



NEWS and VIEWS

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

February 2024



A Word from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

We have entered the month of February which means one thing... Valentine's Day is coming and those of you with a sweetheart better get ready. While February 14th is a day to celebrate with candies and cards, are you aware of how that day originated?

That day was set aside by the Catholic Church to commemorate the life of a priest named Valentinus. Against a Roman edict that forbade young men to get married and thereby prevent them from joining the Roman army, Valentinus married couples secretly. He was arrested for defying the Emperor's edict. While being held in captivity, Father Valentinus ministered to the jailer and his family who in turn became Christians. Upon his refusal to recant his faith in the year 269, he was beheaded. Legend has it that on the night before his death, he wrote a note to the jailer and his family, signing it, "From Your Valentine."

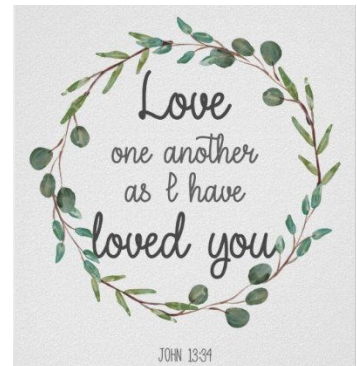
As you can see, Valentine's Day is about love, but not love in the way we often celebrate it today. So, as we enter this month, I challenge you to remember to express your love to others. Whether it is to a sweetheart or a stranger, we as followers of

Christ must share love with anyone we encounter. I hope that we as the people of God do not wait for just one day a year to express love; instead, may we share it every day of our lives. My prayer is that we reflect the love of God, as we serve Him in this community and beyond.

I want to call your attention to three events this month that I want you to attend. We are having a Family Fun Night on February 7th with great music, magic, and the Newlywed Game. The following week on February 14th, we are having the Ash Wednesday Service, and it will begin our journey to the cross during the season of Lent. And finally, we are having a "Night with Mark Lowry" on February 15th at the Civic Center. Please contact the church office ASAP to reserve a seat so you will not miss this opportunity. I look forward to seeing you not only at these times, but every Sunday for worship as well.

In His Love,

Josh



CALENDER

SUNDAYS

Worship 10 AM
Adult Choir Practice 11:15 AM
Adult Handbell Practice 5 PM
Youth 6 PM
WOM Bible Study 6 PM

WEDNESDAYS

Supper 5:15-6 PM
Adult Bible Study 6 PM
Youth Bible Study 6 PM
Children's Choir 6 PM
Children's Missions 6:30 PM

Wednesday, February 7

Supper 5:15 PM
Family Fun Night 6 PM

Sunday, February 11

Youth Super Bowl Party 6 PM

Tuesday, February 13

Ladies Bible Study 9:30 AM
Men's Bible Study 7 PM

Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday Service 6:15 PM

Thursday, February 15

Mark Lowry Performance 7 PM
JE Broyhill Civic Center

Tuesday, February 20

Ladies Bible Study 9:30 AM
Men's Bible Study 7 PM

Tuesday, February 27

Ladies Bible Study 9:30 AM
Men's Bible Study 7 PM



WEDNESDAY NIGHT meal

Wednesday suppers are served from 5:15-6PM. Please contact the church office by noon on Tuesday each week to

make a reservation for that Wednesday or you may place your name on the permanent reservation list.

- February 7.....Hamburger Steak & Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Dessert
- February 14Breakfast Casserole, Grits, Biscuits & Gravy, Fruit, Muffins Pickles, Dessert
- February 21Pork Chops, White Beans, Greens, Slaw, Beets, Cornbread, Dessert
- February 28Baked Potatoes with Toppings, Salad, Rolls, Dessert

YOUTH GROUP

- Thurs., Feb. 1Caswell Deposits Due
- Sun., Feb. 4Modified Schedule—Shopping for HHS student in need due to a fire.
- Wed., Feb. 7Family Fun Night
- Sun., Feb. 11Super Bowl Party 6 PM
- Wed., Feb. 14Ash Wednesday Service 6 PM
- Sun., Feb. 18Regular Schedule
- Wed., Feb. 215:15 Meal; Youth Bible Study 6:00
- Sat., Feb. 24WINTER JAM
- Sun., Feb. 25Regular Schedule
- Wed., Feb. 285:15 Meal; Youth Bible Study 6:00

FEBRUARY GREETERS

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| David Stevens | John Davis |
| Jarma Stevens | Edie Stader |
| Geraldine Martin | Mitzi White |
| David Martin | Mary Teague |
| Millie Brooks | Brian Teague |



Sofia Macchia



Evelyn Moore



Tom & Emily Hillis, Emma, Ben
Not pictured: Jack Hillis



Betty Jo (BJ) Setzer

thank you

Dear First Baptist Church,

Thank you so much for the check to help our family while Adam is at Baptist—it is greatly appreciated.

More so, we covet your prayers for Adam's recovery and for our family. The Lord is such an amazing provider. We are blessed.

Adam & Heather Minor

Dear Church Family,

Thank for the prayers, messages, cards, calls, visits, food, and many other kindnesses during my recent illness and surgery. I am thankful for a loving church family.

Robert Benfield

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your visits, calls, food, and especially your prayers. There are no words that can really tell you how much it meant to me and my family for the four weeks I spent in bed before surgery. Also, thank you for the beautiful scripture and prayer Josh read right before they took me to surgery. May God bless each of you.

Mary Ann Robbins & Family

FBC Lenoir Family,

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you. The generous sponsorship of so many members made this Christmas truly magical for WCHS students. Your generosity extends far beyond the gifts themselves. Your sponsorship signifies hope, compassion, and a belief in the value of every child. Thank you again for your incredible generosity and selflessness. May this year be filled with joy, peace, and blessings.

Joyfully,
Ashley Byers
WCHS School Social Worker

Thank you so much for having the wonderful and generous coat drive each year. You should see the looks on our students faces! You "warm up" their lives!

Danelle & Stephanie
Davenport Elementary

Thank you so much for all the Christmas gift donations. Your kindness spread a lot of happiness to a lot of people! Even the staff enjoyed seeing the happiness on their faces when they received Christmas gifts. God bless each of you!

Koinonia Residents & Staff

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 2/1 Dylan Moore
Abby Reeves
Bill Terry
- 2/2 Cheryl Keener
- 2/4 Drew Icenhour
Tommy Melton
- 2/5 Reese Pennell (6)
- 2/6 Avery Gilbert (20)
Jamie Stewart
- 2/7 Noah Powell (21)
- 2/8 Rachel Coffey
Jarma Stevens
- 2/9 Megan Reid
- 2/10 Brooklyn Greene (12)
Ann Helms
- 2/12 Zeke Frye (19)
Lindsey Greene (21)
Stuart Tucker
- 2/13 Ryan Winkler (18)
- 2/17 Jr. Johnson
Judy Prevost
- 2/18 Audrey Bentley
Maddy Wright (17)
- 2/20 Tom Hillis
David Smith
- 2/21 Sydney Pennell (10)
Hunter Sime (14)
Sawyer Sime (14)
Lisa Winkler
- 2/23 Merlin Perry
- 2/24 Cy Sims
- 2/26 Jessica Bentley
Ben Hillis
- 2/27 Jodi Sanders
- 2/28 Maecyn Bentley (8)
Jack Hillis (20)

STAFF

Dr. Josh Hughes

SENIOR PASTOR

Rev. Michael Jennings

MINISTER OF
MUSIC & WORSHIP

Becca Lawing

MINISTER OF YOUTH,
CHILDREN & CONNECTIONS

Zeke Frye

CHURCH INTERN

Carla Reid

ORGANIST

Gary Johnson

BUSINESS MANAGER

Brenda Walters

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Diane Palmer

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Kathy Keck

MISSIONS ADMIN. ASSISTANT

Audrey Bentley

FBC PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

Nicki Blevins

CHURCH HOSTESS

Robert Benfield

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Bill Wakefield

MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT

Krista Hamby

CUSTODIAN