



# NEWS and VIEWS

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
LENOIR, NORTH CAROLINA

(828) 758-8428 • fbclenoir.com

January 2024



## A Word from the Pastor

Happy New Year Church Family! 2023 is over, and 2024 has just begun. As you are making your New Year's resolutions, I challenge you to decide to make your relationship with God your top priority and all the rest will fall into place.

Perhaps the best way to begin the New Year is in worship. Come on January 7<sup>th</sup> and participate in the Lord's Supper Service. This service will set the course for us for the coming year as we remember the love of God as given through the sacrificial atonement of Christ.

On January 14<sup>th</sup>, we will have a special worship service as we ordain two new deacons, John Davis and Deb Lien. As we ordain them, we will set them apart for service to this church. While they will be challenged to serve and unify the church, I ask you to make your needs known to them, and trust them in their servant leadership as they strive to make the church and our community a better place.

With that said, 2024 is a time when you can serve the church as well. There are six deacon committees who are currently looking for congregational servants. You can serve on Care/Share, Education, Mission, Property, Stewardship, and Personnel. If you are interested in participating on any of these committees, please contact Todd Perdue, our Deacon Chairman. Beyond those committees, we are

currently seeking volunteers to serve in the nursery. Our children's ministry is growing, and we need help. If you would be willing to give an hour of your time periodically for the betterment of our littles, we would be grateful. Contact Becca for further information.

Finally, I want to say thank you to our staff and volunteers who have done such an admirable job during this past year. From the office staff, the ministerial staff, the preschool staff, the music team, and the audiovisual team, they have given of themselves time and time again, and our church has flourished because of their dedication. Thank you staff and volunteers for all you have done to make 2023 the successful year that it was for our fellowship.

When 2023 began, we had no idea of what it had to offer. As we look to 2024, we again do not know the future. But what we do know is that with God leading us, and our commitment to follow Him, we will be where we need to be and do what we need to do regardless of the circumstances.

May God bless you and keep you and yours in the New Year.

Josh

### CALENDER

#### SUNDAYS

Worship 10 AM  
Adult Choir Practice 11:15 AM  
Adult Handbell Practice 5 PM  
Youth 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

#### Monday, January 1

New Year's Day—Office Closed

#### Thursday, January 3

College Kids Reunion 5 PM

#### Saturday, January 6

Room at the Table 4 PM

#### Sunday, January 7

Worship with Communion 10 AM  
Parent/Teen Night 5:30 PM

#### Tuesday, January 9

Service for the Unclaimed  
11 AM Blue Ridge

#### Saturday, January 13

Deacon Retreat 9 AM—12 PM  
Ledbetter Class Lunch 11:30 AM

#### Sunday, January 14

Worship with Deacon Ordination  
10 AM



## 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.

- January 10.....Ham, Pinto Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Slaw, Cornbread, Dessert
- January 17.....Vegetable Beef Soup & Tomato Basil Soup, Cheese & Crackers, Pickles, Dessert
- January 24.....Taco/Mexican Night
- January 13.....Baked Tortellini, Garlic Bread, Salad, Dessert

## YOUTH GROUP

- Wed., Jan. 3 .....Help take down decorations
- Sun., Jan. 7 .....Parent/Teen Night 5:30
- Wed., Jan. 10 .....5:15 Meal; Youth Bible Study 6:00
- Sun., Jan. 14 .....No Youth
- Wed., Jan. 17 .....5:15 Meal; Youth Bible Study 6:00
- Sun., Jan. 21 .....Regular Schedule
- Wed., Jan. 24 .....5:15 Meal; Youth Bible Study 6:00
- Sun., Jan. 28 .....Regular Schedule
- Wed., Jan. 31 .....5:15 Meal; Youth Bible Study 6:00



Youth Progressive Dinner



Women on Mission begin the 12-week Bible study, *Experiencing God*, on January 14. All you need is the *Experiencing God* member book and a spiral bound notebook for personal journaling during the study. You can purchase the book from [lifeway.com](http://lifeway.com). Please contact Crystal Dula (828-323-7039) for more information.

## JANUARY



Lord's Supper  
Sunday, January 7



Service for the Unclaimed  
Blue Ridge Memorial  
Tuesday, January 9, 11 AM



Sunday, January 14



Dear First Baptist Fellow Christians,

Thank you for allowing me and my piano students and families to use your beautiful church for our piano recital. Everyone made comments on how beautifully decorated it was! Thank you again. We were blessed to use your facility.

Sincerely, Janet Hayes

To the Congregation of FBC Lenoir,

Thank you for your generous donation of coats to the students of Gateway School. It seems impossible for students to not understand the love their community has for them. The coats are so thoughtfully chosen and very much appreciated by the students. I wish you could see them grow in height and confidence when they try on for size and accept your gift. The staff is also comforted and inspired by your generosity...knowing we can meet this need because of your gift allows us to keep teaching and loving. Thank you from all of us at Gateway School.

Darlene Berry, Social Worker

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the love and support you have shown my family during my Dad's illness and after his passing. The cards, the calls, and your prayers have meant so much. We are so thankful for our church family. God bless you!

Teresa & Charles Thomas  
Jake Watson Family

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the cards, phone calls, emails, and especially the prayers after my fall and during my rehab. I am still doing therapy and will appreciate your continued prayers. Thank you again and Merry Christmas to all!

Sandy Kahill

Dear FBC Church Family,

Thank you so much for the prayers, visits, cards, and food while David was in the hospital and at Shaire Center. He is home recuperating and getting better every day. He would still enjoy visits, phone calls, and cards. A special thank you to the ramp committee led by Phillip Pritchard and his group of fine carpenters, Seth Stilwell, Mark Transou, and Derrick Walters. We appreciate everything you have done.

David & Libby Tucker

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 1/1 Dena Henkle
- 1/2 Jimmy Coggin  
Katie Kaufman
- 1/4 Jenna Pennell  
Eva Barber
- 1/6 Rocky Brooks  
Wanda Ellis  
Betsy McSwain
- 1/7 Todd Champion
- 1/9 Wendy Tucker  
Bellamy Kate Craig (6)
- 1/10 Clint Story
- 1/11 Louise Bradshaw  
Sharon Coggin  
Dawn Hall
- 1/13 James Davis
- 1/14 Dan Anderson  
Rob Winkler
- 1/15 Joey Hoyle
- 1/17 Bradley Craig
- 1/18 Macy Dickson
- 1/20 Frances Malcolm  
Doug Walker
- 1/21 Barbara Jolley  
Carlie Blevins (17)
- 1/22 Mo Smith (11)
- 1/25 Lena Annas  
David Sellers  
Tracey Truesdale
- 1/26 Crystal Dula  
Diane Palmer  
Kathryn Perdue
- 1/27 Asher Cloninger (1)
- 1/28 Joseph Reid  
Hallie Winkler
- 1/29 Mavis Lackey
- 1/31 Terry Goble  
Gail Holland  
Becca Lawing  
Darrell Pennell





JANUARY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

- Sue Ellen Brookshire
- Dan Anderson
- Ervil Anderson
- John Dockery
- Helen Dockery
- Tom McRary
- Cy Sims
- Wendy Sims
- Buzzy Sims
- Steven Stewart

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