

First Baptist News

a family of faith



COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

Noon Services will be hosted by churches in our community Wednesdays during the Lenten Season. A light lunch will be served following each service.

March 27	First Presbyterian David Elks, proclaimer
April 3	Godwin Heights Baptist Doug Reedy, proclaimer
April 10	Chestnut Street United Methodist Leslie Sessoms, proclaimer

Maundy Thursday Service—7:00 p.m., April 18th at First Baptist,
Dave Hawes, proclaimer

Good Friday Service, Noon, April 19th at Trinity Episcopal,
David Ruth, proclaimer

Preparing for Sunday . . .

Did You Think You Could Just Show Up?
Matthew 22:1-14

A recent guest to our pulpit described parables as “stories with a punch.” This is an apt description of Matthew’s telling of Jesus parable of the wedding banquet. Jesus told of a King who threw a wedding feast for his son. The problem was no one wanted to come to the party. The invitees not only declined the invitation, they murdered the servants who came to tell them the party was ready. The King responds with all-out war and then sends out an open invitation to any and all who will come to the party. Eventually, the room is full and the party is on! The King is pleased until he notices a man who was not wearing a wedding robe. He is so upset that he has the man thrown into “the outer darkness.” This parable has plenty of punch and perhaps the most important lesson for us is to remember that when we accept God’s invitation to come to the party, we need to do more than just show up!

5th Sunday Fellowship

March 31, 2019

8:45-9:45 am - Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall

10:00 am - Lenten Cantata & Communion Service in the Sanctuary



- ◆ Breakfast – While the official start time is 8:45 am, it’s okay if you arrive later than that! The full breakfast time is 8:45-9:45. There will be no separate nursery or children’s activities; this is an opportunity for all ages to fellowship together.
- ◆ Worship – At 10:00 am, the Sanctuary Choir will present the cantata *The Body of Christ* by Pepper Choplin. Through music, they will tell the story of Jesus through the perspective of his body – the physical body of Christ that lived among us and was sacrificed for us, the symbolic body of Christ that we eat and drink in communion, and the body of Christ that we are, today. The music beautifully expresses themes of gratitude, sorrow, and hope through the retelling of Christ’s life, crucifixion, and burial. The service will include communion, and regular nursery care will be provided during this service.



It wasn't in our country this time, but it has happened again. It really doesn't matter that it wasn't within our shores. Anytime a racist terrorist enters a house of worship and slaughters innocent men, women and children, we should feel a wide range of emotions. I am not so sure we care anymore though. We have accepted shootings such as the one that took place in Christchurch, New Zealand as a normal part of life. We see the news of the devastation and feel a moment's pity and then go on our way filling our basketball brackets and planning this weekend's picnic.

Forgive my cynicism but the list that includes Columbine, Sandy Hook, Virginia Tech, Orlando, and Las Vegas is getting longer and longer. It will not end until we make a systemic effort to treat mental illness and limit the access to weapons that do not belong in public settings. These are complex questions that demand conversation, understanding and courage to answer, but we must do something to end the violent loss of life.

I am proud that our church is taking a proactive approach to addressing security concerns. Last year, the Deacons appointed a committee to form a Security Policy and Action Plan for the church and ECM. This has been a tremendous task, but the committee has done a superb job in researching all related topics and putting together a policy that establishes a reasonable and necessary response to all emergencies. Lisa Rust, chair of the committee, presented an overview of the policy to the deacons at our last meeting. The Deacons were then emailed a copy of the policy draft and were asked to read through it and be prepared to discuss it at the April meeting. The policy is thorough, but it is a living document in that it will be reviewed each year and may have to be amended from time to time. The consensus among the Deacons is that it is sad we have to give time and energy to this topic. We'd rather be focusing on the ministry of the church and we will, but this is an important issue that demands our attention.

The recommendation from the Security Committee includes the request for upgrades in our monitoring and alarm systems, first aid equipment and various other expenses. The committee or I will be informing you of these upgrades and possible emergency training events in the weeks ahead.

Once the Deacons approve the policy we will send a copy of it to you via email. As I said above, it is unfortunate that we have to spend time and money on these concerns, but we must. As we do, let's be safe, pay attention to our surroundings and be prepared to respond to any and all emergencies.

Peace,
David

This Week. . .

Sunday, March 24, 2019

- 8:45 a.m. *Worship***
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. *Worship***
- 4:00 p.m. Mom's Bible Study
Lenten Bible Study
- 4:45 p.m. Youth Choir
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study
Adult Handbells
- 7:00 p.m. Youth Week Officers Meeting

Monday, March 25

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

Tuesday, March 26

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Group

Wednesday, March 27

- 12:00 Lenten Service at First Presbyterian Church
- 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

Thursday, March 28-29—CBF NC Annual Gathering FBC Greensboro, NC

Friday, March 29

- 9:00 p.m. Youth Lock-in

Baptist Women's Luncheon Monday, April 1, 2019

11:45 a.m. in the Activity Building
Please bring a sandwich.

The Glen Flora Circle will meet
at 10:45 a.m.

Bible Study #3 will meet at 11:45 a.m.
on April 2.



April 1 - 7, 2019

Youth Sunday: April 7

Lock-in: March 29
 Adventure Landing Raleigh
 Unlimited go karts, putt putt, laser tag,
 video games, Youth Week t-shirt
 \$30

FUN & FELLOWSHIP



April 11, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.
 Lunch at the home of Judy Long
 846 Tolarsville Rd.
 Meet in the parking lot at 10:30 a.m.
 to ride the church bus.

For the Record

Budgeted 2019	\$700,000.00
Weekly Need (2019).....	\$13,461.54
Received March 17 2019	\$5,768.92
Need to date.....	\$148,076.92
Received to date	\$128,400.17
Over (Under) Budget.....	(\$19,676.75)
Sunday School Attendance, March 17—191	

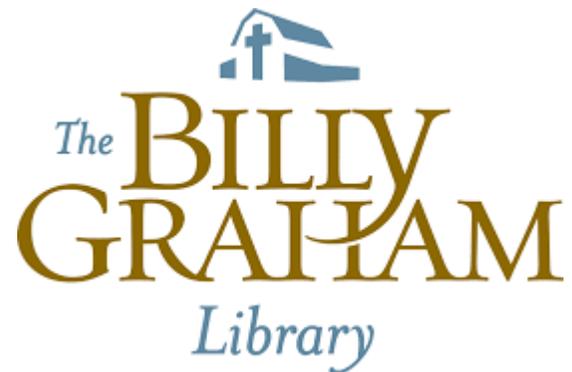


You're Invited! FAMILY EASTER FESTIVAL

Sunday, April 14, 2019
 3:00 pm

First Baptist Fellowship Hall

Families are invited to join us for a creative walk through Holy Week! Activity stations will provide opportunities to learn about this important week in preparation for Easter, as well as provide resources for additional conversations at home. Be sure to bring a basket to collect eggs at the stations, too!



On April 25th, our Senior Adults will visit the Billy Graham Library in Charlotte. The cost of the trip is \$13.00. To reserve your spot, please pay at the church office.

Senior Adult Sunday is May 5th!

The Senior Adults are also planning a trip to Duke Chapel on May 14th. Cost for this trip is also \$13.00, payable at the church office. 8 spaces still available.

Check the Senior Adult Bulletin Board for more upcoming trips and activities.

Servants this Sunday, March 24, 2019

ETC—8: 45 a.m.—Alyssa Weibe & Dianne Britt

11:00 a.m.— Alyssa Weibe & Heather Walters

Entrance Greeters

Children's Building — Shirley Hickman

Walnut Street— Mildred Kinlaw

6th Street — Miriam & Wilton Edwards

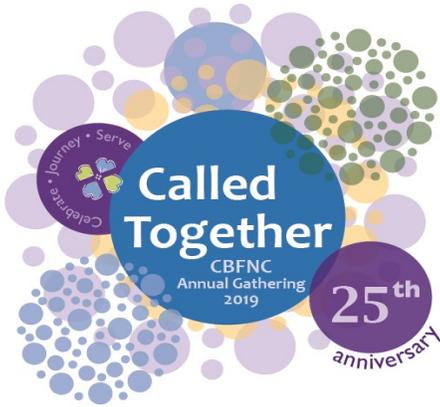
Senior Entrance — Jim Driscoll

Welcoming Committee— Lewis Lytch & Dianne Britt

Security Monitor— George Ford

Sound— Amy Gibson

Video—Greg Gibson



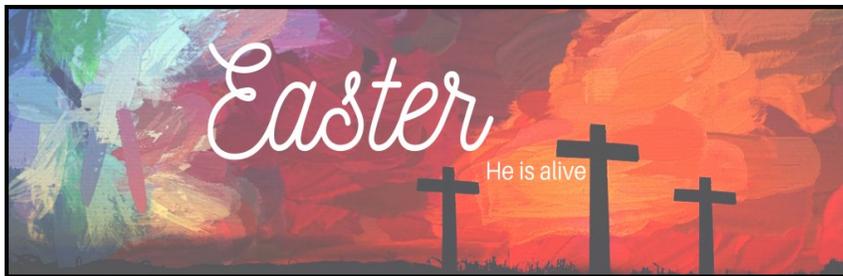
**CBFNC's Annual
Gathering
March 28-29
FBC Greensboro, NC**

**For more information
and a schedule of events
visit www.cbfnc.org**

Children's Spring Concert



April 10th @ 6:00 p.m.
Cherry Fellowship Hall



April 21, 2019
Early Worship—8:45 a.m.
Sunday School—9:45 a.m.
Worship—11:00 a.m.

Coming up. . .

March 31—Church-wide Breakfast
8:45 a.m.
Cantata & Communion
10:00 a.m.

March 31-April 6—Youth Week

April 1—Baptist Women's Luncheon
April 2—ECM Summer Care Registration
April 3—Lenten Service at Godwin Heights

April 7—Youth Sunday
Worship Committee Meeting
Youth Week Officers Dinner

April 9—Youth Committee Meeting
April 10—Lenten Service at Chestnut Street United Methodist
Children's Spring Concert

April 11—Fun & Fellowship
April 12-14—High School Senior Retreat
April 14—Palm Sunday

Family Easter Festival
April 15—Deacons & Finance Committee Meetings

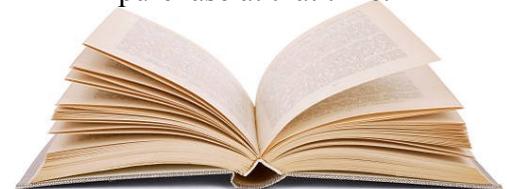
April 17—No Wednesday Evening Activities or Meal

April 18—Maundy Thursday Service

April 19—Good Friday Service at Trinity Episcopal

On Wednesday, April 3rd at Family Night at Prayer, Dr. Elks & Rev. William Gentry will present a conversation detailing William's new book Let God Transform You.

Copies of the book will be available for purchase at that time.



Person of the Week

L.H. & Helen Lawson
735 Stephens Rd.
Lumberton, NC 28358

Send a card, letter, or other remembrance to our special person of the week!

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