



NEWS and VIEWS

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
LENOIR, NORTH CAROLINA

April 2022

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A Word from the Pastor

Hello Friends,

I am so excited about all the good things we have planned for April. I invite you to come and connect with us as we draw closer to each other, and to the Lord.

On April 2nd, we have been invited over to Tyler and Jennifer Sime's home to participate in an Easter Picnic, though I prefer the name, Easter Eggstravaganza (pun intended). It will be a time of fellowship for our church, and everyone is invited. There will be events for the youngest children all the way to the oldest adult, so please plan on attending. And whatever you hear about tossing eggs at the preacher to raise money for missions, don't believe it. On second thought, you better bring your wallets. A good time will be had by all.

Also in April, plan on coming to our Wednesday night activities. We will watch the "Chosen" in one room, and

David will be teaching on prayer in another. We had many of you participate in the forgiveness Bible study, and now we will consider how we speak to and hear from God. If you are more musically inclined, the choir is meeting and preparing selections as we work through Lent and Easter worship. You are welcome to come and help our church worship better.

During Holy Week, you have two important opportunities you do not want to miss. On Thursday, April 14th, we will have Maundy Thursday services. This is the night we participate in the Lord's Supper, and we remember it as the night Jesus was betrayed. Come and join us for a meal at 5:00, and worship at 6:15. (Please note, we will not have Wednesday night activities that week in lieu of Maundy Thursday.)

On Good Friday, April 15th, we have been invited to join several churches to carry the cross through downtown Lenoir. We will follow the stations of the cross and stop off at various places for a time of Bible reading and prayer. This is a new ecumenical event and one of the stations will be here at First Baptist. We will meet at

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Calendar

Sundays

9:45 AM Sunday School
11 AM Worship
6 PM Youth Group

Wednesdays

5:15-6 PM Supper Served
6 PM Bible Study, Adult Choir,
Children's & Youth Activities

Saturday, April 2

2 PM Easter Picnic/Egg Hunt
4 PM Room at the Table

Sunday, April 10

Palm Sunday

Thursday, April 14

6:15 PM Maundy Thursday
Service

Sunday, April 17

Easter Sunday (no Sunday
School)

Monday, April 18

OFFICE CLOSED

Thursday, April 21

7 PM Dr. Smith's Book Club

Monday, April 25

7 PM Deacons Meeting

New Members

We welcome our two newest members who joined by profession of faith on March 20. They will be baptized on Easter Sunday morning.



Hunter Sime

Son of Tyler & Jennifer Sime



Elam Hughes

Son of Josh & Ginger Hughes



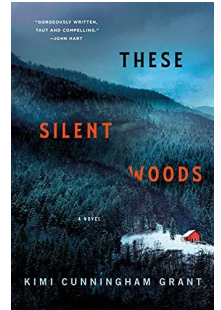
We will gather for Easter worship outside at 11:00 am (no Sunday School) In the back parking lot. We will celebrate the baptism of Hunter Sime & Elam Hughes.

In case of rain, we will worship in the sanctuary.

Remember to bring a chair.

Dr. Smith's Book Club

Dr. Smith's April Book Club selection is These Silent Woods by Kimi Cunningham Grant. The group will meet via Zoom on Thursday, April 21, at 7:00 PM for discussion. Please contact the church office if you would like to participate.




Wednesday Evenings in April

Beginning Wednesday evening, April 6, we will begin a 4-week gathering called "Prayer: Focusing on God." At 6:00 PM, we will continue the film series "The Chosen," while this group will meet in the multi-purpose room.

During these four weeks, we will discuss topics such as: Unanswered Prayers, Prayers in the Bible, Fresh Forms of Prayer, and the Discipline of Prayer. And...we will pray together.

In her book, Mudhouse Sabbath, Dr. Lauren Winner writes about the focus of prayer. She states that without prayer, we "lapse into narcissism." Prayer focuses on God. Without prayer, we focus on ourselves. Prayer places God in the center of the universe. Without prayer, we think we are the center of the universe.

Our gathering on these Wednesday nights will focus, not on ourselves, but upon God. Come join us.

	Sunday, March, 6	Regular Schedule
	Sunday, March 13	Regular Schedule
	Sunday, March 20	Regular Schedule
	Sunday, March 27	Regular Schedule

Last Call for Mission Trip

April will be a blur with Easter and all of a sudden it will be May and hotel reservations are due! We had a great response to our East St. Louis mission trip. We have 38 people ready to go. If you signed up, please remember your \$50 deposit ASAP...if you still want to sign up, please let Thomas know ASAP. The dates for the trip are July 16-23.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT
meal

Supper is served from 5:15 -6:00 PM each Wednesday. Please contact the church office by noon on Tuesday each week to make a reservation for that Wednesday.

- April 6 BBQ Chicken, Scalloped Potatoes, Peas, Slaw Dessert
- April 14 MAUNDY THURSDAY: Steak Stir Fry, Rice, Carrots, Dessert
- April 20 Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Hash Browns, Biscuits & Gravy, Dessert
- April 27 Hamburger Steak with Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Roll, Dessert

WORSHIP
volunteers

April: Merlin Perry, Judy Perry, David Gray, Susan Gray, Shirley Rowen, Tim Poarch, Robert Reid, Megan Reid



Easter Flower Cross

If you would like to donate flowers for our Easter Flower Cross , please bring them to the church dining room by 9:00 AM on Easter Sunday morning.



Mark Your Calendar

Make plans to join us for BBQ, music, and fellowship Sunday, May 22nd, at the home of AP Anderson. Everyone is invited. Watch for more details!



Join Women on Mission for a 7-week Bible study, "Chosen" - A Study on the Book of Ephesians, beginning Sunday, April 3 at 6:00 PM. (This is NOT the same series that Josh is using on Wednesday evenings.)

All women are encouraged to come!

Contact Crystal Dula (828-323-7039) if you would like to participate.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 4/1 Tracie Martin
- 4/2 Dick Story
 Jeff Clark
- 4/5 Tom Smith
- 4/7 Makayla Roberts
 Lee Hoyle
- 4/9 Millie Brooks
 Ginny Temple
- 4/11 Kaitlin Hoyle
- 4/13 Holden Lawing (17)
 Collis Bentley (14)
- 4/14 Jimmy Clark
- 4/15 Nina Pritchard
- 4/16 Gary Shore
 Anna Rose Reid (19)
 Emelia Hughes (1)
- 4/18 Helen Dockery
- 4/19 Thomas Hinton
 Marsha Pendry
- 4/20 Will Wakefield
 Carmen Saunders
- 4/22 Kaitlin Crawford
- 4/22 Joe Davis
- 4/24 Phoebe Barber (5)
- 4/25 Steven Pennell
- 4/27 Kathy Keck
 Alex Clawson
 Sydney Clawson
- 4/28 Debbie Pritchard
 Gary Clawson
- 4/29 Jo Ann Suddreth

FINANCIAL REPORT

Budget Needs for 2022
\$836,680.00

YTD Budget Receipts
\$237,016.42

A Word from the Pastor (Continued from Page 1)

St. Stephens Lutheran Church, 1406 Harper Ave. in Lenoir at 11 A.M., and the walk will begin. It will conclude at First United Methodist. Please join us as we remember Jesus' journey to Calvary and His crucifixion.

Easter Sunday is the most important day for Christians because it is the day we celebrate Jesus' resurrection. Easter will be April 17th, and we will gather for one service outside at 11 A.M. (no Sunday School). We will have baptism, the Adult Choir, and a brass choir in addition to many of the other Easter traditions of FBC Lenoir. Don't forget to bring a chair as we worship together. If for some reason the rain washes us out, we will meet inside in the sanctuary.

April is a wonderful month for our church. It will be made better by your presence here with us.

Blessings on you and yours,

Josh Hughes

Opportunity to Serve

The Soup Kitchen is looking for volunteers and a paid position for a part-time cook. If you are interested in helping in this ministry, please contact Angel at the Soup Kitchen at 828-758-1411.

Thank You!

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for all the cards, phone calls, and especially the prayers during my recent surgery and hospitalization. It meant so much to know that you were thinking of me.

Sandy Kahill

Dear Church,

My cancer has taken an unexpected turn, and with that, I just wanted to take the time to say thank you for all the prayers, flowers, treats, calls, texts, cards that have lifted me up along the way. Prayer does work, in case you are wondering. Staying connected to the church is important in such times, in case you are wondering about that as well.

I am so very humbled by the love that has been shown to me and so very grateful that many members of this church are now what I consider family. I don't plan on going anywhere until God says it is time. I will continue to thank Him daily for blessing me with my church family.

Much love to you all,
Terri Clapsaddle

STAFF

Rev. Josh Hughes
SENIOR PASTOR
Dr. Thomas R. Hinton
MINISTER OF MUSIC & YOUTH
Dr. David B. Smith
ASSOCIATE MINISTER OF
PASTORAL CARE
Rebecca K. Lawing
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
Carla Reid
ORGANIST
Nan R. Benfield
PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR
Gary Johnson
BUSINESS MANAGER
Diane Palmer
FINANCIAL ASSISTANT
Brenda Walters
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Kathy Keck
MISSIONS ADMIN. ASSISTANT
Nicki Blevins
CHURCH HOSTESS
Robert Benfield
MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR
Bill Wakefield
MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT
Krista Hamby
CUSTODIAN