

# SWIFT CREEK CHRONICLE R



## April 2020

If ever there was a time that courageous faith was required of us — it is now. There has probably never been a more challenging period in my lifetime. As people of faith we have the ability to walk in hope and love — to show real grace under pressure — to face uncertainty with confidence, we have the knowledge that God will provide everything we need to remain courageous in all things.

I am reminded of a story from scripture. 1 Samuel 16 relates the story of how Samuel was instructed by God to go and anoint a new king. God was unhappy with Saul. While Saul was still alive and still the king, God rejected him. And Samuel was to travel to Bethlehem to

anoint a new king. Nothing to fear, right? Here is the good news, “God provides a way.” God did not simply say to Samuel, “Go anoint a new king! Lotsa Luck!” No, Samuel was given a path to walk, and the guidance he needed. With God’s help we will be given the same thing.

The current situation appears difficult and foggy at best. But God is with us — a path is being made.

God Bless,

Jeff

## Update from the Deacons

The Deacon Board met on March 3, 2020. Family concerns were shared and devotion was held.

The new Homeschool group was approved. Contractual paperwork will be signed by the group and our Board of Trustees.

Much discussion was held regarding our search for a pastor. Also, we discussed whether or not we should consider a Children/Youth pastor as well as the concept of a Minister of Families.

We planned to meet again on March 16th along with the Pastor Search Committee on March 17th. Both meetings were cancelled due to church activities being temporarily curtailed.

This is an unprecedented time. The Coronavirus crisis has disrupted our church as well as virtually every other aspect of life. As deacons, we raise our prayers for all of you and for the leaders of our nation — there is no more powerful action than prayer. Please keep us informed of your individual situations and needs.

## BIBLICAL RECORDER

The time has come to renew or subscribe to the *Biblical Recorder* for the next year. The cost will be \$15.00, check payable to *Biblical Recorder*. Please wait to write your check until we have confirmation of this cost. Contact Lynne Cullins if you have any questions.

You will be able to get this newsletter via email for free with your paid subscription. Please advise the email address you want to use. The **deadline** for new or renewal subscriptions will be **April 6** unless the date is extended due to the Coronavirus.

Thank you,  
Lynne

## Music Ministry News

None of us was expecting to head into April in quarantine. We were happy and comfortable in our routines, going to church once or twice a week with scheduled time for prayer, music, teaching, and fellowship. Now, for the health and safety of our community, we have been forced to stop meeting together. Does this mean that we must also stop worship? No, of course not! Even though we cannot meet in the church building, God is still with us. 1 Corinthians 3:16 says, "Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?" Indeed, this is perhaps the best time to focus on our personal relationship with God through prayer and time spent studying His word. Times of trial are also times when God's grace can

shine most gloriously, for if we continue to praise Him, thank Him, and rely on Him when life is uncertain, how much more are we glorifying His greatness than when things are going well? 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 says, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." And we are not called on to do this alone. In Joshua 1:9, God promises his servant Joshua, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." Therefore, let us continue as God's church through prayer and worship, proclaiming his faithfulness to all around us.

Heather Hills, Minister of Music



## Women On Mission

Women on Mission would like to thank everyone that provided homemade desserts, provided supplies and worked at our prep and our Annual Swift Creek BBQ. There was great fellowship with old and new friends and a lot of hard work that made for another successful BBQ. Thank You ALL!

Now as we adjust to a new way of church and life, please pray for family, friends, church family, shut-ins,

health care workers, first responders, missionaries, government leaders, our President, and all the people still working to provide for our needs. God is Good and He will get us through this. He will provide and comfort us.

WOM plans to meet on April 16th at 10:30 am for a time of prayer, unless we are in a shelter at home situation at that time.



In His Service,  
Robin Atkins

## Children / Youth

**Sadly, we have had to cancel the Easter Egg Hunt for obvious reasons.**



Now we will look forward and start planning VBS.

**Mark your calendar for VBS -  
June 22, 23, 24**

This year we will have a fun-filled 3 day VBS from 5:30 - 8:00 pm on Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, June 22nd - 24th.

This year the theme for VBS is ROAR! Life is Wild - God is Good.

We have all of the needed materials left over from last year and will be putting it all to good use.

Be in prayer for this special time for SCBC and the

## Communication

In an effort to keep all church members informed we will be using several means of communication. There will be ongoing group email messages, which will include the updated prayer list, hopefully each Thursday, and calling posts when needed. Pastor Jeff will continue his weekly sermons and Wednesday evening teaching and we will utilize Facebook, our website, and our current FaithLife site to load sermons. You can access our FaithLife site—<https://scbc-2.faithlifesites.com/>

The church office will have reduced hours. Phones will be forwarded and messages will be checked often. You can call the church office at 919.851.0112 or email [office@swiftcreekchurch.com](mailto:office@swiftcreekchurch.com) if there is any information that you would like to be shared church-wide via email.

Your Deacon - as a reminder those serving as Deacon at this time are: Steve Cox, Dianne Davis, Bobby Mills, Ted Hills, Sherman Gibbons, Charlie Livengood.

## ~ APRIL ~



- April 2 Robin Atkins
- April 3 Algaree Jones
- April 3 Maddison Hall
- April 6 Becky Hawkins
- April 10 Bobby Turner
- April 11 Jo Anne King
- April 12 Susan Rollins
- April 13 Debbie Soles
- April 16 Herbert Holland
- April 22 Jack Rollins
- April 22 Jon Bartley
- April 25 JoAnne Hartsfield

- April 5  
Buddy & Susan Moore
- April 8  
Terry & Barbie Brown
- April 10  
Jon & Kathryn Bartley
- April 14  
Jeff & Tina Hall

## Calendar of events

Obviously we cannot publish a calendar of events at this time. We will keep everyone informed when the time comes that we can schedule events.

Of course we don't know at this time when we will once again be able to gather together under one roof. Until that time we will continue to follow the NC state guidelines. For now, stay safe and continue to pray for one another, our country, and our world.



Some good news, and a little something to look forward to when we are once again able to all be together. The audio / visual area has been upsized.

## Tithes and Offerings February 23 - March 22, 2020

February 23	\$3,455.
March 1	\$3,695.
March 8	\$4,695.
March 15	\$525.
March 22	\$2,695.

**Thank you for your gifts!**

Swift Creek Baptist Church  
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### **Church Staff**

Jeff Clark,  
Interim Pastor

Heather Hills,  
Minister of Music

Jae Kim,  
Pianist

Debra Vick,  
Church Secretary

Susan Moore,  
Financial Secretary

Bobby Mills,  
Grounds Maintenance

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