



NEWS and VIEWS

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
LENOIR, NORTH CAROLINA

July 2023

(828) 758-8428 • fbclenoir.com



A Word from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Thank you to all who made Caswell and VBS possible this year. Our youth and children had a great time and both groups were blessed enormously. Thank you to all the volunteers who served and made these weeks memorable. Your sacrifice of time, money, and sleep blessed our young people. It is events like these that are memorable in their faith journey, and we look forward to doing these things again next year.

There are two fun things I want you to attend this month. On July 2nd, we will gather for a picnic lunch over at the Mulberry Recreation Department Pavilions immediately following the morning service. Don't forget to pack your lunch and an extra chair. Secondly, FBC has been asked to serve the blackberry cobbler at the Blackberry festival on Saturday, July 15th. If you are serving, please plan to wear your FBC Lenoir T-shirt, because its message says it best: "The Church Has Left the Building." If you do not have a shirt, please contact the church office and we will do our best to get you one.

Over the last year, we have dealt with a lot of transitions. Thomas left last July, and then Dr. Smith and Dr. Rice both left last month. While none of this was unexpected, it does not make these changes any easier. Thank you to Dr. David Smith for over 30 years of faithful service to FBC Lenoir. He was the consummate Pastor, and his retirement is well deserved. Thank you to Dr. Aaron Rice for faithfully leading our music for 11 months. He was a steady presence in a time of great undulation, and our choir and worship benefitted greatly from his leadership.

The good news I have for you is that Becca Lawing is our full-time Youth, Children's, and Connections minister, and she is doing a fabulous job. We will all be blessed by her faithful service. And on August 1st, Michael Jennings will begin his ministry here with us. I cannot wait for him to come and join us in the work for the Kingdom here. He will be a great asset to our ministry staff.

In all this, there is one thing I am certain: God is faithful. God has walked with us all the way, and God will continue to do so in the future. The great question is will we remain faithful to Him? I pray we do to the best of our ability.

Blessings on you and yours,

Dr. Josh Hughes

CALENDER

SUNDAYS

Worship 10 AM
Youth 6 PM

WEDNESDAYS

Youth 6 PM

Saturday, July 1

Room at the Table 4 PM

Sunday, July 2

Church Picnic at Mulberry Rec
after Worship

Sunday, July 9

WOM Book Study 7 PM

Tuesday, July 11

Kids Movie Night 6:30 PM

Saturday, July 15

Blackberry Festival

Tuesday, July 18

Parents Morning Out 10 AM-12 PM
(Ages 5—5th Grade)

Tuesday, July 27

Kids Pool Party 3-5 PM

Saturday, July 29

FBC Night at the Crawdads 5 PM

Tuesday, August 1

Parents Morning Out 10 AM-12 PM
(Ages 5—5th Grade)



FBC Kids, Ages 5—5th Grade! It's Summer!
Join us for some fun-filled days and nights!

Sign up for any of the following events with this link: [FBC Kids Summer Activities 2023](#)

Tuesday, July 11th 6:30—FBC Movie Night—Take a break from the heat and join us for a movie! Popcorn and drinks provided. Bring a comfy blanket!

Tuesday, July 18th 10:00-12:00—Parents Morning Out—Drop your children off at FBC for a time of games, crafts, and snacks! Enjoy a couple of hours relaxing, catching up with a friend or getting pampered! Sign up so we know how many will be joining us!

Thursday, July 27th 3:00-5:00—Pool Party—Join us at Crystal and Randell Dula's for some refreshing pool time! Parents of children 6 and under, please plan on staying with your child. Snacks and drinks provided.

July 29th—FBC Night at the Crowdads—Game time 5 PM with a concert to follow. Tickets \$13.

Tuesday, August 1st 10:00-12:00—Parents Morning Out—Drop your children off at FBC for a time of games, crafts, and snacks! Enjoy a couple of hours relaxing, catching up with a friend or getting pampered! Sign up so we know how many will be joining us.



Thank you to ALL of those who helped with VBS. We had a wonderful week sharing Jesus with the children. FBC is thankful to you for your dedication and service to our children. You are a vital part of this ministry and I couldn't do it without you!

Becca

Volunteers: Patrick Anders, Halle Annas, Audrey Bentley, Carlie Blevins, Cary Carpenter, Martha Chase, Logan Clark, Laurie Clawson, Sydney Clawson, Lynne Daughtridge, Crystal Dula, Randell Dula, Kim Ester, Charlotte Gardner, Avery Gilbert, Jenny Greene, Gretchen Haas, Dena Henkle, Emily Hillis, Emma Hillis, Josh Hughes, Lindsey Johnson, Holden Lawing, Deb Lien, Janie Mangum, Ginny Pelkey, Beth Reeves, Terry Reid, Emmaline Reid, Lindsay Reid, Maddy Reid, Luke Roberts, Carmen Saunders, Sawyer Sime, Hunter Sime, Jennifer Sime, Mackie Smith, Mazie Wakefield, Ryan Winkler



Hibriten High School is in need of bus drivers for athletics and daily bus routes. If you are interested, please contact Derek Reeves at dreeves@caldwellschools.com or Courtney Wright at cowright@caldwellschools.com.

FINANCIAL REPORT	
Budget Needs for 2023	\$865,650.00
YTD Budget Receipts	\$457,762.21

Youth activities

- Sun., July 2..... Church Picnic at Mulberry Rec after worship
6-7:30 PM—Youth Regular Schedule
- Wed., July 5 6-7 PM—Youth Bible Study
- Sun., July 9..... 6-7:30 PM—Regular Youth Schedule
- Wed., July 12 6-7 PM Youth Bible Study
- Sat., July 15 10 AM Blackberry Festival (sign up to volunteer
at FBC tent)
- Sun., July 16 6-7:30 PM Youth Regular Schedule
- Wed., July 19 6-7 PM Youth Bible Study
- Sun., July 23 6-7:30 PM Youth Regular Schedule
- Wed., July 26 6-7 PM Youth Bible Study
- Sat., July 29 Hickory Crawdads Game with Concert after
the Game. Tickets: \$13, money due by July 23
- Sun., July 30 6-7:30 PM Youth Regular Schedule

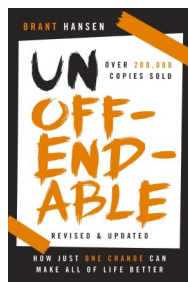


FBC Lenoir and the Crawdads!

Join us July 29th for a fun night of baseball and stay after the game to enjoy a Christian concert by the group Newsong. Game time is 5 PM. Tickets are \$13 which includes the game and the concert! Please sign up no later than Sunday, July 23, by clicking on the following link: [FBC Lenoir at the Crawdads](#)

Women on Mission Summer Book Study

WOM will meet on Sunday, July 9, at 7 PM to continue their discussion of the book Unoffendable: How Just One Change Can Make All of Life Better by Brant Hanson. Please contact Crystal Dula (828-323-7039) for more information.



July WORSHIP Volunteers

Shirley Orrell
Keith Orrell
Gary Deitz
Brenda Deitz

Shelba Lou Page
Lynne Daughtridge
Dan Jones

Cecelia Stilwell
Mabry Land
Matthew Land

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 7/1 Buddy Barlow
Brenda Moore
- 7/2 Debbie McMaster
Debbie Bumgarner
Mitzi White
- 7/5 Ed Van Horn
- 7/6 Jason Church
- 7/8 Caroline Land
Brenda Suddreth
Maverick Craig (8)
- 7/9 Judy Raby
Kandus Passig
- 7/10 Logan Clark (19)
Brenda Deitz
- 7/11 Lawson Gilbert
Chris Bentley
- 7/12 Jessie Moore
Phyllis Chapman
- 7/15 Linda Babb
- 7/16 Brooks Anthony (9)
- 7/17 Virginia Hoyle
- 7/19 Nora Chase
Drew Martin (16)
Caedyn Hoyle (14)
- 7/20 Sam Ellis
Bob Gibbons
Carson Dula (8)
- 7/21 Eddie Winkler
- 7/22 Wade Smith
- 7/23 Shelba Lou Page
- 7/24 Donna McRary
- 7/25 Barbara Donaldson
Kate Ester (12)
- 7/26 Lydia Bryant
- 7/27 Gretchen Haas
Bill Wakefield
- 7/29 Ben Winkler (21)

*Thank
You*

Last July, the church family came together in a wonderful way to celebrate my retirement and to give a love offering for a retirement trip. With our family emergencies, we have just now been able to travel and our hearts were full of thanksgiving for our church making this possible.

Thank you for your gifts, your cards, your support, and every expression of your love to us. Our retirement trip was made possible by each of you. Thank you for your generosity.

Thomas & Kim Hinton

Dear Church Family,

We want to let you know how much we appreciate the cards, visits, acts of kindness, and especially the prayers the last few weeks. Losing a parent/grandparent is so hard, but we have felt your support and we love and are thankful for all of you.

Sincerely,
Derek, Beth, Abby & Anna Reeves

Dear Church Family and Friends,

We want to express our appreciation for the delicious bereavement meal you provided after the memorial for Mr. F.M. Burch on May 20.

Mrs. Deb Lien and Mrs. Kathy Keck hosted, served, and prepared special desserts with hospitality and kindness. Many thanks to them for their service.

Family and extended family had a wonderful opportunity to enjoy good food, visit together, and share memories in a comfortable setting.

What a precious ministry of love! We are honored to have been invited.

Sincerely,
Carroll & Linda Hughes



Lenoir will host the Blackberry Festival on July 14 & 15. We have two opportunities to serve at the festival this year.

1. We need 15-16 volunteers to help serve cobbler. We will meet on the square at 12:45 and will begin serving at 1 PM. Please sign up at church if you can help.
2. We will have a Prayer Tent set up in front of our sanctuary. If you would like to volunteer to be here to pray with people, please sign up at church for a 1-hour time slot—we need 2-3 people each hour. We will staff the tent from 10 AM until 2 PM.

Thank you for serving!

STAFF

Dr. Josh Hughes
SENIOR PASTOR
Rev. Michael Jennings
MINISTER OF
MUSIC & WORSHIP
Becca Lawing
MINISTER OF YOUTH,
CHILDREN & CONNECTIONS
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