

First Baptist News

a family of faith



I am thrilled to report that the Early Childhood Ministry (ECM) was informed this week that they earned high marks on their recent state assessment and will retain their four star status.

The state assessment is a comprehensive review that takes place every three years. The examiners consider the learning environment, qualifications and professionalism of the teachers, student/teacher ratios and every other aspect of the program. Earning four stars requires a dedication to excellence and a commitment to providing an environment that fosters intellectual, spiritual and emotional growth. Throughout its history, the ECM has made this commitment and I am thrilled that our ministry to children and families in Lumberton and Robeson County will continue to grow.

As I reflect on the ECM's good news I think of the importance of teamwork. I did not have a "go to" quote on teamwork, but a quick internet search provided plenty of ideas. I especially like "if you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together" and "teamwork divides the task and multiplies success." The ECM "team" is a large group and there are many who have multiplied our success. Chanda Hughes, the ECM's Director, does an excellent job and approaches each day as an exciting opportunity to help our children learn well. Our ECM teachers and assistants love their children and go the extra mile to encourage each child to become his/her very best. Our Administrative Staff greets each parent with respect and works tirelessly to answer questions. Our ECM Committee is chaired by Christy Strickland and works behind the scenes as a resource to Chanda and to strengthen the relationship between the program and the church. Each of these people and groups deserve our appreciation for a job well done!

As I write this, I am reminded that I do have a teamwork quote. The old proverb "it takes a village to raise a child" fits perfectly. As a parent, I can attest to the importance of a village in raising a child and as a pastor of a church that strives to provide excellent childcare, I am sure a village of caring parents, administrators, teachers, and volunteers are vital to success. So, thank you to all who serve now and have served in the past to make the ECM an exceptional ministry and let's continue to give our best to "multiply our success!"

Peace,
David

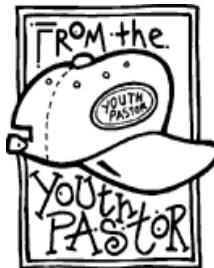


Wednesday, May 9th
Game at 5:00 p.m.
Supper at 6:00 p.m.

Join us at Godwin Heights Park to cheer on the
Friends of Jesus Sunday School Class.

Hamburgers & Hot Dogs will be served. This event will
take the place of our regular Wednesday activities.

Youth Sunday—April 29, 2018



Thank you for turning out in impressive numbers for Youth Sunday! Thank you for the cards you sent our youth during youth week. Thank you for your prayers. Thank you for sharing your Sunday School classes. Thanks especially to everyone who spoke to our youth before or after either service.

Several of you mentioned how much you appreciated our seniors sharing themselves so openly. Please know they appreciated you as well. Their growth from nervousness at the early service to confidence at the later service was in part attributable to your support and encouragement.

Some of our seniors who preached were dedicated at First Baptist as babies. You taught them on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights. They attended our ECM. They have experienced VBS as a child and as a volunteer. Others arrived here as youth. Either way, when their name is announced at the Baccalaureate service in a few weeks, do we want that to be a goodbye?

I hope not. In a few weeks I will be asking for sponsors for each of these wonderful young people. Consider it a hobby. Consider it an investment. Consider it planting a seed. Whatever analogy works for you is fine. Please contact me if you are willing to write a few notes of encouragement, annual birthday cards, and/or send an occasional care package to one of our college students or former youth serving in the military. Just let me know!

Doug

CHILDREN'S CORNER

The school year is winding down, and in the world of children's ministry, that means one thing: it's Vacation Bible School planning time! This year our children's VBS will be the evenings of June 18-20. This year's theme is *Hero Central!*, which will focus on some different heroes in the Bible and how God empowers each of us to be heroes in our daily lives.

As has become our tradition, the Friends of Jesus will have their own VBS the evenings of June 21-22. The teachers of this class do a wonderful job adapting the children's VBS curriculum for their students, and it is enjoyed by all!

Of course, VBS doesn't happen on its own. Many volunteers are needed to make this ministry a reality, and we need your help! We need teachers, helpers, guides, and more, for both the children's VBS and the Friends of Jesus VBS. Please prayerfully consider how you might be able to help with either VBS this year, and contact me (for children's VBS) or Lynn Smith (for Friends of Jesus VBS) to volunteer.

Erin



Remember our First Sunday Food Drive this Sunday, May 6th! You may bring canned goods and staple items and place them in the boxes at the church entrances. These items will be distributed at local hunger ministries!

MISSIONS

across the street & around the world

Baptist Women's Luncheon —May 7th
11:45 a.m. in the Activity Building

Helen Rogers, Director of Agape
Pregnancy Support Services will be our
speaker. An offering will be collected to
support her ministry.



Senior Adults are invited to join us on May 22nd for a day trip to Vollis Simpson Whirligig Park in Wilson, NC.

We will leave the church at 9:00 a.m., have lunch, and do some shopping.

The cost of the trip is \$10 per person. Sign up and pay in the church office.
13 spots available.



SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS AT FBC!

June 18-20, 2018

5:30-8:00 pm

For 4 year olds - 6th grade

Registration opens May 3



Community Café Volunteers Needed!

Groups are needed to host our Community Café on the 3rd Saturday each month. Host groups provide a meal, devotion and fellowship for Community Café guests.

If your Sunday School Class, Mission Group, etc. would like to host please contact the church office (739-4336 or daphnefletcher@fbclumbertonncc.org).

Family Night Supper Menus May 2018

May 9—Friends of Jesus Softball Game at Godwin Heights Park

May 16—Red Ticket: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Sweet Peas, Rolls, Salad, Strawberry Shortcake

May 23—Red Ticket: Ribs, Scalloped Potatoes, Baked Beans, Rolls, Salad, Coconut Cake or Apple Pie (Sugar-free)

Coming up. . .

| | |
|-------------|---|
| May 7— | Baptist Women's Luncheon |
| May 8— | "This is Not A Confirmation Class" (for Youth, 4 p.m. Tuesdays in May) |
| May 9— | Youth Committee Meeting |
| May 10— | Friends of Jesus Softball Game |
| May 13— | Fun & Fellowship |
| May 15— | Mother's Day |
| May 17— | "This is Not A Confirmation Class" |
| May 19— | ECM Spring Art Show |
| May 20— | Community Café |
| May 21— | Pastries with Parents at Pentecost |
| May 22— | Finance & Deacons Meetings |
| | Senior Adults to Wilson, NC |
| May 25-28— | TEL & Ladies Fellowship Brunch |
| May 28— | "This is Not A Confirmation Class" |
| May 29— | Young Adults' Retreat |
| | Memorial Day—ECM & Church Offices Closed |
| | "This is Not A Confirmation Class" |
| June 3— | Graduation Sunday |
| June 5— | "This is Not A Confirmation Class" |
| June 7— | Last Day of School (Robeson County) |
| June 10-13— | Hiking/ Rafting Trip |
| June 16— | Community Café |

First Baptist Church of Lumberton, NC

606 N. Walnut Street

Lumberton, NC 28358

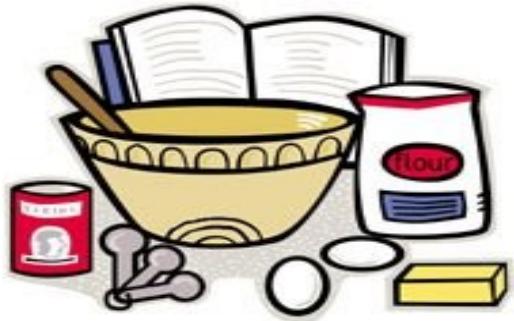
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Our new church cookbook,

Flavorful Fellowship has arrived!
Copies may be purchased in the church office for \$15.00. Any pre-orders may be picked up in the church office.

For the Record

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Budgeted 2018..... | \$700,000.00 |
| Weekly Need (2018) | \$13,461.54 |
| Received April 29 | \$7,321.57 |
| Need to date | \$228,846.15 |
| Received to date..... | \$205,369.69 |
| Over (Under) Budget..... | (\$23,476.46) |

Sunday School Attendance,
April 29—202

Graduation is Approaching!

If you know someone in our membership who is graduating from high school or college, we would like to include them in our June newsletter. Please contact the church office (739-4336 or daphne.fletcher@fbclumbertonncc.org) as soon as possible with the full name of the graduate, school where they completed the degree and the type of degree received.

All information must be received no later than May 28th.

Save the Date for MDC2018!

July 30-August 3, 2018

For children who have

completed grades 1-6

\$50 per child

[cost increases after June 1]

Registration is now open!

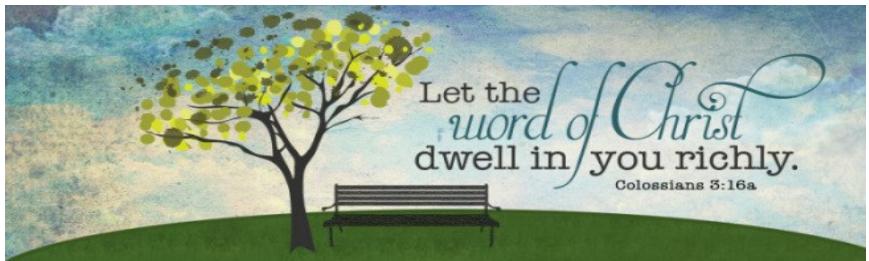


May 10, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.
Cherry Fellowship Hall

Fun & Fellowship

The 4-Year-Olds from our Early Childhood Ministry will sing
and Megan Elks' Saxophone Quartet, *Fresca*, from the
University of Georgia will perform.

Lunch will be served.



CHURCH STAFF

Contact us at 739-4336 or
daphne.fletcher@fbclumbertonncc.org
www.fbclumbertonncc.org

Mrs. Nancy Bass—Financial Coordinator

Rev. Erin Collier—Minister to Children

Dr. David Elks—Pastor

Mrs. Daphne Fletcher—Administrative Assistant

Rev. Tim Little—Minister of Music

Mrs. Kandace Ramsey—Administrative Assistant

Rev. Doug Reedy—Minister of Youth