



*From the Pastor*, continued from page 1.

The first place I want us to look for good is in one another. I watched an interview with the Las Vegas assailant's brother. He was stunned, bewildered and I felt for him. As I watched the interview I could not help but remember that I have a brother. He lives a few hundred miles from me and while we talk occasionally we do not know the details of one another's lives. I love my brother and say he is "the good son" in our family. He would be among the folks providing aid and doing anything he could to help. I think he would say the same of me, but the fact remains, we don't know each other's joys and pains in depth. We need to know each other better and I am not speaking of familial ties. We like to think of our church as A Family of Faith and I hope, as a faithful response to the Las Vegas shooting, we will be more attentive to one another. We will never be able to protect our society from tragedy, but if we invest ourselves into one another good will come.

Finally, know this... God loves you. No matter what you are going through, you are not alone and help is available. Also, remember that I love you and if you ever need a listening ear, I am here.

*Peace,  
David*

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

One of Karl Barth's more famous quotes is about how we (ministers and all Christians) need to live with the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other. In other words, we need to be well informed both about our faith and about the world around us. But, engaging the news looks quite different today than it did in Barth's day! Between the demand for constant news and the push for higher ratings and more clicks, as well as the advent of the internet and thus the ability for anyone with a computer to post anything they want, it's easy for heavily biased reports or even misinformation to spread. For example – think of some of the initial rumors flying after the Las Vegas attack, or the fact that Tom Petty's death was initially reported hours before he actually died. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to responsibly and critically engage the news. Here are four things to consider:

**1.) Consider the source.**—Is it a reliable source? Just because someone can post something on the internet doesn't mean it is true. Does it have reputable sources and research? (Snopes.com and Politifact.com are two great places to check the validity of stories.) Is it biased? Some sources tell you outright ("Conservative News" or "Liberal Today"), but others may not.

**2.) Consider the intent of the story.**—Is the headline a bit misleading in order to convince you to click on it? Does it sensationalize the information that it is reporting on? Does it seem like they're jumping to conclusions without all of the facts? Is it actually a story worth reporting?

**3.) Consider your own bias.**—We all lean towards preferred news sources and perspectives on the world. Are you prone to listen to only one source and denounce all others? Have you considered listening to multiple sources from across the spectrum to try and engage the full story? Does the information reported fit into your own assumptions a little too neatly? Have you thought critically about the information presented and researched it further?

**4.) Consider if it is time to turn it off for a little.**—The 24 hour news cycle is exhausting, and often times more damaging than good. It's okay to turn off the tv, put down the phone, and engage the people and the world around you.

*Erin*



October 12, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.

In the Activity Building

Patty Speights will be sharing her pottery with us.

Bring a sandwich and a friend!

### *Senior Adults to Open House at Southern Supreme*

Bear Creek, NC

October 14th



We will leave the church at 8:00 a.m. Transportation: \$10 per person. 4 spots available. Sign up at the church office.





On the eve of embarking on the *Growing Young* conference, I must admit being torn between optimism and skepticism. In times like these my tendency is toward optimism as long as it is backed by prayer. I am grateful for the opportunity to share my hopes and concerns with you.

I am optimistic that we will continue to have a vibrant, active youth group just as we have always had. I worry about our ability to consistently appeal to young adults in their 20s. That is of course why we are attending the *Growing Young* seminar. The pool of educated young professionals in Lumberton is quite shallow to begin with. Unless the economy improves, many former FBC youth will continue to find jobs elsewhere in the country, but some do return out of a love for their hometown.

Our current youth group shows more interest in our worship services (at least the early service), but it is hard to grow past a certain point with young people when they are asked to give up the one day they would have to take a sabbath. Still, they are more willing to pray and read scripture in services than they ever have been, and we are more likely to call upon them now than in the past. Our current college students seem open to participating when home, but only with your encouragement.

At this seminar, I am sure we will learn some practical steps toward becoming a church that is attractive to young adults. My worry is in the execution. We already have difficulty finding prayer partners for our college students for example, and this is a drop in the bucket of what we will need to do as a congregation to be successful. We also need young people in serious leadership roles, and they need older mentors beyond paid staff and youth volunteers. That takes willingness and effort from all.

As I shared with many of you in my last sermon, I am encouraged by the overwhelming positive impression our youth and former youth have of FBC. Although there were complaints about the amount of bickering or lack of warmth, all of our youth and former youth spoke glowingly when asked about the opportunities we have provided them to serve others. Serving others is what we are known for, and that is not only a great building block, it is a wonderful reason for optimism about our future!

**Doug**

Please join us for our ***Shoebox Packing Day*** on October 21st at 9:00 a.m.

Please ***Do Not Include*** the following in your shoeboxes: Candy; toothpaste; used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.



<b>For the Record</b>	
Budgeted 2017.....	\$685,000.00
Weekly Need (2017) .....	\$12,924.53
Received October 1, 2017 ....	\$9,114.02
Need to date .....	\$516,981.13
Received to date .....	\$496,833.85
Over (Under) Budget .....	(\$20,147.28)
Sunday School Attendance—167	

**Family Night Supper Menus  
October 2017**

**October 11**—*Red Ticket*: Pork Loin, Mixed Vegetables, Scalloped Potatoes, Rolls, Salad, Banana Cream Pie (Sugar-free)  
*Blue Ticket*: Hot Dogs, Chips, Fruit

**October 18**—Spaghetti, String Beans, Toast, Salad, Chocolate Cake (Sugar-free)

**October 25**—Hot Dogs, Chips, Chocolate Chip Cookies

**November 1**—*Red Ticket*: Chicken & Rice, String Beans, Rolls, Salad, Blueberry Pie  
*Blue Ticket*: Chicken Nuggets, Chips Fruit





First Baptist Church of Lumberton, NC

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Lumberton, NC 28358

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**Wednesday, October 25 at  
First Baptist, Lumberton**

**(7th & Walnut St.)**

**5:15 - FREE hot dog supper in the Fellowship Hall**

**6:00 - Trunk or Treat in the 6th Street parking lot  
(will be moved indoors if it rains)**

**Don't forget to wear your costume and  
bring a bag to collect candy!**

More Halloween fun will also take place at  
Chestnut Street UMC (costume parade, 6:15) and

• First Presbyterian (fall carnival, 6:00-7:00).

**Questions? contact the church office (739-4336).**



**MISSIONS**  
across the street & around the world

**Baptist Women's Luncheon**

November 6, 2017

11:45 a.m. in the Activity Building

*Bonnie McCoombs from Gates of Heaven Ministries  
will be our speaker. Bonnie works with people of the  
Lakota Sioux Reservation in South Dakota.*

**Quarterly Church Conference**

Wednesday, October 18, 2017

6:00 p.m. (Family Night At Prayer)

**Tickets for our Annual  
Barbecue Plate Sale  
(November 17th) are  
available now! They are  
\$7.00 each and can be  
purchased from any First  
Baptist Youth.**



**Preparing for Sunday—**

**“I Press On”**

Philippians 3:4b-16

It's been a year since Hurricane Matthew and all of us have stories of the aftermath. Some lost their homes, others had damage to property and others were only inconvenienced by the lack of power and water for a few days. Regardless of how much or how little physical damage you experienced, most of us are weary of hurricanes and yet stronger for having come through one. In this Sunday's text Paul models the spirit needed for enduring a life changing event. He inspires resilience as he says *I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.* It's been a year since the flood and this Sunday we will celebrate how far we have come and pledge to “press on” no matter what lies ahead.

**CHURCH STAFF**

Contact us at 739-4336 or

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**Rev. Erin Collier—Minister to Children**

**Dr. David Elks—Pastor**

**Mrs. Daphne Fletcher—Administrative Assistant**

**Ms. Dorothy Hunt—Building Superintendent**

**Rev. Tim Little—Minister of Music**

**Mrs. Kandace Ramsey—Administrative Assistant**

**Rev. Doug Reedy—Minister of Youth**