

First Baptist News

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



PASSPORTchoices

Youth Summer Serving Report

Rev. Doug Reedy and students will be reflecting on summer experiences of discipleship and mission projects.

ASP Appalachia
SERVICE PROJECT®

warmer. safer. drier.®

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

or online on Facebook Live
facebook.com/firstbaptistlumbertonnc
or online on YouTube
youtube.com/c/lumbertonfbc/

**Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study,
Youth Doing Missions, Children's Music
& Missions, and Sanctuary Choir
Rehearsal will resume Wednesday,
September 10.**

Coming up this week. . .

Sunday, August 10

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship (in Cherry Fellowship Hall)
10:30 a.m. Worship (online)

Monday, August 11

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

Tuesday, August 12

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Group (Zoom)

Wednesday, August 13

6:30 p.m. Sacred Strolls (Godwin Heights)

Saturday, August 16

10:30 a.m. Community Café (Act. Bld.)
hosted by Children's Committee
3:00 p.m. Hispanic Ministry Bible
Study (Act. Bld.)

From the pages of history...

From the church bulletin, July 17, 1975

"Last Monday, July 14, several young people began work on the Roosevelt Lowry home in West Lumberton: replacing roof, painting outside of house, replacing broken windows and rotten frames. Let's put the love of Christ, that is in our hearts, to work in the here and now!"

A Note from the Pastor's Desk *August 2025*

Hard to believe we have already entered the back half of 2025. It seems like just yesterday we were coming off of Christmas and New Year's celebrations, bemoaning how late Easter was this year. Yet here we are approaching fall, and yes, Christmas is right around the corner.

This time of year also marks an important time in our church planning. Our finance committee is beginning to prepare the budget for the 2026 year. Those who were approved a few weeks ago at our quarterly church conference in discipleship roles via our Nominating Report will begin a new year of service next month. Then, the process of appointing leaders in various roles, such as our deacons and other committees, will commence over the next two to three months.

This is an important time for many reasons. First and foremost, it is an important season of prayer. I would expect each of you to actively join me in praying for God's guidance in the process of identifying and selecting those to serve in these important roles. Be in prayer for both those who are discerning the folks to ask, but also pray for everyone in our fellowship to have open hearts and minds to how God might be prompting us to serve formally in our community of faith.

I know at times the idea of serving in formal roles may seem daunting, intimidating, or fearful. You may feel you don't have time, are not qualified, or that it is for someone else to do. However, we all have roles we can play in service to the Lord's Church (Romans 12:4), and our participation in a congregation is not a spectator sport. We are not just members of this faith community; we are partners in it, and to be a good *partner means doing your part*.

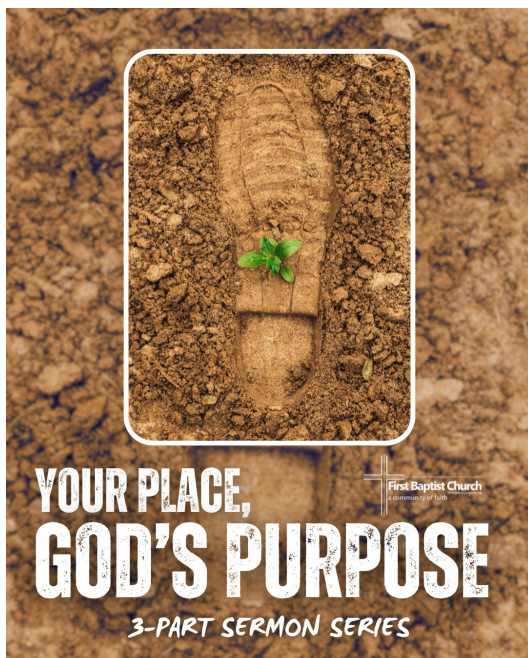
To help us all prepare for this important and busy season in the work of our church, we will be having a three-part sermon series entitled "Your Place, God's Purpose"

beginning Sunday, August 17. In this series, we will remember we are all called to serve, reflect on the concept of servant leadership, and recommit to the mission that God has given us here at First Baptist Lumberton.

So as we move forward into this time, I challenge each of you to pray for the process, but also pray to be open to how God may be speaking to you. I'd ask you to consider what your contribution to the life and ministry of First Baptist Church Lumberton can be in this next season of our community of faith. Let's all be ready to do our part to the glory of God!



Rev. Joshua K. Owens, *Senior Pastor*



Coming Up:

Nominations for Deacon accepted August 1-31.

Wednesdays in August at 6:30 pm — Sacred Strolls

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

Aug. 19 — Senior Adult Committee Meeting, 2 pm, Act. Bld.

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

Aug. 31 — Worship will be held in the Chapel

Sept. 1 — ECM & office closed for Labor Day

Sept. 2 — Baptist Women's Bible Study resumes meeting, 11:45 am, Activities Building.

Sept. 2 — Committee on Committees Meeting, 6 pm

Sept. 3 — Fall Kick-off

Sept. 7-13 — Snr. Ad. Trip to Branson

Sept. 10 — Wednesday Nights resume meeting at 6 pm. Sanctuary Choir rehearsal resumes at 7 pm.

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

Sept. 11 — Together for Hope event in Fellowship Hall

Sept. 14 — Youth Bible Study & Youth Bells resume

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.

From Our Associate Pastor

Ever have one of those days, weeks, or more where every time you are trying to help someone it blows up in your face? The phrase “no good deed goes unpunished” isn’t biblical but sometimes it is applicable. It can be challenging to avoid discouragement when unexpected negativity occurs from an attempt at kindness.

One way we can avoid feeling burned or becoming cynical when this happens is to examine our motives. Usually, helping others makes us feel good about ourselves. Sometimes that feeling becomes the goal rather than making someone else’s life better (even if they seem ungrateful). Christ teaches us to help others because it is the right thing to do, not so we can pat ourselves on the back.

Our church helps others constantly. We give to local, national, and international non-profits. We send our youth on mission trips (we had an amazing, challenging time installing flooring with Appalachia Service Projects). We provide ministry to our Friends of Jesus. We make sure the poorest children in Lumberton receive something for Christmas. We do good works but...

We shouldn’t brag about doing the basic things Jesus asked us to. We shouldn’t do good for our own ego. We aren’t entitled to receiving back as much as we give of our time and/or money. We should, however, obey Christ’s teachings to give to and do for others because that’s our calling.

To God be the glory. Serving God is its own reward above all else. It is human to become frustrated when our most well intentioned actions blow up on us. We just have to trust God in the long haul and not let an occasional negative outcome steal our joy as Christ followers.

Grace & Peace,
Doug

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



The graphic is a promotional poster for the CBFNC Youth Beach Retreat. At the top left, there is a logo featuring a pair of headphones with the text 'THE VOICE OF TRUTH' inside. To the right of this is a blue box with 'CBFNC YOUTH' and a larger box with 'BEACH RETREAT' in bold, with 'Middle and High School Students' written below it. The dates 'OCTOBER 24-26' and location 'FORT CASWELL OAK ISLAND, NC' are listed. A QR code is present with the text 'SIGN UP' below it. The central text 'Sign up by Aug. 27th' is written in a large, stylized, yellow font with a blue outline. At the bottom right, it states 'Cost is \$150' and 'Contact Rev. Doug Reedy to sign up or sign up online'.

CBFNC YOUTH
BEACH RETREAT
Middle and High School Students
OCTOBER 24-26
FORT CASWELL
OAK ISLAND, NC

Sign up by Aug. 27th

SIGN UP
Cost is \$150
Contact Rev. Doug Reedy
to sign up or sign up online

The annual CBFNC Fall Youth Beach Retreat will return to Fort Caswell in Oak Island the weekend of October 24-26, 2025. This retreat is for youth in grades 6-12 and is a weekend filled with worship, Bible study, dance party and lots of free time to play on the beach! Our 2025 theme is “The Voice of Truth” using Philippians 4:8 as our guiding verse for the weekend to encourage young people in seeking wisdom, filtering out distractions and discerning what is true in a world that often feels overwhelming and filled with competing voices. Our leaders are Dane & Caitie Jackson (co-proclaimers) and Kyle Murphy (worship). The cost of this trip is \$150.00 due by Wednesday, August 27, 2025. Contact Rev. Doug Reedy, the office, or register online.

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. Donations collected will be sent to local food banks to be distributed safely and efficiently. As you are out and about town running errands, 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.



Person of the Week

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

Abigail Ivey
210 W. 21st Street
Lumberton, NC 28358



The 2025-26 Nominating Committee report is available in the church office! Please continue to pray for the folks on the list who will be rotating off, continuing to serve, or will be new to serving in a particular area for the upcoming year.

The proposed bylaws changes were approved during church conference July 30, 2025. Copies of the updated bylaws are available in the office.



We are thrilled about this year's Fall Kick-off event! Join us at 6 pm in Cherry Fellowship Hall for a delightful evening of homemade ice cream and desserts. We will discuss the exciting opportunities planned for the upcoming church year. You are warmly invited to bring your own homemade ice cream or dessert to share with everyone.

Our Wednesday night activities will officially resume on September 10th, including Adult Bible Study, Youth Doing Missions, and Children's Music and Missions, all starting at 6 pm. Sanctuary Choir rehearsal will resume at 7 pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

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



SCAN ME

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

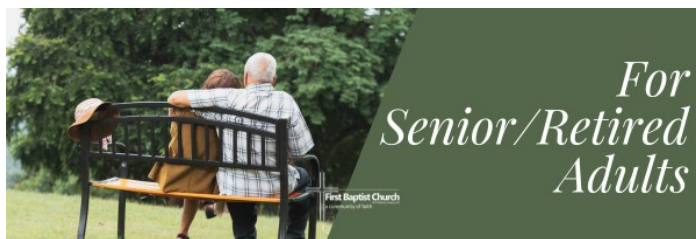
Rev. Tim Little — Minister of Music and Facilities;
timlittle@fbclumbertonnc.org

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 Adult Sunday

September 28, 2025

Dr. Glenn Jonas will be our guest preacher

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.



Wesley Pines bus
transportation begins
Sunday, August 3rd!



Pick-up time 10 am

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



WHERE EVERY CHILD'S JOURNEY BEGINS!

OUR OFFERINGS:

Full Time Child
Care & NC PreK

LOCATION

606 N. Walnut St.
Lumberton, NC

CONTACT US

910-738-6608

michelleprevatte@fbclumbertonnc.org

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.

Open House is Friday, August 22nd 1-3 pm!

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.*

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



GIVING

FIRST BAPTIST

AUG 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
3  Wesley Pines Bus Pick-up Begins 10 am	4	5 Youth Council 2 pm Missions Committee Meeting 6:15 pm	6 Endowment Meeting 5 pm  Sacred Stroll 6:30 pm	7	8	9
10	11	12	13  Sacred Stroll 6:30 pm	14	15	16 Community Café hosted by Children's Committee 
17	18	19 PreK Training in Fellowship Hall Youth Committee Meeting 6 pm	20  Sacred Stroll 6:30 pm	21	22  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
31  Last Day for Deacon Nominations	1  Church & ECM Closed	2  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.

Barbara Andrews (2026)
Danny Cook (2024)
Sandra Cox (2028)
Bruce Davis (2025)
William Davis (2026)
Judy Driscoll (2024)
Phyllis Gibson (2028)
James Gore (2027)

Betty Graham (2024)
Drina Hedgpeth (2025)
Lisa Johnson (2028)
James W. Lawson (2026)
Katherine Martin (2024)
Summer Pittman (2024)
Eddie Prevatte (2025)
David Ramsaur (2028)

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

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).