

First Baptist News

a family of faith

This Week. . .

Sunday, March 13

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. **Worship in Sanctuary**
- 10:30 a.m. **Worship Online**
via Facebook Live
- 3:00 p.m. **Mission Discernment Pilgrimage (Fellowship Hall & Zoom)**
- 4:30 p.m. Missions Committee Meeting
Youth Bells Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study

Tuesday, March 15

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

Wednesday, March 16

- 12:00 p.m. Walk to the Cross
(FBC Parking Lot)
- 6:00 p.m. **Prayer Service**
Children's Activities
Youth Doing Missions
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 17

ECM Family Appreciation Day

Saturday, March 19

- 10:00 a.m. Community Café



Preparing for Sunday, March 13

“Reflecting on Our Desires”

Luke 13:31-35 (NLT)

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship

Join us for Worship in-person in the Sanctuary or on Facebook Live.

<https://www.facebook.com/firstbaptistlumbertonnc>

Servants this Sunday

9:30 Sunday School Entrance Greeters

- *6th Street Ramp 9:00—9:30 am
Dale and Tommy McVicker
- *ECM Entrance 9:00—9:30 am
Kenneth Sasser

10:30 Worship Entrance Greeters

- Sanctuary Vestibule 10:00—11:30 am
Dianne and Layton Britt

Nursery

Ashlynn Cox, Jenna Davis

Extended Session

Katherine Martin, Betty Graham

*Handicap Accessible entrance



A Note from the Pastor's Desk

It is hard to believe that this is now the third Lenten season where a global pandemic has been a part of our daily lives. Since March 2020, we have all gained a deeper understanding of what it means to sacrifice, to let go, and to be reminded of our own mortality. Thankfully, cases and impacts seem to be on the decline, but this Lenten season of 2022 still offers yet another opportunity to go deeper in our commitment to seek God's direction in our lives. A chance to let go of the things that hold us back from experiencing God's love and presence in a deeper way.

In these last two years, we have also learned the value of being gathered together with others. We have hopefully gained a new appreciation for what it means to be a part of a community. Whether that is with family and friends, coworkers, neighbors down the street, or the people right here in our church. We saw how vital we are to each other's social, emotional, mental, and spiritual health. We learned that not only can we do more together than we can apart, but that I need you, as much as you need me. That your neighbor, down the street or down the pew from you, needs you as much as you need them. We are stronger when we come together.

One of the Gospel passages prescribed in the Lectionary for this year's season of Lent is Luke 13:34 where Jesus says to the people of Israel, "...How often I have wanted to gather your children together as a hen protects her chicks beneath her wings..." (NLT). In that we see two things; first, Jesus expresses concern for his people and aims to comfort, protect, and guide them in the most beneficial way. Second, this concern is expressed most profoundly through the bringing together of God's people. Yes, God knows what is best for us, but God also understands that this is best achieved in community with other believers.

This Lenten season, as a church we are challenging ourselves to be "called together for the sake of transformation." In Lent, we are reminded that often what may be most needed to change in order to bring about God's desires for the world is us, our individual selves. If each of us experiences this transformation, then the Church is transformed, and thus able to go about transforming the world in which we reside. Yet as with all things under God's wings, this change is not done best alone. It happens more fully when experienced in community together. During Lent, our church is offering a variety of ways to seek transformation both individually and collectively. Opportunities such as our Lenten daily reading through the Gospel of Mark, midweek "Walk to the Cross" walking group on Wednesdays at noon, Coffee & Conversation Bible study with others at Panera Bread on Thursday mornings, or upcoming community Holy Week services with sister churches, and as always, our weekly opportunities of midweek Bible study, Sunday School, and worship. There is no shortage of opportunities to seek God's transformation in your life. And the best part is, we get to do it all with this amazing community of fellow believers under the protective wings of our Lord and savior.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joshua Owens". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Joshua K. Owens, *Senior Pastor*

Two years ago, nearly to the exact day, we had to cancel a youth lock-in at the last moment due to the emergence of a disease we did not yet understand. Primarily for that reason, Friday night's planned lock-in will be a joyous occasion, but also one that will evoke some other, more complex, emotions. Things will never be the same normal as before, but some things that mattered are slowly being welcomed into the "new normal."

It appears we will be able to have a "proper" Youth Sunday this year, with youth leading worship in our sanctuary. Seniors with very little public speaking experience will gather the courage to attempt to articulate their faith as it relates to our theme (this year our theme is "Seeds" based on Mark 4:30-32). Junior high aged youth will share announcements and make their first attempts at teaching adults a Sunday School lesson written by fellow youth members. It feels right.

This is an exciting time. Our church never truly closed, but we certainly had to function with less than optimal horsepower. We are now opening up in nearly every way possible. We will have successes and failures on the road ahead, but isn't it a wonderful blessing to be moving forward again? Pray God continues to guide and protect us on the road ahead. Can't wait to see what our future will look like!

Grace & Peace,
Doug

LENTEN

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS
WEEK 3

MARCH 14 | **MARK 6:1-29**
MARCH 15 | **MARK 6:30-56**
MARCH 16 | **MARK 7:1-23**
MARCH 17 | **MARK 7:24-37**
MARCH 18 | **MARK 8:1-21**
MARCH 19 | **MARK 8:22-38**

LENTEN


DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS
WEEK 4

MARCH 21 | **MARK 9:1-32**
MARCH 22 | **MARK 9:33-50**
MARCH 23 | **MARK 10:1-31**
MARCH 23 | **MARK 10:32-52**
MARCH 24 | **MARK 11:1-19**
MARCH 25 | **MARK 11:20-33**

**WE WANT TO "SEE"
YOU IN OUR VIDEO**

**Sunday March 20
Wednesday March 23**

Promotional Filming By



ParableMedia

In an effort to continue to showcase to our community our church, we are creating a promotional video that will be available on our website and social media pages. We will be partnering with Parable Media, a faith-based company to produce our video. (Learn more and see some of PM's work at www.parablemedia.org) In order to capture content and video for the video, the videographer will be here to record our church in action, specifically Sunday School classes, worship, and midweek events. ParableMedia will be on campus on Sunday March 20 and Wednesday March 23. So we want everyone who can be here to be here so that we can capture the fullness of our church body. ParableMedia will also be conducting interviews with a few of our church members for the video as well. We look forward to packing the pews and rooms on March 20 and 23.

Coming up . . .

March 21 — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Activities Building and Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

March 25 — No school for PSRC.

March 26 — Mission Discernment Pilgrimage fourth gathering, 8:00 am—12:00 pm. Limited to 24 participants.

March 27 — Dr. Daynette Snead Perez will be hosting a talkback session during Sunday School and will be preaching in Worship.

March 28-April 3 — Youth Week

April 3 — Youth Sunday

April 7-8 — ECM Spring Portraits in the Parlor

April 10 — Palm Sunday with meal and egg hunt following Worship.

April 11—Community Holy Week service at Chestnut St. UMC, 12:00 noon.

April 12—Community Holy Week service at First Presbyterian, 12:00 noon.

April 13—Community Holy Week service at First Baptist, 12:00 noon.

April 14—Maundy Thursday; Community Holy Week service at Godwin Heights, 12:00 noon.

April 15 — Good Friday; Community Holy Week service at Trinity Episcopal.

April 16 — Community Café (hosted by Youth)

April 17 — Easter Sunday

April 18 — Church offices and ECM closed. No school for PSRC 18-22.

April 20 — No Wednesday Night Prayer service.

April 22-24 — Churchwide Spiritual Retreat, Camp Rockfish

April 25— Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Activities Building and Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

April 26 — Senior Adult Committee Meeting, 10:00 am

April 27 — Quarterly Church Conference, 6:00 pm.

April 29-May 1 — High School Senior Retreat

April 29 — Senior Adults to GPAC to see Rodgers and Hammerstein's "South Pacific," 8:00 p.m.

May 1 — Children's Sunday. Mission Discernment Pilgrimage final gathering, 3:00–4:30 pm, Cherry Fellowship Hall.

May 4 — Children's Concert (tentative)

May 5 — Youth Committee meeting, 6:00 pm.

May 10 — ECM Summer Care Registration Opens

May 12 — Fun and Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.

May 13-15 — College Hiking Trip

May 16 — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Activities Building and Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

May 21 — Community Café (host needed)

May 22 — Grad Sunday. A meal for graduates and their families will follow Worship. A church-wide cookout will be held at 4:30 p.m. at Luther Britt park.

May 26 — ECM Graduation for 4-year-olds and PreK, Fellowship Hall, 10:00 am.

May 30 — Memorial Day; Church office and ECM closed.



On Wednesdays during Lent, our midweek adult Bible study will be focusing on how to develop a regular rhythm and deeper daily relationship with God. Using short video conversations led by Brian Heasley (author of the book, [Be Still: A Simple Guide to Quiet Times](#)), these interactive sessions will explore some of the creative ways we can connect with God each day. The goal will be to practically develop and grow habits that will cultivate daily stillness in the midst of a busy and fast-paced world.

First Baptist Church
a family of faith

Churchwide Spiritual Retreat

April 22-24, 2022 Camp Rockfish
(all ages welcome)

\$100 per person (\$200 cap per family)
(includes lodging, meals upon arrival, and retreat resources)

Join us as all of FBCL gathers in one place for
worship, rest, play, and community.

All ages in our First Baptist Lumberton family are invited to join us for a weekend of fun, fellowship, and growing spiritually, together! We will enjoy a weekend at beautiful Camp Rockfish just outside of Fayetteville. This experience is open to people of all ages in the church, and the weekend will be intentional in integrating all participants to know only get to know one another better, but also grow in your own faith journey. The retreat will be led and facilitated by Josh Owens, Senior Pastor at FBCL. Lodging will be in the hotel-style facilities of Bergland Conference Center at Camp Rockfish. To sign up, visit fbclumbertonnc.org/retreat or contact the church office (910) 739-4336.

Worship Leadership

We want to continue to allow our worship gatherings to be reflective of the diverse community that forms up our family of faith. We want to invite any and all people who would like to participate in leading our worship services. If you would be interested in helping bring our worship to life each week, please fill out the form at

fbclumbertonnc.org/worshipleadership
or contact the church office (910-739-4336).

**Support CBF's
Ukraine Relief Fund**

www.cbf.net/ukraine

Prayers and Support for Ukraine

Please continue to pray for Ukraine. If you wish to help financially, CBF Global has established a Ukraine Relief Fund. You may give in-person during worship and designate your gift to the Ukraine Relief Fund, or give online: <https://www.classy.org/give/394080/#!/donation/checkout>

MARCH 26 - 27, 2022

STRANGER TO NEIGHBOR Ministry
...building relationships for the sake of the gospel

CHURCH
What to Do When Everyone Is Like You

Author | Pastor | Moderator
Dr. Daynette Snead Perez

We will be welcoming Dr. Daynette Snead Perez, director of Diaspra and author of the book, CHURCH: What to Do When Everyone Is Like You. She will be facilitating our Mission Discernment Pilgrimage workshop entitled "Stranger to Neighbor Ministry" on Saturday, March 26. Dr. Snead Perez will also be with us on Sunday, March 27 leading a talkback/Q&S session during Sunday School hour and preaching in worship.

Because of the nature and format of our Saturday March 26 pilgrimage event, there is a limit to the number of people who can participate (24 participants). This will be offered in person only. Therefore, we want to target those who are representative of various leadership areas, teams, committees, and ages in our church. The event will run from 8 AM - 12 PM, and lunch will be provided. If you are willing to participate, contact the church office and let us know of your intention to attend.



Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, March 13. Move your clock ahead an hour Saturday night before you go to bed.

Holy Week Services

Community Holy Week Services

Noon services will be hosted by churches in our community during Holy Week. A light lunch will be served following each service. Trinity Episcopal invites those able to fast on Good Friday (no meal will be served).

Monday, April 11—Chestnut St. UMC
Tuesday, April 12—First Presbyterian
Wednesday, April 13—First Baptist
Thursday, April 14—Godwin Heights
Friday, April 15—Trinity Episcopal

*Thinking
of you*

Person of the Week

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

Lucy Simmons
526 Roslyn Drive
Lumberton, NC 28358

Coffee and Conversation Thursdays in Lent

You are invited to join Rev. Josh Owens and others for a conversation and reading through Jesus' sermon on the mount (Matthew 5-7). There will not be a specific curriculum or outline, we will simply read sections of verses each week, and talk through what we see and hear and learn from each other, together. Feel free to invite friends or others to join us, and jump in anytime during the schedule of meetings. We will meet on Thursdays in Lent (except for March 17) at 10 AM at Panera Bread.

Give to First Baptist Church!

Here are some ways to donate to our ministry:

- Give during Sunday worship.
- Scan our QR code with your cell phone camera to go to our giving page.
- Give through our [secure online giving portal](#).
- Go to our website (www.fbclumbertonnc.org) to complete a draft form.
- Send us your contribution by mail
**606 N. Walnut Street
Lumberton, NC 28358**



First Baptist Church
a family of faith

Healthy Robeson

Downtown Lumberton

WEEKLY WALKING GROUP

Wednesday's at Noon in Lent
606 N. Walnut St
(parking lot in front of activities building)

JOIN WITH PASTOR JOSH FOR

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Thursdays in Lent (March 3, 10, 24, 31, & April 7)
10 AM at the Panera Bread (near Walmart)

First Baptist Church
a family of faith

CHURCH STAFF

Office Phone: 910-739-4336

Website: www.fbclumbertonnc.org

- Rev. Tim Little — Minister of Music and Facilities;
timlittle@fbclumbertonnc.org
- Rev. Josh Owens — Senior Pastor;
joshowens@fbclumbertonnc.org
- Mr. Len Power — Building Superintendent;
lenpower@fbclumbertonnc.org
- Mrs. Kandace Ramsey — Administrative Assistant;
kandaceramsey@fbclumbertonnc.org
- Rev. Doug Reedy — Associate Pastor of Youth,
Young Adults and Missions;
dougreedy@fbclumbertonnc.org