



NEWS and VIEWS

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

May, 2021



A Word from the Pastor

Dear Church Family,

What a month of April. We had what I think is the most meaningful Easter Service I have ever attended. Though it was different being outside rather than in the sanctuary, we sang hymns, heard incredible music, participated in baptism, and celebrated Jesus' resurrection. Thank you to all who made that service possible and thank you to all who attended.

As you know, we began opening up the church a little more during April. That means no more reservations for attendance. We give thanks to God for His faithfulness to us through this pandemic. Thank you to the Coronavirus task force and the staff as they have led us through these difficult days. There will be more changes coming in due time, so please listen for any other announcements pertaining to the worship schedule.

And finally, Ginger and I are so humbled to now be the parents of three wonderful children. Our

newest daughter, Emelia Handley Hughes, was born April 16, 2021. She was 7 lbs. 14 oz. and was 21" long. We give God all the glory, honor, and praise for a gift such as this. With that said, I also want to thank you, our church family, for the outpouring of love and care you have shown us. From cards, phone calls, to meals and volunteering to help us with errands and the other children, we are so grateful to you. You have demonstrated the love of Christ to us, and for that, we will always be in your debt.

As we look forward to May, I cannot wait for Senior Sunday. While bittersweet because those young people we love will go off to new challenges and experiences, we celebrate their accomplishments and wish them well in their future endeavors. Join me in praying for the graduates and their families as they take the next step into the future.

I look forward to worshipping with you this week.

Love,

Josh, Ginger, Ella, Elam, and
Emelia

Calendar

Sundays

9 AM Outside Worship
11 AM Inside/Live-Stream
Worship
6:30 PM Youth

Wednesdays

5-15-6:00 PM—Supper
6 PM Outside Bible Study &
Children's Activities

Saturday, May 1

4 PM Room at the Table

Sunday, May 16

Senior Sunday

Wednesday, May 19

6 PM Church Forum

Thursday, May 20

6 PM FBC Preschool
Graduation

Monday, May 24

7 PM Deacons Meeting

Monday, May 31

Memorial Day—Office
Closed



Congratulations to our 2021 graduates! We are proud of you and are excited about the opportunities ahead of you.

FBC PRESCHOOL GRADUATES

Carson Dula

Sofia Laney

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

- Griffin Bryson..... Hibriten High School—Will attend NC State University*
- Grayson Clark..... Hibriten High School*
- Carson Davis..... Caldwell Applied Sciences Academy—Graduating with Highschool Diploma, Certificate in Industrial Systems Tech., Certificate in Industrial Systems Tech/Mechatronics, AAS in Industrial Systems Technology-Mechatronics—Pursuing a degree in welding this Fall*
- Emily Fox..... Hibriten High School—Will attend Western Carolina*
- Lindsey Greene..... Hibriten High School—Will attend Clemson University*
- Noah Powell..... Caldwell Early College High School—Will complete 5th year in the coming school year*
- Anna Rose Reid..... Hibriten High School— Will attend Wingate University*
- Audrey Smith..... Hibriten High School— Will attend UNC Charlotte*
- Olivia Smith..... Hibriten High School— Will attend NC State University*
- Jack Thomas Spears..... Caldwell Early College High School—Will attend Mississippi College*
- Nickolas Tucker..... Hibriten High School—Will attend University of Virginia at Wise*
- Reagan Tucker..... Hibriten High School—Will attend Appalachian State University*
- Ben Winkler..... Hibriten High School—Will attend Lenoir-Rhyne University*

COLLEGE & CAREER GRADUATES

- Zachary Bryson..... Degree in Economics from Wake Forest University*
- Chloee Dula..... Bachelors in Healthcare Management from Appalachian State University*
- Abbey Earp..... BS in Mathematics Education with Concentration in Mathematics from NC State University*
- Brian Fox..... Degree in English with Concentration in Teacher Education from NC State University—will be pursuing a Masters Degree at Western Carolina in Higher Education Student Affairs*
- Emily Huffman..... Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Lenoir-Rhyne University*
- Lauren Huffman..... Bachelor in Exercise Science from Appalachian State University— Will be In the Nursing program at Lenoir-Rhyne University this Fall*
- Macy Johnson..... Doctor of Nursing Practice, Family Nurse Practitioner from Lenoir-Rhyne University*
- Grace Powell..... Bachelor Degree in Biomedical Sciences from Gardner-Webb University with a double minor in American Sign Language and Chemistry*
- Isaac Spears..... Degree in Biology from Mississippi College—Will attend University of Mississippi Medical Center*



We are so very thankful for your prayers, your kindness, your gifts and support as we grieve the loss of Ben. We are still so very heartbroken but hopeful. Please accept our deepest appreciation.

Blessings,
The Keen Family

Dear First Baptist

Thank you for your "amazing" ministry to our church and to all who attend, as well as, who listen every week! Thank you for the music, the scripture, the sermons and, of course, the prayers for all those who are sick and/or have other issues in our community and our nation. God bless you and keep you well and happy.

I know you are loving being in the sanctuary. I pray that these services can continue, as well as those outdoors. Please know how much you are loved for doing everything you do!

Phyllis Chapman

Dear Friends of First Baptist,

What a joyous Easter Sunday for us to share as a family with dear brothers and sisters in Christ. Such meaning from the word and song and baptism. Thanks to all who were part of this truly special time. Yes, indeed, one very special day! We will look forward to worshipping again with you all.

In Christ,
Ann & Steve Sime

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the encouraging Easter card. For six long months, I had to watch our church services online and am so thankful for the media ministry. Thankfully, my immunity is slowly improving and I have been back to in-person services for two weeks now. What a blessing to physically fellowship with other believers! God is and has been so GOOD and FAITHFUL to me!

Becky Thomas

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 5/1 Jack Thomas Spears (18)
- 5/2 A P Anderson
Faith Barlow
- 5/3 Anne Early
Kim Ester
Gary Pritchard
Hugh Wilson
- 5/5 Cade Ellis (20)
- 5/6 Helen Underdown
- 5/7 Martie Barnes
Rahn Chase
Maggie Davis (21)
- 5/8 Courtney Poarch
Tyler Sime
Jon White
- 5/9 Aaron Blevins
- 5/10 Brian Fox
- 5/11 Robert Reid
- 5/12 Ray Robbins
- 5/13 Chris Annas
Andy Stewart (3)
Palmer Tucker (15)
- 5/14 Nan Benfield
- 5/15 Josie Nelson (17)
David Tucker
- 5/16 Becky Gibbons
Angie Story
- 5/18 Peg Ellis
Kate Washburn
- 5/19 Scott Martin
Ann Miller
- 5/20 Shirley Davis
- 5/21 Jen Whittington
- 5/22 Savannah Clapsaddle (19)
- 5/23 Cotton Triplett
- 5/24 Myra Dickson
Jenny Greene
- 5/25 Griffin Bryson (18)
Nancy Moore

(Continued on Page 4)

May 2: Parent/Teen Bowling
 May 9: Mother's Day – No Activities
 May 16: 11:00 AM Senior Sunday
 Game Night
 May 23: 6:30 PM Pre-Caswell Meeting
 May 30: No Youth – Memorial Day
 June 6: 7:30 PM Caswell Check-in



Samaritan's Purse

Martha Chase has reserved a time for FBC Lenoir to volunteer at the Charlotte Operation Christmas Child processing center (7100 Forest Point Blvd, Charlotte, NC 28217) on Friday, June 4, to assemble shoeboxes that were packed online. Volunteers must be at least 13 years old. Please use the following link to sign up to work with us:

<https://www.occvolunteersignup.com/VolunteerSignUp/IndexGroup?rg=3a8997194b8243a59827b2f9a22c2469>



This is our last month of Wednesday suppers for the Spring. Meals are served between 5:15-6:00 PM.

Please contact the church office by

noon on Tuesday each week to make a reservation.

Cost: \$5/plate

- 5/5 Chicken Fillet Sandwich with Lettuce & Tomato, Pickle Spear, Macaroni Salad, Dessert
- 5/12 BBQ Sandwich, Slaw, Baked Beans, Chips, Dessert
- 5/19 Hamburgers with Bowl of Chili, Dessert
- 5/26 Chicken Fillet Sandwich, Side Salad, Potato Chips, Dessert

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! (Continued from Page 3)

- 5/26 Jonathan Benfield
DJ Brown
- 5/28 Stephanie Ramsey
- 5/29 Avery Hall (8)
- 5/30 Corrine Annas (18)
Maggie Earp (19)
Bob Lee
Michael Parker
- 5/31 David Barlow

FINANCIAL REPORT

Budget Needs for 2021
\$833,698.00
 YTD Budget Receipts
\$292,968.50

STAFF

- Rev. Josh Hughes**
SENIOR PASTOR
- Rev. Fred D. Barnes**
PASTOR EMERITUS
- 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
- Robert Benfield**
MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR
- Bill Wakefield**
MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT
- Cheryl Chester**
CHEF
- Krista Hamby**
CUSTODIAN