

# First Baptist News

*FBC Lumberton is a community of faith committed to living out the love of Christ by serving God and all people.*



## Coming up this week. . .

### Sunday, February 5

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Online  
via Facebook Live & YouTube
- 1:00 p.m. Baby Shower for Rachel Diehl  
(Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study  
(Fellowship Hall)

### Monday, February 6

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 11:45 a.m. WMU Meeting (Act. Bld.)
- 6:30 p.m. Scouts Meeting

### Tuesday, February 7

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Group (Zoom)
- 11:45 a.m. Baptist Women's Bible Study  
(Act. Bld.)

### Wednesday, February 8

- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study (Act. Bld.)  
Children's Activities  
Youth Doing Missions  
(Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, February 9

- 11:00 a.m. Fun and Fellowship (Act. Bld.)
- 6:30 p.m. Autism Society Meeting  
(Act. Bld.)

### Friday, February 10

- 5:00 p.m. Valentine Banquet Rehearsal  
(Fellowship Hall)

### Saturday, February 11

- 6:00 p.m. Valentine Banquet  
(Fellowship Hall)



## Preparing for Sunday, February 5

### “What Does the Lord Require?” Part II Micah 6 (NLT)

**9:30 a.m. Sunday School**  
**10:30 a.m. Worship**

Join us for Worship in-person in the  
Sanctuary

or online on Facebook Live  
[facebook.com/firstbaptistlumbertonnc](https://facebook.com/firstbaptistlumbertonnc)

or online on YouTube  
[youtube.com/c/lumbertonfbc/](https://youtube.com/c/lumbertonfbc/)



All Youth (performers and servers) should arrive by 5:30 p.m. We appreciate Tommy Stevens preparing the meal for the banquet. We are excited to share a time of fellowship together!



## A Note from the Pastor's Desk

It's February 2 as I write this, and I just saw the notification on my phone that the loveable rodent that most people only think about one day a year, Punxsutawney Phil, has seen his shadow, thus ushering in six more weeks of winter. Considering the first day of spring this year is scheduled for March 20th, lucky for him, ol' Phil wasn't too far off.

This day also tends to include references to the 1993 film of a similar name, *Groundhog Day*, starring Bill Murray. In the movie, Murray's character, a weatherman set to cover the annual groundhog day festivities in Punxsutawney, PA, sees himself reliving the same day over and over. Of course, there is a love interest in the film, and over the course of the movie, Murray's character while initially a bit of a grump, sees his heart soften, his actions change, and as his luck would have it, he gets the girl and gets unstuck from the time loop.

Sometimes, our lives may feel like they are stuck in a loop, doing the same actions, or feeling the same emotions day after day. Consistency and repetition are not inherently bad, but sometimes, being stuck in the same loop of activities can limit our personal growth, as well as the chance to encounter new opportunities. The same is true for our spiritual lives with God. Often we may maintain the same routine of regular church activities, Bible reading, devotions, or TV/radio preachers and feel that we are doing fine. But I wonder, what might we be missing out on, and how might we be limiting the fullness of what God is aspiring to do in our lives?

Jesus frequently called people out of the rut of their daily lives, starting with the disciples and continuing on with many other encounters like challenging the rich young ruler to sell all of his possessions or inspiring Zacchaeus to not only come down from the tree. but also to change the way he had been conducting his business as a chief tax collector. So whether it is in your own spiritual walk with Jesus, or in our church body, being willing to step out of the "normal routine" can bring us to spaces of new opportunity, and likely new challenges. But we trust that just as Jesus has done thus far in our lives, he too will meet us in these previously unexplored places to experience our Lord in new and exciting ways.

In the Love of 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*

We had a wonderful ski trip this year. There were no major injuries or COVID outbreaks. Our students were well behaved. Even our chaperones stayed out of trouble for the most part.

One of the things I enjoy most about taking long road trips is the random real conversations that spring up in the midst of joking around. Things occasionally get quite serious. Long story short, race is on everyone's mind. It is sometimes tempting to point a finger at someone else for being racist before we have entirely rid ourselves of it first.

Loving our neighbors is often hard work. Examining ourselves and our motives isn't fun. As followers of Christ, we are on a journey from loving just ourselves and our relations to loving everyone as God does. Most people never quite arrive there in this lifetime, but hopefully we are heading in the right direction.

The temptation to judge other people is massive. Judging others is one of the few sins we Christians may commit more often than our non-believing counterparts. All of this is to say that we need to look at our beliefs and our actions, especially when it comes to race. Above all else, we should allow the Holy Spirit to help us love everyone as deeply as we should.

Hopefully, everyone reading this intellectually understands that judging someone as less than for any reason, especially skin color, is wrong. However, it is easy for intelligent people to rationalize holding onto thoughts that are less overtly prejudicial. Let's discard any lingering biases and pray. Lord, please help us understand our own shortcomings and become better neighbors. Help us love all people as part of your beautiful creation. Let us not judge anyone for who they are at any point in time, but rather journey with them. Amen.

Grace and Peace,

*Doug*



First Baptist Church  
a community of faith

# Shrove Tuesday

## CATFISH AND JAMBALAYA

**February 21 at 6 PM**  
In the Fellowship Hall

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO  
LUMBERTON CHRISTIAN CARE

SIGN UP TO ATTEND ON THE BULLETIN BOARD  
OR ONLINE AT [RB.GY/GQVEVS](https://rb.gy/gqvevs)

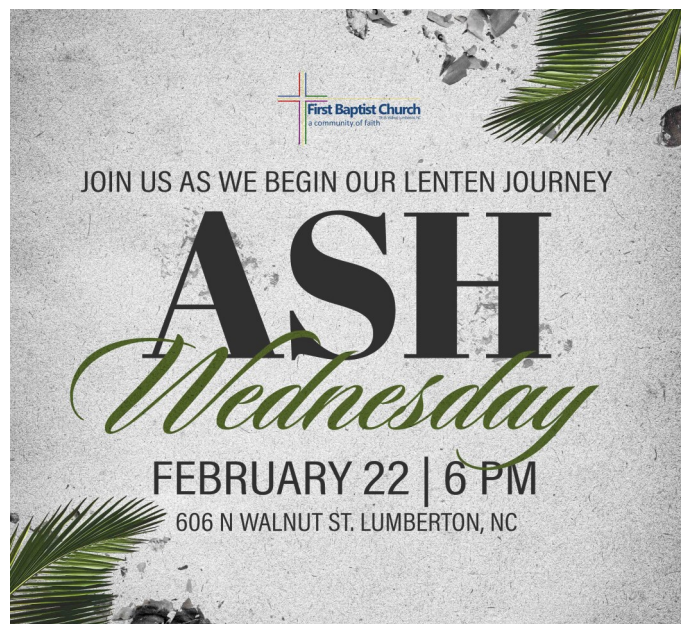
606 N WALNUT ST. LUMBERTON, NC

The poster features a close-up of a bamboo steamer basket filled with golden-brown fried catfish and jambalaya, garnished with fresh green herbs and a slice of lemon.

Join us for a Shrove (Fat) Tuesday supper on Tuesday, February 21 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The meal will include catfish and jambalaya this year!

It will be mostly fun and games as Lent begins the following day (Ash Wednesday, February 22).

There is no cost, but we are asking for donations to benefit Lumberton Christian Care. Please RSVP by Sunday, February 12 by signing up on the bulletin board or [online](#).



First Baptist Church  
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JOIN US AS WE BEGIN OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

# ASH

## Wednesday

FEBRUARY 22 | 6 PM

606 N WALNUT ST. LUMBERTON, NC

The poster has a textured, light-colored background with scattered palm fronds and small stones. The text is centered and uses a mix of bold, black, sans-serif fonts and a green, cursive script for the word 'Wednesday'.



## *Coming up in February...*

**February 13** — Friends of Jesus Valentine Party, 5:00-7:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

**February 13** — Called Finance Committee Meeting, 5:45 p.m., Activities Building

**February 18** — Community Café hosted by Fellowship Class

**February 19** — Worship Committee Meeting, 3:00 pm

**February 20** — ECM registration for the 2023-24 school year opens to FBC members not currently enrolled

**February 21** — ECM registration for the 2023-24 school year opens to the public. Registration will take place in the Fellowship Hall 8-11 am on Feb. 21st and other times by appointment.

**February 21** — Shrove Tuesday Supper, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall. Catfish and Jambalaya will be served. Donations will be collected to benefit Lumberton Christian Care. Sign up to attend at the bulletin board or online by Feb. 12th.

**February 22** — Ash Wednesday Service, 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

**February 22** — Lancaster, PA trip final payments are due. However, we need more people to sign up for the trip to be possible!

**February 24** — PreK Make & Take Craft Session, 9-11 am, Fellowship Hall

**February 26** — Church BINGO night, 4-6 pm, Fellowship Hall. There will be prizes and hot chocolate and cookies will be served.

**February 27** — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm. Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm. Both meetings will be in the Activities Building.

## *Coming up in March...*

**March 6** — WMU Meeting, 11:45 am, Activities Building

**March 7** — Baptist Women's Bible Study, 11:45 am, Activities Building

**March 9-10** — PSRC All County Chorus

**March 9** — Fun and Fellowship, 11:00 am, Activities Building

**March 10** — PreK Make & Take Craft Session, 9-11 am, Fellowship Hall

**March 12** — Daylight Savings Time begins

**March 14** — Youth Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm

**March 17** — Youth Lock-in

**March 18** — Community Café (host needed)

**March 23-24** — CBFNC, Winston-Salem

**March 25** — Scouts Derby, Fellowship Hall

**March 26** — Youth Sunday

**March 27** — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm. Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm. Both meetings will be in the Activities Building.



We will host a church-wide Bingo game on Sunday, February 26 at 4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

There will be prizes, and hot chocolate and cookies will be served. This will be a fun time for all!

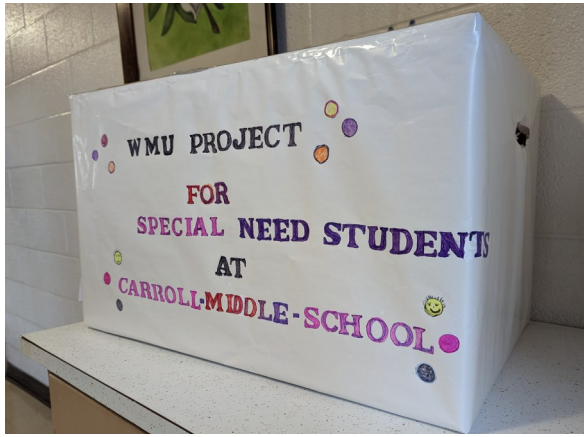


### **Wednesday Nights at FBC — 6:00 pm**

Adult Bible Study will meet in the Activities Building (this is a location change). Youth Doing Missions will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Children's activities begin at 6:00 p.m. (various locations). Sanctuary Choir rehearsal will follow at 7:00 pm.

### **We need hosts for Community Café!**

Community Café is hosted on the third Saturday of each month at the Activities Building. A light lunch is served. If your Sunday School class, small group, or group of friends are willing to host Community Café, please contact Rev. Doug Reedy or the church office. We have several dates available this year.



### WMU Project for Special Needs Students at Carroll Middle School

WMU invites the church to donate to the panty and clothing closet for special needs students at Carroll Middle School. A collection box with detailed sizing for clothing and other needs is located inside the 6th Street Ramp entrance. Items can be new or in good, gently-used condition. Many of the kids are in larger Youth sizes or in Adult sizes.

Items that are most needed include:

- Leggings and sweatpants
- T-shirts
- Coats
- Socks
- Belts
- Underwear

Hygiene products such as toothpaste, deodorant, soap, shampoo, feminine products, combs and brushes, etc. are also requested.

If you have questions, contact Dean Kinlaw or any of the WMU ladies.

#### ***Kandace out of office***

I will be out of the office February 6-10 on a stay-cation at home. It should be an exciting week of cleaning house, prepping the garden, and hopefully baby goats will be born. You can still reach me by email ([kandaceramsey@fbclumbertonnc.org](mailto:kandaceramsey@fbclumbertonnc.org)) or you can contact the church office (910-739-4336) if you have an urgent request.

*Kandace Ramsey*

### **Give to First Baptist Church!**

Here are some ways to donate to our ministry:

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



### **CBF Disaster Response Volunteers Needed this Saturday!**

A portion of the CBF disaster response buckets we are currently storing on the first floor of the education building has been requested to be sent to Griffin, GA, whose town was recently hit by severe tornados.



We are finalizing details to get 200 buckets to Georgia this Saturday, and so there are two requests we have from the church:

\*We need all who can to be at the church at 8:30 am, Saturday morning (Feb. 4) to load up a U-Haul truck with 200 buckets.

\*The truck will be driven to Augusta, where it will be handed off to volunteers from CBF Georgia to be driven the rest of the way. We have a driver for the truck, but we need a volunteer to drive behind the truck to bring back the driver (Dave Hawes, Pastor at Godwin Heights). If someone is willing to drive but doesn't want to use their personal vehicle, one of our church vehicles can be used instead.

Thanks in advance for considering and for any help you may be able to offer. Please call the church office (910-739-4336) or Rev. Josh Owens if you can help.

You can also give to CBF Disaster Response online: <https://www.classy.org/give/144748/#!/donation/checkout>

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***Servants this Sunday***

**9:30 Sunday School Entrance Greeters**

\*6th Street Ramp, 9:00—9:30 am  
Jimmy and Billie Dail

**10:30 Worship Entrance Greeters**

Sanctuary Vestibule, 10:00—11:30 am  
Barbara Andrews and Shirley Hickman

**Security Monitor** — Jerry Long

**Nursery** — Ashlynn Cox, Jenna Davis

**Extended Session** — Pattie Ramsaur and Nancy Wagner

**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

**Person of the  
Week**

Send a card, letter, or other remembrance to our very special person this week. He has a birthday coming up Feb. 18th!

**Tommy McVicker**  
183 Howell Road  
Saint Pauls, NC 28384

**ATTENTION:**

The ECM Entrance is temporarily CLOSED due to repairs. Please enter for Worship at the Sanctuary.

***Due to the water damage in the Children's Building, please note that some meeting locations have recently changed.***

**9:30 a.m. Sunday School**

Nursery — Room D-107 (former TEL/Ladies' Fellowship Class room)

Preschool Sunday School Class — Room D-111A (use entrance across from Nursery)

1st-5th Grade Sunday School Class — Room D-206

Youth Sunday School Class —  
Youth Sunday School Hall, Room 203

Bridge Sunday School Class — Room D-202

Circle of Friends Class — Pastor's Study (outside Parlor)

Collins Class — Conference Room

Susan Welsh Class — Room D-218

Fellowship Class — Chapel & Zoom

Friends of Jesus Class — Activities Building

***Nursery Care & Extended Session***

Nursery care is available for birth—age 2. Nursery will meet in Room D-107 (former TEL/Ladies' Fellowship Class room).

Children age 3—K are invited to attend Extended Session after the children's sermon. Extended Session will meet in D-111A (use entrance across from Nursery).

Children in 1st grade and older attend the full worship service. Worship bags are available for those who wish to use them.

**CHURCH STAFF**

Please call the office to make sure someone is in before stopping by.

Office Phone: 910-739-4336

Website: [www.fbclumbertonnc.org](http://www.fbclumbertonnc.org)

Rev. Tim Little — Minister of Music and Facilities;  
[timlittle@fbclumbertonnc.org](mailto:timlittle@fbclumbertonnc.org)

Rev. Josh Owens — Senior Pastor;  
[joshowens@fbclumbertonnc.org](mailto:joshowens@fbclumbertonnc.org)

Mr. Len Power — Building Superintendent;  
[lenpower@fbclumbertonnc.org](mailto:lenpower@fbclumbertonnc.org)

Mrs. Kandace Ramsey — Administrative Assistant;  
[kandaceramsey@fbclumbertonnc.org](mailto:kandaceramsey@fbclumbertonnc.org)

Rev. Doug Reedy — Associate Pastor of Youth, Young Adults and Missions;  
[dougreeedy@fbclumbertonnc.org](mailto:dougreeedy@fbclumbertonnc.org)



**Joyful Travelers to Lancaster Show Trip  
& the Dutch Country  
May 1—5, 2023**

Cost: \$650.00

The price is per person, based on double occupancy. The trip includes transportation, lodging, most meals, admission to several shows, and guided tours.

***Final trip payment is due Feb. 22, 2023.  
However, we need a few more people to sign up  
for the trip to be possible! Please spread the  
word!***