

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

Preparing for Sunday, May 5, 2024
 “An Indefatigable Joy”
 John 15:9-17 (NLT)



“Joy” by Ethereal Art by Jen

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/

Give to First Baptist Church!

Here are some ways to donate to our ministries:

- 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.*



GIVING

*Messages and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.



Coming up this week. . .

Sunday, May 5

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

Monday, May 6

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

Tuesday, May 7

- 7:00 a.m. Men’s Prayer Group (Zoom)
- 11:45 a.m. Baptist Women’s Bible Study (Act. Bld.)
- 4:30 p.m. Youth Study on Denominations (Conf. Rm.)
- 7:00 p.m. Pickleball (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, May 8

- 9:00 a.m. ECM STEM Program (Rain: Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study (Rm. D-113)
- Youth Doing Missions (Act. Bld)
- Children’s Missions & Music

Thursday, May 9

- 11:00 a.m. Fun & Fellowship (Act. Bld.)
- 4:00 p.m. Partnership for Children’s Teacher Appreciation Event (Fellowship Hall)

Friday, May 10

United Way’s Day of Caring

Saturday, May 11

- 10:00 a.m. Hispanic Ministry Bible Study (Act. Bld.)
- 3:00 p.m. Cape Cod trip meeting (Act. Bld.)

A Note from the Pastor's Desk May 2024



When I was a teenager, our Boy Scout troop was selling Krispy Kreme doughnuts as a fundraiser. Likely you have been on either the receiving end or the selling end of such an exchange. One Saturday morning, a few of us had set up outside the Kelly Springfield (now Goodyear) tire plant in Fayetteville where my father worked as a tire builder for almost 30 years. We were set up during shift change, aiming to catch the folks coming out who were tired from their hours of hard work, as well as those heading inside and hopefully in need of a sweet pick-me-up to start their shift. On this particular day, I happened to be wearing a t-shirt, produced by the Christian clothing company, Kerusso. Kerusso was known for taking popular slogans/brands and parodying them with Christian sayings or Bible verses. (*To be honest, they bordered on copyright infringement, as the multiple cases brought against them could attest but that's not the purpose of this article.*) The shirt I was wearing was a twist on the John Deere machinery company's iconic logo, and instead of the familiar leaping deer, it had a silhouette of Jesus carrying the cross. In place of the iconic "John Deere" font under it, was "John 3:16," adorned in the green and yellow colors of John Deere.

While wearing the shirt, and doing my best to sling doughnuts to hungry customers, a woman approached me to make a purchase. I noticed her reading my shirt. Then with a slightly confused look on her face, she raised her head and asked, "John 3:16... what's that mean." Initially, I was shocked someone actually didn't know what that was, but given the fact she had just put in a hard 12 hours, I think she was just genuinely confused by the design and writing. Still, I responded by saying, "It's a Bible verse."

That was it.

That was all I can remember saying... "It's a Bible verse." After she walked away with her dozen glazed rings of divine deliciousness, I realized, "Shoot, I just missed a chance to witness to that lady." To this day, I recall that encounter from time to time with some regret about how I responded. I also value it as a great learning opportunity of how NOT to engage folks when the opportunity presents itself.

I think I can speak for us all in saying our opinions on the importance of sharing the Good News of Jesus and the actuality of it occurring in our lives are not equal. Evangelizing, or telling others about God, has become a difficult thing to talk about at times in our churches, and we may look at some of the evangelistic practices of the last few decades and cringe (seriously, how effective can handing a complete stranger a Gospel tract and walking away really be?). Still, Christ has chosen us (John 15:16-17), sent us (John 20:21), and instructed us to go into the world and bear witness to the goodness of Jesus (Matthew 28:19-20). In the month of May, we will have conversations in Wednesday night adult Bible studies (May 1 & 8) and our Pentecost Sunday sermon (May 19) about how we can live out this biblical imperative faithfully in our world today. A way that respects our neighbors, but also presents a genuine invitation to come and see the goodness of Christ. Consider this me passing you by on the street and handing you a flyer asking you to come and see for yourself.

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*

A photograph of a person's hands holding a brown folder or envelope. The person is wearing a dark jacket. The background is a blurred outdoor scene. Overlaid on the right side of the image is a flyer with text.

The Evangelism Journey
The Problems & Possibilities of Sharing the Good News of Jesus
Wednesdays—May 1 & 8
6 pm
Room D-113

MILITARY APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

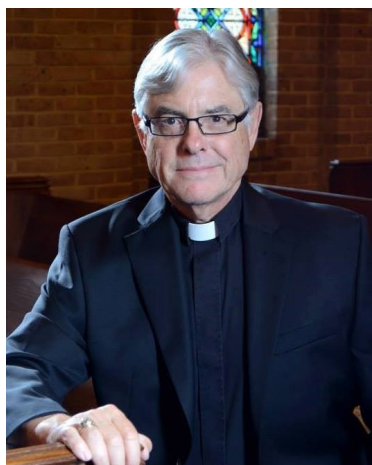
TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024
12 NOON



First Baptist Church
606 N. Walnut Street
Lumberton, NC 28358
910-739-4336



Are you currently serving or have you served in the military? We would love for you to join us at our Military Appreciation Luncheon on Tuesday, May 14th! We are excited to announce that we will have a special guest speaker Gene Wayman from Trinity Episcopal. A complimentary meal will be provided for all attendees. Please RSVP by Friday, May 10th by registering online by scanning the QR code on the flyer or by contacting the church office at 910-739-4336 or office@fbclumbertonnc.org. We look forward to having you with us!



We welcome Colonel Eugene O. Wayman, USAF (Ret.) as our guest speaker!

Col Eugene Wayman is the rector at Trinity Episcopal Church in Lumberton, North

Carolina. He has served in this parish for 12 years. Col Wayman was born in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1949. He holds a bachelor of arts degree from Baylor University, a master of public administration degree from the University of Oklahoma, and a master of divinity degree from the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest. From January 1972 until January 1998 he served as an officer in the United States Air Force. Upon reporting for active duty, he was assigned as a missile launch officer and became responsible for a launch crew in the Titan II nuclear missile weapon system. After serving five years as a nuclear missile launch officer, he transferred to the logistics career field where he spent the rest of his Air Force career. During this time he served as a unit commander in six assignments and spent five years overseas. Upon his retirement from the Air Force he attended the Episcopal Seminary and was ordained in July of 2004. He subsequently served as pastor in two congregations and completed a residency as a hospital chaplain. He has served in his current position since 2012.

cbf

General Assembly
Greensboro, NC
June 19-21



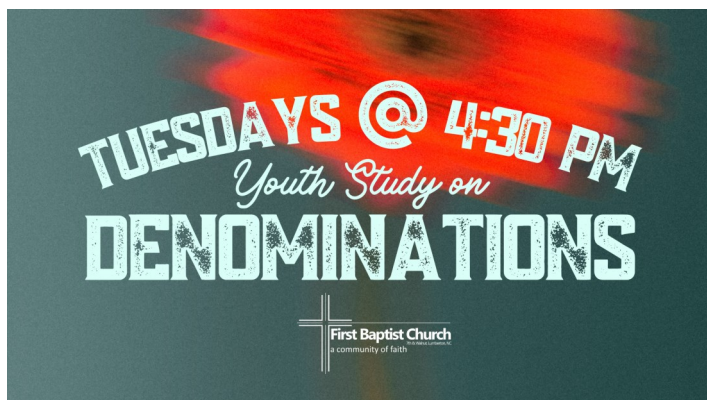
You're invited to join us in Greensboro, N.C. for the 2024 CBF General Assembly as we come together at the Sheraton Greensboro at Four Seasons/Koury Convention Center for learning, worship, inspiration and fellowship! To register, visit <https://cbf.net/general-assembly>.

This summer at General Assembly, we will re:imagine as we live out our faith through our unique Baptist identity and are ever being transformed through the Holy Spirit. Together, we'll consider transformation through imagination – our own and that of the Holy Spirit moving through us as a community. With the idea of re:, we're exploring the idea of "regarding imagination" as well as the transforming quality of re-imagining – revising, reinvigorating, reenergizing, and renewing.



As the school year comes to a close, we are planning our Grad Sunday baccalaureate service to be held Sunday, June 2nd. If you or a family member will be graduating from high school or college or has recently graduated, please let us know so we can celebrate his or her in this important milestone.

Scholarship applications are available in the church office! All applications must be submitted by May 31, 2024. For more information, contact the church office (910-739-4336) or Rev. Doug Reedy (dougreedy@fbclumbertonnc.org).



On Tuesdays at 4:30 pm we will have a series on a study of denominations as requested by the Youth. This is designed for serious students only, but all youth ages are welcome to attend. We plan to use the conference room to meet, but we may be doing some field trips as well.

Meeting dates:
April 30, May 7, May 14, May 21, and May 28.

Passport Missions Trip final payment is due Wednesday, May 22.

From our Associate Pastor

When we recently set up a new designated line item for giving, specifically for security, we broke with tradition and emphasized it in our newsletter. Your response was quite generous. That line item is now well established.

It is always best to give your tithe to our general budget, but several of you give beyond that. You give to specific needs that are close to your heart, such as our Friends of Jesus ministry. With that in mind, we have decided to focus on various non-budgeted line items that are important to the mission of First Baptist Church.

In May, that focus is on Community Café. In Matthew 25, Jesus tells us that when we are feeding the hungry we are feeding Christ himself. He also teaches that when we ignore the hungry, we ignore him.

Lumberton Christian Care is a local non-profit that strives to live out Matthew 25. We often locally refer to LCC as “the soup kitchen”, but they also offer temporary housing and clothes. Years ago, when I was still on their Board, LCC reached out to local churches to take one Saturday each month to provide lunch to those in need.

First Baptist quickly responded. We have an unbroken streak of feeding roughly 50-60 meals each third Saturday of every month for many years. This is possible due to two things: Volunteers such as our choir, youth, Sunday School classes, and individuals giving up a few hours on a Saturday a couple of times per year, and through contributions from our membership.

Community Café funds are a little low currently. If you would like to label a donation for this cause, it is always appreciated. If you and/or your class or small group are willing to take a Saturday to serve, that is also wonderful.

Meanwhile, keep an eye out each month as we concentrate on worthy designated giving ideas. Your time, talents, and generosity help us live out Jesus’ commands and fulfill our role in the Kingdom of God.

Grace & Peace,
Doug





Coming up on Sunday, May 12th:
 Mother's Day
 Children's Sunday
 Parent-Child Dedication

If your child would like to participate, please contact Doug Reedy (dougreedy@fbclumbertonnc.org).



We need volunteers to help with set up and with serving food for the softball game and cookout! Contact any of our Pastors or Hoss & Judith Watts if you can lead a hand.

Instead of going to Happiness Retreat this summer, our Friends of Jesus class will have a couple of Fun Days. The class is planning to have fun activities such as games and activities in the Activities Building, lunch, and a bowling trip. The class is seeking some extra helpers on these dates:

Sunday, June 9th 11:00 am—2:00 pm
This group has more mobility needs, so they will do more indoor games and activities, then go bowling.

Sunday, June 30th 10:30 am—2:00 pm
This group will do mostly outdoor games and activities and then go bowling.

Coming Up:

Rev. Josh Owens will be out of the office May 6-8.

Tuesdays Apr. 30-May 28 — Youth Study on Denominations, 4:30 pm

May 12 — Mother's Day

May 12 — Children's Sunday & Parent-Child Dedication

May 13 — Worship Committee Meeting, 6 pm

May 14 — Military Appreciation Luncheon, 12 noon, Fellowship Hall

May 14 — Stephen Aber Concert at Duke Chapel, 6 pm.

May 15 — Friends of Jesus Softball Game and Year-end Church Cook-out, 5 pm, Godwin Heights Park. This will be our last Wednesday night gathering until Sept. 4th.

May 16 — NC Child Meeting & Lunch, Fellowship Hall

May 18 — Downtown Clean Sweep

May 18 — Community Café (hosted by Baptist Women's Bible Study Group)

May 19 — Pentecost Sunday. We invite you to wear red on Pentecost.

May 20 — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Chapel.

Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

May 21-24 — Rev. Josh Owens will be out of the office.

May 22 — Youth Passport Missions trip final payments due

May 24 — Last day of school for SeA Students

May 27 — Memorial Day. The ECM and offices are closed.

May 28-31 — Kandace will be working from home

May 31 — Scholarship Applications due

June 2 — Grad Sunday

June 2-8 — Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, Plymouth Trip

June 6 — NC PreK Graduation Program, 10 am, Fellowship Hall

June 7 — Last day of school for PSRC Students

June 9 — Friends of Jesus Fun Day

June 9 — Sunday worship services will be held in the Fellowship Hall for the summer months.

June 15 — Community Café, hosted by Colin & Glenda Osborne (helpers needed)

June 16 — Father's Day

June 19-21 — CBF General Assembly in Greensboro. Rev. Josh Owens will be out of the office to attend.

June 23-24 — Older Youth Rafting Trip

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

June 29-July 5 — Youth Passport Missions

June 30 — Friends of Jesus Fun Day

Sunday Worship service will be held at 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall June 9 to September 1.



First Sunday Food Drive—May 5th

While we primarily collect canned goods on the first

Sunday of each month, we will accept them any

Sunday! Donations are sent to Robeson County Church and Community Center and/or Lumberton Christian Care. After speaking with RCCC, they are still in need of dry goods such as cereal and peanut butter, which we have collected for them previously.

Both of these items are enjoyed by all ages. Other donation suggestions include pop-top can goods, canned meats, and dry goods. Items donated should be in-date and in their original packaging. Bring your donations and place them in the collection bins located around the church or bring them to the office. Thank you for helping feed the hungry of our community!

Hosts for Community Café

On the third Saturday of each month, we host Community Café. This is a program offered through downtown churches to help feed the hungry in our community. If your Sunday School class, small group, or group of friends are willing to host in 2024, please contact Rev. Doug Reedy or the church office.

Thank you to those who have already signed up!

May — Baptist Women's Group
June — Colin & Glenda Osborne
Sept. — at Asbury UMC
(118 Orange Street)



LUNCH & LEARN MAY 8 AT 12 NOON FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

We kindly request your RSVP by May 3rd. We are thrilled to have Cindy Collins Walters from the library presenting a program called "The Last Folder."
We hope you can make it!

A meal will be provided by First Presbyterian. Let us know you are going by signing up on the bulletin board by Room D-113 or call the FBC office at 910-739-4336. Please RSVP by May 3rd so we can give a headcount to First Presbyterian.



United Way's 22nd Annual Day of Caring is May 10th!

To register, visit
<https://www.lumberriveruw.org/day-caring>.

We would love to have First Baptist represented in these service projects and encourage you to sign up for a project as individuals, a family, or as a small group. To register, visit
<https://www.lumberriveruw.org/day-caring>.

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)

Jimmy & Billie Dail

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

Barbara Andrews

10:30 Worship Entrance Greeters

Sanctuary Vestibule 10:00—11:30 am

Shirley Hickman

Nursery — Ashlynn Cox, Jenna Davis

Extended Session — Brooke Blackmon, Kim Gore

Current Opportunities to Serve

- Provide child care in the Nursery or during Extended Session for families
- Show your talents with technology, sound, or video elements used during Worship or at special events
- Participate in Worship Elements, such as reading scripture, saying a prayer, or by lighting the Christ Candle
- Help count and report contributions as a Money Counter
- Sign up to help during community outreach events, such as for Community Café
- Volunteer to help in the Friends of Jesus Ministry

If you are willing to serve in these or other ways, contact any of our Pastors or the church office.



Stephen Aber in Concert Tuesday, May 14th, 6pm

Join Stephen in Duke Chapel for a concert on the magnificent Aeolian

Stephen Aber in Concert

Tuesday, May 14

6 pm

Departure: 3 pm from FBC

The concert is free and open to the public. Please RSVP to Rev. Tim Little or call the church office.

People of the Week

Send a card, letter, or other remembrance to our very special people this week. Both were baptized on Sunday, April 28.

Faith Harrelson
12 Albion Street
Lumberton, NC 28358

Samantha Myers
318 Eaglewood Loop
Lumberton, NC 28358



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.

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

Contact Us

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

Now that the school year is wrapping up, office
staff and ministers will be in-and-out of the office
to attend kid's events, award ceremonies, and
other family-related activities. While we may not
be in the office, we are still available by cell,
text, or email.

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;
jshowens@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

For Youth 6TH - 12TH GRADE

Sundays—

9:30 am Sunday School

Sunday night Music Rehearsals & Youth
Bible Study will resume this Fall.

Wednesdays—

6:00 pm Youth Doing Missions