

First Baptist News

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



“Waiting” by Edgar Degas

**Preparing for Sunday,
December 14, 2025**
The Third Sunday of Advent
“What to Do While Waiting”
Matthew 11:2-11 (NRSVue)
Rev. Doug Reedy

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

facebook.com/firstbaptistlumbertonnc

or online on YouTube

youtube.com/c/lumbertonfbc/



The Friends of Jesus Christmas Party will follow Worhsip in Cherry Fellowship Hall. If you are able to help serve the meal, clean up, or help in another way, please contact Hoss or Judith Watts.

Coming up this week . . .

Sunday, December 14

9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
10:30 a.m.	Worship (in Cherry Fellowship Hall)
10:30 a.m.	Worship (online)
6:00 p.m.	Adult Bells Rehearsal

The Friends of Jesus Christmas Party will follow Worship.

Monday, December 15

10:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting (Conf. Rm.)
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Tuesday, December 16

7:00 a.m.	Men’s Prayer Group (Zoom)
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Wednesday, December 17

No Wednesday Night Activities	
8:00 a.m.	ECM’s Christmas Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
5:00 p.m.	Youth Progressive Dinner
7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, December 20

10:00 a.m.	Community Café hosted by Bridge Class (Act. Bld.)
3:00 p.m.	Hispanic Ministry Bible Study (Act. Bld.)

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.

Contributions to be counted for 2025 must be received or postmarked by December 31st.



Preparations are wrapping up for our annual Children's Christmas Party and Friends of Jesus Christmas Party! As Christmas bargains roll around, consider giving a different kind of gift—one that brings the love of Christ to our local community. You can give generously to support our Children's Christmas Party and Friends of Jesus Christmas party. Both events share the hope and joy of the season with children and adults with intellectual and development disabilities in our area.

Gifts may be made in memory or in honor or someone special, or even as a Christmas gift on their behalf. Simply scan our giving QR code to give online. Alternatively, you may designate your gift by writing "Children's Christmas Party" and/or "Friends of Jesus Christmas Party" in the memo line of your check.

Children's Christmas Party is Saturday, December 13.
Friends of Jesus Christmas Party is Sunday, December 14.

The Longest Night: An Advent Memorial Service

**Sunday, December 21
5:00 p.m. in the Chapel**

The Longest Night Memorial Service will take place Sunday, December 21st at 5:00 pm in the Chapel. This date coincides with the onset of Winter, a time characterized by the longest period of darkness in a day. The event is intended for individuals experiencing grief due to recent bereavement or any loss, regardless of the duration since the event. Candles symbolizing hope will be lighted during the service, and a crocheted snowflake ornament will be provided to those who have lost a loved one within the preceding year. This keepsake serves as a token of God's comforting presence and tranquility.

**Can't make it our services
in-person? We stream
services on Facebook Live
and on YouTube!**



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST



Wednesday, December 24, 2025



5:00 P.M.



Cherry Fellowship
Hall of First Baptist
Church



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Wednesday, December 24, 2025
5:00 p.m.
in Cherry Fellowship Hall

Worship with us on Christmas Eve at 5:00 pm in Cherry Fellowship Hall for our annual Candlelight Service. During the service, the Christ Candle will be lit, we'll sing carols, read the account of the birth of Jesus, and then share the light of Christ.

If you would like to place flowers in the church in honor of or in memory of a loved one, we currently have many Sundays available. Call the church office to reserve. Once your date is reserved, we encourage you to contact your florist to arrange purchase and delivery of the flowers.

Flowers are placed on the stage in Cherry Fellowship Hall for Worship and then you may take them home with you, or donate them to be gifted to local nursing homes or to the homebound. The florist most are using are The Secret Garden Florist on Liberty Hill Road (910-272-0000).



The 2026 Committee on Committees Report and the 2026 Budget have been approved during recent Called Church Conferences. You may pick up a copy of each report in the church office and a copy is in your emails from the church.

The Committee on Committees Report is effective January-December 2026. On the report, you will see columns sorted by year. The folks listed in each column will rotate off of that committee at the end of that year. Those designated with an asterisk (*) by their name is a chairperson.

OFFICE CLOSURES

Christmas

Closed Dec. 24, 25, 26

New Years' Day

Closed Jan. 1

Staff in-and-out of office

Dec. 22 - Jan. 2

*Call the office before coming by
910-739-4336*



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

ECM Phone: 910-738-6608

Website: www.fbclumbertonncc.org

General Email: office@fbclumbertonncc.org

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

Rev. Josh Owens — Senior Pastor;
joshowens@fbclumbertonncc.org

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

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

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



Each month, we have a canned and dry goods food drive, but we need even more donations the coming month. While we usually focus on collecting items the first Sunday of each month, we gladly accept donations anytime. Suggested items include pop-top canned goods (soups, veggies, fruits), cereal, peanut butter, canned meats, pasta and pasta sauce, and toiletries (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, feminine hygiene, etc.). Bring donations to the church office or place them in the labeled bins around the church.

Items most needed:

Baby formula (Similac Advance), Cereal, Ramen Noodles, Ensure/Adult Nutrition Shakes, Canned Food/Pantry Supplies

If you prefer, you may give towards our Community Assistance fund. This designated fund allows us to serve needs in our community through purchasing of food, fuel, hotel rooms, and other needs of folks who call or come to our door seeking assistance.

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 hosts:

Dec. 20 — Bridge Sunday School
Jan. 17 — Fellowship Class
Feb. 21 — Sanctuary Choir
Mar. 21 — Missions Committee
Apr. 18 — Susan Welsh Sunday School



Trinity Episcopal Church, located at 1202 N Chestnut Street, invites us to attend Advent Noontime Concerts for 2025. Each concert will begin at 12:00 noon and will be followed by a free luncheon in the Parish Hall.

Wednesday, Dec. 17
Dan Britt and Lisa Rust

For the Record

Budgeted 2025	\$646,000.00
Weekly Need as Budgeted (2025)	\$12,423.08
Received December 7	\$22,147.74
Need to date	\$608,730.92
Received to date	\$579,023.94
Over (Under) Budget	(\$29,706.98)

*Dec. 7th was the 49th Sunday of the year.
Number of Sundays remaining in 2025 = 3*

Youth Progressive Dinner

Wednesday, December 17th
5:00—8:00 p.m.

Thank you to the Owens and Walters for hosting! We will end up back at FBC for games and dessert. Contact Rev. Doug Reedy if you need more info.



*WMU will not meet in December.
Join us for our next meeting on
Monday, January 19, 2026. Our
meetings are held the 3rd
Monday of each month at 11:45
am in the Activities Building.*

*From the pages of history...
from the Sunday, December 24, 1950 bulletin*

"Here at Christmas Miss Parker, Miss Howard, Mr. Williams and the McLeans wish to all members of our congregation and Sunday School a joyous and spiritually enriching celebration of the birth of our Lord and Saviour. May the true spirit of Christmas, the spirit of goodwill be yours! May the joy of the heavenly host gladden your hearts! May the guiding star of Christ lead you onward into the New Year so that even when shadows fall upon your way the sustaining peace and power of God may abide with you!"

WELCOME!

We recently welcomed new member to First Baptist on Sunday, December 7th. We welcome them to our community of faith!

Terry and Denise Whitley

106 New Kent Street
Lumberton, NC 28358



Bus Team Needs

We have a nice rotation of folks willing to drive our bus to Wesley Pines to pick up residents and bring them to church on Sundays, but we can use a few more "riders" to be just be a presence on the bus and offer support to the driver. If this is a role you can help fill, we will glad to add you to the schedule! Contact the office to express your willingness to assist.

Current Bus Team Needs:
Jan. 4, 2026—Driver & Rider
Jan. 11, 18 — Riders



We have a few immediate openings for childcare in our 2, 3, and 4 year old classes! Call the ECM Office and speak with our Director, Michelle Prevatte: 910-738-6608.

- Hours: 7 am to 6 pm
- Breakfast, Lunch, Snack
- Center-based Indoor Play
- Outdoor Play
- Structured Environment



Deacon Care Teams for 2026 are in the works!

You should receive a letter from your Deacon Care Team leaders in the coming months. If you have questions about any of our ministries, you may contact your Deacon Care team or call the church office at 910-739-4336 or email office@fbclumbertonncc.org. Thank you for allowing us to serve you!

2026 Deacons

Barbara Andrews
Allison Branch
Sandra Cox
William Davis
Phyllis Gibson (Secretary)
James Gore
Donna Hardee
Keith Hardee
Gail Johnson
Lisa Johnson
Jeffery Kinlaw
James W. Lawson
David Ramsaur (Vice Chair)
Christy Strickland (Chair)
John Underwood
Chris Walters

Chestnut Street Methodist Church invites us to attend a Community New Year's Eve Service: "A Time of New Beginnings"

Chestnut Street Methodist Church located at 200 E. 8th Street will host a Community New Year's Eve Service on Wednesday, Dec 31, 2025, at 5:00 pm. Please join us for music and a message from Pastor Herbert Lowry.

Following the service, refreshments will be served in Asbury Hall from 6:00-7:00 pm. This is our opportunity to worship as one body in Christ and seek God's will for us. Let our churches be a solid rock, in a hurting world.

Worship with Us

606 N. Walnut Street
fbclumbertonncc.org

Childcare is available on Sundays and Wednesdays. Nursery 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.

Sundays

Worship in Cherry Fellowship Hall will continue until further notice

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School

10:30 a.m.—Worship in-person or online

4:45 p.m.—Youth Bells Rehearsal

6:00 p.m.—Youth Bible Study

6:00 p.m.—Adult Bells Rehearsal (starting 10/5)

Wednesdays

6:00 p.m.—Adult Bible Study, Youth Doing Missions, and Children's Music and Missions

7:00 p.m.—Adult Choir Rehearsal

Worship services are livestreamed on Facebook Live

facebook.com/firstbaptistlumbertonncc

and on YouTube

youtube.com/c/lumbertontfbc/

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) - Dianne & Layton Britt
ECM Entrance (Handicap) - Gene Horne

10:30 Worship Entrance Greeters

FH Lobby 10:00—11:30 am

Jimmy & Billie Dail

Nursery — Jenna Davis, Brooke Blackmon

Extended Session — Brooke Blackmon, Nancy Wagner

Bus Team — Tyler Pittman & Sandra Cox

Stay in touch by signing up for church emails and text messages!

Text “JOIN” & your email
to 910-941-3878

or scan this QR code
with your cell phone's
camera to access the
sign up form



Coming Up:

Dec. 21 — Adult Choir's Christmas Cantata during 10:30 am Worship.

Dec. 21 — Longest Night Service (Memorial Service) at 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel

Dec. 22 — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in Rm D113. Deacons will meet at 7 pm in the Act. Bld.

Dec. 22-Jan. 2 — Staff will be in-and-out of the office, so please call to be sure someone is here to meet with you.

Dec. 24-26 — Offices and ECM Closed for Christmas

Dec. 24 — Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 5:00 pm in Cherry Fellowship Hall

Dec. 28 — No Sunday School

Dec. 31 — No Wednesday Night Activities

Happy 2026!

Jan. 1 — Offices & ECM Closed for New Years Day

Jan. 6 — Baptist Women's Bible Study Group, 11:45 am, Act. Bld.

Jan. 7 — Youth Ski trip final payment due. Ski trip is Jan. 16-20th to Canaan Valley, WV.

Jan. 8 — Fun & Fellowship, 11 am, Act. Bld.

Jan. 16-20 — Youth Ski trip to Canaan Valley, WV

Jan. 19 — Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. The ECM will be closed to students for a Teacher Work Day.

Jan. 19 — WMU Meeting, 11:45 am, Act. Bld.

Jan. 25 — Youth Passport trip payment due

Jan. 26 — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in Room D-113. Deacons will meet at 7 pm in the Activities Building.

Feb. 6-7 — Summer Literacy Initiative Retreat in Greensboro



Our church website is getting a fresh new look! We're redesigning it for better appearance, easier navigation, and updated information. The website URL will remain the same. Stay tuned for the launch!