

Iotla Baptist Church  
1537 Iotla Church Road  
Franklin, NC 28734  
Phone: 828-524-7167  
iotlabaptist@dnet.net



**Knowing God**  
**Growing in**  
relationship to Him  
**Going into the world**  
in His name and with  
his message  
**Showing others how**  
they can do the same.

#### COMING EVENTS:

MARCH is when we collect our Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. The Church goal this year is \$3500.

March 9

Rock Painting

March 25

Ron and Cathy's

Wedding

# IOTLA BAPTIST CHURCH

Here to Serve

MARCH 1, 2023  
VOLUME 6, ISSUE 9

## Message from Pastor Brandon

When you hear words like focused, driven, passionate, undeterred, etc., perhaps certain people come to mind. There are people in all walks of life who live their lives this way, but they're not all driven by the same things. For example, many people the world would say are "successful people" carry out lives focused on personal and professional gain. On the other hand, there are those who will never be recognized as "successful" in the world's eyes, but who are compelled by things far greater than personal and professional accomplishments, and people's accolades.

The apostle Paul was a man whose life would certainly have been described by words like these. In his own words, he describes his life before he came to know Christ as "zealous". But what he was zealous for (righteousness from keeping the law) came to mean nothing at all to him when he came to know Christ. This didn't mean that Paul became a less focused, driven, passionate, undeterred man. Rather, he became a differently focused, driven, passionate, undeterred man. "The way" he had once worked tirelessly to snuff out became the way he lived each moment of the rest of his life.

When he wrote to the Church in Corinth, he described to them a couple of factors that were at the heart of his desire to spend his life and be spent for the purpose of making disciples. In 2 Corinthians 5:14-15, he says "For the love of Christ compels us, since we have reached this conclusion, that one died for all, and therefore all died. 15 And he died for all so that those who live should no longer live for themselves, but for the one who died for them and

was raised." You see them? Paul was being compelled and he had come to a conclusion. Paul's compelling factor was the love of Christ for the world who needed to know and follow Him. Paul's concluding factor was that those who know Christ should live for the One who died for them.

My prayer for us, beginning with me, is that you and I might live with the same compelling, concluding factors in our own lives. Nothing we'll accomplish in this world will fulfill our lives and God's purpose for them like being compelled by His love and concluding that we ought to live for Him who died for us.

For His Glory: Pastor Brandon

## Missions Conference

Iotla Baptist will be hosting a Missions Conference on **April 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>**. All are invited to attend and hear from missionaries serving overseas and in North America. Details to follow.



## IOTLA KIDS SING

We had a special treat on Sunday, February 26th with the Iotla Kids singing at the morning worship service. Music is a great way to learn and remember Biblical facts and our kids appear to have fun with it.

# Let's Celebrate

## ANNIVERSARIES

- ◆ BARBARA & BRUCE WILSON 3/07
- ◆ SILAS & ELKA GIBBS 3/14

## BIRTHDAYS

- ◆ CYNTHIA ROWLAND 03/02
- ◆ VALERIE NORTON 03/04
- ◆ WILLARD DILLS 03/05
- ◆ CRYSTAL STAMEY 03/05
- ◆ STEVE WILSON 03/07
- ◆ BETTY WOOTEN 03/08
- ◆ LINDA TIPPETT 03/14
- ◆ BENSON GIBSON 03/16
- ◆ ALEX BREEDLOVE 03/17
- ◆ BECKY GIBSON 03/18
- ◆ JOYCE GIBSON 03/18
- ◆ DAVID TIPPETT 03/18
- ◆ TOMMY BENNETT 03/23
- ◆ CARTER SHULER 03/23
- ◆ DIANE PANGLE 03/26
- ◆ JANIS WILSON 03/26
- ◆ JAKE BREEDLOVE 03/29

## Vision Team to Guatemala

Pray for the team of Brandon, Melissa, Edith and Gary Holland and two others from NC Baptist on Mission. They will be exploring God's vision for opportunities to serve and spread the gospel in areas of Guatemala. Pray for these opportunities and how we as a church can possibly be involved and serve in the future.

## YOUTH

### Upcoming Youth Activities:

**Love Serves:** "Love Serves" is a new mission project hosted by the Macon Baptist Association. Youth from all over Macon County will be coming together for a worship service on Friday evening, April 28<sup>th</sup> at Cowee Baptist. Then on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, youth groups will be given an assignment which will involve helping a homeowner in Macon County with various home improvement projects. We can't wait to serve our community! If you are interested in helping alongside our youth, please let us know.

**The Ark Adventure:** The youth group will be traveling to Kentucky to visit the "Ark" as well as doing a couple of other fun activities! We will be leaving on Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup> and returning home on Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. While there we will also visit a park in Cincinnati that serves a large homeless population. While there we will give out care bags. We will be asking the church members to help by giving items that can be used in the bags. A list of items will be in the worship folder on March 12<sup>th</sup>. This trip will also serve as the Youth spring retreat. Please pray for safe travels for our youth!

**Deep Impact Mission Trip:** Begin praying for our youth and adult leaders now as we prepare to be led to Deep Impact in Shelby, NC from June 14-17<sup>th</sup>. It has been over 2 years since we participated in Deep Impact and are excited to be getting back to work.

**Youth Room Open House:** To be announced as we continue to finish some things up.

Submitted by: Youth Leadership

## 2023 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

Theme: "Here I Am... Send Me"

*"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying: Who should I send? Who will go for Us? I said: Here I am. Send me.*

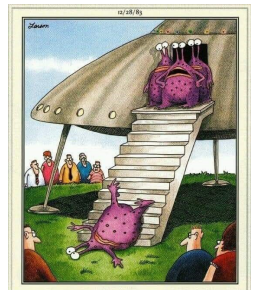
Isaiah 6:8

Isaiah's heart cry is just as relevant in the lives of thousands of Southern Baptists today as it was many years ago. From East to West and North to South the North American Mission Board (NAMB) is partnering with churches just like Iotla to continue to send out missionaries all over North America and Canada.

We will be observing the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and Week of Prayer from **March 12<sup>th</sup> through April 9<sup>th</sup>**.

- Our prayer support is vital to these North American missionaries and their families. Use the prayer guide you will receive on Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> to pray for the highlighted missionaries, their ministry and their needs.
- All of the NAMB missionaries and their vital mission field work benefits from our monetary gifts to this offering. It is a **lifeline** for the continuation of God's Great Commission. Our offering goal is \$3500.00.

Submitted by: Melissa Leatherman, Co-chair of the MS/CI Team



"Wonderful! Just wonderful! ... So much for installing them with a sense of awe."

## PRAYER LIST

### Church Members

- Teresa Ammons
- Sharon Bennett
- Lucian Combs Family
- Dickie Gibson
- Jim Hedden
- Jim Huggart
- Rose Lillard Family
- Bob Peters Family
- Joyce, Richie and Family
- Barbara Wilson
- Janis Wilson

### Family and Friends

- Mike Cope
- Brenda DeHart
- Todd Faucette
- Jessica Fisher
- Sharon Gravett
- Lisa Leatherman
- Chuck Mallonee
- Pat McSherry
- Jerry & Connie Riley
- JoAnn Runyon
- Bruce Wilson, Jr.
- Chris Wise
- Cade and Lanie