Volume LVIII No. 10a October 5, 2023

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, October 8

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Worship Online

Sanctuary Choir will depart after Worship for the Stephen Aber Concert in Raleigh.

5:00 p.m. Youth to Kreepy Hallow

Monday, October 9

Indigenous Peoples Day/Columbus Day 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting (Conf. Rm.)

6:30 p.m. Scouts Meeting

Tuesday, October 10

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

Wednesday, October 11

6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study (Act. Bld.)

Children's Activities Youth Doing Missions

7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 12

11:00 a.m. Fun & Fellowship (Act. Bld.)

October 13-15

CBFNC Youth Beach Retreat, Fort Caswell

Saturday, October 14

10:00 a.m. Hispanic Ministry Bible Study (Act. Bld.)



Preparing for Sunday, Oct. 8

"Purposeful Commandments" Exodus 20:1-20 (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 <u>facebook.com/firstbaptistlumbertonnc</u> or online on YouTube <u>youtube.com/c/lumbertonfbc/</u>

DEACON ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to our new slate of deacons who will begin serving in 2024

James Gore Tony Thompson John Underwood Chris Walters

We also celebrate with those elected to fill vacated terms

JW Lawson (two year term) Judy Driscoll (one year term)



A Note from the Pastor's Desk October 2023

On Wednesday evenings over the past few weeks, our adult study has had a lively discussion around the topic of worship. Specifically, we have engaged in the purpose, practice, and planning of worship, hoping to explore why we worship, how we worship, and the diversity of expressions that can come from that. It has been so lively in fact, that initially I had planned only for it to be a three-week series and now, we have had to expand it, adding more weeks to the conversation.

One component of that conversation was the themes of worship we see in the Bible. One of these themes identified was that worship is not a series of individual events that operate in isolation or separate from one another. No, worship is in fact a continual journey, an ongoing conversation, a never-ending transformation that should build from one experience to another as we hopefully grow closer to God and become more like Christ. The biblical example of this is the conversation that Jesus had with his disciples on the way to Emmaus. Where the disciples were at the beginning of that journey is not where they were at the end, and I am not talking about the geographical locations in which they found themselves. By the end of this journey, they had truly encountered Christ in a new and deeper way, culminating in the breaking of bread together.

That reality of worship being a continual journey also speaks to the fact that we can, and should encounter God more than just at the "appointed worship hour" each week. The elements of the communion table, which we just celebrated this past Sunday in conjunction with World Communion Sunday speak to this so clearly. As Henri Nouwen once wrote, "What is a more common, ordinary gesture than breaking bread?... When Jesus does this he does the most ordinary as well as the most extraordinary. It is the most human as well as the most divine gesture. The great mystery is that this daily and most human gesture is the way we recognize the presence of Christ among us. God becomes most present when we are most human."

So what would happen if we recognized God's presence in the ordinary, daily, or human experiences? How might we be transformed to be more like Christ? May the actions of our Lord with the common everyday things, change the way we look at the common everyday things of our lives, and may they transform who we are, what we are becoming, and where we are going. This can in fact be our daily act of worship.

In the Love of Christ,

Joshia Ouen

Ramblings From Our Associate Pastor

The best thing about the Robeson County Fair isn't the cheerleading contest (our girls finished third this year), the rides (yikes), being able to eat a Tyson burger (I miss Tyson's), or the collard sandwiches. The best thing is of course the people. You may think I mean that sarcastically but I don't.

Sure, we have some unique characters in Rob Co. Sure, someone occasionally starts a fight or causes a disruption. However, at least on the nights I've attended the past few years; almost everyone seems on their best behavior.

Last night I took my daughter and a couple of her friends to the fair. I'm not too old for the high swings, the Himalia, the Ferris wheel, etc. However, I've never done well with spinning rides like the tilt a whirl, the zipper, or anything that's zero gravity. It isn't just that these rides aren't the safest, it's that dizzy and nauseous aren't my favorite ways to feel.

Since I sat these rides out, I had plenty of time sitting on a bench holding glasses, sunglasses, hoodies, pocketbooks, and cellphones, which allowed me time to people watch. From my observations, there is a lot of good in our county that's underreported. We have amazing diversity. People say "yes ma'am" and "thank you". People look after each other.

For the most part, that's true everywhere I've been from Manhattan to Memphis. We, humanity, are indeed all sinners. However, we are also all loved and created by God. Let's keep both in mind so we can live loves of grace and peace as Jesus commanded.

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Doug Reedy



Combined Children's Sunday School Class for ages 4-12 will meet in Room D-110. This room is downstairs and near the nursery, which makes it more convenient for parents of young children. Let us know if you need help finding the new class location!



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. We meet in Room D-111.

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.







Our Trunk or Treat last year was a huge success. We anticipate the need for lots of candy and treats again this year! We know it's a tad earlier than we usually start asking for donations, but Halloween candy sold out quickly last year. Donations may be dropped off in the office.

We also need people to sign-up to decorate their vehicle and/or hand out candy. Call the church office or Rev. Doug Reedy if you are willing to help (910-739-4336).



Tickets are available NOW! Purchase them from any FBC Youth or in the church office.

There are many ways to view upcoming events at FBC Lumberton!

Paper options:

- Subscribe to our newsletter mailing.
- Check out our bulletin boards located at the 6th street entrance or near the rear entrance of the Sanctuary.

Online options:

- Subscribe to our email list.
- Check out our website: www.fbclumbertonnc.org
- Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistECM
- Follow us on Instagram: fbclumbertonne
- View Worship on YouTube: www.youtube.com/@lumbertonfbc



Coming up...

Oct. 21 — Community Café, hosted by Collins Sunday School Class.

Oct. 22 — Friends of Jesus Sunday

Oct. 23 — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Chapel. Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Oct. 23-28 — Joyful Travelers Trip to Kentucky

Oct. 25 — Trunk or Treat, 6 pm

Oct. 29 — All Saints Sunday

Nov. 1 — Quarterly Church Conference, 6 pm

Nov. 5 — Daylight Savings Time Ends ("fall back")

Nov. 6 — WMU meeting, 11:45 am, Act. Bld.

Nov. 7 — Election Day; Baptist Women's Bible Study Group, 11:45 am, Act. Bld.

Nov. 9 — Fun & Fellowship, 11 am, Act. Bld.

Nov. 11 — Veteran's Day

Nov. 12 — Senior Adult Sunday

Nov. 13 — Hanging of the Green greenery fund memorials/honorariums due. Forms will be available in the Oct. 12th edition of *First Baptist News*.

Nov. 14 — Carolina Opry Christmas Show Trip

Nov. 17 — BBO Sale

Nov. 18 — Community Café, hosted by Youth

Nov. 19 — Community Thanksgiving Service, hosted at FBC

Nov. 20 — Finance meeting at 5:45 pm in the Chapel. Deacons meeting at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

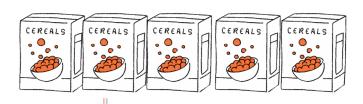
Nov. 23 — Thanksgiving! The offices and ECM will be closed Nov. 23 and 24.

Nov. 26 — Christ the King Sunday; Hanging of the Green Rehearsal that evening.

Two upcoming opportunities to help feed the needy of Robeson County!

We are still collecting peanut butter and cereal to be donated to Robeson County Church and Community Center.

If you are going to the fair, you can bring 10 cans of food on Thursday, October 5th for free entry!



First Sunday FOOD DRIVE Your donations support community ministries as we provide for the needs of the hungry in our area.

CURRENT NEEDS Cereal Peanut Butter













Servants this Sunday

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

9:30 Sunday School Entrance Greeters

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

10:30 Worship Entrance Greeters

Sanctuary Vestibule 10:00—11:30 am Brenda & James Britt

Security Monitor — Jerry Long

Nursery — Ashlynn Cox, Jenna Davis

Extended Session —

Contact Us

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

Kandace will be out of the office October 2-6, 2023 (Fall break/vacation).

Office Phone: 910-739-4336

Website: www.fbclumbertonnc.org

General Email: office@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

As an element of Worship, we invite you to light The Christ Candle. This invitation is open to all ages, individuals or families. The Christ Candle is lit at the beginning of Worship and stays burning through the service as a visual reminder of God's presence and light in our lives. Contact the Church Office or any of the ministers if you would like to light the candle.

Person of the Week

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

Sam E. Britt 1601 N Elm St. Lumberton, NC 28358



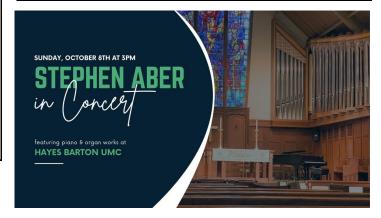
Give to First Baptist Church!

Here are some ways to donate to our ministry:

- Give during Sunday worship.
- Give through our secure online portal fbclumbertonnc.org/give
- Send us your contribution by mail:
 606 N. Walnut Street, Lumberton, NC 28358



• Text FBC606 to 73256 to give using your mobile device.



Attention Sanctuary Choir!

If you are interested in attending Stephen Aber's concert Sunday, October 8, 2023, please contact Rev. Tim Little or the church office. The concert will be held at Hayes Barton United Methodist Church in Raleigh at 3:00 pm, so we will need to leave after church to make it there on time.