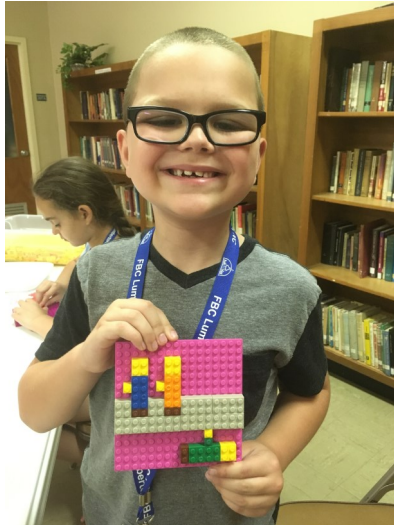


First Baptist News

a family of faith



*Vacation Bible School
June 17-19*



Preparing for Sunday . . .
 “With Weary Eyes and Parched Throats”
 Psalm 69:1-16

The writer of Psalm 69 cannot be specifically identified and the reason may be because he speaks for most everyone. The Psalmist is going through a season of spiritual “disorientation.” He was being ostracized for his devotion to God and cried out for help. In verse 3 the Psalmist wrote *I am weary with my crying; my throat is parched. My eyes grow dim with waiting for my God.* Few of us will undergo the intense persecution the Psalmist was facing, but we are all familiar with desperation. We also know what it is to cry out to God when life is hard. The beauty of this psalm is not in the assurance of a happy ending. It is in the letting go of false certainties and resting *in the abundance of God’s steadfast love.*

First Baptist Church

5TH SUNDAY

FELLOWSHIP

June 30th

Cherry Fellowship Hall

8:45 a.m. Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Worship

All are invited.
 Communion will be observed.



I remember walking the campus at Campbell one night during my freshmen year. Not to sound more pious than I was, but as I walked I prayed. I had had a challenging day or maybe a class that made me question my beliefs. I remember my prayer... "Lord, I don't have to have the answers, but give peace with the questions." I have thought about that prayer over the years. I was once proud of it, but as I think about it now, I think it was a prayer for complacency. I am not so sure it is a good thing to be at peace with life's questions, especially if we are tempted to settle for easy answers.

I also realize that I had at least a toe in what Old Testament scholar, Walter Brueggemann, calls "disorientation," or the second phase of a spiritual journey. We started a sermon series this past Sunday from Psalms in which we look at Brueggemann's spiritual life cycle of orientation, disorientation and reorientation. Orientation is when life is good and the world seems to be a safe place to reside. Disorientation is when the bottom drops out and we can no longer trust the stability of belief or relationships. We are reoriented once we shed the flimsy certainties of orientation and find a more realistic and whole faith.

The journey through orientation, disorientation and reorientation is the natural way of things. Every person experiences each phase many times throughout their lives. The same is true of the church. From what I see and read, the Christian church in America is in a season of disorientation. The church's popularity and rapid growth in the 1950's through the 1980's has given way to a day when those who profess to have little or no interest or involvement in religion is growing rapidly. A few years ago we heard a lot about being "spiritual but not religious," but today, fewer people feel the need to refer to themselves as spiritual at all.

Disorientation, be it personal or communal, may not seem a pleasant place to be, but it is a time of significant growth. It is a time to examine our long held beliefs and traditions and let go of those that cannot stand up to the pressures of a changing world. It is through disorientation that we become our truest selves. We come to know who we really are and, more importantly, we know who God is and who God is not. So, my freshman prayer may have served me well at the time, but I think we should embrace this season of disorientation and engage the hard questions. We will be better for it.

Peace,
David

Senior Adult Events:



August 13—The Barn Dinner Theater, Greensboro
"Savannah Sipping Society"

\$70 per person. Limited space available. Pay in the church office to reserve your spot.

November 5—Carolina Opry Christmas Show
Lunch at Paula Dean's/Shopping at Broadway at the Beach
\$70 per person. Limited space available. Pay in the church office to reserve your spot.



Art Mini Camp

July 16-19

9:30 am-12:00 pm

This half-day camp combines art and faith to provide a creative camp experience. For children who have completed K-3rd grade; \$15 per



Music Day Camp

July 29-August 2,

9:00 am-3:00 pm

Join us for a week full of crafts, games, field trips, and lots and lots of music! Children will learn the musical *Rescue in the Night* and present it at a closing concert on August 2 at 5:00 pm. For children who have completed 1st-6th grade; \$55 per child



Register for Art Mini-Camp and/or Music Day Camp at www.fbclumbertonnc.org or in the church office.

Flower Calendar

Contact the church office at 739-4336 or daphnefletcher@fbclumbertonnc.org to place flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one.

2019

June 30
July 7, 14, 21, 28
Aug. 4
Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22

July 5, 12, 19, 26
Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27
Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25
Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22

2020

Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26
Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
April 5, 12, 19, 26
May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
June 7, 14, 21, 28



This Week . . .

Sunday, June 23, 2019

8:45 a.m. **Worship**
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. **Worship**

Monday, June 24

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
5:15 p.m. Finance Committee
6:30 p.m. Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, June 25

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

Wednesday, June 26

5:15 p.m. Family Night Supper
6:30 p.m. Family Night at Prayer

For the Record

Budgeted 2019	\$700,000.00
Weekly Need (2019)	\$13,461.54
Received June 16, 2019	\$8,596.98
Need to date	\$323,076.92
Received to date	\$281,702.91
Over (Under) Budget	(\$41,374.01)

Sunday School Attendance,
June 16, 2019—147



June 26th— Hamburgers, Baked Beans, French Fries, Salad, Banana Pudding

July 3— **No Family Night Supper**

July 10— Chicken Alfredo, Sweet Peas, Rolls, Salad, Chocolate Cake

July 17— Baked Potato Bar

July 24— Salad Bar

July 31— Spaghetti, String Beans, Toast, Salad, Banana Pudding

Servants this Sunday, June 23, 2019

ETC—8:45 a.m.— Alyssa Weibe & Glenda Osborne

11:00 a.m.— Alyssa Weibe

Entrance Greeters

Children's Building —Mildred Kinlaw

Walnut Street— Miriam & Wilton Edwards

6th Street — Linda Collins

Senior Entrance — Jim Driscoll

Welcoming Committee— Lewis Lytch & Dianne Britt

Security Monitors— Johnny Strickland (Sun.)/
David Biggs (Wed.)

Sound— Amy Gibson

Video—Greg Gibson



The Lumberton Christian Care Center is in need of men's clothing (pants & shorts—sizes 32, 34, & 36, medium & large shirts). Please drop off donations of these items at their facility at 220 E. 2nd Street or see Barbara Andrews for more details.

- ◆ In January 1969, the Robeson Planetarium opened its doors.
- ◆ In July 1969, Apollo 11 Astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin became the first men to walk on the moon.

You are cordially invited to celebrate these historic events with Bill McArthur, Robeson County native and retired astronaut.



- ◆ July 11, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. (Meet & Greet at 6:00 p.m.)
- ◆ Robeson Community College A.D. Lewis Auditorium
- ◆ Admission is free.
- ◆ Funded in part by the generosity of the North Carolina Space Grant.

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

Coming up . . .

June 30—5th Sunday Fellowship

June 30-July 3—PassportKids!

July 1-2—Camp Puzzle Piece

July 3—No Wednesday Evening Activities or Meal

July 4—Independence Day, ECM & Church Offices Closed

July 14-21—M-Fuge

July 15—Deacons & Finance Committee Meetings

July 16-18—Art Mini-Camp

July 20—Community Café

July 24—Quarterly Church Conference

July 28-30—Friends of Jesus Happiness Retreat

July 29-Aug. 2—Music Day Camp

July 30-Aug. 6—Wilderness Trail

August 1—Deacon Nominations Open

August 2—ECM Staff Development Day
Music Day Camp Concert

August 13—Senior Adults to Greensboro
Dinner Theater

August 15—Candlelight Vigil for Victims of
Murder & Homicide

August 17—Community Café

August 19—Deacons & Finance Committee
Meetings

August 20—Youth Committee Meeting

August 25—Sunday School Promotion
Youth Fall Kick-off

August 26—Robeson County Schools Start

August 31—Deacon Nominations Close

September 2—Labor Day—ECM & Church
Offices Closed

Person of the Week

Jo Stogner

1601 N. Walnut St.

Lumberton, NC 28358

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