



NEWS and VIEWS

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

March 2024



A Word from the Pastor

Hello friends,

Though it seems early this year, we are well on our Lenten journey to the cross. As you know, our theme this year is "It is well with my soul, even if _____." Every day, we as believers walk a difficult road as we try to follow Christ. What makes Christianity so unique among the world religions is that Jesus, the Son of God and the Son of Man, walked through difficulties as well. In fact, He faced every trial and tribulation that we have, and yet, He did not sin. In light of that, our series will focus not only on the difficulties we all face but the hope we have in overcoming them because of the resurrection of Jesus. I look forward to worshipping with you as we journey towards Easter.

I am excited about our Discover First Class that will take place March 10, 17, and 24. We are so blessed to have people joining our fellowship regularly. Forty people joined our church in 2023 and we have had 15 join in 2024 through February. This class is for those who have recently joined, or those who are considering uniting with our fellowship. If you attend, you will learn what it

means to be a Baptist, what missions and programs the church participates in regularly, and the about the polity of FBC culminating in a tour of the building. If you are interested in joining this class, please contact the church office to reserve your spot.

During Holy Week, you have two important opportunities you do not want to miss. On Thursday, March 28th, we will have Maundy Thursday services. This is the night we participate in the Lord's Supper, and we remember it as the night Jesus was betrayed. Come and join us for a meal at 5, and worship at 6:15. (Please note, we will not have Wednesday night activities that week in lieu of Maundy Thursday.)

On Good Friday, March 29th, we have been invited to join several churches to carry the cross through downtown Lenoir. We will follow the stations of the cross and stop off at various places for a time of Bible reading and prayer. This is an ecumenical event and one of the stations will be here at First Baptist. We will meet at St. Stephens Lutheran Church, 1406 Harper Ave. in Lenoir at 11 AM, and the walk will begin. It will conclude at First United Methodist. Please join us as we remember Jesus' journey to Calvary and His crucifixion.

(Continued on Page 3)

SUNDAYS

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

TUESDAYS

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

Saturday, March 2

Room at the Table 4 PM

Sunday, March 10

Discover First Class 9 AM

Sunday, March 17

Discover First Class 9 AM
Greeters Lunch & Training 11:15

Saturday, March 23

Adult Choir Dress Rehearsal 10 AM
Churchwide Easter Family Fun 4-6 PM

Sunday, March 24

Discover First Class 9 AM
Holy Week Cantata 10 AM

Monday, March 25

Deacons Meeting 7 PM

Thursday, March 28

Maundy Thursday Service 6:15 PM

Friday, March 29

Community Stations of the Cross

Sunday, March 31

Easter



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.

March 6Hot Dogs, Toppings, Fries, Dessert

March 13Chili, Broccoli & Cheese Soup, Cheese, Crackers, Dessert

March 20Hamburgers, Toppings, Baked Beans, Slaw, Chips, Dessert

March 28Chicken Tenders, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Peas, Carrots, Rolls, Dessert

YOUTH GROUP

- Sun., March 3 Regular Schedule
Wed., March 6 5:15 Meal; 6 PM Bible Study
Sun., March 10 Regular Schedule
Wed., March 13 .. 5:15 Meal; 6 PM Bible Study
Sun., March 17 Regular Schedule
Wed., March 20 .. 5:15 Meal; 6 PM Bible Study
Sat., March 23 Churchwide Easter Family Fun at the Sime Home 4-6 PM
Sun., March 24 Regular Schedule
Thurs., March 28 .. 5:15 Meal; 6:15 Maundy Thursday Service
Fri., March 29 Community Procession of the Cross
Sun., March 31 Happy Easter! No Youth Activities



Javarius Corpening



John & Teresa Gardner
Harrison, Charlotte



Forrest & Jessica Sutton
Sam & Joanna

thank you

Dear FBC Lenoir,

On behalf of West Caldwell High and the entire school community, we extend our deepest gratitude for your recent act of remarkable compassion toward one of our students, her siblings, and her grandmother. Your generous decision to cover their winter power bill during this challenging time for them has brought immense relief and warmth to their lives, and your kindness resonates deeply with all of us. May God bless your continued efforts to spread kindness and compassion within our community.

Joyfully,
Ashley Byers
School Social Worker, WCHS

A Word from our Pastor, Continued from Page 1

Easter Sunday is the most important day for Christians all year because it is the day we celebrate Jesus' resurrection. Easter will be March 31st, and we will gather in the sanctuary for worship at 10 A.M. We will have baptism, the Adult Choir, and a brass choir in addition to many of the other Easter traditions of FBC Lenoir.

My prayer is that we will be challenged, yet strengthened, as we walk through Lent. As you have heard here before...It's only Friday, but Sunday is coming.

Blessings on you,

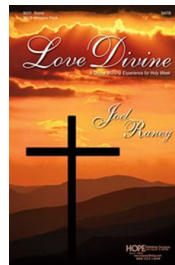
Josh

message from Michael

The Music Ministry will present *Love Divine* by Joel Raney, Palm Sunday, March 24th during our 10:00 worship service. *Love Divine*, as the title states, takes its theme from John 3:16, the

Bible verse which is the central pillar of Christianity: "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son; that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

The musical is an emotional examination of the Passion of Christ, taking listeners from Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, to the Last Supper, to His prayers in the garden, His arrest, trial, crucifixion, and His miraculous resurrection.



Save the Date: Tuesday, March 26 Billy Graham Library



The Road Runners (our newly voted on name for the 55 and older age group) will be taking a trip to The Billy Graham Library in Charlotte on Tuesday, March 26th. We will take a tour and retrace Billy Graham's dynamic journey through engaging films, rare photos, fascinating memorabilia, and

inspiring exhibits. We will also tour the home Billy Graham lived in from age 9 until he left for college. Lunch will take place on the site at The Graham Brothers Dairy Bar where fresh sandwiches, salads, cookies, specialty coffees, and ice cream are served. We have reservations for 20 people, so contact the church soon to reserve your spot! The cost is \$20/person to cover transportations fees. There is no admission fee, but you will be responsible the cost of your lunch.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 3/2 Sam Sutton (11)
- 3/4 Riley Crawford
- 3/5 Sarah Perdue
Emily Fox (21)
- 3/6 Yvonne Roberts
- 3/7 Katie Smith
Steve Bumgardner
- 3/8 Joe Gibbons
- 3/9 Judy Perry
- 3/11 Michael Jennings
- 3/12 Lora Richardson
Erin Greene
- 3/13 Matt Kirby
Deb Lien
- 3/14 Judy Daughtridg
Clark Anthony (7)
- 3/16 Bill Pendry
- 3/17 Maddy Reid (18)
- 3/18 Sherrill German
Chase Bentley
- 3/19 Cindy McCurry
Ashton Woodruff (15)
- 3/21 Teresa Gardner
Matthew Walker
Nicholas Walker
- 3/22 Kim Hinton
Alice Clark
Edie Stader
Barbara Van Horn
- 3/24 Brian Teague
- 3/25 Matthew Land (19)
- 3/26 Dylan Gragg
- 3/27 Robert Benfield
Gwyn Icenhour
- 3/29 Mary Teague
- 3/30 Ellen Bryson
- 3/31 Tim Poarch
Erin Smith

CHURCHWIDE EASTER FAMILY FUN!

Saturday, March 23, 4-6 PM

at the Sime Home
2768 Willowbrook Rd.

Bring a chair & a side dish or dessert to share!
Meat & Drinks provided.



MARCH GREETERS

Gary Johnson
Beth Johnson
Cotton Triplett
Sandi Triplett
Louise Bradshaw
Linda Babb

Ally Johnson
Melonie Burch
Nelda Simpson
Cindy McCurry
Shirley Orrell
Keith Orrell

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, March 28, 6:15 PM



If you greet for worship between March and August, please come to a training on March 17th after morning worship in the dining room. Lunch will be provided. Contact the church office to reserve your seat.

Welcome!

Thanks for Joining Us Today!

Greeter Ministry

Glad you are here!

Hope to see you again!

March 29

11:00

Stations of the Cross

Beginning at St. Stephens
Lutheran Church



Join us

Easter Sunday

March 31
Worship at 10:00 AM



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