

First Baptist News

a family of faith

This Week. . .

Sunday, March 7

10:00 a.m. Worship (Facebook Live & YouTube)

11:00 a.m. Fellowship Class (Zoom)

Monday, March 8

1:00-2:30 p.m. Tithing Time

7:00 p.m. Monday School
(Bo's Facebook Page)

Tuesday, March 9

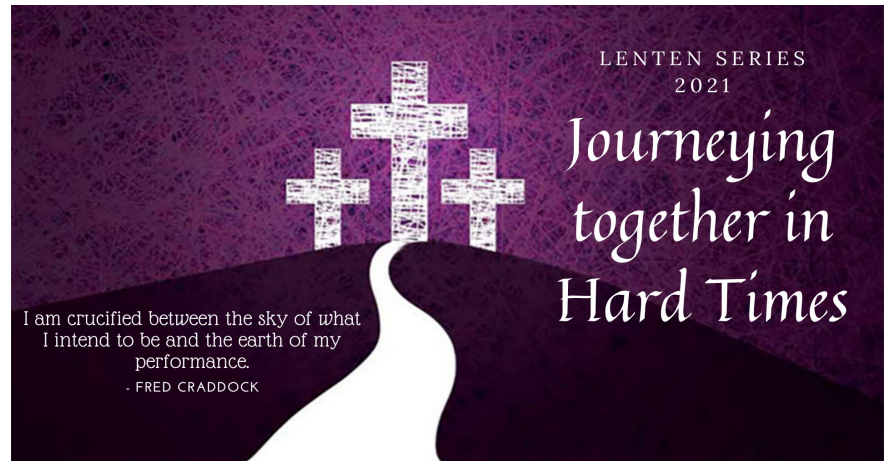
7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Group
(Zoom)

Wednesday, March 10

6:00 p.m. Prayer Service via
Zoom

Thursday, March 11

1:00 p.m. Circle of Friends Class
(Zoom)



Sunday, March 7—3rd Sunday in Lent

“What Time Is It?”—John 2:13-22

When we preach from John, we should always start with the Prologue of the Gospel. We begin with the Eternal Christ and authority of the Logos! John wants us to know that this Jesus is the Divine One!

—Fred Craddock

Sunday, March 14—4th Sunday in Lent

“What Does It Mean to Believe in Jesus”—John 3:14-21

“The disruptive love of God often interrupts our life plans! God’s love for us is powerfully disruptive! Our people expect loving and easy faith. People need to hear things in a powerfully disruptive way that challenges us.”—Bugg

Sunday, March 21—5th Sunday in Lent

“Becoming a Servant-Leader!”—John 12:20-23

“Whether the seed in the ground, the baby in the womb, or the Christ in the tomb...all journeys of new life begin in darkness.”—Barbara Brown Taylor

Wednesday, March 24—Prayer Meeting & Communion

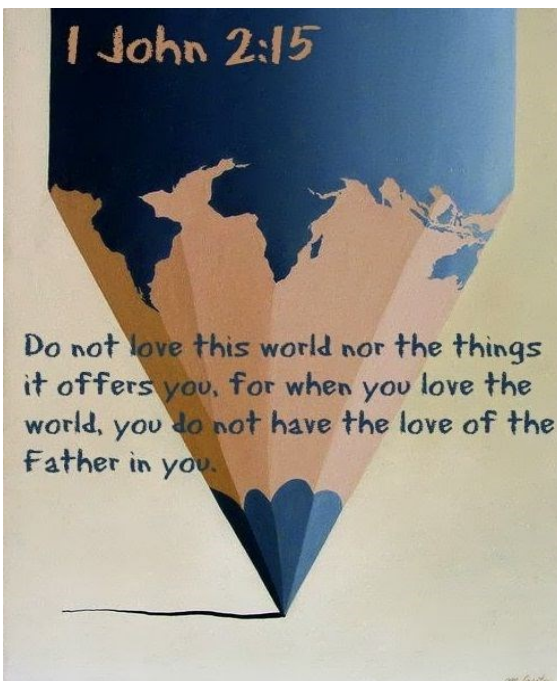
“The Big Announcement”—Luke 1:26-28

“What I want to discover in God is a God who is bigger, more mysterious than I can understand or explain. A God who is bigger than our lives!”—Nadia Bolz Weber

Sunday, March 28—Palm Sunday

“The Big Parade”—Mark 11:1-11

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!”—Luke 19:38





During my time with First Baptist Church, one of the few constants we could all count on is Daphne Fletcher. For 22 years, Daphne has assisted pastors, answered phones, created newsletters, taken payments, made deposits, worked with payroll, and done so much more to keep this church functioning than anyone truly knows. She knows our history and can name more current or former members than anyone else. Her knowledge of the Bible, and certainly of the English language meets or surpasses that of most of us. She was here with Dr. Tuck, Dr. Head, and Dr. Elks, plus numerous interims and associates along the way. She will be irreplaceable.

The only appropriate, although admittedly insufficient, phrase I can express is “thank you.” Thank you for not only the service to our church and our God, but for journeying through trials and storms our congregation has weathered through the years. I seldom like to speak for others, but this one is a safe bet. From all our past and current staff and congregation: Thank you Daphne! We wish you joy and success as you continue on your life’s journey.

Grace & Peace,
Doug



LENT SERIES 2021 DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

journeying together in hard times

Monday, March 8	Luke 9: 37-62
Tuesday, March 9	Luke 10
Wednesday, March 10	Luke 11
Thursday, March 11	Luke 12: 1-34
Friday, March 12	Luke 12: 35-59
Saturday, March 13	Luke 13

Coming up. . .

March 21 at 3 p.m.—Children are invited to meet in the parking lot to wave palm branches for our Palm Sunday Worship Service Video. Masks & distancing will be observed.

March 28—Palm Sunday

April 4—Easter Sunday

April 11—Interim Pastor, Bo Prosser’s last Sunday

April 18—Children’s Sunday

Please contact Doug Reedy by March 15th (dougreedy@fbclumbertonnc.org) if your child would like to participate in our virtual service on Children’s Sunday.

April 25th—Youth Sunday

Theme: Goggles
Luke 6:42

Give to First Baptist Church!

Here are some ways to donate to our ministry:

- Drop by during Tithing Time!—Mondays from 1:00-2:30 p.m.
- Scan our QR code with your cell phone to go to our giving page.



- Go to our website (www.fbclumbertonnc.org) to complete a draft form.
- Send us your contribution by mail—**606 N. Walnut St., Lumberton, NC 28358**



PASTOR SEARCH

Greetings from your Pastor Search Team,

Your pastor search team has been hard at work since our last report to you. After a short pause when the pandemic hit, we have been meeting regularly since August. Although our meetings have been by Zoom rather than in person, they have been productive and often we have met 2 and 3 times a week particularly since we began interviewing prospective pastors.

We have received over 120 resumes of individuals to consider as the next senior pastor of First Baptist Church, Lumberton. We are a sought-after church, and your team is committed to finding the person that God has chosen for us and not “settling” for the easy candidate. We are searching and praying for the most excellent leadership for our church!

In November and December of 2020, we spent many hours researching and interviewing several candidates. We were hopeful that one of these ministers would be ours, but each of those, for various reasons, hit a road block. Those candidates were just not meant to be our next pastor. In January of this year, the committee was again extremely hopeful about a new candidate--and just as quickly, God closed that door.

So, again, we began the process of reaching out to trusted colleagues and contacts in our CBF network to seek more resumes and referrals. This past week we interviewed five more candidates. We plan to invite several of those to engage in additional conversations and hope that they feel God is leading them to explore and learn more about our church. We feel that the disappointment with the early candidates has shown us the important issues for our church's future that should be addressed in these conversations. We are encouraged that we are more prepared for those we are speaking with now.

While we as a team are confident that God is guiding us, we are also aware that this will happen in God's timing, not ours. We are all eager for our church to have a senior pastor. While Dr. Bo has provided excellent leadership during the interim, we look forward to the time when we will have a full time pastor to guide us and provide direction. Let me assure you again, God is in control and he is preparing the one that he will call to lead us in the coming days.

Thank you for your continued prayers during this time in the life of our church. If you still have the pastor search prayer guide shared with you in the spring of 2020, let me encourage you to pull it out again and pray with us as we follow God's lead. We have felt your support and God's hand at work during the last few months. We will continue to keep you updated as we move forward into the next steps in the process.

Your Pastor Search Team,
Christy Strickland, Chair
Pattie Ramsaur, Vice Chair
Katie Davis, Secretary
James Gore
Keith Hardee
Glenda Taylor
Chris Walters

Children's Sunday
April 18, 2021

10:00 a.m. on Facebook Live
& YouTube

Philippians 4:13



First Baptist Church of Lumberton, NC
606 N. Walnut Street
Lumberton, NC 28358
(910) 739-4336
The **FIRST BAPTIST NEWS** (USPS 192-260)
published monthly by First Baptist Church,
606 N. Walnut Street, Lumberton, NC 28358
Periodical Postage Paid at Lumberton, NC

YOUTH SUNDAY-APRIL 25TH



HOW CAN YOU SAY TO YOUR BROTHER, 'BROTHER, LET ME TAKE THE SPECK OUT OF YOUR EYE,' WHEN YOU YOURSELF FAIL TO SEE THE PLANK IN YOUR OWN EYE? YOU HYPOCRITE, FIRST TAKE THE PLANK OUT OF YOUR EYE, AND THEN YOU WILL SEE CLEARLY TO REMOVE THE SPECK FROM YOUR BROTHER'S EYE. --LUKE 6:42

Community Café Volunteers Needed!

Groups are needed to host our Community Café on the 3rd Saturday each month. Host groups provide a meal to be picked up by our Community Café guests. We have dates available from May through the end of the year!

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

Person of the Week

Gracie Davis
196 Kensington St.
Lumberton, NC 28358

Send a card, letter, or other remembrance to our special persons this week!

CHURCH STAFF

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

Rev. Tim Little — Minister of Music and Facilities

Mr. Len Power — Building Superintendent

Dr. Bo Prosser — Interim Pastor

Mrs. Kandace Ramsey — Administrative Assistant

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