

First Baptist News

a family of faith



Hurricane Florence has had a devastating effect on southeastern North Carolina, including Robeson County and the city of Lumberton. This event was particularly devastating to our community, as we are still recovering from Hurricane Matthew which hit us two years ago. The community is still in rescue mode, but as we shift to recovery, we as a congregation hope to work with and support the agencies in our area who will be leading that effort.

For those wishing to help from afar, here are several ways you can help:

Monetary Donations— Donations may be sent to First Baptist Church for hurricane relief. Gifts may be mailed (606 N Walnut St., Lumberton, NC, 28358) or donated online via our secure giving portal (please indicate that gifts are for disaster relief). 100% of funds given will be used in partnership with local agencies providing help to those affected by this storm. We also recommend giving to the CBFNC Diaster Relief fund. 100% of funds given will be used on the ground by trusted partners working in our region.

Physical Donations—Both the city and the county are organizing distribution centers for donated materials. Please take all donated materials to 2300 N Cedar Street; call 910-258-6954 for more information. Please, do not donate any used clothing.

Gift Cards—Gift cards in small amounts (\$10, \$20, \$25) can be used to help a family buy groceries or gas, as well as help provide some stimulation for our local economy. Recommended stores are Walmart, Food Lion, and Lowes Foods. Gift cards may be mailed (606 N Walnut St., Lumberton, NC, 28358). Please indicate the amount on each card.

Prayer—Pray for those displaced and affected by the storm, for those working to serve the community, and for those in leadership making decisions.

Welcome West Lumberton Baptist Church!

West Lumberton Baptist was flooded out again. We have offered and they have accepted the offer to use our facilities for their Sunday and Wednesday activities. Here's what their schedule will be.

Sundays

9:00 am - Morning Worship (Sanctuary)

10:45 am - Sunday School (adults in Fellowship Hall, children/youth on 2nd floor of Education Building)

4:30 pm - Adult Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

6:00 pm - Evening Worship (sanctuary)

Wednesdays

7:00 pm - Adult Bible study (Fellowship Hall) and children's activities (2nd floor of Education Building)

What does this mean for us? First, this is an opportunity for us to offer hospitality and grace to our neighbors. They may need help navigating our facility! Sharing space may be uncomfortable at times, but this is an opportunity for us to practice grace and seek Kingdom moments with this sister congregation.

Second, parking may be a little tricky. We are asking all able-bodied members to park at the old bank building (on Pine Street) or in the Lumbee Guaranty Bank lot. If you have small children, please do not park far away!



It seems impossible, but here we are again. Another hurricane has come and gone and we are left with houses and businesses ruined and lives disrupted. I said last Sunday that I do not believe God causes these things to happen, but I sure wish that the Lord would have give us a little more protection from the wind and rain of Florence. That was not the case however and here we are. My prayers go out to all whose homes and properties were devastated by the storm. It does not seem “fair” that another storm would come our way but hurricanes don’t follow the rules of fairness.

I will be fine if Florence is our last hurricane, but I am thankful for all that I see happening in the spirit of Christ in the wake of the storm. A day before the storm hit, a representative from Christian Aid Ministries arrived ready to set up a field kitchen to feed any and everyone who needed assistance. Once the skies opened DSS called and asked if we would be willing to host a site to register people for EBT assistance. As we opened our doors, a small but hard-working army of youth from our church went to work cleaning yards, assisting flood victims and working around the church to welcome our guests from West Lumberton Baptist. As I said, I don’t want to ever see another hurricane, but the good that comes afterwards has lifted my spirit and strengthened my faith in God and humanity.

I am thankful that we were more prepared for Florence. Matthew was a harsh teacher, but we learned a few things and I hope we will be able to recover sooner for the preparations we made. One of the lessons I learned from Matthew was that when it comes to a catastrophe like a hurricane the best way to help is to respond to the need that is presented to you. We cannot do everything that needs to be done or be everything our neighbors need us to be. We can simply use the resources we have for God’s purposes. A valuable resource we have is our building. I am pleased that with our usual activities, along with hosting CAM and West Lumberton, there are very few corners of our building that are not in use right now. Hosting may cause a few disruptions, but I ask you to remember that there are lot of people who have lost much more than we have. Let’s be gracious in our hospitality to our Christian neighbors.

Finally, thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ in these difficult days. Your encouraging words to one another, acts of kindness and generous giving are evidence of the kingdom of God among us.

*Peace,
David*



Hosting our friends from Christian Aid Ministries. . .

Christian Aid Ministries offers help to areas who have been hit by natural disasters. This ministry, which is a collaboration between Amish and Mennonite congregations, sends teams to serve through feeding, mud outs, and rebuilding. They have once again come to Lumberton to feed our community (stationed at the Pine Street Senior Center), and are currently staying on the second floor of the Durham building.

What does this mean for us? All classes that meet on that floor will be relocated for a while!

New Wednesday evening classroom locations are as follows:

- 5:45 - 1st-3rd Grade choir (chapel)
- 4th-6th grade choir (sanctuary choir room)
- Preschool Bible (parlor)
- 6:30 - 1st-3rd grade Bible study (D113)
- 4th-6th grade bells (sanctuary choir room)
- Preschool choir (chapel)

New Sunday School Classroom locations are as follows:

- Bridge Class—D110
- Circle of Friends—D108
- 1st-6th Grade—D111

All Sunday School classes that regularly meet on our 1st floor will not be affected. We appreciate your grace and flexibility as we host our friends!

For the Record	
Budgeted 2018	\$700,000.00
Weekly Need (2018).....	\$13,461.54
Received September 23, 2018 ...	\$12,460.50
Need to date.....	\$511,538.24
Received to date.....	\$446,153.24
Over (Under) Budget.....	(\$65,385.22)

This Week. . .

Sunday, September 30

8:45 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
4:30 p.m. Youth Choir
6:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study

Monday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
10:30 a.m. Glen Flora Group
11:45 a.m. Baptist Women's Luncheon

Tuesday, October 2

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Circle

Wednesday, October 3

5:15 p.m. Family Night Supper
5:45 p.m. Music Makers Choir
(1st-3rd Grade)
Young Musicians Choir
(4th-6th Grade)
6:00 p.m. Family Night At Prayer
WYD (Grades 7-12)
6:30 p.m. 1st-3rd Grade Bible Study
4th-6th Grade Handbells
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Baptist Women's Luncheon

Monday, October 1, 2018

11:45 a.m. in the Activity Building

Drew Collier, Director of the Robeson County Church & Community Center will be our speaker. Please bring a sandwich. Beverages and desserts will be provided.

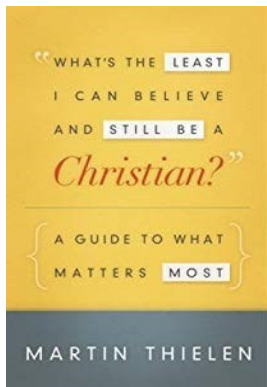
Benita Justice & Evelyn Vincent Celebrate 10 Years of Service in the Early Childhood Ministry!

We are proud to recognize two of our most dedicated employees for 10 years of service. Benita and Evelyn are a great team, working with two-year-olds. Congratulations, Benita & Evelyn, and thank you for your service!

Coming up. . .

Oct. 1—Baptist Women's Luncheon
Oct. 7—World Communion Sunday
Oct. 11—Fun & Fellowship
Oct. 13-14—FBC Youth Reunion
Oct. 20—Community Café hosted by the Circle of Friends Class
Oct. 22—Finance & Deacons Meetings
Oct. 24—Quarterly Church Conference
Oct. 26-28—Youth Leadership Retreat
Oct. 31—Trunk or Treat

Nov. 4—Deacon Election Sunday
Nov. 5—Baptist Women's Luncheon
Nov. 8—Fun & Fellowship
Nov. 11—Veteran's Day
Nov. 12—Robeson County Schools Closed for Veteran's Day
Nov. 16—Youth Barbecue Plate Sale
Nov. 17—Community Café
Nov. 18—Community Thanksgiving Service
Nov. 19—Finance & Deacons Meetings
Nov. 21—Robeson County Schools Closed
Nov. 22—Thanksgiving Day
Nov. 22-23—ECM & Church Offices Closed
Nov. 25—Hanging of the Green Rehearsal
Nov. 28—Advent Party



Wednesday nights beginning this fall, we will be studying the book, What's the Least I Can Believe and Still Be a Christian?, by Martin Thielen.

Servants this Sunday, September 30, 2018

ETC—8:45 a.m.—Casey Williamson & Becky Thompson

11:00 a.m.—Casey Williamson

Welcoming—Debra & Alan Arnette, Barbara Andrews

Entrance Greeters

Children's Building—Dean Kinlaw

6th Street—Margie Cockrell

Senior Entrance—Jim Driscoll

Security Monitor—George Ford

Sound—Amy Gibson

Video—Nate Cribb

FBC Youth Reunion—October 13-14

We are excited to announce that a Reunion Weekend is being planned for those who were youth group members during the 1970s. Our hope is that it will be a weekend of remembering and celebrating together what God has done in our lives and the special role that FBC Lumberton played in that. Activities will begin on Saturday, October 13th at 3 pm and will include our worship service on October 14th. We will have a combined service at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary on that day.

Please help us get the word out! If you know someone who was a part of the FBC Youth Group during that time, please be sure to contact them. For more information, please contact Steve Branch on Facebook or via email at lbcbranch@gmail.com.

Join us in reminiscing and celebrating how God is continuing to use the body of FBC Lumberton to impact its community and the world.



Thursday, October 11 at
11:00 a.m.
Activity Building

Sheryl Taylor will present
“The Upside of Aging.”
Bring a sandwich and a
friend!

CHURCH STAFF

Contact us at 739-4336 or
daphnefletcher@fbclumbertonnc.org
www.fbclumbertonnc.org

Mrs. Nancy Bass — Financial Coordinator

Rev. Erin Collier — Associate Pastor of Families and Worship

Dr. David Elks — Pastor

Mrs. Daphne Fletcher — Administrative Assistant

Rev. Tim Little — Minister of Music and Facilities

Mrs. Kandace Ramsey — Administrative Assistant

Rev. Doug Reedy — Associate Pastor of Youth, Young Adults and Missions

Preparing for Sunday . . .

“Keep Still on the Move”

Exodus: 14:5-16; 21-29

Moses and the Israelites left the shackles and labor of Egyptian slavery behind and were headed for a promised land. They were barely out of Egypt when Pharaoh changed his mind, gathered his army and took off to re-enslave them. When the Israelites saw the army coming, they panicked, but Moses assured them with the promise, “The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.” (v. 14). In the next verse, the Lord tell Moses to instruct the Israelites to cross the river. These instructions seem to contradict one another, but when difficulties arise people of faith ***Keep Still on the Move*** by focusing on what God is doing while doing what God has given them to do.



October 7, 2018

Person of the Week

Karon Prince
1109 Spanish Oak Ln.
Lumberton, NC 28358

Send a card, letter, or other remembrance
to our special person this week.