



# NEWS and VIEWS

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

September 2023



## A Word from the Pastor

Dear Church Family,

School is back in session, and all of the FBC Lenoir activities are in full swing. Let me remind you of what is offered so that you will be prepared to participate.

1. Sunday School begins at 9:00 AM every week. There are numerous classes available for all ages. Sunday School is a great way to not only get to know the congregation, but to gain a deeper understanding of the faith.
2. Worship begins Sunday morning at 10 AM. This is the most important hour of the week. Your commitment to worship demonstrates your faith to God, your family, and your community. Please join us and be prepared to see God at work.
3. On Sunday evenings, our youth will meet for Bible study and Fellowship time. Come at 6 PM for supper and Bible Study will follow.
4. Wednesday night activities begin at 5:15 PM. for Supper, and at 6:00, we divide for Children's Activities, Youth Bible Study, and Adult Bible Study. Beginning this year, children's choir will be at 6:00 followed by missions. All activities will be concluded by 7:00. Come and participate with us and you will be blessed.

Beginning in October, we are going to be offering a second Adult Bible study during the 6:00 hour on Wednesday nights. We are calling this study, "The Academy." A course will be taught by a Gardner-Webb Professor. In Fall of 2023, Dr. Canoy will teach, "Jesus and the Gospels" over a six-week session. If all goes as planned, the Academy will become a 3-year program that will entail several professors teaching specific courses each semester. The goal of this program is to increase your knowledge of the Bible and related Christian disciplines. There will be courses on Christian History, Theology, Ethics, and Spiritual Practices, as well as other Biblical studies. We are the first church to offer a program like this in our area, and I invite you to participate. I will give you many more details in the coming weeks, but it is something that I hope many of you will consider.

God is blessing our church through an exciting time of growth right now. Please make every effort to join us in worship and consider where you may serve our fellowship and community. I cannot wait to see what God will do in the future as we continue to be faithful to His call.

Blessings on you,

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

### Saturday, September 2

Room at the Table 4 PM

### Monday, September 4

Labor Day—Office Closed

### Tuesday, September 12

Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM

### Tuesday, September 19

Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM

### Wednesday, September 20

Church Forum 6 PM

### Monday, September 25

Deacons Meeting 7 PM

### Tuesday, September 26

Women's Bible Study 9:30 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.

- September 6 Baked Tortellini, Garlic Bread, Salad, Dessert
- September 13 Baked "Fried" Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Butter Beans, Slaw, Dessert
- September 20 Taco Night, Mexican Rice, Black Beans, Chips & Salsa, Dessert
- September 27 Pork Chops with Gravy, Rice, Sweet Peas and Carrots, Rolls, Dessert

## thank you

Dear First Baptist Church,

Thank you so much for the care and hospitality to our friends and family for our father's recent passing and service. The members and staff made all who attended feel welcome and the service was beautiful. Charles loved First Baptist, especially his Sunday School class where we are sure he was the first to inquire about the meaning of scripture and how it applied to his life. Thank you also to the Bereavement Team that supplied a delicious and bountiful lunch for our family and friends at Ann's home.

Sincerely,

Bud Hathcock  
Mikael Hathcock  
Ann Sime



## Women's Bible Study

Identity is a topic that touches every area of our lives. What we believe about ourselves determines what we think and how we act. Yet, many of us allow our identity to be defined by whichever voice is the loudest.

Instead, we can tune our ears to the voice. The voice of the One who created each one of us and knows the depths of our minds and souls. We can listen to the voice of Jesus.

This study will encourage you to dig deep into Scripture to embrace your identity in Christ so that you are no longer defined by the loudest voice but by the truths of Scripture.

Join us on Tuesday, September 12 at 9:30am in the Coffee Room as we explore four of the titles we have in Christ. Please purchase the study guide (see the link below) and **have the Week One section completed prior to our first meeting on the 12th**. The study will run for four weeks, concluding on October 3rd.

Please call the church and office and let us know if you plan to attend so we can make sure we're prepared for everyone. Questions? Contact Deb Lien at 828-544-2150.

# Youth activities

Sun., Sept. 3 ..... No Night Activities—Happy Labor Day  
 Wed., Sept. 6 ..... Youth Bible Study 6-7 PM  
 Sun., Sept. 10 ..... Regular Schedule 6:00-7:30 PM  
 Wed., Sept. 13 ..... Youth Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM  
 Fri., Sept. 15 ..... Fifth Quarter at the Life Center after HHS  
 football game  
 Sat., Sept. 16 ..... FAITH FEST  
 Sun., Sept. 17 ..... Regular Schedule 6:00-7:30 PM  
 Wed., Sept. 20 ..... Youth Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM  
 Sun., Sept. 24 ..... Regular Schedule 6:00-7:30 PM  
 Wed., Sept. 27 ..... Youth Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM



We are preparing to update our church directory and we need your help!

- If you have not already created a profile in Realm (our online database), we will be sending you an email with a link that will help with that step. If you need our help, we will be available on Wednesday evenings to help you create your account and download the app on your phone.
- We will also need a picture of you/your family in our directory. You may choose to upload a picture into your Realm profile that you already have or we can take your picture on any Wednesday evening.

Because this will be an online directory, you will always have access to the most current member data (addresses, phone numbers, etc.). Let us know how we can help you.

## September WORSHIP Volunteers

**Millie Brooks**  
**Judy Prevost**  
**Derek Reeves**  
**Gary Laws**

**Sarah Lovins**  
**Wade Smith**  
**Beth Reeves**  
**Ann Spann**

**Ann Helms**  
**Deborah Smith**  
**Mary Laws**

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

9/2 Terry Campbell (17)  
 9/3 Melonie Burch  
 9/6 Beth Fox  
 Laurie Clawson  
 Grayson Clark (21)  
 9/7 Sandy Kahill  
 Sandi Triplett  
 9/8 Brenda Walters  
 9/9 Bill Carter  
 Terry Reid  
 9/11 Jason Tucker  
 9/12 Lynne Daughtridge  
 9/13 Jennifer Sime  
 9/14 Vern Saunders  
 Beth Walker  
 9/16 John Powell  
 9/17 Elijah Byers (4)  
 Audrey Smith (20)  
 Olivia Smith (20)  
 9/19 Jane Carter  
 9/20 Chapel Davis  
 Ally Johnson  
 Beth Johnson  
 Addie Tucker  
 9/21 Kandra Setzer  
 9/22 Lori Holder  
 Nancy Sigmon  
 Roxanne Smith  
 9/24 Gabriel Clawson (9)  
 Ella Hughes (12)  
 9/26 Renee Davis  
 9/28 Stephen Campbell (11)  
 David Gray  
 9/30 Lee Chase  
 Tony Gagg  
 Bud Hathcock  
 Shirley Orrell

## Deacon Nomination & Election

We begin our process of nominating deacons September 10 through September 30. The Board of Deacons consists of 24 elected deacons serving 4-year terms and those who have achieved Life Deacon status and have chosen to be active. Deacon candidates may be nominated in the following manner:

- Contact the church office and place yourself on the ballot.
- A church member may nominate another member by contacting the office and request he/she be added to the list. A deacon will contact that nominated member and affirm their willingness to be on the ballot.

On the first Sunday in October, you may vote for up to six nominees from those placed on the list in the above-mentioned ways. The 12 nominees receiving the highest number of votes will be placed on the final ballot. You will then have the opportunity to vote for up to six members from that list on the third Sunday in October.

Please read the qualifications for serving as a Deacon which have been adopted by First Baptist Church and prayerfully consider those you would like to nominate to serve.

### QUALIFICATIONS FOR SERVING AS DEACON

- A Deacon's daily life should be an example for fellow Christians to follow. A Deacon should be full of the Holy Spirit, as exemplified by strength of character, spiritual outlook, and personal dedication.
- A Deacon should be a person of wisdom, full of faith, dependable and responsible.
- A Deacon will have a good reputation among fellow church members as well as in the community at large.
- A Deacon will participate in basic programs of the church such as worship services, Sunday School, and Wednesday evening services, as well as assigned Deacon duties and responsibilities. A Deacon is obligated to be a regular, generous, and cheerful supporter of the church, financially and otherwise.
- A Deacon should be a resident member of First Baptist Church for more than two consecutive years by the date of the beginning of the nomination process to be eligible for nomination, be at least 21 years of age, and should not be a full-time church employee. If having served previously as a Deacon, a member must have been off the Deacon Board for at least one year to be eligible for re-election.
- A Deacon who fills a vacancy of eighteen (18) months or less may, upon completion of that term, be eligible to be nominated and elected in the next Deacon election to his/her own four-year term. If the vacancy filled was for more than eighteen (18) months, the Deacon filling the unexpired term must have been off the Deacon Board for at least one year to be eligible for reelection.

#### 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