

The Rocky Hock Anchor



The Mission of Rocky Hock Baptist Church is
to magnify Christ and make disciples of all people.



from our Interim Pastor . . .

2023 - The Time of Your Life

(This article was first written while I was still in full time pastoral ministry. I tell you this because the incident is real and thus fits the life of one who seems far busier than I currently am. The second conversation in this story, however, is completely imaginary. Let me emphasize that. I am attributing NO words to God. Got it? NONE. The message however is timeless, or is that timely?)

It was one of those weeks when it just seemed impossible to do everything that needed to be done. I was at the hospital in Greenville and had just finished visiting some of our church folk. You can almost always find someone from Chowan County at the hospital and I knew of several who were there at the time. Though they were not part of our church family, something suggested that a brief visit might be in order. That's when the first conversation began.

"I just don't have time, today," I said to myself. (Be very careful when you start talking to yourself!) My self agreed with me and my mind hurried on down the road toward Edenton and all the important stuff that awaited my attention. My body soon followed my mind.

On Highway 13 North, just after you cross the Tar River, right beside the airport, there was a traffic accident, a major one. Traffic was backed up to the river bridge, which is where I came to a halt, right in the middle of the bridge. Traffic was not moving, no, not a hair's breadth. No way on, no way back, no way out. I think it was hot that day or maybe it was just me. For an hour I was on that bridge, drumming my fingers on the steering wheel, bemoaning my misfortune. That's when the second conversation began. I thought I was talking to myself again when I said,

"I don't have time for this!"

That's when the other voice butted in.

"Seems like I've heard that line before, perhaps even today."

Me: "Well, I didn't have time for that either."

Other voice: "Hmmm. You could have made those visits by now."

Me: "I could have been home by now!"

Other voice: "You really believe that time belongs to you, don't you?"

That got my attention. So this is about what I 'really' believe.

Me: "No. I don't believe that."

Other voice: "Oh, but you do. It isn't true, of course, but you believe it. Just as surely as you believe your life is your own."

Me: "Let me get this straight. It's not what I say I believe that proves what I really believe. It's how I live that proves what I really believe. Is that it?"

Other voice: "That's about it."

Me: "I guess I need to change the way I live, huh?"

Other voice: "That depends on what you really believe."

Me: "I really believe my life belongs to You."

Other voice: "Does that include your time?"

Me: "Yes. It does... now that I've taken the time to think about it."

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Other voice: “No. Now that I've given you the time to think about it. Have you noticed that the traffic is moving?”

Me: “I suppose I should go back to the hospital.”

Other voice: “I don't think so.”

Me: “But You just said...”

Other voice: “I just said that time is Mine and you are Mine. So please quit trying to rearrange My universe. You can't get it back once it is gone, you know. There are other things before you now.”

Me: “Such as.”

Other voice: “Such as that van truck which is considerably larger than what you are driving. I wouldn't be hasty if I were you. Church will not fall apart before you get back.”

Me: “Are You sure?”

Other voice: “I'm always sure. Even if it does fall apart, there's nothing you can do about it. So why don't you lighten up just a little and listen to Me.”

Me: “I'm listening.”

Other voice: “I have this real neat idea for a sermon on time.....”

*But as for me, I trust in You, O LORD; I say, “You are my God.” My times are in your hand...
~ Psalm 31:14-15a*

May the new year be filled with God's glory and God's blessing.

Grace and Peace,
Interim Pastor Bob

2023 Deacons

Donald Bass
Mike Evans
Steve Evans
Danny Lewis
Ellis Tynch

2022 Deacons

Wayne Bunch
Allen Peele
Phil Smith
Chris Sykes
Sam Tynch

2021 Deacons

Adam Bunch
Ruston Howell
Allen Nixon
Keith Rollins
Chris Turner



2023 Officers

Chris Sykes, Chairman
Wayne Bunch, Vice Chair
Chris Turner, Secretary

Please be in prayer for all our Deacons as they assume their biblical role to partner with our Pastors in ministering to our congregation in 2023.



Our Church Blood Drive held on November 22nd has been selected as the American Red Cross Blood Drive of the Week. This honor recognizes a group that exemplifies outstanding dedication to the community blood program. Our drive was selected because it was a terrific example of the blueprint of what makes a drive successful. Stated by Todd Cahill, Regional Donor Services Executive, “this drive exceeded all our metrics (literally,

because we ran out of supplies at the drive)! In addition to exceeding the metrics, the drive went smoothly and we wanted to give a big shout out for all the hard work and efforts. On behalf of the hospitals we service, thank you for your contribution to the community blood supply and we acknowledge that such successes would not be possible without your support.”

Thank you to all who volunteered and donated blood. It took a coordinated effort to accomplish this goal. To see the entire letter, check out the bulletin board in the hall behind the sanctuary. Our next Blood Drive will be in March.

Rhonda Bass



Deacon Ministry



Deacon Team of the Week

1/1/23 - 1/7/23

Adam Bunch, Ted Peele, Oscar White

1/8/23 - 1/14/23

Steve Evans, Bill Smith, Chris Turner

1/15/23 - 1/21/23

Donald Bass, Allen Peele, Sam Tynch

1/22/23 - 1/28/23

Carroll Evans, Ruston Howell, Danny Lewis

1/29/23 - 2/4/23

Lee Bass, Allen Nixon, Ellis Tynch

<u>Attendance:</u>	<u>SS</u>	<u>Worship</u>
11/27/22:	163	211
12/4/22:	199	276
12/11/22:	172	265
12/18/22:	175	206

January Deacon Greeters

Senior Adult SS Center: Steve Evans

Sanctuary Main: Ruston Howell

Connecting Corridor: Adam Bunch

Multi-Purpose Main Entrance: Phil Smith



The Edenton-Chowan Food Pantry is requesting from RHBC this month:

January Ushers:

Neal Bass, Tony Bass, Matthew Evans,
Leon Hemmings, Stanley Tynch, Bob Wallace

January Offering Team:

Allen Nixon (Chair), Donald Bass,
Wayne Bunch, Ruston Howell,
Danny Lewis, Chris Turner

January Counting Committee:

Mike Evans, Frank & Hope Gosser,
Billy & LouAnn Elliott

Canned Vegetables



Baptist Women



A New Hope

written by Meredith Wilson, wmunc.org

The other day, I was talking to a friend regarding career news she had been waiting to receive. I made a comment on how waiting is frustrating, especially regarding such a big decision. In a calm voice, she replied, "Well every day is a new hope."

During periods of waiting and hard seasons, we can tend to view it as God is delaying us. It causes discouragement. We tell ourselves that we will never be able to do _____ because of _____. This eventually leads to a spiral of worry, anxiety and loss of hope.

However, our seasons of waiting are intentional by God to create hope in us through our trust in His good works. Even when you think about it, waiting brings hope if our intentions are in the right place.

Romans 15:13 states, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Hope does not come from our own experiences, but our trust in the power of the Holy Spirit.

This is why our quiet time is so important because it is the act of making ourselves available to be filled with His joy and peace. Spending time with Jesus gives us the opportunity to learn from Him, but it also strengthens our hope.

If you are in a season of waiting or discouragement, remind yourself that God is preparing you for something bigger that is currently unimaginable. While we are hoping in God, we can take comfort in the fact that we never have to go through life alone. Each day is a new day to be kinder to someone, to take better care of yourself, and to draw even closer to Jesus. We can still live our life to the fullest even if we are in a hard season.

Like my friend said, a new day is a new opportunity to be filled with hope of what is to come.

This hope, my friends, is a type of hope that can only be lived out by our trust in the One above.

So, let me ask you this, which type of hope are you living out today?



The Baptist Men's Breakfast this month will be on January 15th at 7:30 AM.

Gentlemen, please join us in the Special Function Room for breakfast, devotion, and fellowship.



A new Flower Calendar has been placed on the bulletin board outside the Choir Room (hallway behind the Sanctuary). If you would like to put flowers in the church in honor or in memory of a loved one or for a special occasion, simply write your name beside the date of your choice. Please call the Church Office with the appropriate wording for the bulletin.

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES

If your name is on a Sunday School Roll, your offering envelopes have been placed in your Sunday School Classroom. Teachers, your envelopes may be in the class you teach. If your name is not on a Sunday School Roll, your offering envelopes are in the vestibule. If you do not currently have envelopes and would like a boxed set, please contact the Church Office and a set will be placed in the vestibule for you.



Children's Page

For children of all ages!



ATTENTION PARENTS!

If you have children who participate in RHBC's Children's Ministry, please sign up for the new REMIND account. There are two ways to sign up . . .

Online:

<https://www.remind.com/join/rockyhoc>

or

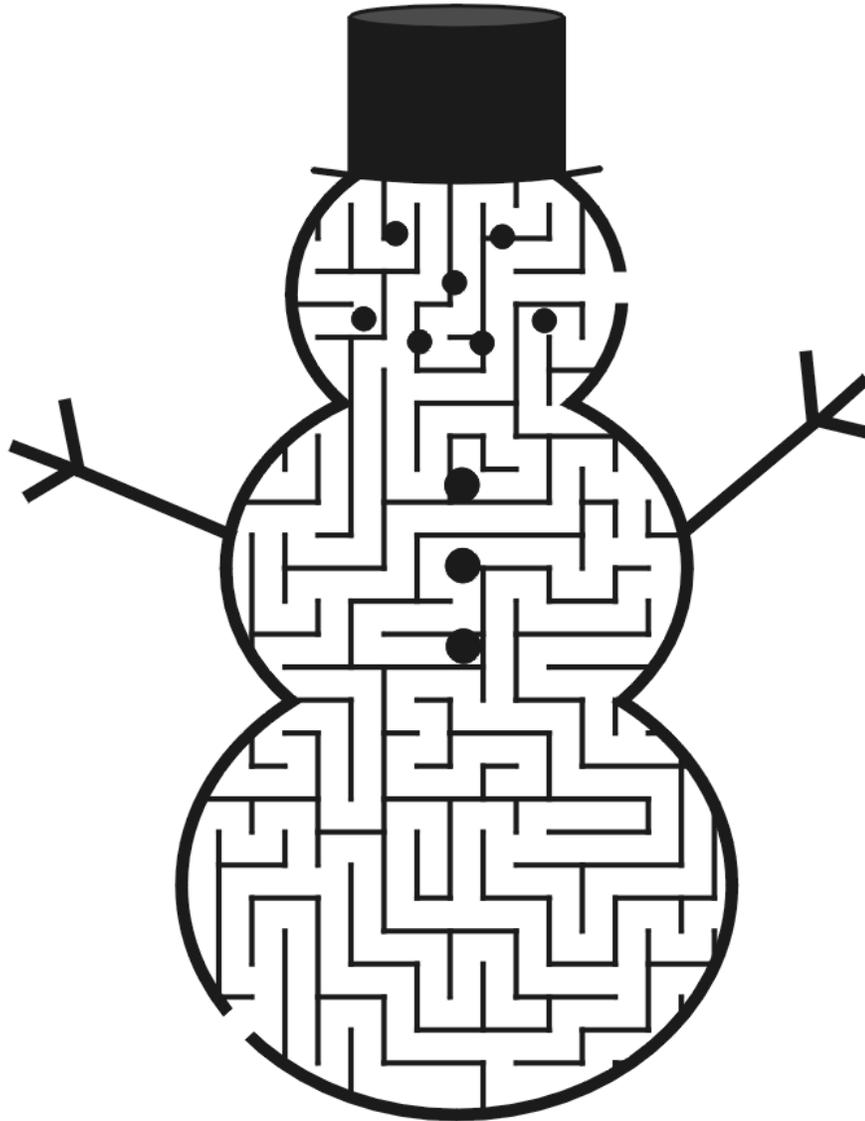
Text:

@rockyhoc

to 81010

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

POLAR PLUNGE - Sunday, January 1st from 2:00 - 5:00 PM - Join us for a Happy New Year Polar Plunge at the Brabandt home (203 Dundee Drive, Edenton). And, warm up afterwards with s'mores and hot chocolate!



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Practice schedules, Game schedules, and Church League Rules are now available in the foyer of the Multi-Purpose Building. Parent assignments (officials, clock operators, scorekeepers, concessions, and clean-up crew) will be available soon. For those who would like to come out and cheer on our children and youth, the **Home Games** are as follows . . .

- 1/7/23 - Rocky Hock vs. St. Paul's
- 1/21/23 - Rocky Hock vs. Edenton Baptist
- 1/28/23 - Rocky Hock vs. St. Paul's
- 2/4/23 - Rocky Hock vs. Ballard's Bridge
- 2/11/23 - Rocky Hock vs. Edenton Baptist

Games will begin at 4:30 PM with Grades K - 2 (Co-ed) and end with High School Boys from 8 - 9 PM.

Rocky Hock Baptist Church
113 Rocky Hock Church Road
Edenton, North Carolina 27932
Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
EDENTON, NC
PERMIT NO. 127



Check us out on the web at www.rhbce.org

Weekly Schedule:

- Sundays:** 9:45 AM - Sunday School for all ages
11:00 AM - Morning Worship for all ages (Nursery & Children's Church available for up to 5th Grade)
Worship Online at www.rhbce.org, our Facebook page, vimeo, and YouTube
6:00 PM - Evening Worship ("Sundays @ SIX") - Adults in Sanctuary, Youth in Youth Suite, Children in Gym
- Wednesdays:** 7:00 PM - Prayer Meeting / Adult Bible Study - Sanctuary; Middle & High School Youth - Youth Suite;
RA's - RA's Room, upstairs; GA's - GA's Room, beside foyer; Mission Friends - Kindergarten Classroom

Rev. Bob Young, Interim Senior Pastor
ryoung098@gmail.com

252-221-1220 (Office)

Pastor Justin Smith, Minister of Music & Education
jsmith@rhbce.org

252-221-1221 (Office)

Mr. Chris Sykes, Chairman of Deacons
chris@sykes-cpa.com

252-333-9067 (Cell)

Mrs. Linda B. Bunch, Administrative Assistant
lbunch@rhbce.org

252-221-4133 (Office)



Rocky Hock
BAPTIST CHURCH-EDENTON