

# 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, September 29, 2024  
 “A Faith-Informed Life: One of Many”  
 James 5:13-20 (NLT)

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](https://facebook.com/firstbaptistlumbertonnc)  
 or online on YouTube  
[youtube.com/c/lumbertonfbc/](https://youtube.com/c/lumbertonfbc/)



“Praying Hands” by Albrecht Durer, 1508, pen and ink on blue paper

## Coming up this week. . .

### Sunday, September 29

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship (in the Sanctuary)
- 10:30 a.m. Worship (online)

***Deacon Election Absentee Voting***  
***Monday, September 30—Thursday, October 3***  
***1:00—3:00 pm (Other times by appointment)***

### Monday, September 30

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting (Conf. Rm.)
- 5-8:30 p.m. ECM Nutrition Training  
 (Fellowship Hall)

### Tuesday, October 1

- 7:00 a.m. Men’s Prayer Group (Zoom)
- 11:45 a.m. Baptist Women’s Bible Study  
 (Act. Bld.)

### Wednesday, October 2

- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study (Rm. D-113)  
 Youth Doing Missions (Act. Bld.)  
 Children’s Missions & Music
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, October 3

Robeson County Fair’s Canned Food Drive  
 Bring 10 cans of in-date food and get free admission

### Friday, October 4

Senior Adult Trip to Southern Supreme  
 Fruitcake Factory

### Saturday, October 5

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

## Coming Up Sunday, October 6...

- World Communion Sunday: We’ll observe the Ordinance of Communion via intinction during Worship.
- A Called Church Conference will take place immediately following Worship for the purpose of Deacon Election.
- Children’s Fall Festival begins at 4:00 pm on the playground.





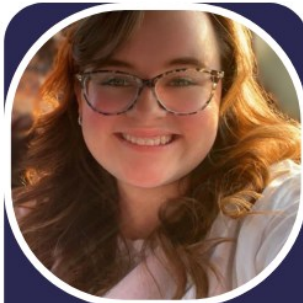
**A Called Church Conference will take place immediately following Worship on Sunday, October 6, 2024 for the purpose of Deacon Election. Four (4) Deacons will be elected to serve the term 2025-2028.**

**Absentee voting is available Monday, Sept. 30 through Thursday, Oct. 3 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Other times by appointment only.**

**910-739-4336**

## Deacon Nominees

# 2024



**Sandra K. Cox**

Joined FBCL in 2010  
Teacher at Allenton Head Start; Student at Campbell University Divinity School

Positions held at FBC: Worship Committee, Youth Committee, Sanctuary Choir, Worship Ensemble, Nominating Committee, Youth Group Volunteer, Occasionally preaches

Family: Tyler Pittman (fiancé), Ashlynn Cox (sister), Dawn Cox (mother)



**Phyllis W. Gibson**

Joined FBCL in 1978  
Retired

Positions held at FBC: Deacon, Sanctuary Choir, Finance Committee, Adult and Youth Bells, Children's Choir, Hospitality Committee, Chair Senior Adult Committee, RA's, Youth Mission Trips, Money Counter

Family: Greg & Amy Gibson; Wyatt, Anthony, Joshua, Samuel.



**Gail S. Johnson**

Joined FBCL as a teen and rejoined in 2023  
Retired

Positions held at FBC: Children's SS Teacher, Choir, GA's, Acteens, Youth Committee, Youth Mission Trips, Scouts, WMU Director, Senior Adult Committee

Family: Johnnie Johnson (deceased); Marcia & Calvin Floyd, Amy & Steve West, Robby & Vanessa Freeman, and 7 grandchildren

## Deacon Nominees

# 2024



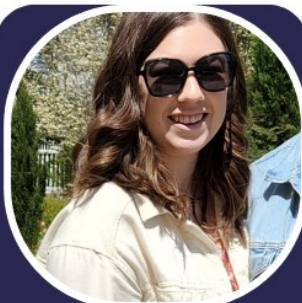
**Lisa R. Johnson**

Joined FBCL in 1975, rejoined in 2018  
Retired Veterinary Nurse

Positions held at FBC: Choir, Senior Adult Committee, Hospitality Committee, Committee on Committees

Volunteers at Lumberton Christian Care's Board of Directors

Family: Kenneth Johnson (Deceased)



**Anna F. Marcheterre**

Joined FBCL in 2007  
Accountant/Deposit Operations Clerk

Positions held at FBC: Children's Committee

Family: Alec (Husband), Aubrey (daughter)



**David Ramsaur**

Joined FBCL in 1970  
Attorney at Law

Positions held at FBC: Deacon Chair, Sunday School Director, Endowment Trustee, Communion Committee, Bylaws Committee, Benevolence Committee, Fellowship Class Teacher, Sanctuary Choir, Pastor Search Committee, Sesquicentennial Committee

Family: Pattie (wife); Johnson & Elizabeth (adult children)



# Trunk or Treat! Community Event

We are excited for our Trunk or Treat community event on Wednesday, October 30th! 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 the last few years. 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).

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a community of faith

First Baptist Church of Lumberton's

# Trunk or Treat

Wednesday, October 30  
6 pm

6th Street Parking Lot

Don't forget your candy bucket & costume!

**Everyone is invited!**

It's time to plan kids camp for 2025! We have a list of interest for the PassportKIDS summer camp, which is for students who have completed 3rd - 6th grades. There are two options we are looking at either Lynchburg, VA or Summerton, SC. Please let us know if you are interested and which camp dates you prefer by scanning this QR code.



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FBCL'S CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

# FALL FESTIVAL

Sunday, October 6 | 4 pm

*on the playground*

Games - Food - Pie Your Pastor  
Face Painting - Pumpkins

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
606 N. Walnut Street  
Lumberton, NC 28358

The Children's Committee is busy planning a Fall Festival event to be held Sunday, October 6 starting at 4 pm on the grassy area of the playground. A lot of fun games are in the works, including a Pie Your Pastor booth! We need help with the face painting station, so if you are willing to help with this, please contact Anna Marcheterre, Lauren Cook, or the church office.



FOJ would like to express our heartfelt appreciation for all the love, support, and

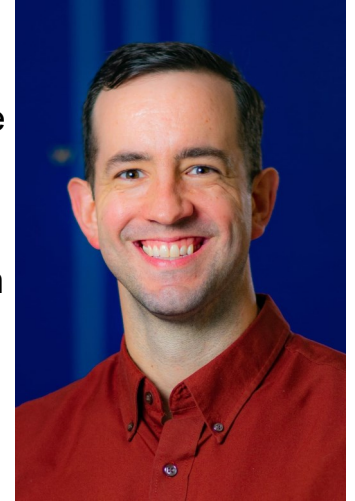
encouragement on Friends of Jesus Sunday, Sept. 22. It meant a great deal to us. Also, a big thank you to those who either helped with setting up, served food or cleaning up that day.

—The Friends of Jesus Ministry

In case you missed it, the livestream for Friends of Jesus Sunday is available on Facebook and YouTube.

## A Note from the Pastor's Desk October 2024

The first Sunday in October is celebrated as World Communion Sunday. Observance of the day is barely a century old. Many denominations or congregations recognize the day, while still many others do not. Of course, it is not a biblical holiday in the sense that it commemorates a specific event like Christmas or Easter, but it does focus on a specific instruction of Christ and is surrounded by the theme of unity. In particular unity of the Christian church. The day reminds Christians of all creeds, colors, languages, and cultures that we are part of a global community of faith. It is ecumenical, meaning that it represents Christians from various expressions or denominations coming together to foster relationships and connectivity.



It is appropriate then that those themes of a global church, connection, and support are also tied to something else we will be conducting throughout the month of October. That is our participation in the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's Offering for Global Missions (OGM). Our church's support of Global Missions is vital in sharing the Good News around the world. CBF field personnel (CBF's term for missionaries) working in the contexts of the Global Church and Global Migration are committed to the ministry of transformation as they cultivate beloved community, bear witness to Jesus Christ and seek transformational development among people and places otherwise forgotten and forsaken. The theme of this year's offering is "Behold...a New Thing" which is based on Isaiah 43:19 which reads, *"For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland."*

The goal for the offering this year across the Fellowship is \$4,000,000. This is the minimum needed to sustain the presence of current CBF field personnel in 17 different countries. CBF's global missions motto is "Because Presence Matters". This embodies the value of being physically present with those who are hurting or need to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Just as Jesus came to be physically present with humanity, so too are we called to be physically present with those to whom God calls us to minister and serve.



We will introduce and kick off the offering on World Communion Sunday (Oct. 6) and have a special time of giving to this offering the following Sunday in worship (Oct. 13). During the week of Oct. 6-13, we will invite you to participate in a week of prayer for global missions with guides on how to pray on social media and email. If you would like to continue your prayers for missions intentionally throughout the year, we also have the "Prayers for the People" resource published by CBF which provides daily ways to pray for individuals across CBF missions including a weekly emphasis on different field

*continued on next page*

"From the Pastor's Desk" continued

personnel. On Wednesdays in October our adult bible study will focus on mission work across the Fellowship, starting on Wednesday Oct. 2, with a showing of the short documentary for the 2024-2025 OGM and continuing the subsequent three weeks with informative Bible studies.

I am looking forward to our month-long emphasis on missional work across the Fellowship with whom we partner. My hope is that we will all be invigorated by this great work, challenged to support it, and encouraged to assume a missional example in our lives right here in Robeson County!

To learn more about CBF's missional endeavors, visit: <https://cbf.net/missions>

In the Love of Christ,



Rev. Joshua K. Owens,  
Senior Pastor

**Offering Goal**  
**\$2,500**

### ***Servants this Sunday***

*Please enter for Worship at the Sanctuary Vestibule.*

#### **9:30 Sunday School Entrance Greeters**

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

Shirley Hickman

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

Brenda & James Britt

#### **10:30 Worship Entrance Greeters**

Vestibule 10:00—11:30 am

Sue O'Tuel

**Nursery** — Ashlynn Cox, Jenna Davis

**Extended Session** — Brooke Blackmon, Becky Thompson



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**cbf**

**OFFERING FOR GLOBAL MISSIONS**

BECAUSE PRESENCE MATTERS

**CBF GLOBAL MISSIONS OFFERING EMPHASIS**  
**OCTOBER 6-13, 2024**

Enter your pledge online by scanning the QR code, or give in-person during Worship using designated offering envelopes.



100% of your gifts for the Offering will support the long-term presence of CBF field personnel serving in the United States and around the world.

### **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

4:45 pm — Youth Bells Rehearsal

6:00 pm — Youth Bible Study

#### **Wednesdays**

6:00 p.m.—Adult Bible Study,

Children's Activities, Youth Doing Missions

7:00 pm — Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Childcare is available on Sundays and Wednesdays. Nurse care (birth-age 2) is available in room D-107. Children age 3—K are invited to attend Extended Session after the children's sermon on Sundays in Room D-111. Children in 1st grade and older attend the full worship service.



## Coming Up:

**Sept. 30-Oct. 4** — Kandace out of office (vacation). First Baptist News will not be published on Oct. 3rd.

**Oct. 1** — Baptist Women's Bible Study Group, 11:45 am, Activities Building

**Oct. 2** — Youth Passport deposit due

**Oct. 4** — Senior Adult Trip to Southern Supreme Fruitcake Factory

**Oct. 6** — World Communion Sunday

**Oct. 6** — Deacon Election following Worship during Called Church Conference

**Oct. 6** — Kid's Fall Festival, 4 pm, Playground

**Oct. 7-13** — CBF Global Missions Offering focus week

**Oct. 9** — Youth Ski Deposit due (\$100)

**Oct. 10** — Fun & Fellowship, 11 am, Act. Bld.

**Oct. 11-12** —Lumberton Lion's Club District Meeting, Fellowship Hall

**Oct. 13** — BINGO, 3 pm, Act. Bld.

**Oct. 14** — WMU Meeting, 11:45 am, Act. Bld.

**Oct. 14** — Called Finance Meeting for Budget

**Oct. 17** — Senior Adults will meet at 1 pm to pack Halloween treat bags for Friends of Jesus

**Oct. 18** — Kandace out of office

**Oct. 19** — Community Café. A host is needed.

**Oct. 20** — Youth Haunted House trip

**Oct. 21-25** — Snr. Ad. Trip to Nashville

**Oct. 28** — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Chapel. Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. These meetings were moved from Oct. 21st to the 28th.

**Oct. 30** — Trunk or Treat, 6 pm, 6th Street Parking Lot



Host Needed for

## Community Café

October 19, 2024

Call the Church Office (910-739-4336) or  
contact Rev. Doug Reedy  
(dougreedy@fbclumbertonnc.org)



### What is 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, family or group of friends are willing to host, please contact Rev. Doug Reedy or the church office.

***Thank you to those who  
have already signed up!***

**Oct. 19 — HOST NEEDED**

Nov. 23 — Youth

Dec. 21 — Bridge Class



First Sunday

### FOOD DRIVE

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

### First Sunday Food Drive — Oct. 6th!

As you are out shopping over the next few days, 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.



Our first meeting of the year had to be postponed due to inclement weather and has now been rescheduled for Monday, October 14th at 11:45 am in the Activities Building. We will combine our September and October meetings and will not meet on Oct. 21st. Bring your lunch (dessert provided)!

## From Our Associate Pastor

This past weekend was my third weekend in a row of officiating a wedding of one of my former youth. The first wedding was in Holly Springs, followed by one in downtown Wilmington, followed by a Morganton wedding. It has been a challenging but emotionally rewarding few weeks.

Wedding venues, much like churches, vary in beauty and in operation. My personal preference is for outdoor weddings as nothing to me is more beautiful than "God's Cathedral." The downside of outdoor weddings is you can't plan weather a year in advance.

Regardless, as I approach my 20<sup>th</sup> time officiating, it occurs to me that I've done very few weddings in a sanctuary, including just one here in ours. That isn't just my experience. Every other minister I've discussed it with have done an even lower percentage of church weddings.

Why is that? Some of it is cultural. It is true that right now using venues for weddings is more popular. Often the rehearsal, the ceremony, the "cocktail" hour, and the diner/reception can be done on the same grounds. It's practical.

There are other considerations as well that we need to look at. As I understand it, Josh is leading the adults through a study on deconstruction and doubt. Christians can be notoriously defensive of its institutions. Our natural reaction is to want to argue when someone points out a defect in our faith as we are practicing it. My advice for Christians, especially ones my age, is to simply listen.

Before discounting religious trauma, remember the massive sexual abuse scandals in the Roman Catholic and Southern Baptist denominations. Before minimizing the spiritual abuse a young person claims, remember there are pastors and churches who use fear of eternal punishment or excommunication to control and manipulate others. Besides, Jesus commands us to refrain from judging others. Your experience of church may be one of loving memories but others may have endured completely different circumstances.

Another huge issue among the young adults I'm in contact with is the politicization of the church. The idea that you must have pure allegiance to one party or worse yet one human being is of course a form of idolatry. Neither party can claim Christianity. In fact, if you look hard enough you will find folks in both parties who put their faith in God first and those who don't. We need Christian influence in both.

People who leave church do so for many reasons. Ours is not to judge them or their experiences. Our job is to prepare for their return, then run to meet them with arms wide open upon their return.

Grace & Peace,  
Doug

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL

# BARBECUE

PLATE SALE

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 22

.11 AM - UNTIL WE RUN OUT.  
6TH STREET CURBSIDE

## \$10

FOR A PLATE OR PINT

PLATES INCLUDE  
WOOD-FIRED BBQ, BEANS,  
SLAW, BREAD, DESSERT

First Baptist Church of Lumberton  
606 N WALNUT STREET, LUMBERTON, NC 28358  
910-739-4336

We are gearing up for our Annual Barbecue plate sale to benefit the Youth of FBC on Friday, November 22nd! For just \$10 you can get a plate which includes wood-fired BBQ, beans, slaw, bread, and dessert OR a pint of BBQ. We will begin serving at 11:00 am on the day of the sale and will conclude when we run out. Pick up your plate or pint on 6th Street curbside (no dine-in available).

Advance tickets are now available for purchase from any FBC Youth or in the church office!

## 2025 YOUTH TRIPS

Deposits for upcoming Youth trips are due!

### **PASSPORT**choices

\$100 deposit due Sept. 25

### **Ski Trip**

\$100 deposit due Oct. 9

### **Appalachia Service Project** *is now full!*

Information was emailed to you and discussed during our Trip Meeting on Sept. 18th. Contact Rev. Doug Reedy for information about the requirements and details about each trip.



## Person of the Week

Send a card, letter, or other remembrance to our very special person this week. She has a birthday coming up October 4th!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**Gracie Davis**  
196 Kensington Street  
Lumberton, NC 28358

## Contact Us

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

Mailing address: 606 N. Walnut Street,  
Lumberton, NC 28358

Office Phone: 910-739-4336

Website: [www.fbclumbertonnc.org](http://www.fbclumbertonnc.org)

General Email: [office@fbclumbertonnc.org](mailto:office@fbclumbertonnc.org)

Rev. Tim Little — Minister of Music and Facilities;  
[timlittle@fbclumbertonnc.org](mailto:timlittle@fbclumbertonnc.org)

Rev. Josh Owens — Senior Pastor;  
[joshowens@fbclumbertonnc.org](mailto:joshowens@fbclumbertonnc.org)

Mr. Len Power — Building Superintendent;  
[lenpower@fbclumbertonnc.org](mailto:lenpower@fbclumbertonnc.org)

Mrs. Kandace Ramsey — Administrative Assistant;  
[kandaceramsey@fbclumbertonnc.org](mailto:kandaceramsey@fbclumbertonnc.org)

Rev. Doug Reedy — Associate Pastor of Youth,  
Young Adults and Missions;  
[dougreedy@fbclumbertonnc.org](mailto:dougreedy@fbclumbertonnc.org)



Online Registration



**RUDOLPH  
THE RED-NOSED  
REINDEER MUSICAL**

**KIDS TRIP - UNCP GPAC**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18 AT 7:30 PM**

Tickets are \$10 for kids (12 and under)  
and \$20 for adults.

Please register by September 30th!



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## 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](http://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.

**\$550.00 has been received as of  
Sept. 24th**

**DURING SEPTEMBER,  
GIVE TO THE  
FRIENDS  
OF JESUS FUND**

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GIVING



There are some seats still available for our Senior Adult trip to Southern Vintage Market!

Southern Vintage Market in Benson  
Saturday, November 23, 2024  
This trip is free, but bring spending money.