

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, July 9
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Worship in Fellowship Hall
 10:30 a.m. Worship Online
 5:00 p.m. Book Study (Conf. Rm.)

July 9—14
Youth to Passport
 Converse College, Spartanburg

Monday, July 10
 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting (Conf. Rm.)
 6:30 p.m. Scouts Meeting (Act. Bld.)

Tuesday, July 11
 7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Group (Zoom)
 6:00 p.m. Meet-n-Eat at Chick-fil-A

Wednesday July 12
 9:00 a.m. Coffee & Bible Study
 (Panera Bread)

Saturday, July 15
 10:00 a.m. Community Café, hosted by
 Susan Welsh Sunday School
 Class (Act. Bld.)



Preparing for Sunday, July 9

"A Forward Faith"
Hebrews 5:11—6:20 (NLT)

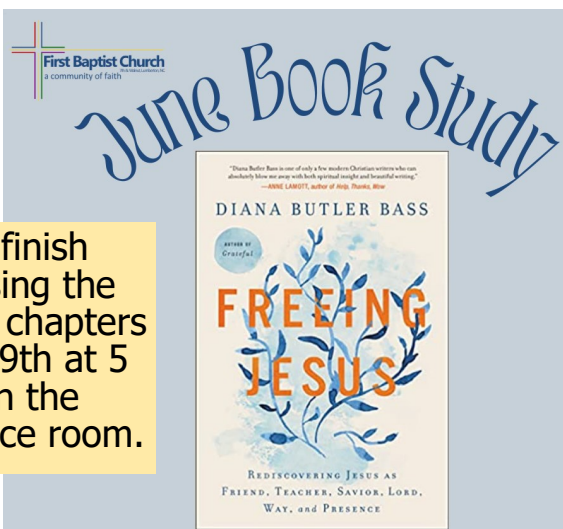
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

Join us for Worship in-person
in Cherry Fellowship Hall
or online on Facebook Live
facebook.com/firstbaptistlumbertonnc
or online on YouTube
youtube.com/c/lumbertonfbc/

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 portal — fbclumbertonnc.org/give
- 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
- **NEW!** Text FBC606 to 73256 to give using your mobile device.



We'll finish
discussing the
final two chapters
on July 9th at 5
pm in the
conference room.

A Note from the Pastor's Desk

July 2023



When was the last time you saw something that made you say, “I’ve never seen that before!” It actually happened to me and Lindsay just this week while on vacation at Oak Island with her parents. One afternoon, it had begun to rain off and on, with the occasional roll of thunder in the distance. We had made plans to have dinner together (without the kiddos), and so we headed out in the rain. As we backed out of the drive and turned onto the road, out of nowhere, a large bolt of lightning cracked open the sky right in front of the windshield. It struck a street light pole two houses down from ours, with a light that brightened the whole car, and a bang that set the windows shuddering. Smoked drifted up from the fried light pole, and the rush of onlookers coming out on their decks affirmed what we had just seen. We quickly said to each other, “Wow, I’ve never seen anything like that before!”

While I am perfectly fine to never come so close to a bolt of lightning’s strike again, I do wonder how often we are surprised by something new. I am talking about the kind of surprise that takes our breath away, leaves us speechless, or unable to explain how it happened. In the day-in and day-out of living, we get locked into our routines, what we have always done, and the patterns or rhythms we are comfortable with. These patterns can help us recognize new things as odd or unusual, but unfortunately, our old patterns may also prevent us from placing ourselves in new contexts or locations where the unexpected may be more likely to happen.

While our sermon series this summer has focused on Hebrews, the lectionary Old Testament readings we’ve been hearing in worship have come from the book of Genesis, where Jewish patriarchs were experiencing nothing but firsts, moments that left them saying “I’ve never seen that before!” However, as we read, many of those moments came only after they broke the mold of what they had always done, where they had always been, or what they were comfortable with knowing. The same is true for us all today as well. I like to think that when we ascribe something as new or amazing that God has done, that it is not really something new that God has done, but in fact, it is work that God has already been doing, and we are just now catching up or discovering it for ourselves. It is new to us, but an ongoing movement of God.

So let us continue to allow ourselves to be in a posture whereby we can see the current movement of God in our world. Let’s be willing to break the mold of what we have always known or are comfortable with, so that we may recognize the work God is already doing in our lives, in our community, and in our church. What a holy moment it is to see God move and be able to say, “Wow, I’ve never seen anything like that before!”

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*

Quarterly Church Conference
Wednesday, July 26
6 pm
Cherry Fellowship Hall



Wednesdays
July 12, 19, 26, August 2

Coffee & Bible Study

9:00 a.m.
Panera Bread
5080 Fayetteville Rd.





Meet-n-Eat

CHICK-FIL-A

July 11 at 6 pm



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The Friends of Jesus Class will be traveling to Camp Caraway for Happiness Retreat July 22-24, 2023. Please be in prayer for this group as they prepare for the trip and for safe travels.



FAYETTEVILLE WOODPECKERS

Baseball Game

TUESDAY JULY 25 06:00 P.M.

PLAN TO LEAVE FROM CHURCH AT 5 PM

PURCHASE TICKETS BY 7/18 \$11 EACH



fevoqm.com/event/Firstbaptist7



Tuesday, July 25

Reserve your seat by July 18th for \$11 each —
fevoqm.com/event/Firstbaptist7
30 tickets have been held for our group. If you want to ride to the game with us, plan to leave from the church at 5:00 p.m.

This game is on \$2 Tuesday!
Fans can enjoy select concession items for only \$2!
Items include 16oz fountain drinks, popcorn box, pretzel, or a bag of peanuts.



Let's Go Bowling

July 16 at 5 pm

LUMBERTON BOWLING CENTER
2205 GODWIN AVE



Whether it is just a function of an aging mind, undiagnosed adult ADHD, or a genuine symptom of a busy schedule, I'm finding my thoughts significantly splintered these days. After returning from what was a wonderful music retreat, catching up on world news, celebrating our nation's independence, and prepping for next week's Passport trip, focusing on one thing at a time is proving to be a challenge. With that in mind, along with what my article this month may skip around quite a bit.

First off, please pray for the many SBC churches who have been asked to choose between their female ministers and their traditional denomination. To us, it seems like an easy choice as we parted ways with the SBC many years ago for numerous reasons. These individual congregations however will undoubtedly mourn the loss of denominational identity that spans decades or even centuries.

Christian nationalism is also on the rise not only in the SBC but also in evangelical circles everywhere. To be clear, patriotism is a great thing. Nationalism, in any form, can be rather ugly. If you have kept up with this trend, seen the documentary *Shiny Happy People* on Amazon Prime, or any of the numerous Hillsong documentaries, you are aware of the decay within many areas of evangelicalism. It's quite sad.

In happier news, the music retreat was a positive bonding experience for our youth who rang bells or sang at worship services this year. They got great work in on this fall's music, and also hiked, swam, and rafted in the NC Mountains. What a great group of teenagers we have.

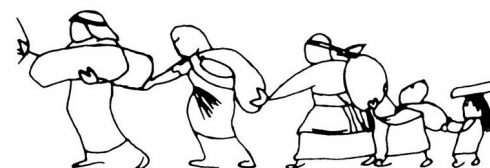
Lastly, please pray for our extremely young group of campers heading off to Passport Sunday morning. Most of the campers we are taking have just completed 6th or 7th grade. Younger youth tend to be high on enthusiasm but low on experience. Say an extra prayer for our chaperones, myself included. Have a fantastic remainder of your summer!

Grace & Peace,
Doug



Youth will be traveling to
Converse University, Spartanburg, SC
July 9-14, 2023
and to Wilderness Trail
July 25-31, 2023.

Be in prayer for these groups for safe travels.



Wilderness Trail



For Children During Worship

Nursery Care

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

Extended Session

Children age 3—K are invited to attend Extended Session after the children's sermon. Extended Session will meet in the curtained area of the Fellowship Hall during the month of July.

Children in 1st grade and older attend the full worship service. Worship bags containing books, Bibles, crayons, and quiet toys are available for those who wish to use them.

MEET-N-EAT

BLAKE'S PARLOR

JULY 19 AT 6:30 PM



First Baptist Church
a community of faith

First Baptist Church

7th & Walnut, Lumberton, NC
a community of faith

Sundays

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 Worship in Fellowship Hall



Families and Kids are invited to join us at Fun City's indoor playground on July 21 at 12:00 noon. Fun City has play areas for kids of all ages including ball pits, tricycle racetrack, climbing, and more.

Coming up in July...

Wednesdays (July 12, 19, 26, Aug. 2) — Coffee and Bible Study at Panera Bread, 9 am

July 16 — Bowling Night, 5 pm, Lumberton Bowling Center

July 19 — Blake's Ice Cream Parlor, 6:30 pm

July 21 — Kids/Families at Fun City, 12 noon

July 22-24 — Friends of Jesus Happiness Retreat at Camp Caraway

July 23 — The Friends of Jesus Class will not meet for Sunday School.

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

July 25 — Fay. Woodpeckers Baseball Game, 6 pm. Reserve your tickets in advance. If you a ride to the game, meet at the church at 5 pm.

July 25-31 — Youth Wilderness Trail

July 26 — Quarterly Church Conference, 6 pm, Fellowship Hall

Coming up in August...

Aug. 2 — Meet-n-Eat at Buc-ee's. We'll leave the church at 5 pm.

Aug. 6 — The Friends of Jesus Class will not meet for Sunday School.

Aug. 6 — Meet-n-Eat at McDonald's, Liberty Hill location, 6 pm

Aug. 7-11 — Rev. Doug Reedy on vacation

Aug. 14-18 — Rev. Josh Owens on vacation

Aug. 15 — Snr. Ad. trip to Barn Theatre

Aug. 15 — Youth to Myrtle Waves

Aug. 16 — Youth Committee Meeting, 6 pm

Aug. 19 — Community Café, hosted by Missions Committee

Aug. 20 — The Friends of Jesus Class will not meet for Sunday School.

Aug. 21-23 — Arts Camp, 9 am—3 pm

Aug. 25 — ECM Closed for Staff Development and Open House



Friday, June 23 -
While we had to bring our outdoor movie inside due to weather, we still enjoyed the film "Jesus Revolution" on the big screen.



We had a blast June 26th with our lunch at Melecio's Mexican Restaurant! We'll pick back up with Meet-n-Eat gatherings after the July 4th holiday.

Contact Us

Going into the end of the school year and into summer, our office staff will be in-and-out of the office. We will be taking family vacations, attending conferences, going on church trips, etc. so our schedules on-site in the office will vary from day to day. Please call the office to make sure someone is in before stopping by.

Kandace is on vacation (camping trip) the week of July 10th.

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Website: www.fbclumbertonnc.org

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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

*Thinking
of you*

Person of the Week

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

Jim Driscoll
4900 Willow Oak Drive
Lumberton, NC 28358

Servants this Sunday

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

9:30 Sunday School Entrance Greeters

6th Street Ramp, 9:00—9:30 am (Handicap)
Kenneth Sasser

10:30 Worship Entrance Greeters

Fellowship Hall Lobby 10:00—11:30 am
Brenda & James Britt

Security Monitor — Malcolm McLean

Nursery — Ashlynn Cox, Jenna Davis

Extended Session — Kim Gore

Extended Session will meet in the curtained area in the Fellowship Hall for the month of July.

9:30 a.m. Sunday School Classrooms

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

Young Adults — Room D-209

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-207

Fellowship Class — Chapel & Zoom

Friends of Jesus Class — Activities Building