Volume LVI No. 7e July 31, 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.





Preparing for Sunday, August 3, 2025 Luke 12:13-21 (NLT) "Storage Wars"

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

## DEACON NOMINATIONS ACCEPTED AUG. 1-31, 2025

Prayerfully consider your nominations for deacon and complete a nomination form no later than August 31, 2025.

Forms are available in the church office and in church publications.



### Coming up this week...

Sunday, August 3

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship (in Cherry Fellowship Hall)

10:30 a.m. Worship (online)

Monday, August 4

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

Tuesday, August 5

7:00 a.m.
2:00 p.m.
Men's Prayer Group (Zoom)
Youth Council Meeting
Missions Committee Meeting

Wednesday, August 6

5:00 p.m. Endowment Committee Meeting Sacred Strolls (Tanglewood)

Saturday, August 9

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

First Baptist Church
a community of faith The Church



Wesley Pines bus transportation begins Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>!



Starting this Sunday, our church bus will begin picking up residents at Wesley Pines for worship! We're so thankful for the volunteers and everyone with a hand in this ministry.

#### Coming Up:

Nominations for Deacon accepted August 1-31.

Wednesdays in August at 6:30 pm — Sacred Strolls

**Aug. 16** — Community Café, hosted by Children's Committee

**Aug. 19** — Partnership for Children using the Fellowship Hall for PreK training, 8 am-3:30 pm

**Aug. 19** — Youth Committee Meeting, 6 pm

**Aug. 22** — ECM closed to students (teacher workday)

Aug. 24 — Education Sunday

Aug. 25 — ECM's 2025-26 School year begins

**Aug. 25** — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Chapel. Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

**Aug. 25-29** — Kandace on vacation

**Aug. 28-Sept. 7** — Len on vacation

**Sept. 1** — ECM & office closed for Labor Day

Sept. 2 — Baptist Women's Bible Study resumes

meeting, 11:45 am, Activities Building.

**Sept. 3** — Fall Kick-off

**Sept. 7-13** — Snr. Ad. Trip to Branson

**Sept. 10** — Wednesday Nights resume meeting at 6 pm

**Sept. 11** —Fun & Fellowship resumes meeting, 11 am, Activities Building

**Sept. 11** — Together for Hope event in Fellowship Hall

**Sept. 15** — WMU resumes meeting, 11:45 am, Activities Building.

**Sept 20** — Community Café hosted at Asbury Methodist (Chip & Nancy Bass)

**Sept. 22** — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Chapel. Deacons will meet at 7 pm in the Activities Building.

**Sept. 25** — Newsletter will include Deacon Nominee Biographical information and Election information.

**Sept. 28**—Senior Adult Sunday

Sept. 29-Oct. 2 — Deacon Election absentee voting

**Sept. 29-Oct. 3** — Kandace & Rev. Doug Reedy on vacation

Oct. 5 — World Communion Sunday & Deacon Election; Worship service moved back to Sanctuary (subject to change).

Oct. 7—Baptist Women's Bible Study, 11:45, Act. Bld.

Oct. 9 — Fun & Fellowship, 11 am, at Susan Noble's home in Elizabethtown

Oct. 12 — Friends of Jesus Sunday

Oct. 18 — Community Café hosted by Collins Sunday School Class

Oct. 20 — WMU, 11:45 am, Act. Bld.

Oct. 20 — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Chapel. Deacons will meet at 7 pm in the Activities Building.

Oct. 22 — Quarterly Church Conference w/Committee on Committees Report

Oct. 24-26 — CBFNC Youth Beach Retreat

Oct. 27-30 — Snr Ad Caswell Fall Retreat

Oct. 29 — Trunk or Treat



## Introducing "Sacred Strolls": Walking with Purpose Through Lumberton

This August, you're invited to take a deeper look at our community through Sacred Strolls, a new weekly experience that blends spiritual reflection, community connection, and intentional presence in the neighborhoods of Lumberton.

Each Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 7:30 PM, we'll gather at a different location in town to walk, reflect, and listen—for the Spirit, for our neighbors, and for new insight into how we as a church can love and serve our city well.

We'll begin each gathering with a large group time for orientation and prayer before breaking into small groups. Each group will receive a map and a set of reflection prompts to guide a short walking route through the surrounding area. We'll conclude back together for a large group debrief and closing reflection.

The purpose of Sacred Strolls is simple but powerful: to see our city with fresh eyes and to ask God to help us notice what we may have missed before—needs, possibilities, and the quiet presence of grace already at work in these neighborhoods.

Please wear comfortable shoes and clothing, and feel free to bring a water bottle.

#### **Sacred Strolls Schedule:**

- August 6 Tanglewood (Meet at Tanglewood Elementary)
- August 13 Godwin Heights (Meet at Godwin Heights Baptist)
- August 20 East Lumberton (Meet at Ivey's Park – 70 Carolina Ave.)
- August 27 South Lumberton (Meeting spot TBD)

Come walk with us (physically and spiritually) as we learn to love Lumberton more deeply, one step at a time.



Are You Balanced?

Join us for Lunch & Learn Monday, September 29, 2025 at 12 Noon at First Presbyterian Church's Fellowship Hall. Windy Christy is our speaker and will provide information and a few exercises you can do at home to help you maintain senior mobility and balance.

Please RSVP by 12 noon, Friday, September 19 so we can give First Presbyterian a number to expect from FBCL.



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.

#### Thank you to these 2025 hosts:

Aug. 16 — Children's Committee

Sept. 20 — at Asbury UMC

Oct. 18 — Collins Sunday School

Nov. 15 — Youth

Dec. 20 — Bridge Sunday School

## 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 Cherry Fellowship Hall

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

Wednesday Night Gatherings will resume September 10.

Can't make it our services in-person? 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; 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



#### Senior/Retired Adults:

We have a few trips coming up and would love for you attend them with us.

#### **Northwood Temple's Dinner Theatre**

Saturday, October 4 12:15 buffet lunch, 1:15 showtime \$35 per ticket

#### Caswell Fall Retreat 2025

October 27-29, 2025 Cost is \$180.00

#### **Alabama Theatre's Christmas Show**

Tuesday, November 4

Cost is \$70. Supper will be at Chesapeake House. Trip is full, but let us know if you are interested in going in case someone cannot.

#### **Gaither Family Fest 2026**

May 22-24, 2026 in Gatlinburg, TN The cost is \$475.00 (\$50 deposit)

If you'd like to join or want more information, please contact the office or Phyllis Gibson as soon as possible.

#### Person of the Week

Send a card, letter, or other remembrance to our very special person this week. She has a birthday coming up August 8th!



Elizabeth Hungate 1000 Wesley Pines Rd Lumberton, NC 28358

#### Servants this Sunday

Please enter for Worship at Cherry Fellowship Hall Lobby.

#### 9:30 Sunday School

Entrance Greeters 9:00 – 9:30 am 6th Street Ramp (Handicap) - Sue O'Tuel ECM Entrance (Handicap) - Angie & JW Lawson

#### 10:30 Worship Entrance Greeters

FH Lobby 10:00—11:30 am Ann & John Underwood

Nursery — Jenna Davis, Brooke Blackmon

Extended Session — Brooke Blackmon, Nancy Wagner

Bus Team — Phyllis Gibson, Jeanne Stevens



Still accepting applications for our 2025-2026 school year for 2's, 3's, 4's and NC PreK (spaces are limited)

WE OFFER A RESEARCH-BASED CURRICULUM ALIGNED WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA FOUNDATIONS OF EARLY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT If you have a Kindergartener that will attend Tanglewood this school year, we are beginning a waiting list for after-school care. Please call if interested.

#### 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** 

## First Baptist Church Summer at

## FIRST BAPTIST

# AUG 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Wesley Pines Bus Pick-up Begins 10 am	4	5 Youth Council 2 pm Missions Committee Meeting 6:15 pm	Endowment 6 Meeting 5 pm Sacred Stroll 6:30 pm	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Sacred Stroll 6:30 pm	14	15	16 Commu Cafe hosted Childre Commi
17	18	19 PreK Training in Fellowship Hall Youth Committee Meeting 6 pm	20 * Sacred Stroll 6:30 pm	21	ECM Closed for Teacher Work Day	23
24  Education Sunday Emphasis	25 ECM 2025-26 Year begins Finance 5:45 pm Deacons 7 pm	26	27 * Sacred Stroll 6:30 pm	28	29	30
Last Day for Deacon	1 LABOR LABOR Church & ECM Closed	Baptist Women's Bible Study 11:45 am	3 FALL KICK-OFF  Wednesday Night Activities Resume Sept 10 at 6 pm	4	5	6

Sundays 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Fellowship Hall

At First Baptist, deacons are elected from among the adult church membership to serve as spiritual leaders and trusted servants of the congregation. The Deacon Body is composed of 16 individuals total who are elected to four-year terms and begin their service on January 1st following their election.



#### **Expectations & Responsibilities**

Deacons are expected to attend monthly meetings and be actively engaged in the life of the church. Their most essential role is to offer spiritual servant leadership to the congregation. In addition to this, deacons also carry legal and fiduciary responsibilities, and are accountable to the congregation in all of their work. This includes:

- Modeling spiritual maturity in daily life
- Participating in worship leadership
- Serving others through acts of compassion
- Supporting the mission and ministries of the church
- Helping evaluate the church's progress toward its goals
- Listening and responding to the needs and hopes of the church community

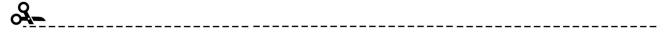
#### Biblical & Church Standards for Deacons

The scriptural foundations for the role of deacon are found in 1 Timothy 3:8–13, Acts 6:1–7, Romans 16:1–2.

In accordance with these teachings, deacons are expected to be individuals who:

- Demonstrate a deep commitment to the will and ways of Jesus Christ
- Hold full membership in the church and have sufficient experience in the congregation to serve effectively
- Show a pattern of active participation in the life and ministries of the church
- Exhibit a record of constructive, servant-hearted leadership
- Faithfully steward their gifts, talents, time, energy, and financial resources

Deacons are essential partners in ministry — encouraging, supporting, and helping to lead the church in faith, mission, and love.



#### **Deacon Nomination Form 2025**

Please prayerfully consider your nominations for deacon, write their names below, and return to the church no later than August 31, 2025. 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 from the adult church membership, 21 or older, and resident members of First Baptist Church for at least one year prior to October 1st of the current year.

Listed below are the names of persons elected in 2019-2024 as Deacons of this church. Do not nominate any of these persons. They are ineligible for re-election at this time.

Betty Graham (2024) Jeanne Stevens (2025) Barbara Andrews (2026) Danny Cook (2024) Drina Hedgpeth (2025) Christy Strickland (2026) Sandra Cox (2028) Lisa Johnson (2028) Tony Thompson (2027) James W. Lawson (2026) John Underwood (2027) Bruce Davis (2025) William Davis (2026) Katherine Martin (2024) Nancy Wagner (2024) Judy Driscoll (2024) Summer Pittman (2024) Chris Walters (2027) Eddie Prevatte (2025) Phyllis Gibson (2028) James Gore (2027) David Ramsaur (2028)

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 October 5, 2025. You may submit forms in the church office, by fax (739-7858), by e-mail (office@fbclumbertonnc.org), or by mail (606 N. Walnut St., Lumberton, NC 28358).