



# NEWS and VIEWS

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
LENOIR, NORTH CAROLINA  
(828) 758-8428 • fbclenoir.com

August 2022



## A Word from the Pastor

Dear Church Family,

July 31, 2022, brings an end to an era at First Baptist Lenoir. Dr. Thomas Hinton has been a beloved minister at First Baptist for 32 years. Known for his creative ideas and his vibrant personality, I can say unequivocally that to know Thomas is to love Thomas. He has blessed the very youngest to the very oldest in our fellowship and we are better because he has come our way. On a personal note, Thomas has been an indelible colleague and faithful friend to me and my family from day one of my tenure here. While I am saddened to see him go, I am excited about what the future holds for him and Kim. Thank you, Thomas, from all of us, for who you are, and for the way you loved and served the people of First Baptist Lenoir. Your work lives in the hearts of us all and will be remembered in heaven for all eternity.

As Thomas retires, I am grateful for the work of the Personnel Committee which

has helped us meet the challenge of finding capable ministers to lead us in an interim period. I am proud that Becca Lawing, a dear friend, and coworker already at FBC, will become our Interim Youth Minister. Gifted in every way, Becca is a wonderful leader and communicator to our young people. She has numerous ideas for the coming year, and I am excited about how she will contribute to this ministry going forward.

Our Personnel Committee also found a gifted minister to lead us in worship. Beginning August 7<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Aaron Rice will be our Interim Music Minister. An accomplished musician, Dr. Rice is the Chair of the Music Department and Associate Professor of Music and Worship at Gardner-Webb University. He brings his wife Lane, their daughter, Kati Fletcher, and their son, Henry, to FBC. I am excited about the direction of our worship going forward and I am hopeful that you will join me in welcoming the Rice family to our fellowship.

There are several things going on in August that you need to know about. There will be a vote on Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup>,

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WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

**Saturday, August 6**

Room at the Table 4 PM

**Sunday, August 7**

Vote on Worship Schedule

**Sunday, August 21**

Church Birthday Breakfast  
8:45 AM

**Monday, August 22**

Deacons Meeting

**Sunday, August 28**

Youth Sunday

## THANK YOU volunteers

Thank you to those who served our community at the Blackberry festival this Summer. We appreciate the time you gave on a rather hot and humid Saturday! Those who volunteered are listed below:

Randell & Crystal Dula, Emily Hillis, Josh Hughes, Deb & Rich Lien, Sarah Lovins, Stephanie Macchia, Freddie & Nancy Moore, Mary Ann Robbins, Deborah & Wade Smith, David & Jarma Stevens, Edie Stader, Derrick Walters, Mitzi White

## Letter of Gratitude

Dear First Baptist Church,

On behalf of the Christian Activity Center, I want to convey my sincere appreciation for your partnership and continuous support. I learned of the long-standing history the CAC has with FBC Lenoir. Everything that was stated was indeed true and far exceeded my expectations.

Led by the awesome Dr. Thomas Hinton, your team willingly and joyfully shared their gifts and talents with my staff and our kids. Even in the midst of intense heat, no one complained but instead gave praise to God.

The spirit of excellence displayed by their work ethic and craftsmanship is commendable. This type of attitude demonstrates what it means to glorify our Heavenly Father in all we do as instructed in 1 Corinthians 10:31.

While I could go on, I will close by saying thank you once again. I'm excited that God has brought us together for this awesome kingdom work.

Blessings to you all,  
Rev. Jeffrey Williams, PHD  
Executive Director



## Youth Area Renovation



The deacons have approved a renovation of the youth area on the 4th floor. This is the first renovation in that area since 1993.

Demolition began on July 25. During this time, the youth will meet in the Multi-Purpose Room for Sunday School and Sunday evening activities. We are excited about the renovation and the space it will provide for our teenagers to study, fellowship, and grow together.



## Birthday Breakfast

We will celebrate the 133rd birthday of FBC on Sunday morning, August 21, with a churchwide breakfast at 8:45 in the dining room. Please look for a sign-up sheet at church or contact the church office to make a reservation.



## Reminder:

On Sunday morning, August 7, we will have a ballot vote on the Diaconate proposal to continue Sunday morning worship at 10AM and meet for Sunday School at 9AM.

## A Word from the Pastor (Continued from Page 1)

which will determine the worship time going forward. Please plan to be in attendance that week as we decide when we will worship. On August 21<sup>st</sup>, we will celebrate the church's birthday. We will have breakfast that morning with worship to follow. And on August 28<sup>th</sup>, we will return for Sunday School and celebrate Youth Sunday as our worship service.

Thank you for your faithfulness to First Baptist. We pray God's blessing and wisdom upon us all as we walk in a period of change. With that said, however, the comfort we take is that we do not walk alone, for we walk with the Father, and with each other.

Blessings on you and yours,  
Josh Hughes

WORSHIP

volunteers

August

Dick Story  
Bill Wakefield  
Abby Gragg

Debbie Pritchard  
Hal Lawing  
Dylan Gragg

Jeff Clark  
Mavis Lackey

### FBC Library



The FBC Library is sponsoring a new book club, with the first book and discussion to begin this fall. Not a Bible study, the focus is on light fiction reads with inspirational themes. The first selection is *Bless Your Heart, Rae Sutton*, by Susannah B. Lewis, about a woman who goes back home to start over after divorce and a family death. It is "wise,

witty, and full of Southern charm" and a "delightful, beautiful story of loss, forgiveness, redemption, and hope". We'll have copies available in the church library. It's also available everywhere books are sold.

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the cards, calls, and compassion expressed to my family during the time of mom's hospitalization and passing. We were moved and blessed that the church she loved so much honored her in such a caring way.

Ann Canipe Spann and the  
Katherine Canipe Family

*Thank You*

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 8/2 Anna Reeves (18)  
Liz Icenhour
- 8/3 Bryan Ellis  
Gary Johnson  
Katie Story (17)  
Kennedy Story (17)
- 8/4 Jeff Joines
- 8/5 Jerry Kahill
- 8/6 Scott Greene
- 8/7 Steven Stewart
- 8/8 Anna Kate Bryson (21)  
Harold Passig  
Kati Fletcher Rice (8)
- 8/9 Mike Hargadon  
Jeannie Hargadon
- 8/10 Emmaline Reid (16)
- 8/12 Darin Smith  
Lauren Clark  
Suni Picton
- 8/14 Buzz Sims  
Karen Harrison
- 8/15 Charles Hathcock, Jr.  
Mary Ann Shull
- 8/16 Sandie Cannon
- 8/17 Libby Tucker  
Lewis Price
- 8/18 Lindsay Avila  
Major Smith (5)
- 8/19 Beth Reeves  
Jon Smith
- 08/20 Marvin Lovins  
Julie Smith  
Jenny Miller
- 8/23 Paula Capps
- 8/24 Annette Sanders
- 8/25 Dock Seagle
- 8/26 Josh Hughes
- 8/27 Josh Woodruff  
Chad Ester  
Jana Wike
- 8/28 Austen Moore (19)  
Luke Roberts (16)
- 8/29 Brooke Parker
- 8/30 Dan Wortman  
Ella Stilwell (11)
- 8/31 Vicki Gentry  
Carla Reid

## “Paper Drive” for FBC Preschool

School will start before long and that means our FBC Preschool students will be returning for another fun-filled year. Our Preschool Committee is sponsoring a “Paper Drive” to help stock the preschool with needed supplies. If you would like to donate any of the items listed below, you may place them in the green tote located in the 1st floor hallway:



Copy Paper  
Baby Wipes

Paper Towels  
Clorox/Cleaning Wipes

## Join Us for Sunday School

Sunday School will resume on August 28 and we have a class for everyone! Feel free to try a different class each until you find the one that is right for you.

### Classes

Beam Class (3rd floor)  
Ledbetter Class (3rd floor)  
Shuford Class (3rd floor)  
Ladies' Class (3rd floor)  
The Misfits Class (3rd floor)  
30 Somethings (1st floor)  
Young Professionals (3rd floor)  
Youth (4th floor)

4th-6th Grades (2nd floor)  
1st-3rd Grades (2nd floor)  
4-5 Year Olds (2nd floor)  
3 Year Olds (2nd floor)

### Teachers

John Powell  
Alvin Daughtride/Darrell Pennell  
David Gray  
Teresa Transou  
Rich Lien/Tom McRary/Todd Perdue  
Josh Hughes  
David Smith/Derrick Walters  
Terri Clapsaddle/Jared & Courtney Wright/Maggie Davis/John & Amy Moore/Monteen German  
Gretchen Haas/Anita Redding  
Diane Palmer/Donna McRary  
Susan Walker  
Nan Benfield



Sun., August 21 ..... Parent/Teen Kick-Off Meeting—6 PM at FBC

Sun., August 28 ..... Youth Sunday—lead in morning worship  
6 PM—Pool Party at the home of Randell & Crystal Dula

## New Member



We welcomed Grayson Clark, one of our own, into the membership of FBC by profession of faith on July 24.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Budget Needs for 2022  
**\$836,680.00**  
YTD Budget Receipts  
**\$456,410.54**

### STAFF

**Rev. Josh Hughes**  
SENIOR PASTOR  
**Dr. Aaron Rice**  
INTERIM MUSIC MINISTER  
**Dr. David B. Smith**  
ASSOCIATE MINISTER OF PASTORAL CARE  
**Rebecca K. Lawing**  
CHILDREN'S & INTERIM YOUTH 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