

The Channel

Roxboro Baptist Church
202 S. Main Street
Post Office Box 348
Roxboro, NC 27573

Rev. Dr. DuPre Sanders, Senior Minister
Rev. Mike Moose, Assoc. Min. (Music)
Rev. Chris Schelin, Assoc. Min. (Youth/C.L.)
Mrs. Wendy Oliver, Church Secretary
Mrs. Christy Hawkins, Financial Secretary

Vol. 58

September 21, 2009

No. 19

Senior Minister

Well, the talk of the town has certainly been about the article printed in last week's *Time* magazine that features our own, Brian Whitfield. The article, entitled "The Ripple Effect," examines how the loss of one job affects many people and businesses in a community.

The writer, Massimo Calabresi, visited our church and asked me several pointed questions. "How much has giving to the church decreased over the last three years?"

After conferring with our financial secretary, Christy Hawkins, I was happy to tell him that giving to the church has slightly increased each year for the last three years. "Have you had to cut any staff positions?" "No, as a matter of fact, since calling Chris Schelin as our Minister of Youth and Congregational Life on May 25, 2008 the church has been fully staffed" (after several years of being short-staffed). "What are some social ministries or mission efforts that have been cut due to the economy?" "Well, as of yet, we have not had to cut any of our ministry and mission efforts." I then began to tell him about mission trips to Belize, Alaska, Philadelphia, and South Dakota. I explained to him what Operation InAsMuch, Operation Christmas Child, and Operation Sharehouse were all about. I told him about the dental bus, our Red Cross Blood Drives, the Relay for Life effort, and the money and volunteer hours that go to the Christian Help Center. Although none of the information I shared with the writer made it into the article, I was glad to have the opportunity to verbalize what has been happening at Roxboro Baptist Church.

In the article, Mr. Calabresi talked about the high unemployment we currently experience as a county and implied that a typical Sunday morning has churches in our community filled to capacity. Unfortunately, that is not true. It would be logical to think that if times are hard, people of faith would turn to their church for support and encouragement. However, history teaches us that is not the case. Worship attendance rates in mainline churches reached record lows during the Great Depression and record highs during the prosperous 1950s. I have been a pastor for twenty years and I still am not sure what motivates people to be active in church...but I have an idea.

I believe that it is vitally important that a church stay focused on its true purpose. The premise of the *Time* article was correct; one person's financial difficulty certainly affects other people, businesses, and institutions. When this happens many move into "survival mode." What might this look like in the church? Over time the congregation might tend to fall away from serving the

church's mission and be content with paying the staff, maintaining the programs that are important to the active members, continue to provide weekly worship opportunities, and keep the lights on and the doors open for all who might want to come.

In times of strained finances, even more than in prosperous years, it is critically important that the church not fall into the death trap of having an inward focus but remain focused on the congregation's mission. A church that is on mission is an attractive church. May we never forget who we are or what we are to be about! On the front of our worship bulletin is printed:

Our Mission

As disciples of Christ guided by the Holy Spirit we intentionally will: proclaim the Good News; minister to human need in the name of Christ; cultivate Christian living through worship, education and fellowship; support one another as brothers and sisters in Christ.

DuPre

Relay for Life

Relay for Life Event will be Friday, September 25 at the Person High School football stadium. We will have a booth selling BBQ ribs at the same location as previous years.

Operation Sharehouse

Our meal-packaging event is this Saturday! Please be at the fellowship hall by 9:30 am. Some help will be needed for setup starting an hour early so let Chris know if you can come at that time. Remember to bring a hat or expect to wear a hair net! Everyone is invited to stay for a lunch provided by WMU after we clean up.

Noon Prayer Group

The Noon Prayer Group will meet on Monday, September 28 at noon at Tricia's Espresso.

† SALT Mission Group

The SALT Mission Group will meet on Monday, September 28 at 5:30 pm at Tricia's Espresso.

Collection for September

As you organize your closets this fall donate your gently used children's DVDs to children undergoing chemotherapy. We will also accept new DVDs.

Staff Appreciation

You might expect RBC financial secretary Christy Hawkins to handle the church's money, pay the bills and manage the church financial accounts, but she also has a list of work responsibilities that fill up two entire pages! In addition to keeping up with anything related to church finances – from money to checking accounts to budget reports to payroll and taxes, Christy also orders church literature, helps the RBC Roadrunners with their trip planning, is involved with the church scholarship applications, payments and record-keeping, prepares church visitation records, orders library books, and even checks the church kitchen on Thursday mornings to put away any leftover food. And how do you think contribution envelopes and visitors cards find their way into the sanctuary pews?

Christy is indeed a busy lady, but she always greets visitors –either on the phone or in person – with a smile that says she's ready to help! Please express your appreciation this month to Christy, who has been our financial secretary for seven years, for performing all of these functions and many more at RBC.

As the wife of Billy Hawkins (they're celebrating their 19th anniversary this month) and the mother of two daughters, Delaina, 13, an eighth grader at Northern Middle School, and Carlee, 9, a fourth grader at Stories Creek Elementary. Christy is a busy woman away from church as well. She enjoys watching her girls play various sports such as volleyball, track, fast pitch softball and gymnastics. The Hawkins family members "love anything to do with the water, by the pool or at the lake." This summer they spent time with Christy's family at Lake Gaston and Lake Jordan, tubing, jet skiing, juggling for catfish, and swimming. Christy also likes to read, scrapbook, cross stitch, walk, and play volleyball.

Christy is a member of Theresa Baptist Church, where she is the head of the Media Center and plays handbells. "I don't know how people who do not go to church survive what life sometimes brings," she says. "I am lucky to have two church homes." Asked what she enjoys about her job, Christy says, "Helping all the church members in any way that I can."

Please take time to thank Christy for all she does in Christian service as RBC's financial secretary extraordinaire!

RBC Roadrunner Trips

There are still spots available for these upcoming trips. Please call the church office for additional information.

October 20 – NC State Fair – cost \$5 per person for transportation.

October 27 – The Service at Rocky Bluff – The Barn Dinner Theatre - cost \$45 per person. **DEADLINE TO SIGNUP September 27th**.

November 9 & 10 – Myrtle Beach, SC – cost \$160 per person double occupancy. **DEADLINE TO SIGNUP September 30th and money is due.**

Remember These In Prayer:

BRIAN CENTER –Dorsey Gillis, 6000 Fayetteville Rd, Durham, NC 27713, Room# 301

EMERALD POND – Esther Nichols

PMH EXTENDED CARE – Evelyn Ann Painter, Candace Slaughter, Sallylou Winstead

CAMBRIDGE HILLS – Dorothy Bowes, Geneva Kutcher, Gloria Woody

CATES STREET GROUP HOME – Kent Clayton

ROXBORO NURSING CENTER – Ed & Delma Greene, Gracie Kurfees, Hilma Oakley

Remember in Prayer – Edward Bradsher, Lois Clayton, Frances & Ray Currier, Walter Debnam, Eusry Denny, Betty Garrett, Ellis Hudgins, JE & Mildred McFarland, Pat Nutt, Emmett Wilkerson, Ann Wrenn and Ersene Wrenn.

Congratulations to Leigh & Pete in the birth of their daughter, Margaret "Maggie" Leigh born 9/17.

Christian Sympathy to Pasty Nutt in the death of her mother, Freddie Huff on 9/20.

PLEASE CONTACT THESE HOMEBOUND THIS WEEK

Evelyn Ann Painter - PMH Extended Care
615 Ridge Road, Roxboro

Clarice Pendergraph – 122 South Morgan Street
Roxboro

Mary Ellen Rogers – 5009 1D Bass Chapel Rd
Greensboro, NC 27455

Candice Slaughter – PMH Extended Care
615 Ridge Road, Roxboro

The Record Speaks

September 13, 2009

Sunday School Enrollment – 318 Attendance – 156

Worship Attendance – 204

Budget

General Budget \$5,886.00

Designated

VBS 30.00

NC Mission Offering 120.00

Rent 50.00

Office Machine 10.00

Total Receipts 6,096.00

FORWARD BY FAITH RECEIPTS (9/13/09) \$1,035.00

September 20, 2009

Sunday School Enrollment – 318 Attendance – 145

Worship Attendance – 209

Budget

General Budget \$8,139.50

NC Missions 170.00

Relay for Life 60.00

Total Receipts 8,369.50

FORWARD BY FAITH RECEIPTS (9/20/09) \$646.00

☺ **A Very Happy Birthday to** ☺

September 27 – October 10

- 27 – Gray Peterson
- 28 – Juanita Bailes, Kathy Hall, Casey Humphries
- 29 – Linda Jackson, Ben Owen
- 30 – Daniel Mayo
- 1 – Kathy Cobb, Laura King, Ann Morton
- 2 – Audrey Parker
- 3 – April Roberts
- 4 – Anna Barlow
- 5 – Suzanne Carver, Jeanette Debnam
- 6 – Arnold Ashley, Anne Barnett, Edwin Knott, Linda Masten, Lynn Pearce, Marylee Rickman
- 7 – Joseph McLaughlin
- 8 – Clara Denny, Barbara Jones
- 9 – Susan Laws
- 10 – Dawn Arnold

Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal

September 30, 2009: Pork loin, rice with gravy, stewed apples and salad bar.

October 7, 2009: Grilled chicken breast, pasta salad, green beans, and salad bar.



Each Wednesday night chicken breast is available for people on a special diet and hot dogs are available for the children. If you are not on our permanent list and would like to come to supper, please call the church office by Tuesday afternoon.

Volunteers:

Sept. 30th: Juanita & CV Bailes, Chuck & Pat Oakley, Curtis & Gertrude Ange, Nancy Garrett, Peggy O'Hara and Joy Hamilton.

Oct. 7th: Betty Long, John Betterton, Janice Johnson, Alta Winstead, Betty Garrett, Reid Davis and Joy Hamilton.

Caring for Our Children

Sunday, September 27

Extended Session – Lori & Michael Stacey

Nursery – Michael & Karen Alley

Sunday, October 4

Extended Session – April & Jeff Roberts

Nursery – Jeffrey & Cathy Jackson

Christian Help Center Volunteers

Thursday, October 1, 2009

Take & Serve a Meal – Mary Katherine Davis, Peggy O'Hara, & Helen Hobgood

Roxboro Baptist Church
P.O. Box 348
Roxboro, North Carolina 27573
Phone: 336-599-9248 Fax: 336-599-3016
Love Line: 336-597-5683
Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #34

Operation Sharehouse
Saturday September 26
at 9:30 am

