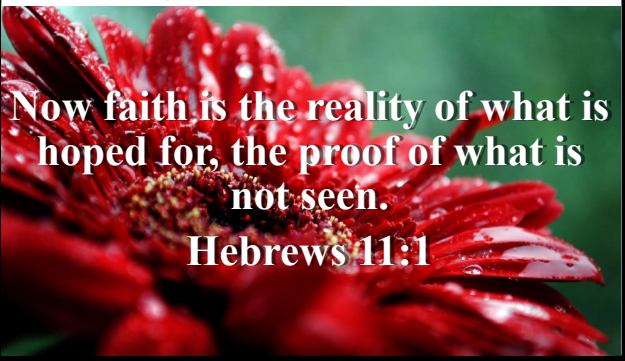




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MONROE, NC 28112
704-283-5656
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February 2023: Verse of the Month



WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES
AT OAKLAND

- Sunday

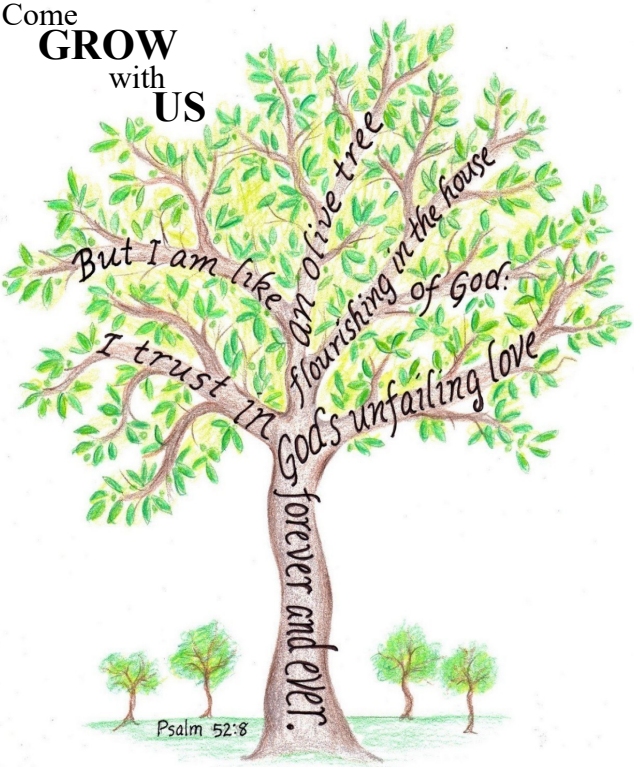
9:00 AM Sunday School

10:00 AM Indoor Service
(Sanctuary)

10:00 AM Worship Service
Online (Facebook)
- Wednesday

6:30 PM Wednesday Youth
(Fellowship Hall)

6:30 PM Wednesday Worship
Online (Facebook)



CONNECTING TO GOD & ONE ANOTHER

February 2023

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Pastor David's Corner

So Many Voices – Only One God

Have you ever stopped to consider the amount of voices you hear in a day, week, month or lifetime? It seems everyone has a sermon to preach, a lesson to teach, a message to impart or a narrative to convey. Noise, noise, noise, noise, noise! Perhaps the grinch was right! Even Jesus pulled away from the crowds and retreated to an elevated solitude, a deserted seclusion, to His Father's still, small voice. Can you identify?

Wouldn't it be nice if we could recoil to such a respite of divine inspiration, encouragement, guidance and hope. Of course, we can, but there is a problem. There's a snake in the garden! We're never alone; us and God. Someone keeps hissing in our ear.

What are we to do? He won't leave us be. He constantly roams about seeking to devour intimate time between us and our Heavenly Father. And he won't shut up!

Our new message series is designed to help in this very important, ongoing battle for our attention, our hearts & minds, and our allegiance. How can we weed through the deception and rightfully discern God's voice above all others, especially the voices of the devil and his minions? Upon first learning that we are valued by God, we move to break down the daily voices and confront each with six basic inquiries.

1) Does this articulation agree with the Bible? Is it backed by the Bible in proper context? 2) Does it bring conviction of sin, righteousness, and judgement? Does it convict of the truth of Jesus as Messiah? 3) Does it call us to trust God? Does it demand faith in Him? 4) Does it align with God's character? Does it move us toward His likeness? 5) Does it honor God? Does it bring glory to His name, His holiness, and His righteousness? 6) Does it lead us to be more like Jesus? Does it mold us into His image to accomplish His purposes?

So many voices. Can you hear them? May we come to a quiet place of discernment, comfort, peace, and clarity. May we rightfully divide their origins and intent as we rightfully divide God's Word and thus show ourselves approved by God. May we hear the utterance of our great Father Shepherd and follow Him into a life of abundance, joy and fruitfulness. May He protect us and provide as we arm ourselves with His truth and share His great gospel message!



PRAYER REQUESTS

Eddie & Candy
Anderson
Adin Beatus
Elise Byers
Brenda Carnes
Gary Clontz
Terry Cox
Marlene Crider
Woodrow (Lela
Crump's Grandson)
Peggy Dean
John Efird
Cindy French
Sam & Wanda
Goodwin

Prayer requests
continued on page 4.



Deacon's Meeting
Sunday, February 5th at 1 PM in the sanctuary.

Quarterly Fellowship Meal & Bible Study

We are looking at holding quarterly fellowship meals in place of our monthly fellowships.

A Bible study will still follow the quarterly meal.



Church Council
Thank you Church Council, for coming out to our January meeting!

Police Appreciation Luncheon

APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

Join us on Thursday, February 23rd as we host an appreciation lunch for the Monroe Police Department.

January Attendance

Sunday, January 1 (52 Indoor + 107 Online)

Wednesday, January 4 (127 Online)

Sunday, January 8 (11 Indoor + 86 Online)

Wednesday, January 11 (12 Lunch + 60 Online)

Sunday, January 15 (45 Indoor + 107 Online)

Wednesday, January 18 (122 Online)

Sunday, January 22 (42 Indoor + 84 Online)

Wednesday, January 25 (109 Online)

Sunday, January 29 (55 Indoor + 69 Online)



NC Baptists on Mission Regional Rally
Tuesday, February 28th - 5:45-8:30 PM
FBC Indian Trail
732 Indian Trail Fairview Rd
Indian Trail, NC 28079

The meal will begin at 5:45 PM, followed by the program from 6:50-8:30 PM. For more info or to register, follow this link: <https://bit.ly/3kWemEO>

This rally will highlight the variety of opportunities NC Baptists have to be involved in missions across our state, in our nation, and around the world. Featured will be worship, testimony, mission video, and a prayer time for missions. These rallies are for men, women and youth- everyone interested in missions is encouraged to attend. A main focus of these rallies will be state, national, international partnerships and projects (including Disaster Relief) and the NC Missions Offering. A meal is provided for the NC Mission Rallies at no charge.

The cut-off date for reserving a meal for the rally is one week PRIOR to the event.

If you have questions please call Melanie Crawford at 919-459-5596.

Oakland Meals

Do you know of a church member who could be blessed by a meal (home-made or restaurant-bought)? Let the church office know how we can bless our church members!



Hope House

The Hope House is in need of musical instruments for their ministry. Hope House is located in the old Westend Baptist Church building at 1611 Sanlee Church Road, Monroe. The facilitator is Ginger Walle. They are ministering to the children in the community through this facility. Call the UBA, 704-283-8383, Ginger Walle 980-722-7241 or you can bring them to the UBA building. If you would like to volunteer to help with the Hope House Ministry, please call the UBA.



January 2023

Offerings

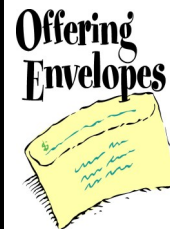
\$15,057.54

Budget Needs for February

\$18,566.08

**Lottie Moon
Christmas Offering**
Total Received: \$1,260.00
Thank you for giving to the
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering!

LOTTIE MOON
CHRISTMAS
OFFERING®



Offering Envelopes

There has been a delay in the shipment of our 2023 offering envelopes. Generic offering envelope will be available in the SS classrooms and vestibule until the shipment arrives.

The Pass Through Store

The Pass Through Store is a ministry of the Connect Center where people in need can come shop for clothes and shoes at NO COST. They also provide senior care packages that are delivered monthly free of charge. They are located at 1313 West Roosevelt Blvd, Monroe NC 28110 and their phone number is 704-776-9851.



If you know of someone in need of clothing, shoes, or senior care packages, please share this ministry to them.

The Connect Center is a non-profit organization founded in 2015 by Dr. David Miller and his wife Joan T. Miller. The Connect Center and its ministries focus on real-life issues that plague our communities all over, such as hunger, poverty, and a lack of daily essentials.

Establishing the Connect Center is Dr. Miller's opportunity to align his purpose with God's will, advocate for those who need someone to be their advocate. As well as connecting people with resources and services that he might not have access to.

The Pass Through Store is a place where low-income families, homeless, and foster care families can come shop for clothing, toiletries, shoes, and specialty items at no cost. Pass Through can also provide direct connection with goods, services, and agencies to assist with shoppers' needs.

FEBRUARY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 11 AM Fellowship Lunch & Bible Study 6:30 PM Youth	2 Jail Ministry	3	4 7:30 PM-1 AM Hispanic Church using FH
5 Session 3: Does It Call You to Trust God? 9 AM SS 10 AM Worship 1 PM Deacon's Meeting	6	7	8 6:30 PM Youth 6:30 PM Online Worship	9 Jail Ministry	10	11
12 Session 4: Does It Align With God's Character? 9 AM SS 10 AM Worship	13	14	15 6:30 PM Youth 6:30 PM Online Worship	16 Jail Ministry	17	18
19 Session 5: Does It Honor God? 9 AM SS 10 AM Worship	20	21	22 6:30 PM Youth 6:30 PM Online Worship	23 Police Appreciation Luncheon Jail Ministry	24	25
26 Session 6: Does It Lead You to Be More Like Jesus? 9 AM SS 10 AM Worship	27	28				

PRAY

PRAYER REQUESTS

Ray Greene
Sadie Griffin
Doris Hannah
Mike Helms
Nan Helms
Rodney (Renee Helms' Son)
Grady & Judy Hill
Gabe Horne
Lillian Lewis
Rich Majewski
Adam Mills
Lory Parker
Louise Parker
Irene Welch
Mary Jane (Irene Welch's Niece)
Walter (Irene's Brother-in-law)

Upcoming Sermon Series based on Bible Studies For Life

HOW TO DISCERN THE VOICE OF GOD

February 5: Does It Call You to Trust God?

February 12: Does It Align with God's Character?

February 19: Does It Honor God?

February 26: Does It Lead You to Be More Like Jesus?

**BIBLE
STUDIES
FOR LIFE®**

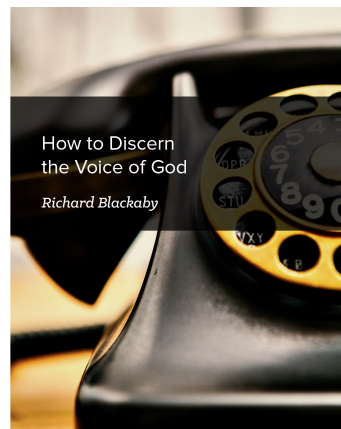
Bible Studies For Life Summary

How to Discern the Voice of God

"What does the voice of God sound like?" my father was once asked. He facetiously replied, "I have often found that God's voice sounds much like my wife's voice!"

God speaks in diverse ways. Sometimes it's in spectacular fashion and other times it occurs through ordinary experiences. When people consider God's voice, they often think of words spoken audibly. In the Bible, God did speak audibly to people, but He also communicated through angels, a burning bush, dreams, visions, donkeys, prophets, preachers, visions, as well as other ways. The key was never how God spoke, but that He spoke.

It is utterly astounding that almighty God, who spoke an entire universe into existence, would choose to speak to His creatures. Incredibly, God wants to share His thoughts and intentions with you. God's word brings life and sets people free. Sadly, many people have never learned to recognize God's voice. In a world filled with a cacophony of voices, it's crucial to be able to discern God's voice from other voices. This subject is crucial if you are to experience all that God intends for you.



Fitness Room



Working on your New Year's resolutions? Come and try out our fitness room (available to church members). Workout equipment in the room includes: dumbbells (3-25 pounds), barbells, resistance bands, yoga mats, treadmill, stationary bike, weight bench, and an assortment of other equipment.



Missing Dish

We are still missing a cream-colored Corningware dish that held green beans. Please double check that you picked up the correct dish from the Thanksgiving meal. If you grabbed this dish, please bring it to the Church Office. Your dish is in the kitchen!



Jail Ministry



Pray for the jail ministry team and the people they minister to; pray that they will respond to the gospel that is presented.

Looking to get involved in the jail ministry? Please contact Stacey!

Backpacks of Hope

Continue to pray for the backpacks ministry and for the 10 Monroe Middle School students who will receive food each week. Bags include a selection from the following items:

Applesauce, Beanie Weenies, Canned Chicken & Tuna, Canned Vegetables, Cereal, Chicken Noodle Soup, Fruit Cups (Fruit Medley, Orange Slices, Peaches), Grits, Macaroni & Cheese, Oatmeal, Peanut Butter Crackers, Pop Tarts, Pork & Beans, Pudding Cups, Raisins, Ramen Noodles, Ravioli, Spaghetti & Meatballs, Tomato Soup, Vegetable Soup

If you feel led to purchase food items, please drop them off in the church office!

Ministry Need

If you are interested in getting involved in this ministry, please contact the church office. Nan is looking for someone to take her place in this ministry as she will be recovering from back surgery for 3-6 months.

**BACKPACKS
OF HOPE**