

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, January 14

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Online

Monday, January 15

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting (Conf. Rm.)
- 6:30 p.m. Scouts Meeting

Tuesday, January 16

Youth returning from Ski Trip

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Group (Zoom)
- 9:00 a.m. Partnership for Children Teacher Training (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:45 p.m. Called Finance Committee Meeting (Chapel)
- 7:00 p.m. Pickleball (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, January 17

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

Thursday, January 18

- 7:00 p.m. Pickleball (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, January 20

- 10:30 a.m. Community Café (hosted at Asbury UMC)
- 2:00 p.m. Cape Cod trip meeting (Act. Bld.)

Preparing for Sunday, January 14, 2024 "Come and See" John 1:43-51 (NLT)



"His Master's Voice" advertisement by RCA
Original work by Francis Barraud
was titled "Dog Watching and Listening to a Phonograph"

Join us for Sunday School at 9:30 am
and for Worship in-person at 10:30 am
in the Sanctuary
or online on Facebook Live
facebook.com/firstbaptistlumbertonnc
or online on YouTube
youtube.com/c/lumbertonfbc/

SEEKING THE SACRED

Exploring how we determine the
holy places of our faith and practice

Wednesdays
Jan. 10-Feb. 7



Wednesday Nights Jan. 10 — Feb. 7, 2024

Rev. Josh Owens will be leading a series entitled "Seeking the Sacred." This series comes out of some of the reading and writing he has been doing for his dissertation research, and the focus will be on how we go about determining what has been and what could be sacred places for our spiritual lives. It will focus on defining the word "sacred," how we have historically determined places we deem sacred, and challenge us to imagine what could serve as holy places in our lives and church practice.

A Note from the Pastor's Desk *January 2024*

With a new year upon us, it is easy to look forward with excitement to what new opportunities lie ahead of us. However, it is also important to take stock of what we have already come through. In 2023, First Baptist Church Lumberton had an exciting year in so many ways. So, I thought I would use this month's newsletter entry to recount a list of some of the things that came to my mind as I reviewed this past year. Highlights include:



- We responded to water damage on the first floor of the Cockrell Children's Building by investing in **renovated and expanded facilities** for our Early Childhood Ministry to enhance early childhood education in our community.
- Countless **hours of service and ministry** were completed through various groups in the church (i.e. Youth Ministry with Wednesday "Youth on Mission," Women's Ministry Union (WMU) projects, Sunday School class-specific activities, as well as other individuals and groups).
- In March we celebrated **Baptist Women in Ministry Month of Advocacy**, with ordained women clergy in our church leading Wednesday Bible studies, and Rev. Lisa Rust preaching in worship.
- In September we held our **Mental Health for Today's Church** summit with 30+ attendees from our church, community, and other local organizations.
- Age group **worship celebrations** with Youth (March), Children (May), Friends of Jesus (October) and Senior Adults (November).
- Launched a **new "young adult" class** on Easter Sunday open to adults in various seasons of life from age 20"ish" to 40"ish". This group of approximately 15 has met on Sunday mornings, at participants' homes, held fellowship outings, and combined their efforts to serve others, such as blessing a local family's children with presents for Christmas.
- Multiple community-wide **fellowship meals** (Valentine Banquet, Shrove Tuesday supper, Palm Sunday luncheon, Friends of Jesus Softball game and cookout, end of Wednesday night cookout in May, fall ice cream kickoff, Christmas party breakfast with Friends of Jesus, kids Christmas program catered dinner).
- An **active Senior Adults** committee and group with many events on campus as well as various trips, including a week-long trip to Lancaster, PA & Amish Country in May.
- **Ecumenical worship gatherings** with fellow downtown Lumberton congregations including Holy Week services and the Community Thanksgiving service hosted here at FBC.
- A **summer of dynamic worship services** with various arrangements, formats, and locals! (Remember "in the round" and the chapel service)
- Our summer of **Living-Loving-Lumberton** with multiple Meet-n-Eats at local restaurants, social events, and recreational activities around our wonderful city.
- The **youth ministry engaged in highlight activities** such as a ski trip, wilderness trail hiking/camping trip, week-long camp at Passport Camps, music retreats, etc.
- **Arts in August** celebration of the many different artists and mediums represented in our faith community on display in the fellowship hall.
- Multiple **Book study groups** (June and December).
- A **busy Advent & Christmas season** with our annual Hanging of the Green service, various class & group parties, cantata, and our first-ever Spontaneous Nativity kid's program.

These are just a few things that I could recall to my mind, and I know there is so much more that could have been listed. We have a lot to celebrate and be thankful for in 2023, and also much to look forward to in 2024. So let us keep up the great work and continue living into our mission to be a "community of faith committed to living out the love of Christ by serving God and all people!"

In the Love of Christ,



Rev. Joshua K. Owens, *Senior Pastor*



From Our Associate Pastor

At the time of writing, my mind is 100% on the ski trip we leave for in a couple of days. I'm always somewhat nervous before major travels with the youth group. There are so many possibilities for unforeseen issues that it becomes impossible to have a plan for every conceivable scenario. Whatever the plan is, the only guarantee is that it will need to be adjusted.

Life is of course like that. Jesus knew how much time we spend obsessing about situations outside of our control, so he shared, *do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.** These are some of the most comforting words in all of scripture.

So the favor I'm asking you is simply to pray. Pray for safe travels. Pray for low drama. Pray for safe skiing. Pray that each youth and adult takes the time to look at a snowy mountain and reflect on the beauty and majesty our creator sets before us. Pray the time away is regenerative for all. Thank you in advance.

Grace & Peace,
Doug

**Matthew 6:34*



YOUTH January Gatherings

Jan. 3 - Ski Trip money and forms are due. Valentine Banquet practices begin in the Fellowship Hall at 6 pm.

Jan. 10 - Valentine Banquet practice

Jan. 12-16 - Ski Trip

Jan. 17 - Valentine Banquet practice

Jan. 21 - Valentine Banquet practice

Jan. 24 - Valentine Banquet practice & Passport deposits (\$100) are due.

Jan. 28 - Valentine Banquet practice

Jan. 31 - Valentine Banquet practice



PASSPORTmissions™

JUNE 29 – JULY 5, 2024

BEREA COLLEGE
BEREA, KENTUCKY

Trip will include a day at Busch Gardens

SPEND TIME IN BEAUTIFUL SURROUNDINGS
WHILE PARTICIPATING IN MISSIONS
OPPORTUNITIES!

COST: \$500.00
WITH \$100 DEPOSIT DUE 1/24/24

More info: Contact Rev. Doug Reedy
dougreedy@fbclumbertonnc.org
910-739-4336



Coming Up:

Jan. 22 — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Chapel. Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Jan. 24 — Quarterly Church Conference, 6 pm

Jan. 24 — Youth Passport Missions trip deposit (\$100) is due

Jan. 29 — Lunch and Learn, 12:00 noon, Please RSVP by Jan. 24th so we can plan the meal.

Jan. 29 — ECM in-house registration begins

Jan. 30 — Youth Committee Meeting, 6 pm

Feb. 5 — WMU Meeting, 11:45 am, Act. Bld.

Feb. 5-7 — ECM registration opens to FBC members not currently enrolled

Feb. 6 — Baptist Women's Meeting, 11:45 am, Act. Bld.

Feb. 8 — Fun & Fellowship, 11:00 am, Act. Bld.

Feb. 8 — ECM registration opens to public

Feb. 10 — Valentine Banquet, 5:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Feb. 14 — Ash Wednesday. An Ash Wednesday Service will be held at 6:00 pm in the Chapel.

Feb. 17 — Community Café (hosted by Sanctuary Choir)

Feb. 24 — Downtown Clean Sweep

Feb. 25 — Bingo, 4 pm, Act. Bld.

Feb. 26 — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Chapel. Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Quarterly Church Conference

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

6:00 p.m. in the Activities Building

For the Kids BIRTH - 5TH GRADE

Sundays—9:30 am Sunday School

(Room D-110 for ages 4-12)

Wednesdays—6:00 pm Music & Missions

Nursery care (birth-age 2) is available Sundays & Wednesdays in Room D-107.

Sundays — 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.

For Youth 6TH - 12TH GRADE

Sundays—9:30 am Sunday School

(Youth Hall, Room 203)

4:45 pm Music Rehearsals

Wednesdays—6:00 pm Youth Doing Missions





The Youth have been hard at work practicing and planning our this year's rad Valentine Banquet! Tickets are available now for \$10 each and are available in advance in the office until Sunday, February 4th. No shoulder pads or big hair are required! This event is open to all ages and along with the 80s program, a meal will be provided as well. Doors open at 5 pm on February 10th.



Finance Committee Meetings

Tuesday, January 16 & Monday, January 22
 both at 5:45 pm in the Chapel

Deacons Meeting

Monday, January 22 at 7:00 pm
 in the Fellowship Hall



FIRST BAPTIST EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRY

2024-2025 REGISTRATION

January 29 - February 2 - registration open to those currently enrolled & their siblings
 February 5 - 7 - registration open to First Baptist Church members
 February 8 - registration open to the public

\$115 non-refundable registration fee due at time of registration

The Early Childhood Ministry is an extension of First Baptist Church, seeking to lead children to grow physically, mentally, socially and spiritually in an atmosphere of Christian love and to work closely with the parents to develop the whole child.

For more about our program visit
fbclumbertonnc.org/ecm-daycare

Contact Michelle Prevatte or Paula Lewis
 910-738-6608
michelleprevatte@fbclumbertonnc.org

Worship with Us

606 N. Walnut Street
fbclumbertonnc.org

Sundays

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School

10:30 a.m.—Worship

In-person, Facebook Live, YouTube

Wednesdays

6:00 p.m.—Adult Bible Study,
Children's Activities, Youth Doing Missions

Person of the Week

Send a card, letter, or other remembrance to our very special person this week. He has a birthday today (January 11th)!

*Thinking
of you*

Tom Barker

1000 Wesley Pines Rd.
Lumberton, NC 28358

Servants this Sunday

Please enter for Worship at the Sanctuary.

9:30 Sunday School Entrance Greeters

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

Brenda and James Britt

ECM Entrance, 9:00 — 9:30 am (Handicap)

Sue O'Tuel

10:30 Worship Entrance Greeters

Sanctuary Vestibule 10:00—11:30 am

Tony and Becky Thompson

Security Monitor — John Underwood

Nursery — Ashlynn Cox, Jenna Davis

Extended Session — Pattie Ramsaur

Contact Us

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

Office Phone: 910-739-4336

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Rev. Tim Little — Minister of Music and Facilities;
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Mr. Len Power — Building Superintendent;
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Mrs. Kandace Ramsey — Administrative Assistant;
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Rev. Doug Reedy — Associate Pastor of Youth,
Young Adults and Missions;
dougreezy@fbclumbertonnc.org

Give to First Baptist Church!

Here are some ways to donate to our ministry:

- Give during Sunday worship.
- Give through our secure online portal at fbclumbertonnc.org/give.
- Scan the QR code:
- Send us your contribution by mail:
606 N. Walnut Street,
Lumberton, NC 28358
- Text FBC606 to 73256 to give using your mobile device.

