

First Baptist News

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



SCAN ME

Coming up this week. . .

Sunday, March 5
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
 10:30 a.m. Worship Online
 via Facebook Live & YouTube
 3:00 p.m. Facilities Strategic Visioning
 Team Orientation Meeting
 (Conf. Rm.)
 4:45 p.m. Youth Bells Rehearsal
 6:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study (Act. Bld.)
 BWIM Book Study (Conf. Rm.)

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

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

Wednesday, March 8
 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study (Act. Bld.)
 led by Catherine Lee
 Youth Doing Missions
 (Act. Bld.)
 Children's Activities
 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 9
 11:00 am Fun & Fellowship & Learn
 (Act. Bld.)

Thursday, March 9—Friday, March 10
 All County Chorus

Saturday, March 11
 10:00 a.m. Hispanic Ministry Bible Study
 (Act. Bld.)
 10:00 am—2:00 pm Community Dental Clinic
 at RCCC



Preparing for Sunday, March 5 The Second Sunday in Lent

"Moving with God"
John 3:1-17 (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://www.facebook.com/firstbaptistlumbertonnc)

or online on YouTube



For March, our Fun & Fellowship group and Lunch & Learn will be held together. Rev. Tim Little will present the program. Everyone (men and women) is invited. A meal will be served!



A Note from the Pastor's Desk

Have you ever tried to explore a new shopping mall without first stopping at the directory sign? How about moving around an airport that you've never visited before? Ever been to an event, and become confused about where exactly to park, so you just go with the first open spot of grass and start from there?

Yes, navigating new or different spaces can be difficult at times, but sometimes even getting around familiar places can be a challenge. I know that for many of our older community members, one of the hardest transitions is remaining in a house that has been home for decades, but acknowledging that it was built for a younger, differently-abled version of yourself. That is why taking a hard look at our needs, and our current situations are a natural part of any person's life.

Our church body is at such a point in our lives as well in regard to our physical meeting house. Prior to my coming to begin serving as your senior pastor, there have been many conversations, questions, and inquiries about how to make our space more user-friendly, safer to access, and functional for the church of today. I, too, have had similar conversations with many of you, and I believe that we are now at a vital time in the life of our church to consider the best use of our largest asset - our facilities and grounds.

In considering the needs of our people, there have been many solutions proposed as to what could be changed. However, I think it is helpful if we are able to fully identify what our needs are, both for our current and future church community, and consider what it would take to meet those needs in a holistic manner. Doing so will afford our church leaders the chance to make informed and impactful decisions going forward.

That is why I am happy to share with you beginning this month, that in concert with our church's deacons, we are launching what I am calling a Facilities Strategic Visioning Team (FSVT). This team is a group of people representing church-appointed officer positions and volunteers from our larger fellowship. They are tasked with a fact-finding mission, gathering opinions and needs of both current church members, but also soliciting information from folks in our broader Lumberton community to help us see what those not currently in our church may be looking for in a faith community in terms of its physical space. They will spearhead conversations and other forms of listening to our congregation, trying to compile a full picture of what our people really need/want, and then offer some larger, or big-picture possible solutions. Their end goal is a report that can be given to our church's leadership (deacons, ministry staff, finance, and building and grounds) to consider future faithful steps.

Now, I know that churches are notorious for talking about things and not doing them. I can promise you that this is not an attempt at more information, or talking, or producing a report that will just end up on a shelf somewhere, but I intend for it to be a purposeful step toward making the changes we need to in order to be an agile, active, and welcoming faith community for all. The Church is so much more than its physical address, its the people who sit in the pews who live, work, and play in the community at large. However, where we gather is an important statement to ourselves and our neighbors, and it should be used as a function of ministry, not just as a point of meeting. Our mission proclaims that we are a community that desires to show the love of Christ through our service to God and to all people, and our meeting house should be a large extension of that mission.

I ask that you join me in faithfully holding the work of this group in prayer. I also ask that you consider responding to and engaging with their efforts as you are invited to do so in the coming months. We want every voice heard, but also want to know what would make us most effective. The group's first meeting will be this Sunday, March 5th. I hope that you share in the excitement that I have for this effort, as we look forward to how God wants to continue to further the Kingdom through our little plot of that Kingdom here between 7th and 5th streets!

In the Love of Christ,

Rev. Joshua K. Owens, *Senior Pastor*

Lumberton Christian Care Center (LCCC) is most appreciative of the donations made on Shrove Tuesday. FBC has been a patron of LCCC since its inception. As a non-profit organization we depend on gifts from those that believe in our service.

Sincerely,
LCCC Board

Coming up in March...

Sundays in March (5, 12, 19, 26) — Baptist Women Emphasis Month Book Study, 6:00 p.m.

Wednesdays in March (8, 15, 22, 29) — We'll be studying the women of the Bible during Adult Bible Study, 6:00 p.m.

March 12 — Daylight Savings Time begins

March 12 — We welcome Rev. Lisa Rust as our guest preacher in Worship.

March 14 — Youth Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm

March 17 — Youth Lock-in

March 18 — Downtown Clean Sweep (tentative)

March 18 — Community Café (host needed)

March 18 — Scouts Derby, Fellowship Hall

March 19 — Lumberton Christian Care's chicken dinner fundraiser, 11:00 am—2:00 p.m.

March 19 — Knit Wits, 3:00 pm, Act. Bld.

March 23-24 — CBFNC, Winston-Salem

March 23-24 — ECM Spring Pictures

March 26 — Youth Sunday

March 27 — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Chapel. Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

March 30 — Snr. Ads. to Alabama Theatre show "Iconic."

Coming up in April...

April 2 — Palm Sunday, with church luncheon and egg hunt following Worship.

April 3 — WMU meeting, 11:45 am, Activities Building

April 3 — Holy Week Noon Service at Chestnut Street UMC.

April 4 — Holy Week Noon Service at First Presbyterian

April 4 — Baptist Women's Bible Study, 11:45 am, Activities Building

April 5 — Holy Week Noon Service at First Baptist

April 6 — Holy Week Noon Service at Godwin Heights Baptist

April 6 — Maundy Thursday Service at First Presbyterian, evening.

April 7 — Holy Week Service at Trinity Episcopal

April 9 — Easter Sunday

April 10 — Offices and ECM closed

April 13 — Fun & Fellowship, 11:00 am, Activities Building

April 15 — Community Café (host needed)

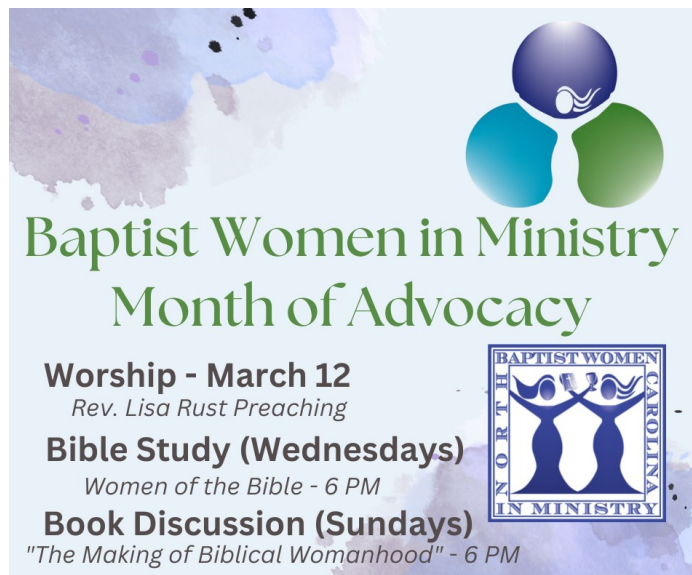
April 17 — EC Make & Take Art Session, 9-11 am, Fellowship Hall

April 19 — Friends of Jesus Softball Game

April 22 — Inasmuch

April 24 — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Chapel. Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

April 26 — Quarterly Church Conference

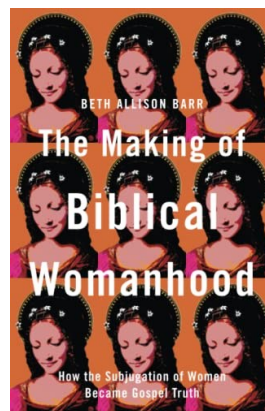




Baptist Women in Ministry
Month of Advocacy

Worship - March 12
Rev. Lisa Rust Preaching

Bible Study (Wednesdays)
Women of the Bible - 6 PM

Book Discussion (Sundays)
"The Making of Biblical Womanhood" - 6 PM



Sundays in March we will have a book study at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. We'll be reading The Making of Biblical Womanhood: How the Subjugation of Women Became Gospel Truth by Beth Allison Barr. Participants will need to purchase a copy of the book (Amazon: <https://a.co/d/imgSL4i>).

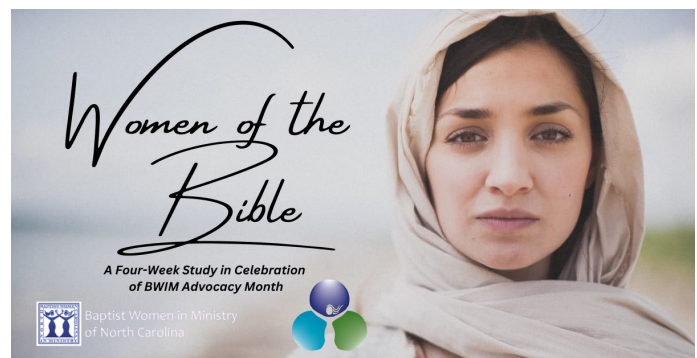
Reading Plan:

March 5 — Introduction — Ch. 2

March 12 — Chapters 3-4

March 19 — Chapters 5-6

March 26 — Chapters 7-8



Wednesdays in March we will have a study on Women of the Bible at 6:00 p.m. in the Activities Building. The study will be led by:

March 8 — Catherine Lee

March 15 — Margie Cockrell

March 22 — Bonnie Reedy

March 29 — Lisa Rust

Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed, says the LORD, who has compassion on you.
Isaiah 54:10 (NIV)



Isaiah 54:10

Youth Sunday

March 26, 2023

Youth Minister, Senior High: Dixon Davis

Youth Minister, Junior High: Ethan Stevens

Music Minister: Sam Ivey

Art Director: Emily Cribb

Missions Minister: Noah Paige

Education Minister: Ava Bolles

Marketing Design: Kaitlyn Reedy

Preschool Minister: Bindi Ivey

Children's Minister: Gabby Hardee

Activities Directors: Layla Myers, Ruth Diehl

Deacon Chair: Grayson Branch

Senior Adult Minister: Landon Walters

Recreation Director: Lainey Pittman

Special Advisor: Mahlea Hester



Our Missions Committee alongside other churches in the community is planning Inasmuch for Saturday, April 22. This will be an opportunity for our community of faith to help with major projects, such as much needed painting inside Lumberton Christian Care, cutting firewood, visitation, and a children's project. Mark Saturday, April 22nd on your calendar and look for more information in *First Baptist News* soon!



Palm Sunday is April 2nd! Children are invited to wave palms during 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary. Also on Palm Sunday we will be having a church-wide Fellowship meal following Worship. This will include an egg hunt! We need donations of pre-filled eggs for the egg hunt. They can be purchased filled, or you can fill them yourself with candy or non-candy treats. Bring your donations to the church office by Friday, March 31st. Please RSVP for the meal and egg hunt [online](https://forms.gle/XZTU8MNKLXIK6TC59) or at the bulletin board.

Children's Sunday is set for May 7. Children's choirs and bells are rehearsing and working towards that date. In addition to music, we will need children to help with worship elements such as welcome and announcements, prayers, and reading scripture. Our 5th graders are invited to prepare a sermon as well, but if none are available, a minister will preach. If your child would like to participate in any of these things, please contact Doug Reedy (dougreeedy@fbclumbertonnc.org).

Shrove Tuesday Supper—February 22, 2023

We enjoyed celebrating with you at our Shrove Tuesday Supper. We enjoyed catfish, jambalaya, and king cake prepared and served by church staff and a few other helpful volunteers. We heard that Carter Owens and Helen Odom found baby Jesus in the king cakes!



Congratulations to Michelle Prevatte for 5 Years of Service in the ECM!

Michelle has been with our center now for five years, and in that time she has not only served in various capacities but has also helped guide it through some difficult seasons. Beginning as an assistant in the Pre-K class, she would later go on to assume the interim director's position before taking the job full-time in February 2020. What a time to transition into this role given the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic. Still, Michelle has been a consummate professional through it all and has gracefully guided the staff and students through adapting to protocols and managing fluid operations. We are thankful for her passion and professionalism over the last five years. We look forward to all of the ways she will continue to make our center the premier center for early childhood education in Robeson County.

Congratulations to Lisa Hardin for 40 Years of Service in the ECM!

Ms. Lisa Hardin has worked with many age groups during her time at the ECM. The majority of her time here, however, has been spent teaching and caring for our two-year-old children. Lisa plays an important role in the lives of our very youngest children, helping them acclimate to our schedule and being with other children. They will carry the skills that she teaches them far into the future. We are so thankful for Lisa's dedication to our program. She has played an important role in the development and success of many children over the years. We hope she will continue to do so for many more.

Servants this Sunday

*The ECM Entrance remains closed due to repairs.
Please enter for Worship at the Sanctuary.*

9:30 Sunday School Entrance Greeters

*6th Street Ramp, 9:00—9:30 am
Tony & Becky Thompson

10:30 Worship Entrance Greeters

Sanctuary Vestibule, 10:00—11:30 am
Jimmy & Billie Dail

Security Monitor — Bruce Davis

Nursery — Ashlynn Cox, Jenna Davis

Extended Session — Pattie Ramsaur, Heather Walters

*Thinking
of you*

Persons of the Week

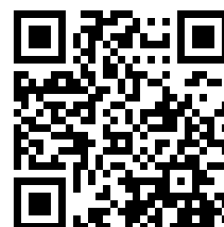
Send a card, letter, or other
remembrance to our very special
persons this week.

Gene & Phyllis Pate
1000 Wesley Pines Road
Villa 306
Lumberton, NC 28358

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) to complete a draft form.
- Send us your contribution by mail: 606 N. Walnut Street, Lumberton, NC 28358



You can now log in to the Realm app for quick access to our church database!

- ✓ Update your information
- ✓ View your contributions
- ✓ View your small groups, such as Deacon Care Team
- ✓ Communicate with Ministers, Staff, Groups and Teams
- ✓ View and Sign-up for trips and upcoming activities

... and more features to come!

fbclumbertonnc.org/acs-realm



To join or sign into
Realm, scan this QR
code with your cell
phone camera or visit
onrealm.org.

For more information,
visit
[fbclumbertonnc.org/
acs-realm](http://fbclumbertonnc.org/acs-realm).

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, group of friends, or service organization is willing to host Community Café, please contact Rev. Doug Reedy or the church office.



We have several dates available this year with the most urgent needs for March 18th and April 15th!