Volume LVI No. 6a June 5, 2025

First Baptist News

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





An artist's depiction of a scene from the Pentecost appears in the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, Missouri.

Preparing for Sunday, June 8, 2025 Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-21 (NLT) "You Belong Here"

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

You are invited to wear red or orange this Sunday. Then, join us for a celebration of Pentecost and the birth of the Lord's Church by enjoying Sunset Slush after Worship. They will be set up in the Activities Building parking lot.

Coming up this week. . .

Sunday, June 8

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship (in the Sanctuary)

10:30 a.m. Worship (online) 2:00 p.m. Book Study

Monday, June 9

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting (Conf. Rm.)

Tuesday, June 10

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Group (Zoom)
5:30 p.m. Nominating Committee Meeting
7:00 p.m. Scholarship Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 11

6:00 p.m. Meet 'n Eat at Your Pie

Thursday, June 12

Snr/Retired Adults to Vince Gill Concert 7:30-9 a.m. ECM Donuts with Dad (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, June 14

9 am—12 pm Vacation Bible School 3:00 p.m. Hispanic Ministry Bible Study (Act. Bld.)



A Note from the Pastor's Desk — June 2025

Ministry and church life is not a solitary task. The goals we have as a congregation, the mission and purpose we believe God has given to us as a community, is not just one person's job to complete. It is all of our collective responsibility to see that the work gets done. As your pastor, I try to have a finger on the pulse of needs and opportunities, but the reality is I cannot see everything, know everything, or be everywhere. That is why I wholeheartedly welcome ideas, suggestions, or recommendations from each of you.

In full disclosure, one practice I have regarding congregational suggestions is this. If you come to me with an idea and say something along the lines of, "You should do this particular thing because I think it will help meet this need in the church" I am probably not going to put a lot of effort into seeing how that particular suggestion can be implemented. However, if you come to me and say, "I would love to have you help me think about how I could go about bringing this particular opportunity to life," well my immediate and enthusiastic response is going to be, "How can I help you? Let's figure



this out together!" Your ministry staff does not exist to do the ministry of the church FOR YOU, but we are here to do the work WITH YOU and lead, guide, encourage, resource, and support as we are able.

With that in mind, there is one caveat to this rule of mine that I am so glad that we are taking up. Over the last few years, when I go visit our folks who reside at Wesley Pines, I have repeatedly been encouraged to pursue facilitating some kind of transportation program that would allow residents there to be able to come to our church for worship. They all express a desire to get back to church, but they struggle with how they will get themselves here. There are multiple church members and non-members who would be willing to attend if we would just provide the means for them to get from one place to another. I've brought it up in a few groups over the last few years, but no traction was ever made.

I am a little ashamed to admit it, but since that suggestion was first made to me years ago, another downtown congregation has made that effort and has been successfully transporting members and non-members to their church on Sundays for worship. Recently, one of our beloved members at Wesley Pines said to me, "If they can do it, why can't we?" I did not have an answer for her, and by golly, she was 100% right. That is the message I conveyed to our deacons last month, and I appreciate their heeding the call to do something we should have been doing well before now.

So starting this fall, we will be looking to use two of the great resources we have here at First Baptist Lumberton, people and vehicles (specifically a handicap-accessible transporter) to offer a shuttle service from Wesley Pines Retirement Community to our campus for worship on Sundays. This is a great opportunity for so many in our church regardless of their age or skill sets to offer a vital ministry to connect folks with our Spiritual community. If you can drive yourself to church, you can take part in this program. No special license is required to operate our church's vehicles. Specifically, we are looking for folks who would be willing to drive or serve as a rider along with the driver to help facilitate a Spirit-filled commute from WP to the church and back following service.

We would love to be able to fill out a roster full enough that volunteers would only have to drive/ride once a quarter. Before we can officially begin, we want to be sure we can at least commit to a year of scheduled drivers to offer the shuttle service. Once we get volunteers, we will offer training, produce a schedule, and bless you on your way. We hope to start this ministry in August.

We know we have other seniors who are home-bound or in other facilities, but we have a large contingent of folks at Wesley Pines, so this program allows us to maximize the impact of the resources we have. Who knows what other opportunities following the Spirit in this way may lead us to? So, I am anxious to see the response of our community to serve in this way to meet this need that has been brought before us!

Josha Over

Rev. Joshua K. Owens, Senior Pastor



Coming Up:

June Book Study—Sundays (8, 15, 21, 29) at 2 pm June 15 — Father's Day. Worship will be held in the Fellowship Hall for the summer months starting the 15th

June 17 — Meet 'n Eat at Tuscany NY Italian &

Pizzeria, 6 pm

June 19 — Juneteenth

June 21 — Community Café, hosted by Young Adult **Sunday School Class**

June 22-27 — Youth Passport Trip

June 23 — Meet 'n Eat at Finn Olivers, 12 noon

June 23 — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Chapel. Buildings & Grounds Committee is invited to attend Finance meeting. Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Deacons will review proposed changes to the Bylaws as presented by Bylaws Committee.

June 24-26 — CBF General Assembly, St. Louis

June 27 — Proposed Bylaws change will be emailed with the weekly newsletter. A printed or mailed copy will be available by request.

June 29 — BINGO, 3:00 pm, Act. Bld.

June 30-July 3 — Kandace working remotely.

July 4 — Independence Day. Offices & ECM closed.

July 12-18 — Youth Appalachia Service Project (ASP)

Trip. We'll be going to Clay Co., WV.

July 19-21 — Friends of Jesus Happiness Retreat, Camp Caraway

July 19 — Children's trip to White Lake

July 19 — Community Café, hosted by Deacons

July 20 —Senior/Retired Adults trip to Branson final payment is due. We encourage to make payment before this final deadline.

July 21 — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Chapel. Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

July 30— Quarterly Church Conference at 6 pm with Nominating Committee Report and Proposed Bylaws Change.

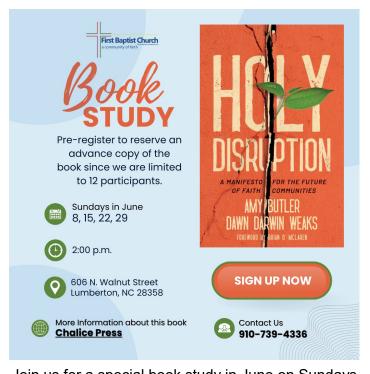




Drivers & volunteers needed to drive the church bus to Wesley Pines and bring residents to church on Sundays



We are looking for folks willing to drive the church bus to Wesley Pines to pick up residents for church. We already have some folks volunteered but we could use a few more. Through June, we will continue to recruit drivers. For the second half of June and July we will work on a schedule. Hopefully we can begin the program the first Sunday in August! Contact the office or the Pastors to be added to our drivers list.



Join us for a special book study in June on Sundays the 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th at 2 PM. We will be diving into the thought-provoking book "Holy Disruption: A Manifesto for the Future of Faith Communities" by Amy Butler & Dawn Darwin Weaks. This is an exclusive opportunity to explore a book that has not yet been published. We have secured 12 pre-publishing copies for participants, along with the chance to engage in a dialogue with one of the authors. Space is limited to 12 participants (6 spaces remain), so be sure to sign up TODAY to secure your spot and receive a copy of the book.



June Monthly Food Drive

Many of us have never experienced true hunger, but some in our community do. In the coming weeks, you can help feed the hungry in our community by bringing canned or dry goods to donate to our monthly Food Drive. Donations collected will be sent to local food banks. As you are out and about the next couple of weeks, pick up an extra can and bring it with you Sunday. Suggestions: Pop-top canned goods, cereal, peanut butter, canned meats, pasta & pasta sauce. Items should be in-date and in their original packaging.

May 2025 donation to Robeson County Church and Community Center yielded 357 pounds!

Nominating Committee will meet June 10th at 5:30 pm to plan for the 2025-2026 year. Please be in prayer for this group and that positions may be filled quickly with folks willing to lead.

Nominating Committee Members by Appointment: David Ramsaur (chair), Sara Benson, Sandra Cox, Jean Kinlaw, and Mike Salter.

Nominating Committee Members by Position: Doug Reedy, Tim Little, Gail Johnson, and Lindsay Owens

BYLAWS

First Baptist Church
a community of faith

The Bylaws Committee has been working to update language, terminology, and some areas of our Church Bylaws that need to be brought current. The proposed changes will be presented to the Deacons June 23rd, then emailed with the June 27th edition of the church newsletter. To request a paper copy of the proposed Bylaws changes in lieu of email, contact the church office. The church will vote to adopt the proposed changes during the July 30, 2025 Quarterly Church Conference at 6:00 pm.

From the pages of history... excerpt from the church bulletin covers 1950

THOU ART WELCOME

Thou art welcome, whosoever thou art that enterest this Church; This is the House of God proclaiming His love in Christ. Come with the spirit of reverence and worship in the spirit of humility; and leave it not without a prayer to God for thyself, for all who worship in this place, and for those who minister.

Servants this Sunday

Please enter for Worship at the Sanctuary Vestibule.

9:30 Sunday School

Entrance Greeters 9:00-9:30 am 6th Street Ramp (Handicap) - Jimmy & Billie Dail ECM Entrance (Handicap) - Barbara Andrews

10:30 Worship Entrance Greeters

Vestibule 10:00—11:30 am Shirley Hickman

Nursery — Jenna Davis, Brooke Blackmon

Extended Session — Brooke Blackmon, Julie Fowlkes







VBS is coming up soon!

Volunteers are still need to help serve in some areas. Contact the office, the Pastors, or any of the Children's Committee members for more information.

Student registration is OPEN! Pre-registration is encouraged.

To pre-register your child, pick up a paper registration form from the church or complete it online through Google forms. A link to the online option is also included in the emails from the church and on our social media pages. https://forms.gle/v25VwrFcVTKe8gQx8



Worship with Us

606 N. Walnut Street fbclumbertonnc.org

Childcare is available on Sundays and Wednesdays. Nursey 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.

SUMMER SCHEDULE 2025

Sundays — Worship in Fellowship Hall starting June 15

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School 10:30 a.m.—Worship In-person, Facebook Live, YouTube

Wednesday Night Gatherings are paused until September.

Can't make it our services inperson? We stream most of our services on Facebook Live and on YouTube!

Scan the QR code to the right with your cell phone camera to access our social media pages,



YouTube Channel, and our website. To be added to our email list, contact Kandace (kandaceramsey@fbclumbertonnc.org).

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
General Email: office@fbclumbertonnc.org

Rev. Tim Little — Minister of Music and Facilities; timlittle@fbclumbertonnc.org

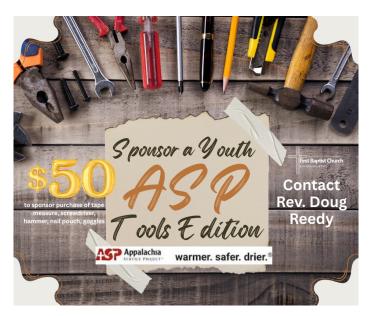
Rev. Josh Owens — Senior Pastor;

Rev. Josn Owens — Senior Pastor; joshowens@fbclumbertonnc.org

Mr. Len Power — Building Superintendent; lenpower@fbclumbertonnc.org

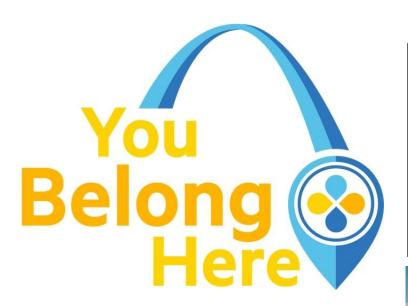
Mrs. Kandace Ramsey — Administrative Assistant; kandaceramsey@fbclumbertonnc.org

Rev. Doug Reedy — Associate Pastor of Youth, Young Adults and Missions; dougreedy@fbclumbertonnc.org



We're sending a group of young people and chaperones to serve with Appalachia Service Project (ASP) this summer. To prepare for this trip, we need a few folks to sponsor the purchase of tools we need to take with us, including tape measurers, hammers, screwdrivers, a nail pouch, and safety goggles. A donation of \$50 sponsors one youth's tools for this mission trip. Please give the sponsorship separate from your contribution giving for ease of recordkeeping. Contact the office or Rev. Doug Reedy to contribute.





2025 CBF General Assembly "You Belong Here" St. Louis, Missouri June 24-26, 2025

In a year that feels more polarized than ever before, we want to be a place of belonging—where everyone is not just welcome to our table and in our communities but feel a deep sense of belonging in our Fellowship. Together, we will reflect on what radical hospitality can look like and explore the texts that call us to no longer be strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household. Rev. Josh Owens will be attending. For more information about the 2025 CBF General Assembly in St. Louis and to register, visit https://cbf.swoogo.com/assembly.



Person of the Week

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

John Turner 3230 Furr Court, Apt 102 Charlotte, NC 28273





Senior/Retired Adults:

Are you interested in going to Gaither Family Fest 2026? We're exploring a group trip happening May 22-24, 2026 in Gatlinburg, TN. The Estimated cost is \$450 but is dependent upon travel arrangements and lodging quotes. That is Memorial Day weekend. No money is due now - we're just gauging interest.

If you'd like to join or want more information, please contact the office or Phyllis Gibson as soon as possible. Let's make plans to enjoy a weekend of music and fellowship in the mountains!

First Baptist Church a community of faith Summer at FIRST BAPTIST

JUNE 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Grad Sunday	2	3	4 How to End Christian Nationalism Amanda Tyler	5	6	7
Pentecost Sunset Slush following Worship 2PM Book Study	9	10	Meet n Eat @Your Pie 6PM	12	13	14 VBS 9AM -12PM
15 Fallicis- Bay- Worship moved to Fellowship Hall for the Summer 2PM Book Study	16	Meet n Eat ® Tuscany NY Italian & Pizzeria 6PM	18	19 JUNE TEENTH	20	Community Cafe hosted by YA SS
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
PASSPOR June 22 - 27 2PM Book Study	Tchoices. Meet n Eat Finn Olivers 12PM	cbf General Assembly, St. Louis, MO June 24-27				
29 SUNGO 3PM Act. Bld.	30	1	2	3	4	5
2PM Book Study						

9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship