



NEWS and VIEWS

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

February, 2022



A Word from the Pastor

Love one another
as I have *Loved* you
-John 15:12

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

Thursday, February 3

Dr. Smith's Book Club 7 PM

Saturday, February 5

4 PM Room at the Table

Sunday, February 20

5 PM Valentine Banquet
7:30 PM Mission Team
Meeting

Monday, February 28

Deacons Meeting 7 PM

Hello Friends,

As many of you know, the deacons had a retreat last month where we talked about where the church is now, and where we want it to be in the future. We had some very honest and open conversations about the toll the Pandemic has taken on us over the last two years. At the outset of the pandemic, I was worried about how the church would make it month to month financially. Would the congregation give faithfully if we did not meet in the sanctuary regularly? And of course, you not only met our needs, but exceeded everything we have asked for. Where was my faith?

Honestly, what I did not expect was the toll the pandemic took on us as individuals, and more specifically, in how it has made us all more disconnected from one another. As the deacons talked, it became quite apparent just how much we need one another, and that by coming together, we will be in a better position to face whatever is coming our way in the future.

So, with that in mind, I want you to know that your church staff and lay leaders are working closely together in building and at times, rebuilding, those connections with others that may have faltered recently. We are making efforts to plan social events and missional opportunities so that we would come together as a fellowship. I am pleased to announce that the first of our gatherings will be February 20th in our dining hall. We are having a Valentine's banquet, and you may sign up for it today. There will be childcare and nursery care available, and we will have entertainment from our former colleague, Mr. Todd Wright, on the piano. What a night it will be!

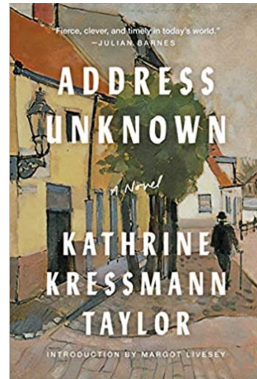
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**HERE I AM
SEND ME
ST. LOUIS MISSION TRIP**

You are invited to attend the St. Louis Mission Team Meeting on Sunday, February 20, at 7:30 PM. This meeting will provide basic details and an opportunity for you to sign up for specific work teams and roommates. The dates for this trip are July 16-23.

**Dr. Smith's
Book Club**

The Book Club will meet via Zoom on Thursday, February 3. The book for this month will be **Address Unknown** by Kathrine



Kressmann Taylor. This is the shortest and most unusual book we have read. It is a novel written in 1939 and the story is set in 1933. The novel is written in the form of letters exchanged between a Jewish art dealer in San Francisco and his former business partner who has moved to Munich, Germany. The book is available on Amazon and is such a short read that we may be able to share copies with each other. I found it helpful in understanding the book by carefully reading the Introduction as I began as well as the Afterword when I finished. I look forward to hearing your responses to this novel which is little known in our day. DBS

Thank you

The Christmas Wishes program at Baton Elementary would like to extend our sincere appreciation and thanks to you for your kindness in assisting our children and families during the 2021 holiday season. Many of our families have experienced financial hardships and without your generous giving, these families would not be able to provide the Christmas their children deserve.

Your contributions and gifts have given those in need a much brighter holiday season. Thank you again for your support!

Heather Simmons
School Counselor Baton Elementary



February 20 • 5:00 PM

Sign up to enjoy a steak or chicken dinner and entertainment by Todd Wright & Friends

Cost:

- Steak Dinner - \$15
- Chicken Dinner - \$10
- Child's Plate - \$5

Please make your reservation by February 13.



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

- February 2Potato Soup with Toppings Bar, Cheese Toast, Dessert
- February 9Chicken Pie, Green Beans, Corn, Slaw, Dessert
- February 16Toss It Up! Antipasto Salad, Broccoli Salad, Crab Salad, Cheese, Crackers, Dessert
- February 23Pork Roast, Sweet Potatoes, Roasted Zucchini, Dessert

WORSHIP volunteers

February: Gary Johnson, Beth Johnson, Cotton Triplett, Sandi Triplett, Crystal Dula, Shirley Orrell



- Sunday, Feb, 6..... Regular Schedule
(DEADLINE FOR CASWELL DEPOSITS)
- Sunday, Feb. 13..... No Youth—Super Bowl Sunday
- Sunday, Feb. 20..... Regular Schedule PLUS
7:30 St. Louis Mission Meeting
- Sunday, Feb. 27..... Regular Schedule

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 2/1 Dylan Moore
Abby Reeves (20)
Scott Wilson
- 2/2 Cheryl Keener
- 2/3 Ethan Miller (15)
- 2/4 Drew Icenhour
- 2/5 Reese Pennell (4)
- 2/6 Sarah Chase
Avery Gilbert
Jamie Stewart
- 2/7 Noah Powell (19)
- 2/8 Rachel Coffey
Jarma Stevens
- 2/9 Megan Reid
- 2/10 Brooklyn Greene (10)
Ann Helms
- 2/11 Margie Broach
- 2/12 Lindsey Greene (19)
Stuart Tucker
- 2/13 Ryan Winkler (16)
- 2/17 Jr. Johnson
Judy Prevost
- 2/18 Maddy Wright (15)
- 2/20 David Smith
- 2/21 Sydney Pennell (8)
Hunter Sime (12)
Sawyer Sime (12)
Lisa Winkler
- 2/23 Steve Austin
Merlin Perry
Lauren Wilson (21)
- 2/24 Henry Holland
Cy Sims
- 2/26 Jessica Bentley
- 2/27 Jodi Sanders

FINANCIAL REPORT

Budget Needs for 2022
\$836,680.00
YTD Budget Receipts
\$107,568.00

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More than that, I am asking you to consider where you are in your relationship with the church and with others who are attending here. We miss you when you are not here, so I am personally inviting each one of you back to FBC Lenoir. I know the pandemic is real and raging. I know that some of you cannot come due to health concerns, and I totally understand. But for those of you who have simply fallen out of the habit of weekly attendance, this is your chance for renewal.

God has placed in each of our hearts a calling to serve in His Kingdom, and a need to fellowship with like-minded believers. Come to First Baptist and find your place of service and ministry as we bless our community with the love of God and the hope we find in the risen Christ. I look forward to worshipping with you Sunday.

May God bless you and keep you,

Rev. Josh Hughes

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