

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.

Special points of interest:

- **Sept 7—Deacon's Monthly Meeting**
- **Sept 10—Church Conference**
- **Sept 15—Feeding the FHS Football Team**
- **Sept 18—Ministry Leadership Team Meeting**

Let's Celebrate

Anniversaries

◆ Stan & Carmen	09/02	◆ Barbara Wilson	09/14
◆ Charles & Gerry Swafford	09/06	◆ Lisa SanGregory	09/15
◆ Steve & Valerie Norton	09/07	◆ Gabe Lamb	09/16
◆ Brandon & Nancy Breedlove	09/29	◆ Vickie Donaldson	09/17
◆ Hugh & Nancy Krag	09/30	◆ Mike Bruce	09/19
		◆ Marcie Loudermilk	09/19
		◆ Nancy Breedlove	09/22
		◆ Lawson Dills	09/23
		◆ Gerry Swafford	09/25
		◆ Cole Bates	09/26
		◆ Darlene Demas	09/26
		◆ Tony Ledford	09/27
		◆ Tim Bleckley	09/29
		◆ Cathy Ilhardt	09/29
		◆ Leland Hahn	09/30

Birthdays

◆ Shari Bruce	09/01	◆ Barbara Wilson	09/14
◆ Revena Breedlove	09/07	◆ Lisa SanGregory	09/15
◆ Raleigh Buchanan	09/08	◆ Gabe Lamb	09/16
◆ Gilmer Breedlove	09/10	◆ Vickie Donaldson	09/17
◆ Ruthie Gibson	09/10	◆ Mike Bruce	09/19
◆ Hugh Blaine	09/13	◆ Marcie Loudermilk	09/19
◆ Barbara Lynch	09/13	◆ Nancy Breedlove	09/22
◆ Charles Stamey	09/13	◆ Lawson Dills	09/23
		◆ Gerry Swafford	09/25
		◆ Cole Bates	09/26
		◆ Darlene Demas	09/26
		◆ Tony Ledford	09/27
		◆ Tim Bleckley	09/29
		◆ Cathy Ilhardt	09/29
		◆ Leland Hahn	09/30

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR

Perhaps you've heard the comical (though not real) story about the man who was on a diet and drove by a bakery each day on his way to work. One day, knowing he was coming up on the bakery, he prayed "Lord, if it's your will for me to get a cake from the bakery, let there be an open parking place right in front of it." When he arrived at work with a cake in hand, his co-worker said to him "I thought you were on a diet ..." The man went on to recount how he had prayed about God's will for him to have the cake, explaining "wouldn't you know it, the eleventh time I circled around the bakery, there was a parking space right in front!" While this story is light-hearted and funny, it is representative of a serious matter that many Christians have questions about. Namely, how can we know the Lord's will in something? While the space in this newsletter wouldn't come close to allowing for a comprehensive consideration of this topic, I'd

like to highlight three overarching applications that will enable us to best perceive and receive the will of the Lord:

1. Pray for His Will to be Done – When Jesus was teaching His disciples to pray, He said "Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name; Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven" [Matt. 6:9-10]. Follow Jesus's example, pray for God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven, including in your life and situation.
2. Prepare your Heart and Mind to Know His Will – When Paul wrote to Roman Christians, by the leadership of the Holy Spirit, he said "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect" [Rom. 12:2]. Note two things here: first we can discern the will of God, and second, we are prepared to discern it by having our minds transformed, which comes through the regular study and application of God's word.
3. Practice – Determine to put the Lord's will into practice in your life as He Reveals it. The Psalmist of Psalm 119 prayed "Your testimonies are my delight; they are my counselors" [Psalm 119:24]. May it be so of our lives too. Ask the Lord to help you take delight in knowing and doing His will.



For His Glory: Pastor Brandon

Upcoming Mission Opportunities:

Support Your Franklin High Panthers football team!

Iotla will be providing dinner to the Franklin Panthers football team on Friday, **September 15th at 3:30 pm**. If you are a Panther football fan and would like to join us in support of these boy's, you are welcome!

Poor Man's Dinner - Mark your calendars for our Poor Man's Dinner on **Sunday, October 8th** right after the morning worship service. (Details to follow)

"Trunk or Treat" - This year we will once again be doing a "Trunk or Treat" here at Iotla! The scheduled date is **Sunday, October 29th** from 5 pm to 7 pm. **There will be something for everyone to do to help make it a success.** (Details to follow)

IOTLA BAPTIST CHURCH

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



HELP

Our Wednesday Night Children's program is growing which is wonderful news but that means we need more help. We need volunteers who will rotate Wednesday nights. Lesson will be provided for you to use with the children. If you are willing to help us, please let Joey know (371-2624) or call the church office (524-7167). This could be a great ministry for you. Please give it some consideration and pray about it. Our young people need you!

Sew'n Sews

We observed *Airing of the Quilts* on Sunday, August 20th, with quilts decorating the sanctuary and vestibule. The Sew'n Sews, a less visible ministry, began in 1990 at the home of Dorothy Childers making lap blankets for children in hospitals. Mildred Asby is the only original member. In 2018, they began giving the quilts to Pre-schoolers and Kindergarten-ers in all of Macon County schools. This year they made 570 quilts, more than doubling the number made in 2018. The Sew'n Sews would love to grow their team. You do not have to be able to sew. There is a job for YOU! They go through many yards of cotton material and always appreciate donations.



Barbara Duncan

The Sew'n Sews and Iotla Baptist Church presented Barbara a plaque to celebrate 20 years of faithful service to the Sew'n Sews.

Coming in October will be Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 29 from 5 - 7 PM. We are planning to have Trunk or Treat in our lower parking lot as we have done before. It is not too soon to start planning your TRUNK. We need lots of trunks so get creative and be ready!

Happiness is a perfume you cannot pour on others without getting a few drops on yourself

George Bernard Shaw

2023 North Carolina Missions Offering

Theme: **"Relief for today. Hope for tomorrow"**

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you believe in Him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13

There is a brokenness in our world and the North Carolina Missions Offering offers a true help and hope in Jesus' name to address this brokenness. **The offering supports disaster relief and the 19 different ministries of Baptist on Mission in NC, church planting, mission partnerships, mission camps and work in local Baptist associations.**

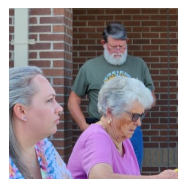
Iotla has a history of compassion and generosity in praying and giving to the North Carolina Missions Offering. You're giving along with so many other churches in NC meets so many physical and spiritual needs in the name of Jesus.

Week of Prayer for the offering begins **Sunday, August 27th** (look for the Week of Prayer flyer in your bulletin).

We will be taking up the offering during the entire month of September.

A special guest speaker from NC Baptist on Mission will be here on **Sunday, September 17th**

Submitted by: Melissa Leatherman, Mission Strategy



Prayer Walk

We gathered on Wednesday, August 23rd at IVE School for our annual Prayer Walk. The weather cooperated and around 25 from IBC walked around the school and prayed for the school, staff, students and anything else that came to mind. What a beautiful place to walk and be reminded of all that God has provided us. School has now begun but we should not stop praying for our educational system, they are just beginning what we pray will be a fantastic year.



On Sunday, August 27th, there was a special prayer for all school personnel and children, the day before the beginning of the new school year. If you missed Sunday, take a moment for prayer.

PRAYER LIST

Church Members

Mildred Asby
 Hugh & Gaye Blaine
 Raleigh Buchanan
 Mary Jo Campbell
 Judy Christensen
 Charlie Leatherman
 Emma Lovett
 Joyce, Richie and Family
 Annie Seay & Family
 Barbara Wilson
 Janis Wilson

Family and Friends

Marcia Crawford
 Tony Free
 Fred & Pam Goldsmith
 Chelsea Heaton
 Shawn Henry
 Johnny & Caralee Henson
 Carson Ilhardt
 Stanley Jacobs
 Dina Jones
 Chuck Mallonee
 Mildred McSwain
 Bill O'Connor
 Linda Parker
 Richard & Bea Perry
 Carson Rowland
 JoAnn Runyon
 June Sorrells
 Mary Stockton
 Morris Stockton
 Bruce Wilson, Jr.

