jean Featherston, Jessie Walker

**October 24:** Janice Johnson, Betty Fuller, Ken & Judy Medlin, Richard & Alice Whitfield

**October 31:** Mary Harris, Jean Waldo, Kim Boswell, Reid Davis, Helen Hobgood, James Woody, Ann Wrenn

## October Collections



For October we are collecting items for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. Items needed are: combs, hair bows, bobby pins, small toys, coloring books, tape measures, screw drivers, pliers, bungee cords, and rope.

## Sunday Attendance

**October 7, 2018**

Sunday School – 109 Worship – 160

**October 14, 2018**

Sunday School – 104 Worship – 162

## Our Ministry of Giving

**October 7, 2018**

<b>Weekly amount needed to meet budget</b>	<b>\$9,667.28</b>
Budget	\$15,136.13
<b>Designated</b>	
Hurricane Florence	1,370.00
Rent	50.00
Building in Faith (BIF)	\$320.00

**October 14, 2018**

<b>Weekly amount needed to meet budget</b>	<b>\$9,667.28</b>
Budget	\$14,281.77
<b>Designated</b>	
OCC – Shoe boxes	61.00
Hurricane Florence	2,900.00
World Hunger	1,049.00
Building in Faith (BIF)	\$155.00

**Children's Mission Day**

NOVEMBER 17, 2018  
TARBORO, NC

Children from Roxboro Baptist Church will learn from missionary Richard Joyner about spreading God's love through nutrition and agriculture.

\$15/child  
Questions and Sign up (by 10/24):  
Allison Dacus: [dacusa@person.k12.nc.us](mailto:dacusa@person.k12.nc.us)  
JD Granade: [jdgranade@roxborobaptist.org](mailto:jdgranade@roxborobaptist.org)  
336-599-9248

## Church Conferences



Our next quarterly church conference is scheduled for Wednesday, November 7, following our fellowship meal. We will discuss the proposed 2019 church budget at this meeting, and vote on the proposed budget at a called church conference immediately following worship on Sunday, November 11. Please plan to attend these two important meetings.

## Roxboro Baptist Church



### Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Dates

Shoe boxes and packing instructions are now available for all who would like to purchase items and pack their own boxes.

**October 7 – November 4** – Shoeboxes available for individuals to pack their own boxes.

**October 27** – Church-wide packing party in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 am. Everyone is invited to participate!

**November 11** – Shoe boxes dedicated during worship.

**November 14** – Shoe boxes carried to drop-off location.

**December 1** – Need volunteers to go to Charlotte to work in the OCC Warehouse for the day.



On Sunday, November 4, we will have a time of remembrance in worship for those of our church family who have gone to be with the Lord since our last All Saints' Service.



## Fall Family Fun Night

Saturday, October 27, 2018

5:00 – 7:30 pm

Hot dog dinner being served at 5:30 pm  
Kids' games, Bingo, Cakewalk, Trunk-or-Treat

Donations for individually wrapped candy are needed and can be turned into the office.



We will need volunteers to bake sweet treats for our Cakewalk.



If you want to use your vehicle in trunk-or-treat and hand out candy around 7:00 pm, please sign up.

Sign-ups are available in the church office.

## World Hunger



Thank you to everyone that participated in our annual World Hunger Soup Luncheon this past Sunday. We raised \$1,049.

## Hurricane Florence Relief Offering

We collected \$9,830 for Hurricane Florence Relief. Thank everyone that gave. All monies have been sent to Baptists on Mission Disaster Relief.



## Rise Against Hunger

Our Rise Against Hunger meal-packaging event is coming Saturday, November 10. If you are able to help with setup, please arrive early at 8 a.m. Other volunteers are asked to show up at the fellowship hall by 9 a.m. Everyone will need to wear a hairnet for hygienic purposes, and you may wish to bring a hat. After we pack our 20,088 meals and clean up the fellowship hall, all workers are invited to remain for a free lunch as we celebrate what we have accomplished together. We need **50 volunteers** to meet our goal. Please call the church office to sign up.

## Bereavement Dishes



If you have any dishes not picked up from a bereavement meal, please do so by October 29. All dishes can be found in the fellowship hall on the table to your right as you enter. Any dishes not picked up will be donated to Habitat for Humanity.

### Christian Help Center Volunteers

Prepare & Serve a Meal



Thursday, November 1

**Brad & Beverly Laws  
Waylon & Mary Frances  
Newton**

### Nursery and Extended Session

#### Sunday, October 21

Wanda Bailey (Nursery)

Jonathan & Stacy Hill (Extended Session)

Martha Tuck & Tara Holmes (Special Needs)

#### Sunday, October 28

Judy Hodgkin (Nursery)

Kyle & Suzanne Boyette (Extended Session)

Michelle & Glenn Day (Special Needs)