



NEWS and VIEWS

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

May 2024



A Word from the Pastor

Dear Church Family,

Thank you to all who were so faithful in helping our outdoor worship become a reality on April 28th. What a glorious day to worship, and what a glorious worship experience we had. Baptizing five young people was so meaningful, and getting to eat barbecue around the table because of the gift provided by A.P. Anderson's family was wonderful.

I want to remind you of a few important events coming up before I share a special gift from a church member.

May 12th is Mother's Day. The handbells will be playing that day, we have a trio planned, and we will have a Baby Dedication. It will be great.

May 19th is Senior Sunday, and also Pentecost. So, on this vital day of the church year, we will send off our Seniors with our blessings. It is always a bittersweet day, yet it is a day to honor their accomplishments. Please join us for worship.

One of the great joys that I get to experience in ministry every day is to connect with people. One of my favorite people in this church is Nina Pritchard. I love her not only because she is so funny, but because she is also incredibly faithful. Did you know that she leads a Sunday School class from her home next door at Koinonia at 90 years young?

One of Nina's gifts is that she writes poetry. When she came by the church a few weeks ago, I said, "Why don't

you write a poem about the church?" And one of our staff said, "Why don't you write a poem about Josh?" What you have below is the poem she wrote. We included it in the News and Views because I want to remind you that every person around you is gifted. Every person you meet has talent. And every person around you is God's beloved child. Perhaps the best thing to do is to introduce yourself to someone new and find out what their talents are, for you might just be blessed like I was.

The New Pastor

*A lot of agitation and raw emotions,
People seemed to be on fire.
It wasn't a good dose of religion—
The pastor of twenty-five years
Was going to retire.*

*Oh, no! What will we do?
We've got to have someone to turn to.
Deacons, do your thing.
Get on your knees and appoint a search team.*

*Lots of meetings and lots of praying.
Resumes were read and tossed aside,
Trying to find one they could all abide.
Finally, with God's help, they came through.
They agreed on a man that would do.*

*Although he came from Georgia,
I could never see him as a peach.
Since he has been here awhile, I feel,
If he pulled off his socks
You would find a little tar on his heel.*

*He's doing a good job,
While stepping on a few toes.
Makes some even forget their woes.
Get behind me Satan!
I would love to put a smiley face
On the back of his head in that bald space!*



SUNDAYS

Worship 10 AM
Adult Choir Practice 11:15 AM
Adult Handbell Practice 5 PM
Youth 6 PM
WOM Bible Study 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, May 4

Room at the Table 4 PM

Sunday, May 12

Baby Dedication

Wednesday, May 15

Parking Lot Party
(Last Wednesday Supper)

Sunday, May 19

Senior Sunday
Hickory Crowdads 2 PM

Monday, May 20

Deacons Meeting 7 PM

Monday, May 27

Memorial Day—Office Closed

Thursday, May 30

FBC Preschool Graduation 6 PM

Congratulations GRADUATES


COLLEGE & CAREER GRADUATES

- Corrine Annas**.....Bachelor of Science in Fashion Marketing/Minor in Business Administration & Graphic Design from Mars Hill University
- Faith Barlow**.....Bachelor of Science in Math & Science
- Zachary Bryson**.....Juris Doctorate from Elon Law School—Passed NC State Bar Spring 2024
- Savannah Clapsaddle**BS in Fashion and Textile Management from NC State University. Will study Fashion Business at Istituto Europeo di Design in Florence, Italy.
- Maggie Earp**Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science from Gardner-Webb University
- Lindsay Holder Avila**Master of Arts in Teaching from Lenoir-Rhyne University
- Megan Land**.....Juris Doctorate from Charleston School of Law
- Amelia Mangan**.....Doctor of Medicine from St. Louis University School of Medicine—Beginning Residency in Plastic Surgery at the University of California Davis
- Austen Moore**Associate in Business from Hill College
- Jessie Moore**BSBA in Business Management from Appalachian State University
- Abby Reeves**.....Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science from Appalachian State University
Accepted into the graduate program of Occupational Therapy at ASU this Fall.



The Road Runners (and anyone else that would like to go) are going to see the Hickory Crawdads vs. Greensboro Grasshoppers Sunday, May 19th, at 2:00 pm. Please sign up AND pay by Wednesday, May 15. Meet Michael at the front gate at 1:30 to pick up your ticket. Transportation is not provided. Cost: \$7

Worship		Greeters
<i>May</i>		
Libby Tucker Seth Stilwell Jeni Stilwell Gwyn Icenhour Liz Icenhour David Sellers	Judy Raby Eddie Winkler Lisa Winkler Hadlie Nichols Addison Dillard	



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.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT meal

May 1Pork Chops, Roasted Red Potatoes, Cooked Cabbage, Rolls, Dessert

May 8Baked Ziti, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert

May 22Hamburgers/Hotdogs and Fixings (Last Wednesday Supper)

Join Us for VBS

June 17-20, 8:45-11:45 AM

Pre-K (4-year-olds) thru 5th Grade

WAVE hello to this year's VBS theme!

Kids will be challenged as they discover that God's truth never changes, everyone needs Jesus, and learn to speak the truth in love. Adventure awaits each day as kids explore tide pools, spot orcas, fly kites, and watch the mighty waves crash against the immovable Breaker Rock!

Volunteers are needed!! If you would be interested in helping with VBS, please call the church office or let Becca know (828-310-7603).



VBS Decorations Needed!

If you have any Christmas trees or evergreen type trees you would be willing to let us borrow for VBS, it would be greatly appreciated! Label the tree/box with your first and last name and drop off at the church by June 9th. We could also use some plastic Adirondack chairs. If you are willing to let us borrow them we would be greatly appreciative!

Wed., May 1 Youth Bible Study 6:00

Sun., May 5 Regular Schedule 6:00

Wed., May 8 Youth Bible Study 6:00

Sun., May 12 **Happy Mother's Day- No youth activities**
Enjoy the day with family.

Wed., May 15 Last Wednesday Night- Parking Lot Picnic and BINGO

Sun., May 19 **Senior Sunday 10am Worship!**
Evening Youth 6:00- **Pre-Caswell Sign-Ups**

Sun., May 26 Enjoy your holiday weekend!

Wed., May 29 Youth Bible Study 6:00
(No supper provided, feel free to bring your own!)

**YOUTH
GROUP**

Feeding Haiti!

For the past 13 years, Caswell has given youth groups the opportunity to pack food to feed the people of Haiti. This happens through a partnership with the House of Abraham, a Christian orphanage. Our youth group participates in this each year while at summer camp. We have helped pack over 2 million meals already! The goal this summer is to pack 200,000 meals over the 7 weeks of youth camp. We always collect an offering to help raise money for these meals. The goal for this summer is \$49,000.00. Please consider giving to this worthy cause. You can give online by selecting the Feeding Haiti link, bring your offering to the church office, or give in the offering plate and designate it to Feeding Haiti.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 5/2 Faith Barlow
- 5/3 Gary Pritchard
Hugh Wilson
Anne Early
Kim Ester
- 5/5 Cade Ellis
- 5/6 Helen Underdown
- 5/7 Martie Barnes
Maggie Gardner
Rahn Chase
- 5/8 Courtney Poarch
Tyler Sime
- 5/9 Aaron Blevins
- 5/10 Brian Fox
- 5/11 Robert Reid
- 5/13 Palmer Tucker (18)
Chris Annas
Andy Stewart (6)
- 5/14 Nan Benfield
- 5/15 David Tucker
- 5/16 Becky Gibbons
Angela Story
- 5/19 Ann Miller
Scott Martin
- 5/20 Shirley Davis
- 5/21 Jennifer Whittington
- 5/22 Savannah Clapsaddle
Maddox Craig (12)
- 5/23 Cotton Triplett
- 5/24 Myra Dickson
Jenny Greene
Chris Cloninger
- 5/25 Griffin Bryson
- 5/29 Nancy Moore
Avery Hall (11)
- 5/30 Michael Parker
Corrine Annas (21)
Maggie Earp



Our children and youth were all smiles after a walk to The Shake-n-Dog for ice cream!



New Member

We welcome Robert Lineberger into the membership of FBC. We are grateful that you have chosen to worship and serve with us!



PARKING LOT PARTY

We will wrap up Spring Wednesday evenings together with a Parking Lot Party on May 15. Nicki will prepare a meal of hamburgers and hotdogs, we'll play bingo, and we will enjoy a time of fellowship. Please sign up by Tuesday, May 14 and remember to bring a chair that evening!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We need volunteers in the following areas:

- Sunday School teachers (youth/children)
- Nursery help during the worship hour

Please contact Becca if you would like to serve in one of these areas.

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