

First Baptist News

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



Gather with us for

Worship at Wesley Pines

August 4, 2024

10:30 am

We will observe the Ordinance of Communion.
A Covered Dish Lunch will follow the service.

We are looking forward to a time of worship and fellowship with our members who are at Wesley Pines! Worship will be held in the chapel at Wesley Pines at 10:30 am on Sunday, August 4th. We will observe the Ordinance of Communion and a covered dish lunch will follow Worship. Bring your favorite dish to share. The facility has asked us to park behind McMillian center (large lot) instead of in the small lot at the entrance of the building. Signs will be up and folks will direct you where to go.

Check with your Sunday School teacher about the meeting place and time for your class this Sunday. There will be no Sunday School at the church this Sunday. Another option would be to plan to spend time with members who may be at Wesley Pines prior to the service.

Preparing for Sunday, August 4, 2024
 “Unity from Maturity”
 Ephesians 4:1-16 (NLT)



“La Ronde de la Jeunesse (The Youth Circle)” by Pablo Picasso, 1961

Coming up this week. . .

Sunday, August 4

10:30 a.m. **Worship (at Wesley Pines)**

We will observe the Ordinance of Communion during Worship. A covered dish lunch will follow.

Monday, August 5

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

Tuesday, August 6

7:00 a.m. **Men’s Prayer Group (Zoom)**
 11:00 a.m. **Senior Adult Committee Meeting (Conf. Rm.)**

Wednesday, August 7

5:30 p.m. **Children’s Committee Meeting**
 7:00 p.m. **Pickleball (Fellowship Hall)**

Saturday, August 10

3:00 p.m. **Hispanic Ministry Bible Study (Act. Bld.)**

A Note from the Pastor's Desk August 2024



Unless you are living under a rock, then you know that the summer of 2024 has brought with it the Summer Olympic Games from Paris, France. Officially known as the “Games of the XXXIII Olympiad”, the global event has brought together over 10,500 athletes from 203 National Olympic Committees (countries and territories) to compete across 32 sports in 329 events all occurring in roughly sixteen days. It is quite a logistical spectacle and takes years of planning to prepare for its successful execution. While I have never been to an Olympic Games, (although it is very high on my bucket list and I am strongly considering making a venture out to Los Angeles in 2028), I have been to the site of where the first modern Olympic Games were held in Athens, Greece (see picture below of me standing at historic Panathenaic Stadium). It is amazing to have seen the humble beginnings of the Olympics to the large spectacle that they are today. I mean an opening ceremony that spans the length of the Seine River? Holy cow!

As an athlete, I have always been fascinated by the Olympic games, with my earliest significant memories being those of the 1996 games in nearby Atlanta. Of course, I love the athletic competitions, but I also love the stories of these amazing competitors we get introduced to over the course of a couple of weeks. Many of them are involved in competitions that don't normally fall under the spotlight of our daily headlines. Many of them have overcome various adversities to reach what is the pinnacle of their respective sports. I also love the camaraderie shared by many of the athletes. There are frequent video shots of athletes from differing countries congratulating their competitors for a job well done, contests where the final is decided by two participants of the same nation (for example the 2024 women's fencing final that featured two USA participants), or dramatic examples of sportsmanship such as the story from the 2020-delayed Tokyo games. In that instance, two high jumpers, Gianmarco Tamberi of Italy and Mutaz Barshim of Qatar, agreed to share a gold medal rather than having a “jump-off” to settle the tie. These little nods of sportsmanship, human decency, and unity to a large ideal can be inspiring.

The games also offer an opportunity to show pride in our respective homelands, while also having the chance to learn and engage with folks from other nations. It really is one of the few events that brings together folks from every corner of the globe at one time. Boy, as much as I love the Olympics, I really wish that the prior sentence was written about the Global Church rather than a global athletic competition, don't you? While the Games offer the potential of medals and global recognition, I would like to think that the Church has something far greater to offer, like the hope found in God, the sacrificial love of Jesus, and the power of the Spirit.

We attest that one day, the whole world will come to know the power of God, as the Lord's Divine plans for humanity and creation will be fulfilled. Until that day happens, however, the task for those who follow in the way of Jesus of Nazareth is to point to what that future day, that coming Kingdom, will be like. We remind ourselves, or at least we should be reminding ourselves, of that when we pray the common refrain in the Lord's Prayer, “...on earth as it is in heaven.” Jesus too prayed that his followers would be a people who could bring the world together for a greater, eternal purpose.

continued, next page

While in the Garden of Gethsemane on the night he would be arrested, Jesus prayed to God saying, "I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me" (John 17:20-21).

While bringing the whole world together may seem like a tall task, the quadrennial event of the Olympic Games provides a small taste of what that kind of coming together can look like. So until the final buzzer, or rather trumpet, of this life sounds, may we be a people who actively seek to embody both "The Lord's Prayer" as well as the prayer of our Lord (John 17), and be a people of unity, so that the whole world may believe the Christ we know and serve!

In the Love of Christ,



Rev. Joshua K. Owens, Senior Pastor



(The Panathenaic Stadium, Summer 2014)

 **First Baptist Church**
a community of faith

Grief Support Group

Engaging Feelings of Loss and Pain

Thursdays in September (Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26)
10 - 11:30 am
Activities Building
lead by Rev. Bonnie Reedy

This group is designed for anyone who is dealing with loss or grief of any kind not just of a loved one, but maybe a job, sense of independence, friendships, etc.

Registration Required
Call 739-4336



We are excited to announce that we are planning to hold a grief support group in the month of September. Rev. Bonnie Reedy will lead and facilitate the group. There is no cost and is open to anyone who would like to attend. This group is designed for anyone dealing with loss or grief of any kind. Please register for the group by contacting the church office or any of the Pastors.

WORSHIP

Sundays, Aug. 25

JONES LAKE

11 AM



We'll gather for Worship at 11 am under the big shelter, followed by a picnic lunch of hamburgers and hotdogs. Bring your favorite dessert to share!

Under the big shelter

ADDRESS

4117 NC Hwy 242 N,
Elizabethtown, NC 28337



From Our Associate Pastor

As I'm writing this, it's the day before we depart on the music retreat and the currently rain is pouring. While this definitely not been a particularly wet summer, water does seem to be the theme for our youth group lately. Our first trip this summer was whitewater rafting and the theme for Passport missions this year was, you guessed it, "water."

Water is necessary for life. Not only in the physical sense, but also spiritually. Jesus provides us living water. Water washes clean physically and the baptismal waters wash up spiritually. That's why I would say the highlight of my summer has been baptizing two of our youth and a youth parent, with two more scheduled soon.

We, not just us but most congregations, don't celebrate baptisms as much as we should. When someone makes a profession of faith in Christ and dedicates their life to him, we should be filled with joy. When they take the correct first step on their Christian journey through baptism, we should be elated!

We do an amazing job as a society celebrating marriage, but not as much effort into honoring baptisms. This is just an observation, not a criticism. We do make the day special and that's key. I know many of you send encouraging cards and letters to the newly baptized, and it is appreciated.

Now, on a completely different and personal note, please pray for our family as Kaitlyn begins her time at the North Carolina School for Science and Math (NCSSM) in roughly a week after you read this. We are all excited and nervous and every other mixed emotion you can imagine. We are always grateful for your love and support.

Grace & Peace,
Doug

DEACON NOMINATIONS

The Deacons of First Baptist serve in two major capacities: administrative and ministerial. As an administrative body, they help lead and guide our congregation. As a ministerial body, they participate in the care of our congregation through the deacon care team plan, building relationships with and offering support to our church family.

During the month of August, please prayerfully consider your nominations for deacon, and complete a nomination form no later than August 31, 2024. You may nominate as many as you would like and turn in as many nominations as you would like during the month of August. (There is no need to nominate the same person more than once.)

In accordance with our bylaws, those eligible must be at least 21 years of age and resident members of First Baptist Church for at least one year. Nominees will be reviewed for eligibility according to the bylaws of First Baptist Church. Eligible nominees will be contacted by the elections committee to assure their willingness to serve if elected.

Deacon Election will take place the 1st Sunday of October 2024.

A nomination form is available on the back of this newsletter, but will also be with the Order of Worship during August, and in the church office. You may drop off forms in the church office, fax (739-7858), e-mail (office@fbclumbertonnc.org), or mail (606 N. Walnut St., Lumberton, NC 28358).

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.

During the month of July, \$108.00 was given to Youth Mission Memorial, our Special Designated Fund Focus for the month.

ROBESON COUNTY CHURCH & COMMUNITY CENTER
SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE
ROBESON COUNTY CHURCH & COMMUNITY CENTER
600 W. 5TH ST. LUMBERTON, NC

ITEMS NEEDED

CRAYONS	TISSUE PACKS
COLOR PENCILS	HIGHLIGHTERS
PENCILS	GLUE
MARKERS	COMPOSITION BOOKS
ERASERS	BOOK BAGS
WIDE-RULED PAPER	HAND SANITIZER

DONATE THROUGH AUGUST 4TH

SCAN THE QR CODE TO HELP FULFILL OUR AMAZON WISHLIST!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO DONATE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE!

First Baptist Church
a community of faith

DURING AUGUST, GIVE TO MUSIC MEMORIAL

ECM New Year Begins August 29th!

We can't believe that August is already here! The summer has passed so quickly and we will be welcoming new friends to our center in a few short weeks. The center will be closed Friday, August 23 for our staff development day and Open House. Open House will be held from 1 to 3 pm so students can meet their new teachers. The first day of our new school year is Monday, August 29th. Please be in prayer for our staff, parents, and students as we prepare for the 2024-2025 school year!

We are also accepting applications for childcare teacher and NC Pre-K lead teacher positions. Contact Michelle Prevatte, ECM Director, at 910-738-6608 or visit the ECM office.

It's time for Robeson County Church & Community Center's annual school supply drive, taking place now through August 4th! Items from this year's drive will be distributed across the county to K-4 students of Robeson County. Suggested items are listed on the flyer above. Alternatively, they have an Amazon wish list you can use to shop online. Monetary donations are also accepted. If you have questions, contact RCCCC at 910-738-5204 or email info@robesonstogether.org.

School Supply Drop-Off Locations

ROBESON COUNTY CHURCH & COMMUNITY CENTER
600 W. 5TH ST. LUMBERTON, NC

WESLEY PINES RETIREMENT COMMUNITY
1000 WESLEY PINES RD, LUMBERTON, NC

ST. MARKS LUTHERAN CHURCH
202 W 24TH ST, LUMBERTON, NC

PET SENSE
4327 FAYETTEVILLE RD, LUMBERTON, NC

DOMINOS
588 BAILEY RD STE A, LUMBERTON, NC

CHESTNUT METHODIST CHURCH
200 E 8TH ST, LUMBERTON, NC

Coming Up:

- Aug. 10-13** — Rev. Josh Owens & family on vacation
- Aug. 11** — Rev. Doug Reedy will be preaching. We will have baptisms during Worship.
- Aug. 13** — SeA's first day of school
- Aug. 17** — Community Café, hosted by Youth
- Aug. 20** — Partnership for Children using Fellowship Hall for training, 8:30 am—3 pm.
- Aug. 20** — Youth Committee Meeting, 6 pm
- Aug. 23** — The ECM will be closed for a teacher work day. Open House will take place 1-3 pm.
- Aug. 25** — Worship will be held at Jones Lake State Park at 11:00 am. A picnic lunch will follow.
- Aug. 26** — The ECM's 24-25 Year Begins
- Aug. 26** — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Chapel. Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- Aug. 27** — Senior Adult trip to Greg Rowles Legacy Theatre, Myrtle Beach
- Aug. 29** — PSRC's first day of school

Grief Support Group will meet Thursdays in September 10-11:30 am in the Activities Building.

- Sept. 2** — Labor Day. The church offices and ECM will be closed.
- Sept. 3** — Baptist Women's Bible Study Group resumes meeting, 11:45 am, Activities Building. They will meet the 1st Tuesday of each month.
- Sept. 4** — Church Fall Kick-off, 6 pm
- Sept. 5** — Final payment due for the Snr. Ad. trip to Nashville
- Sept. 8** — Youth Bells resumes rehearsals at 4:45 pm. Youth Bible Study follows at 6 pm.
- Sept. 10** — Youth Council meeting, 4:30 pm
- Sept. 11** — Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study, Youth Doing Missions, and Children's Activities resume meeting, 6 pm.
- Sept. 12** — Fun & Fellowship resumes meeting, 11 am, Activities Building. They will meet the 2nd Thursday of each month.
- Sept. 15** — Children's Bible Presentation
- Sept. 16** — WMU resumes meeting, 11:45 am, Activities Building. WMU will meet the 3rd Monday of each month.
- Sept. 21** — Community Café, hosted at Asbury Methodist
- Sept. 22** — Friends of Jesus Sunday (tentative)
- Sept. 23** — Lunch & Learn (tentative)

Person of the Week

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

Mickey Johnson
c/o GlenFlora
5701 Fayetteville Road
Lumberton, NC 28360

*Thinking
of you*

Our Meet n Eat scheduled for August 6th at Thomas' Pizza has been cancelled. They are closed for vacation until August 22nd.



First Sunday Food Drive moved to August 11th

Since we will be gathering at Wesley Pines on the first Sunday in August, we have moved our Food Drive to August 11th! As you are out shopping over the next couple of weeks, pick up an extra item to donate to community food pantries. 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!

If you are not able to bring your donations on Sunday, we will accept them in the church office during the work week or on the next Sunday you are able to attend.

Donation suggestions:

Cereal, peanut butter, pop-top canned goods, canned meats, pasta and pasta sauce, juice.

Rev. Josh Owens and family will be going on vacation August 10-13. He will be accessible by cell phone and Rev. Tim and Rev. Doug will be available as well.

Coming up for Senior Adults (folks age 55 and older)

Call the church office to register for these upcoming trips!



Senior Adult Trip to
**GREG
ROWLES
LEGACY
THEATRE**
Tuesday, August 27
\$60 per person
Trip is now full
a waitlist has been started

Join us for a wonderful trip to the Greg Rowles Legacy Theatre in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina on Tuesday, August 27th! The cost of the trip is \$60 per person, and we have a limited number of tickets available. Show time is 7 pm. We will plan to depart the church around 3 pm so we will have to get supper before the show. We would love for you to come along and enjoy a fantastic day out with us!

Southern Supreme
FRUITCAKE
& more

We invite you to join us on a fun trip to Southern Supreme Fruitcake in Bear Creek, NC on Friday, October 4, 2024. This trip is free of charge, but please bring some money for shopping. If you'd like to learn more about Southern Supreme, you can visit their website at www.southern supreme.com. We hope to see you there!



A Senior Adult Trip to
**Alabama Theatre's
Christmas Show**
Tuesday, November 5, 2024
1:30 pm Showtime
\$70 per person
includes show admission
& dinner at Longhorn Steakhouse
Sign up by calling the
church office
(910-739-4336)

First Baptist Church
a community of faith

Join us for a senior adult trip to the Alabama Theatre's Christmas Show on Tuesday, November 5th. The show starts at 1:30 pm followed by a delicious dinner at Longhorn Steak House at 4:30 pm. The cost is \$70. This includes both the show and dinner.



Joyful Travelers
Senior Adult Trip to
**NASHVILLE
& SURROUNDING AREAS**

The Senior Adult trip to Nashville and surrounding areas is now full, but you can be added to our wait list! The trip is October 21-25, 2024 and is \$995 per person based on double occupancy. Contact Phyllis Gibson, trip coordinator, if you have questions at 734-3553. Final payment for the trip is due Sept. 5th.

Senior adults are organizing a trip to the Southern Vintage Market in Benson, North Carolina on Saturday, November 23rd. The trip is free, but please bring money for shopping. For additional details about the market, you can visit this website: <https://www.johnstoncountync.org/event/the-southern-vintage-market%3A-christmas-market-in-the-grove/11288/>

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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

**Wednesday Night Gatherings
will resume meeting in
September**

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Contact Us

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

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

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 this year, please contact Rev. Doug Reedy or the church office.

Hosts are needed for Oct. 19 and Dec. 21, 2024. Other dates available in 2025 as well.

Deacon Nomination

The Deacons of First Baptist serve in two major capacities: administrative and ministerial. As an administrative body, they help lead and guide our congregation. As a ministerial body, they participate in the care of our congregation through the deacon care team plan, building relationships with and offering support to our church family. Please prayerfully consider your nominations for deacon, write their names below, and return to the church no later than August 31, 2024. You may nominate as many as you would like and turn in as many nominations as you would like during the month of August. (There is no need to nominate the same person more than once.) In accordance with our bylaws, those eligible must be at least 21 years of age and resident members of First Baptist Church for at least one year.

Listed below are the names of persons elected in 2018-2023 as Deacons of this church. Do not nominate any of these persons. They are ineligible for re-election at this time.

Barbara Andrews (2026)
Danny Cook (2024)
Bruce Davis (2025)
William Davis (2026)
Judy Driscoll (2024)
James Gore (2027)
Betty Graham (2024)
Drina Hedgpeth (2025)

James W. Lawson (2026)
Jerry Long (2023)
Katherine Martin (2024)
Regg McIntyre (2023)
Malcolm McLean (2023)
Summer Pittman (2024)
Eddie Prevatte (2025)
Ron Smith (2023)

Jeanne Stevens (2025)
Christy Strickland (2026)
Johnny Strickland (2023)
Tony Thompson (2027)
John Underwood (2027)
Nancy Wagner (2024)
Chris Walters (2027)
Heather Walters (2023)

Nominees will be reviewed for eligibility according to the bylaws of First Baptist Church. Eligible nominees will be contacted by the elections committee to assure their willingness to serve if elected. Deacon Election will take place the 1st Sunday of October 2024. You may drop off forms in the church office, fax (739-7858), e-mail (office@fbclumbertonnc.org), or mail (606 N. Walnut St., Lumberton, NC 28358).