

Coats Baptist Church
 PO Box 297
 Coats, NC 27521

Non-Profit Org.
 US Postage
 PAID
 Coats, NC
 Permit No. 1

COATS BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER
 May 2018

WORSHIP SCHEDULE
 8:30 am Worship Service
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service
 Children's Church 8:30 am & 11:00 am
 6:00 pm Evening Worship Service

STAFF

Neal Thornton
 Senior Pastor
 pastoreal@coatsbaptist.com

Jimmy Newkirk
 Associate Pastor
 jimmy@coatbaptist.com

Jonathan Waggett
 Worship/College Pastor
 jonathan@coatsbaptist.com

Teresa McDaniel
 Admin. Assistant

Armida Avery
 Admin. Assistant

Mark Langdon
 Facility Coordinator

Brothers and Sisters,

You've done it, yet again! You've exceeded the financial goal for our missions offerings twice in a row! First, it was the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The goal was \$35,000, and you gave nearly \$38,000. And now it's the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. The goal was \$18,000 and you gave \$18,124 in just one Sunday, putting the total amount given to date nearly \$26,000. May God bless your generosity!

The truth of the matter is the Lord is doing just that – He is blessing! The past twelve months have been absolutely superb in the life of our church. God has blessed in some tremendous ways. He's raised up fantastic people, allowed for ministries to grow, and poured out His favor through avenues only He can do. If you've been around for any length of time, you know just how true that is. We have also seen the Lord grow our membership. Since the beginning of May 2017, fifty-two people have made Coats Baptist their home and nine of those have followed Christ in believer's baptism. God is at work at Coats Baptist.

In deciding what our next preaching series might be, I wanted to lead our people in a focused, intense, heartfelt time of praise to God for the good things He has done. That means we're headed to the Psalms. Praise for the Lord is welling up inside our people for His faithfulness to Coats Baptist. There is a thankfulness in the air. You can feel it. I sense it most on Sunday mornings after church. People hang around, they meet and greet with guests, they connect together for lunch, and then they go out and live their lives on mission.

Inside this issue:

Music	2
Life on Mission	2
Senior Adults	2
Student Happenings	3
Graduate Sunday	3
Pictorial Directory	3
Annie Armstrong	3
May Calendar	4
Fishing Tournament & Fish Fry	4
VBS	4



On Sunday, May 6 we'll begin an 8-week preaching series entitled, "It's All About Him". That's language we seem to find ourselves using more and more lately. We'll spend those 8 weeks looking at Psalm 121 through 128. I hope you'll begin reading and praying through those texts now. What better place to go than to the Psalms. Now make no mistake, we believe the Bible is our lead hymnbook. The word of God is central to Christian worship – no word, no worship. But with that said, Christians need texts that purposefully lead us to praise the one, true and living Lord. I need the Psalms, you need the Psalms. Oh, how we always need the Psalms!

Coats Baptist is full of people who love God and love His gospel. They cannot, indeed will not, ever get over what God has done for sinners in Christ (Romans 5:8). The news is just too good to keep silent and the mission is too great to stay at home. (Matthew 28:19-20) So, let's do what we were called to do – worship and glorify God, with Scripture as our guide. (Psalm 150:1)

God bless you church family for your faithfulness to Christ and your generosity towards supporting the Great Commission. I'm glad to be a part of a faith family like you. A family where truly, *it's all about Him*.

Pastor Neal

MAY

- 1 Marriage & Family Conference (7 pm)
- 3 Fundraiser Superball Golf Tournament (1 pm)
- 4 Women of Joy Conference (SC)
- 6 Ladies Breakfast (9:45 am)
- 9 Grocery Assist (5:30 pm)
- 12 Fishing Tournament/Fish Fry
- 13 Mother's Day (no evening services)
- 13 Bake Sale for Mission Trips
- 19 Youth Car Wash (9 am—noon)
- 20 Children's Musical (6 pm)
- 28 Church Office Closed (Memorial Day)

ANNUAL FISHING TOURNAMENT & FRY

Everyone is welcome to participate in the fishing tournament on Saturday, May 12.



The pond draw will be at 6 am.

The fish fry will be at 6 pm.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Sunday, June 24—Thursday, June 28
 6—8 pm nightly



MUSIC • NOTES

I have been encouraged to hear testimonies of how the new songs list I provided in last month's newsletter has enhanced your times of personal worship. Some have even shared the songs with others who needed the truths found within certain lyrics. Please share with me when God uses music to speak to your heart! I'll try to make it a habit to provide a song list at the end of each newsletter article, whether new or just a good song that I think you should know.

I want to take a moment to tell you what our children's choir has been working on for the last few months. On Sunday evening, May 20, they will be presenting "Songs from Letters in Red." The lyrics to each of these songs come straight from the mouth of Jesus in the Gospels. This means they've learned more than song lyrics. They've learned scripture and our prayer is that it has been bound to their hearts! Many of our children put us to shame when it comes to scripture memorization. I urge you (and I'm preaching to myself) to make this spiritual discipline a priority in your walk with Christ. Also, support and encourage our children by coming on Sunday, May 20 at 6 pm!

Okay, here are a few songs that have spoken to me: "So Will I" (Hillsong Worship), "Yes I Will" (Vertical Worship), "The Power of the Cross" (Keith & Kristyn Getty)

In Christ,
Jonathan

LIFE • ON • MISSION: DISCIPLESHIP!

How many people do you know? How many know you? Not how many Facebook friends but, seriously, how many *really* know you? Many, even in the Church, settle for what Paul David Tripp calls "terminally casual relationships" meaning that we settle for superficial knowledge without relationship depth or investment. God Himself is in community: Father, Son, Spirit - equal, yet individual members of the Triune Godhead. We, created in His image, are designed for community.

Biblical community promotes accountability and Christ-like growth. Who knows when and where you are most easily tempted? Who knows the idols of your heart? Who can help you move past the struggles of your past or come alongside when you have doubts? Does someone speak truth to you when you become slack in spiritual disciplines?

Take the bold step to find a mentor, someone to hold you accountable. Find someone, perhaps an older peer, who can really know you and invest in your spiritual growth. But don't stop there: also find someone, perhaps of a younger generation, in whom you can invest and help grow in their faith and discipleship.

May God bless you!
Pastor Jimmy

SENIOR • ADULTS

On Wednesday, May 16, senior adults will leave CBC at 9 am with plans to hike one of the beautiful trails at the Raven Rock State Park in Lillington. Non-hikers are encouraged to come and simply enjoy the fresh air and conversation with friends at the picnic area. After the hikers return, we will all enjoy an old fashioned picnic provided by the Senior Adult Committee. If you would like to join in the fun, please contact Gail (910) 591-9847, Kathy (910) 891-8326, Sherry, or Bonnie (919) 820-2332.

STUDENT • HAPPENINGS

Have you ever wanted to help someone? Generally, helping others is seen as a positive, selfless act. Have you ever considered that helping someone could, in fact, be the wrong thing to do?

Our High School Youth are currently reading through Genesis in Sunday School. We came across just such an account in Genesis 16. It seemed that Abram and Sarai (God had not changed their names yet) began to feel like God may need help with His promise to make Abram a great nation. It is worth noting at this point that God had not specifically named Sarai as part of this promise. That does not come until Genesis 17, when God changes Sarai's name to Sarah.

Sarai approached Abram with a plan; Abram could have a child with Hagar, Sarai's handmaid, and then Sarai would raise the child. Now this is a short article, so we cannot begin to cover all the reasons why this is a really, really bad idea. Sufficient to say, the Bible does not contain a record of Abram actually taking this idea to God, or even asking God why he did not have an heir yet. Abram and Sarai just took it upon themselves to help. As if God needed it.

Fast forward to our modern day. God did in fact bless the descendants of Abram and Hagar. But they have been in conflict with the descendants of Abraham and Sarah for centuries.

No matter how well thought out our plans, no matter how well-intentioned we are, our decisions should be bathed in prayer. And not a prayer of, "God, bless my plans" but a prayer of, "God, let your plans be my plans." Because no matter how long He takes or what method He chooses to answer, it is our simple responsibility to follow Him out of love and gratitude. We should leave the leading to the one with all the answers.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding; think about Him in all your ways, and He will guide you on the right paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

GRADUATE • SUNDAY

Graduate Sunday is June 3. Graduates will be recognized during the 11:00 worship service. Please meet in the worship center at 10:30 wearing your cap and gown.

If you are graduating from high school, technical college, college or graduate school, we would like to display your picture on our Graduate Bulletin Board by the fellowship hall. Bring your picture and a short bio to the church office no later than Friday, May 25th. Please pick up a form outside of the worship center to aid in your bio information. There will be a lunch for the graduates and their family members following the 11:00 service. Please call the church office at (910) 897-5173 by Friday, May 25th to let us know if you will be attending the lunch and how many family members will also attend.

ANNIE • ARMSTRONG

Our goal for the North American Mission Board was \$18,000. You are a generous church with a heart for local and global missions. You surpassed the goal and have given \$25,631!

PICTORIAL • DIRECTORY

You can still sign up for the directory: email turnkeyrcd@gmail.com or call 1(866) 557-2253. Coats Baptist Church can no longer schedule times due to the possibility of double booking.