



NEWS and VIEWS

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

September 27, 2017



A Word from the Pastor

us, but for all people. So may we broaden our vision when we look at our neighbors. May we see others as Jesus sees us. Sunday will be special, and I am counting on your attendance to help us worship well.

Dear Church,

I begin by saying thank you for a church forum last Wednesday night that ran so smoothly. While so many churches use times like that to fuss and to fight, we were able to conduct our business in a kind and unified manner. I appreciate the ongoing work of our deacons in leading the church into the future, and for the way the church is so ready to follow. I am proud to serve a church like you.

Finally, I remind you that “Trunk or Treat” is on the way. “Trunk or Treat” will be held from 4-6 P.M., October 29th here in the church parking lot. This event gives kids, youth, and parents a safe place to trick or treat. I ask you to bring your car to the church, decorate it, and as the kids come by, give them some candy from your trunk. There will be loads of games and food to enjoy. As you can probably remember from last year, we will have a large crowd. Community events like this are invaluable tools reaching those who may never attend church. Please mark the date on your calendar, and listen out for ways you can participate.

In His Love and Service,

Josh

As part of our worship service this week, we will celebrate World Communion Sunday. That means that during the worship time, we will join with millions of other Christians from around the globe remembering Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross. As we take the bread and the cup, may we remember that we are not our own; we were bought with a price. Furthermore, we must understand that Jesus’ sacrifice was not just for

MEETINGS

Monday, September 27 & October 4

Financial Peace
5:30 pm

Monday, September 30

Room at the Table
4:00 pm

Sunday, October 1 & 8

Women's Bible Study
6:00 pm

Monday, October 2 & 9

Men's Bible Study
7:00 pm

Monday, October 9

Virginia-Satie Circle
10:30 am

Join us for World Communion Sunday

October 1st

This is a table where all are invited—all are welcome.



Thank You

Dear First Baptist,

Thanks for the sweet card. I am at home and improving each day—still doing rehab at home.

First Baptist is very dear to me and I think of you often.

In His Love,
Jeri Colvard



Sunday
October 29th

It is almost time for Trunk or Treat again. You outdid yourselves last year! Start planning now for ways to decorate your car. The children of our church and those in the community who joined us enjoyed a safe and friendly place to trick-or-treat and play games.

Please sign up at church so we'll know how many cars to plan for. Thank you for supporting our children in this way!

You Are Invited



Please come through on Sunday, October 1st, following the church service and see how your generous donations to the Grandfather Marathon Challenge have been used to outfit our Preschool.

Blood Drive

We are hosting a blood drive for American Red Cross on Wednesday, October 18th, from 3:00—7:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room. Please sign up **online** at redcrossblood.org.

Save a life. Give blood.



American Red Cross
Together, we can save a life

Serving the Greater Community

Yokefellow is having their 2nd annual **Empty Bowls** on Saturday, October 28th. Drop in any time from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at William Lenoir Middle School.

Admission: \$25 suggested donation

100% of proceeds will benefit food programs of Caldwell County Yokefellow. Call 828.754.7088 for information.

Flowers for Sunday Worship

If you are interested in placing flowers in the sanctuary for Sunday morning worship, please contact the church office to secure a date or place your name on the sign-up sheet in the 1st floor hallway.



Thank you to the Gilberts, Smiths, and Fox families for their help with the youth suppers on Sunday Night.

October 1st & 8th—Regular Schedule

We are now sending out weekly e-mails to parents and daily texts to youth. Parents need to make sure they have completely set up their Realm accounts, downloaded the app, and help their teen to do the same.

The Hands That Hold My Hands

By Ginger Hughes

The hand I held today was soft and small. She climbed out of the backseat, all smiles, and immediately reached for my hand. The cool air, uncommon for this time of year, greeted us as she clasped my hand tightly, confident in my ability to guide her. It was time for her Kindergarten screening, and her excitement brimmed over into nervous chatter as we walked steadily along the sidewalk. She'd been asking all week how many days until she could see her new school, and meet her new teachers. Today was the day. Though thrilled, now that the day had dawned, she was also nervous. Nervousness prompted this fiercely independent child of mine to reach for my hand, giving her a sense of peace and confidence that all would be well.

The hand I held Wednesday was smaller still. It wasn't all that long ago, just a couple of years actually, that he could only grip one of my fingers in his tiny fist. To be so small, his grip was so strong. He would hold my finger tightly, not wanting to let go. But he's bigger now. Of course to me, he's still my baby, but his perception of himself is much different. He's a "big boy," independent like his older sister, and doesn't always need a hand to hold. We exit the church, sunshine blazing down. I reach for his hand as we cross the parking lot, but he jerks away, wanting to run and splash in puddles without any hindrance, wanting to chart his own course, assured that he knows the way.

The hand I held Sunday made mine feel small. It's the hand I've been holding for years now. It's the hand I held at The Olde Pink House in Savannah when I said "Yes," the hand I held walking down the aisle, the hand I held (or perhaps squeezed for dear life), while giving birth. This hand holds commitment within its grasp even when the way is not smooth, and all things spoken aren't kind. This hand reaches out to me in companionship and solidarity during days that at times, feel fragmented. This hand brims with love.

The hand I held in March was darkened by age and softly wrinkled by years of living. We slushed through a late snow fall, enjoying the white softness, and I steadied her steps as we traveled. Decades ago, this same hand steadied me when I visited my grandmother as a child. We would stand by the pond's edge and she'd hold my hand, as my grandfather lobbed the line from the cane pole into the deep water, hoping for a bite. Now, through the passage of time, the roles have reversed, and it's my turn to help steady her unsure footing and guide her path.

The hand I held last year was cool and slightly trembling. We sat together, rigid and straight, in the hard, cold, waiting room chairs. This friendship had traversed years of both life giving moments and life altering tragedies. More often, her hand was the one doing the holding, as I waded through deep waters and at times felt myself sinking. This hand had held mine during times of deep sadness and times of great joy. But now it was my turn. In this age of thousands of social media "friends", there is still something powerful in having an actual hand of friendship to hold, when life's uncertainties lurk just past the waiting room door.

FINANCIAL REPORT

September 24, 2017

Budget Offering
\$6,175.00

Budget Needs Per Week
\$13,085.08

Budget Needs to Date
\$510,317.94

Budget Receipts to Date
\$474,000.20

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 9/28 David Gray
- 9/30 Lee Chase
Tony Gragg
Bud Hathcock
- 10/1 Charles Thomas
- 10/3 Shirley Rowen
Elijah Wakefield (20)
- 10/4 Carol Frye
- 10/5 Easton Braswell (6)
- 10/6 Cathy Barlow
Stephanie Macchia
Wendy Sims
Derrick Walters
- 10/7 Ken Barlowe
- 10/8 Reba Austin
Tyler Hart
Charles Priddy
- 10/9 Tiny Pennell
- 10/10 Ashley McKinney
Derek Reeves
Cheyenne Williams (20)
Martha Wilson

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Article originally published by
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<https://herviewfromhome.com>

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There is one other hand I hold.

It holds me when I am nervous and walking a new path.

It beckons me back when I run ahead, certain of my own way.

It delivers unfailing, agape love even when I feel unlovable.

It steadies me when the ground I walk is undulating.

It comforts me in times of deep anxiety, stress and sorrow.

God's hand is Goodness, Mercy, Grace and Love.

So no matter the path you are on, no matter where you've been, no matter how broken you feel, you can rest assured. . .

You always have a Hand to hold.

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Sunday Morning Volunteer Services

October 1

Offertory Prayer: Jeni Stilwell

Acolyte: Ryan Winkler

Alt. Acolyte: Maddy Wright

Nursery Volunteers:

Babies/Toddlers:

Elizabeth Norris, Matt Kirby

2 Year Olds:

Jamie Stewart, Alice Clark

3/4/5 Year Olds:

Elisabeth & Rob Winkler

October 8

Offertory Prayer: Chris Washburn

Acolyte: Maddy Wright

Alt. Acolyte: Jae Anna Spears

Nursery Volunteers:

Babies/Toddlers: Sam & Courtney Ellis

2 Year Olds: Will & Esther Wakefield

3/4/5 Year Olds:

Susan & Doug Walker

October Greeters

Janet Conway, David & Susan Gray,
Steve Bumgarner, Darrell Pennell,
Hazel Warlick

October Ushers

Darin Smith, Hal Lawing, Francisco
Matzuy, John Moore, David Sellers,
Jared Wright



Wednesday Evening Supper and Volunteers

September 27

Meat Loaf

Mashed Potatoes

Green Beans

Rolls

Banana Pudding

Welcome and Blessing:

Jeni Stilwell

Take-Outs: Beth Reeves

October 4

Pork Chops

Rice

Broccoli with Cheese

Roll

Blueberry Dessert

Welcome and Blessing:

Todd Perdue

Take-Outs: Seth Stilwell

STAFF

Rev. Josh Hughes
SENIOR PASTOR

Rev. Fred D. Barnes
PASTOR EMERITUS

Dr. Thomas R. Hinton
MINISTER OF MUSIC &
YOUTH

Rebecca K. Lawing
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Nan R. Benfield
PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

Todd Wright
ORGANIST

Elizabeth Icenhour
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Brenda Walters
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Paul C. McCurry
MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Cheryl Chester
CHEF

Terry Hagy
CUSTODIAN