

SWIFT CREEK CHRONICLE



Matthew 14:22-31

22 Immediately, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd.

23 After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone,

24 and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

25 Shortly before dawn, Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake.

26 When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said and cried out in fear.

27 But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

28 "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."

29 "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water, and came toward Jesus.

30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

31 Immediately, Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "Why did you doubt?"

What is an individual supposed to do when their faith is shaken? Should they hold on or should they give up? Have you ever found yourself struggling with these questions? How did you react when you found yourself sinking into a sea of doubt like Peter?

In every season, we are going to find ourselves doubting the promises of God. It does not mean that we are weak or that God is punishing us. This is just a small part of the Christian life. In fact, we are all like Peter, and we are going to face challenges that shake our faith. In such challenging times, we need to learn to lean on God and His Holy Word, as they are the things on which we base our faith.

Here are three things that we can do when our faith is being tested.

Put your trust in God. Yes, this may be the last thing you want to hear, but it is the best thing we can do when our faith is being shaken to the core. Remember, God is all-knowing; He is the Alpha and the Omega, and He knows everything about you and the storms that you are going through. Always remember that God is our source of strength, love, hope, and peace, and He is our protection from all of life's storms. Trust God, as He will see you through your trials.

Pray and then pray some more. Please do not hold back when praying. Tell God what is in your heart because He already knows. If you feel disappointed, angered, and frustrated, tell Him everything on your mind. Our God is bigger than anything you are facing. The more you open up to God, the easier it will become for you to anchor your faith in Him. Reflect on this: the more you pray, the more your faith will be strengthened.

Be grateful when your faith is shaken during the storm. Peter would not be Peter if he had never faced the storms. Peter's faith would have never grown if he had never faced the storms. When we step out of the boat and into the storm, there are times in life when our faith is shaken. We will experience a lot of challenges that will cause us to doubt. Do not feel bad about it, but be humble and grateful because God is growing your faith. James 4:10 tells us to humble ourselves before the Lord, and He will lift us up. In every storm, give God the glory.

My hope and prayer is that ultimately, as you continually remember and meditate on these three absolute truths, that your faith will not be shaken, and these truths will be so ingrained in you that your faith will not waver but will soar when the storms and trials of life come again.

I love you all,
Pastor Jason C. Dunham

DEACONS UPDATE

Church projects:

Playground - Equipment has been shipped to company, on arrival will schedule installation.

Pumpkin Patch - Pastor Jason and Debra Vick, ministry assistant, in process of organizing. On September 10th, there will be an information session after worship service. Wake Christian Academy has been contacted regarding help with unloading of the pumpkins. Training sessions are planned for September 16th and 23rd.

Old business:

Nominating Committee - Two positions remain unfilled: Treasurer and Brotherhood Director. Rick Jones and Tony Lineback have agreed to have their names placed on Deacon ballot.

New business:

Bobby Mills has resigned from his position providing Grounds/Cemetery maintenance. He has submitted his resignation to Dick Britt, chair of Building and Grounds Committee. Bobby would like to continue to mow the Dicken's property and land behind the church. Bobby has recommended the Atkins Landscaping Company fill the position through December 2023.

Kristen Frazier, Director of Music, presented a proposal detailing a new ministry for SCBC called Swift Creek Studios. Kristen will be applying for non-profit status. Although a ministry of the church, Swift Creek Studios

(SCS) will be its own entity, with Kristen as founder and CEO. She will be the only employee at this time. The studio will be session from August 1 through May 31. Discussion included: A contract to be signed and renegotiated yearly, proof of liability insurance will be provided prior to signing a contract. piano will be tuned by SCS two times a year, the music area will be maintained in a clean and orderly fashion, classes will be canceled or rescheduled in event of unforeseen circumstances.

Peter Walker made motion to accept the proposal in format presented, with an another qualification added requiring a background check for any additional employees. Sherman Gibbons seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to allow Kirsten to move ahead with her proposal. It was decided Swift Creek Studios will pay \$100 per month. Peter Walker made a motion the rent remain at \$100 a month if Kristen should decide to be in session year around, with renegotiation yearly. Sue Mulvihill seconded the motion and all were in agreement.

Pastor time: Patrick Smith will be guest speaker at Homecoming on October 22, 2023.

Prepared by Dianne Davis, Secretary

WOMEN ON MISSION

Women on Mission met Thursday, August 24 to discuss and make plans for the Fall. Our first event, along with the Pumpkin Patch is our Fall Yard Sale, Saturday, October 7, 8:00 am - 2:00 pm. Then, Saturday, November 4, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm is the annual Christmas Shopping Spree and Bake Sale. Please put these events on your calendar and plan to attend and volunteer as well. Proceeds for at least on of these events will go toward the playground equipment. There are several other projects we have planned and will share details at a later date.

W.O.M. would like to thank Cynthia Theland with Caring Connections for sharing with our church on Women's Sunday. We lift up in prayer the mothers and babies who will receive the items you all donated.

Thank you Church Family for ALWAYS answering the needs of others.

In His Service,
Robin Atkins



**BROTHERHOOD BREAKFAST
WILL RESUME ON
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH
AT 8:45AM**

**Save the Date
December 1, 2023
Christmas Banquet**

~ SEPTEMBER ~



September

- 4 B. J. Turner
- 8 Will Brown
- 9 Jeannette Cox
- 10 Blake Brown
- 10 Betty Johnson
- 15 Judy Durden
- 15 Bernie Reardon
- 16 Robert Smith
- 18 Debbie Patterson
- 22 Beth Whitley
- 29 Tiffany Arnett

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

September 13
Bernie & Sandra Reardon

September 16
Rick & Sarah Jones

NURSERY SCHEDULE

- September 3
Dianne Davis, Eloise Garland
- September 10
Lorraine Norton, JoAnne King
- September 17
Lynn Pierce, Sharon Lawrence
- September 24
TBD - New Committee Members

JAM SCHEDULE

- September 3 - Sue Mulvihill
- September 10 - Pat Mills
- September 17 - Dianne Davis
- September 24 - TBD

SEPTEMBER AT A GLANCE

- 4 Labor Day - Office Closed
- 5 Deacons Meeting 6:30 pm
- 9 Yearly Planning Schedule 10:00 am
- 10 Brotherhood Breakfast 8:45 am
- 11 Finance Meeting 7:00 pm
- 16 Pumpkin Patch Training 10:00 am
- 17 Deacon Ordination
Church-wide lunch to follow
- 21 WOM 10:30 am
- 23 Alternate date for Pumpkin Patch
Training 10:00 am
- 21 CARE 9:30 am
- 30 Pumpkins Delivered

Thank you!



Do you buy jigsaw puzzles, put them together once then store them in a closet never to be worked again? Wouldn't it be nice to exchange that puzzle for another puzzle free of charge? Setting up a bring-one/take-one exchange table is being considered, if enough people are interested. If you would like to join the fun, please contact Susan Moore at finance@swiftcreekchurch.com or smoore0209@bellsouth.net

Wednesday Night Meals resume on September 6th. Please sign up in advance. You can sign up on the permanent list or you can choose the weekly list. If you were signed up on the permanent list last year, please sign up again as the list is starting over for this new year.

Signing up in advance is extremely helpful for the teams so they will know how much to purchase and how much to prepare.

Suggested Donation is, \$2.50 per person, children under 5 are free.

- September 6, 2023**
Hot Dogs
Chili/Slaw/Onions
Chips
Fruit
Dessert

- September 13, 2023**
Meatball Subs
Garden Salad
Chips
Fruit
Dessert

- September 20, 2023**
Deli Sub Sandwich
Lettuce/Tomato/Pickle
Chips
Fruit
Dessert

- September 27, 2023**
Lasagna
French Bread
Garden Salad
Dessert

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FALL SENIOR ADULT RALLY

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

Hosted by: Central Baptist Church, 11109 Poole Road, Wendell

Time: 9:30 am

Cost: \$15.00 per person

Menu: Hamburger Steak w/ gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Cornbread Muffins, Assorted Desserts

Keynote Speaker: Clay Warf of NC Baptist Foundation

Music: Eric Horner

If you plan to attend, please sign up at the information center.

Swift Creek Baptist Church
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