

Robinhood Road Baptist Church

The Encourager

"Therefore encourage one another, and build up one another, just as you also are doing."
1 Thessalonians 5:11

MAY 2025



From the Pastor's Pen



It's hard to believe, but it's already time to go through our annual process of electing deacons. This year FIVE of our twelve deacons will be rotating off. Mark Ernestes, Ashley Arrowood, Wayne Shaw, Gary Venable, and John DeMario have all done a wonderful job serving the needs of the church for the past three years and have certainly earned a year of rest!

As we begin thinking about replacing these men, I wanted to take the time to go over our annual process beginning with a reminder of what our bylaws state. Section 2, Article C states in regard to deacon election: *The number of deacons shall be by*

recommendation from the current serving deacons and the pastor and upon approval by the church. The deacons shall be elected from among the active church membership who have proven themselves to have scriptural qualifications as stated in 1 Tim 3: 8-13. All deacons shall serve for a period of no more than three (3) consecutive years, followed by at least one (1) year of rest, unless they request to be moved to inactive status, removed, or when special circumstances arise.

On May 4, 11, and 18 you as a church family will have the opportunity to nominate those in our congregation whom you believe to meet the qualifications as stated in 1 Timothy 3:8-13. Once the nominations have been collected and culled, our deacons will be reaching to those who have been nominated. ANYONE nominated that accepts will be

examined by our deacon body and then in late June and early July you will have the opportunity to hear their testimonies in Sunday morning worship. Finally, we will create a deacon ballot and you will be given the opportunity to vote on July 20 and 27. Anyone who is elected to serve that HAS NOT BEEN previously ordained will be ordained on Sunday evening, September 7.

As you can see, this is a lengthy process that takes several months. This is a reflection of how seriously we take both the process and the importance of the responsibilities that our deacons will ultimately have placed upon them. If you have any questions about this process, I would encourage you to speak to your current deacon or myself.

As always, I end this article by saying to you that I am so thankful for the privilege God has given me to be your friend and pastor. You are a wonderful group of people, in and through whom God is doing incredible things that impact The Kingdom. I am awfully grateful to be along for that ride!

-Pastor John

Youth Ministry News

"The righteous person may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all" (Psalm 34:19)

Have you ever felt like life just keeps hitting you with one thing after another? Maybe it's school stress, friendship drama, family tension, or just feeling overwhelmed and unsure of what's next. It's easy to think, "Why is this happening to me if I'm trying to do the right thing?"

Psalm 34:19 reminds us that even when we're doing our best to live right, life will still throw trouble our way. The question is not if troubles come, but when troubles come. That's real. But here's the promise—God doesn't leave us in our mess. He walks with us through it and brings us out on the other side.

Next time you're in a tough spot, instead of asking, "Why is this happening?" try asking, "God, where are You in this?" Because He's there. He's working. And He will bring you through. Don't ever forget that God is bigger than any of your problems and He will never leave you to face them alone.

- Summer Camp is June 30 – July 4, 2025. Forms should be coming out soon from Caswell. We will plan to have a meeting to go over forms. Date TBD.

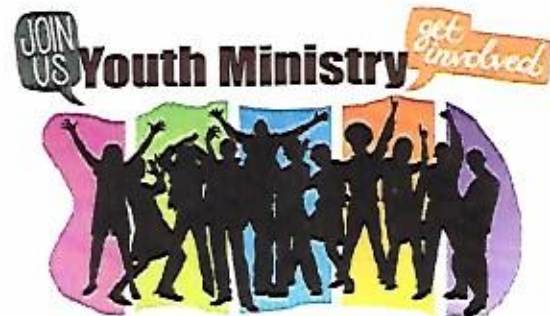
- Wednesday, May 21—Youth Dinner & Devotion—We plan to leave church at 6 pm and go out to eat. Please bring 5 dollars to help offset the cost.

- Sunday Night Youth Worship is from 6:30–7:30 pm.

- Wednesday Night Youth Worship is from 6–7:30 pm.

Youth Sunday School is from 9:45–10:45 am.

Thank you for the honor of serving as your minister to families.



—Rev. Jason East

PICTURE TIME!

We're working on our new church directory and all we need now is a picture of your family! We're taking pictures "in house" this time, and won't try to sell you anything. We just need a picture, so please help us!

Diane Wooten and her team will be taking pictures in the prayer room (beside choir room) on Sunday mornings throughout the summer from 9:15-9:45AM. So to start, come:

May 4 if your last name starts with "A"

May 11 or 18 if last name starts with "B"

May 25 if your last name starts with "C"

We'll have plenty of make-up days, but if you can please help us stay on schedule!



The Fall Festival is BACK! We are having our Fall Festival/ Trunk or Treat on Sunday October 26th 4:00pm-6:00pm. We are going to have Inflatables, Food, Music, Games and of course Candy!! There will also be a Picture Station that will be set up for the perfect fall photo. We would like to ask for some volunteers that day to help. If you are interested in helping please contact Karlee Matherly 336-924-4241 or 980-439-3401.

Children's Activities

Kids' Worship during Sunday morning worship for ages 3 years - 5th Grade. Children receive a snack, sing songs, and hear a Bible message, as they learn to participate in worship.

Sunday night:

AWANA club at 6 pm for ages 3 years - 5th grade. Learn verses, play team building games, theme nights, and more! Final AWANA is May 18th.

Wednesday Evening Kids' Class

Kids' Class from 6:30-7:30 pm. Ages 3 years to 5th grade invited.

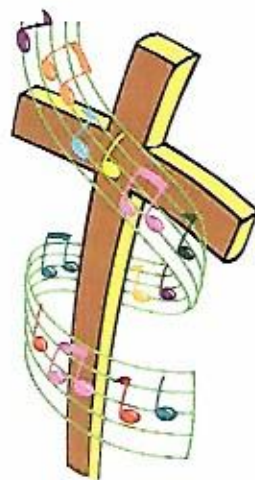
We are excited to announce that we are organizing another Deep Impact Kids mission trip to the Charity Mission Center in Rose Hill, NC. The trip will take place from July 7 to July 10, 2025. This event is open to students in 1st through 5th grade. Parents are required to accompany students in 2nd grade and under. All parents are welcome to join as chaperones. Sign-up sheets, along with information about the cost and additional details, are available in Jason's office. Cost: \$100 per attendee/participant (balance due 5/25/25)

UpBeat

It was a privilege to not only remember the sacrifice of our Savior during Holy Week, but then to share with you all the celebration of His resurrection with the presentation of "We Are Witnesses" by the RRBC Choir.

We greatly appreciate your compliments and prayerful support for us through the weeks of preparation. Should the Lord use the message of this cantata to echo in the hearts of those who heard it, we would give Him the praise. As we celebrate, and give thanks for our mothers on Mother's Day, I would like to send an "APB" out to the men at Robinhood Road

Baptist Church to meet with me in the choir loft at 9:10am on Mother's Day morning. We will prepare a couple of familiar hymns to sing, honoring the ladies and leading in worship during the 11:00 am service. You guys always do a great job of singing out, praising the name of Jesus through music. I hope to see you there.



-Jerry

Prime Timers

Join us May 7th 11:30am @ Mayflower on Peters Creek Pkwy

Any questions regarding Primetimers please contact
Glema DeMario (336-923-8252)



Mission Matters



Upcoming Mission Trips...

Truett Conference and Camp Center mission trip will be June 8th-June 13th. Volunteers will serve as kitchen staff for the camp week. See Luelle Crumpler if you are interested.

We are also looking to send a team to Western NC this August. If you would be willing to lead a trip for rebuilding, or you would like to join a trip please see Steve Patterson. All skill levels are welcome, but they are especially looking for people with construction skills, plumbing, landscaping, experience with sheetrock, and heating/air.

Prayer...

Lots of opportunities for reaching our community & world are coming up soon. Pray about how you can be involved & that the people will respond "YES" to God's calling. Our partners at the Pregnancy Network are always in need of prayer as they minister to mothers and help them in a time of crisis. Pray for them to have wisdom and pray that the mothers will have the support they need to make good decisions.

Praise...

Our Annie Armstrong offering goal has been met. Thanks for your generosity and obedience to God's calling to support our North American Mission Board.

We have been able to provide lunch for the Street School. This is an ongoing opportunity, and we always have a good experience. Thanks to those who are willing to serve with this organization.

Our Guatemala team made it back safe after a working hard all week at The Good Shepherd Center. We are grateful for God's provision and protection for the team and staff.

We have a team of six for our fall mission trip to Eastern Europe! It is never too early to start praying for them and the people they will serve.

Opportunities...

Don't forget to bring in items for our Blessing Box and Food Pantry. It is important to show our love to the community and help those in need.

Interested in learning more about missions or missionaries? Check out our books in the Mission Center. You are welcome to borrow any of the resources and return them so others can also read.

You can be on mission every day. Take a look around your neighborhood, workplace or family gathering. Share your faith with others and be salt and light in this world. Let others know the truth about who Jesus is by the way you live and speak.

GO AND
make disciples
OF ALL
nations

RRBC WOMEN'S MINISTRIES
Seeking Jesus ~ Serving Others



The goal of RRBC Women's Ministries is to unite our women through opportunities of fellowship, discipleship, and service, thereby finding a place to grow and thrive at RRBC.

NEW Bible Study
"Even If ~ A Study of Habakkuk"

Begins Thursday, May 1
6:00 pm in the Youth Classroom

How do you praise the Lord even when life is hard? What does it mean to trust God when life doesn't go as planned? These questions of faith will be a springboard for some of our conversations as we see what God has to say about the matter through the prophet, Habakkuk. I can't wait to delve into this short book of the Bible that is packed full of hidden "gems" that will boost our faith and help us in our times of waiting and trusting.

If you haven't already signed up and received your study book, please call or text Linda Lunsford ASAP. (336-529-7732)

MissionCrafters

Next Workday: May 17

9:30 - 11:30 am in the Kid's Worship Room

This month's task includes finalizing our hand-made chemo bags for the Cancer Services of WS. Thanks to our WOM donating the funds, we have purchased supplies to be added to our bags. What a great way for us to honor our members that are battling cancer, as well as show our love and encouragement to

cancer patients throughout the WS area.
For info: contact Linda Lunsford (336-529-7732).

Ladies' Fellowship @ Carriage House

Tuesday, May 20, 6:00 pm

1409 S Stratford Rd, Winston-Salem, NC 27103
Ladies, bring a friend and come join us for a fun night out with plenty of girl talk! Each gal picks up her own tab. No need to sign up.
We'll be looking for YOU!

Meal Ministry

Next Meal: Tuesday, June 3

Drivers are always needed and welcomed.
Please contact Linda Patterson (336-247-2984;
lap@almondtree.com) prior to next delivery date.



WOM ~ Women on Mission

Next meeting: *Tuesday, May 13, 4pm* in the FH

We are a WMU Missions Discipleship Group committed to supporting missions through **action, study and support.**

We invite YOU to join us as we celebrate missions!

May's Agenda:

Bible study: "Generous Sharing - God Does Not Need Our Good Works, Our Neighbor Does"

Prayer study: "Generous Giving - Meeting the Needs of Others is a Sacrifice Pleasing to God"

Missions Spotlight: "The New Frontier in Southeast Asia - Innovative Ways to Cross Borders to Share the Gospel"

We collected \$160 for our April **Mission Action** project to provide items to fill the cancer bags being made by our Mission Crafters. ♡ Stay tuned for information about the May Mission Action project.

Another reminder about the new books in the Missions Library. Please take advantage of these inspirational stories! To learn more, contact Luelle (336-575-5696; jayandluelle@gmail.com).

LADIES, RESERVE THE DATES!!

"Going Home ... ♥"

RRBC Women's Retreat

September 18-21, 2025

Cost: \$210

The time is finally here! Your Leadership Team has begun the planning for our next retreat and we are so excited! We'll have loads of fun, laughter, and a great time of refreshment and revival.

Bible study focus will be on
"Heaven ~ When Faith Becomes Sight."

To show your interest or to reserve your place, please text Judy McDowell (336-529-1151).

We need to hear from you. As of May 1, there are only 9 available spots left.

~ No deposit needed at this time. ~