

The Scope

First Baptist Church of North Wilkesboro

510 D. Street ~ North Wilkesboro, NC 28659



Youth Luminaries will be on display at both the Lovefeast and Cantata. Thank you to all who purchased a luminary in honor or in memory of a loved one. Your generosity will help our Youth participate in missions and learning throughout the year.

**It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!
(and the more involved YOU are the more wonderful it will be!)**

Advent is one of the most spiritual significant and enriching times of the church year. A tremendous amount of investment and effort goes into making sure that our church provides opportunities for everyone to encounter Christ and deepen their relationships with Him during this Season, but you have to be here and participate. Please mark your calendars for these special events!

Sunday, November 30 at 11:00am: ADVENT begins during worship with the lighting of the first Advent Candle. This year in our Advent Worship, each Sunday's sermon will be a monologue by one of the central characters of the Christmas story found in the Bible. In addition, the music will be exceptional, we will sing carols, and the sanctuary will be beautifully decorated for Advent. Plan to be in worship every Sunday morning. Come early on the 30th for our 5th Sunday Fellowship during the Sunday School Hour in the Wayland Hall. Coffee and Doughnuts with Christmas Cheer for Everyone!

Sunday, December 7 at 7:00pm: Come together with our entire community for our 11th Annual LOVEFEAST. Based on the traditional Moravian Christmas Celebration we will celebrate the unity and love that Christ brings into the world by sharing a simple meal of slightly sweetened bread and very sweetened, creamy coffee with our neighbors as we sing Christmas Carols, listen to beautiful music of the season, share in a Christmas devotion, and bring the Light of Christmas into the world with our Candles highlighted by the pageantry of the Dieners serving the meal.

Saturday, December 13 at 7:30pm and Sunday, December 14 at 11:00am: The FBC Chancel Choir and our guest orchestra present the Christmas Cantata: THIS IS CHRISTMAS, arranged by Mary McDonald. Come experience the miracle of Christmas through song, and bring your friends and neighbors. On Saturday night we will also welcome the members of the Bethel Colony Rehab Community.

Wednesday, December 24 at 4:00pm: Please join us for the First Baptist Church Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. Everything you'll be looking for will be here— The Christmas Story read from LUKE 2, magnificent music from our Youth and FirstKids Choirs, soloists, musicians, and of course, we will sing beloved carols together. After sharing Christmas Communion, we will welcome the infant Jesus by lighting our candles and raising them high to sing JOY TO THE WORLD!

Christmas at First Baptist

11th Annual Community Lovefeast
Sun., December 7th, 7:00 p.m.

"This Is Christmas" Cantata
Sat., December 13th, 7:30 p.m.

"This Is Christmas" Cantata
and Morning Worship
Sun., December 14th, 11:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Service with Communion
Wed., December 24th, 4:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church NW
510 D. Street
North Wilkesboro

Faith. Friendship. Community.

*"There is a seat at the table
for everyone at First Baptist"*

DR. BERT YOUNG

First Baptist Ministerial Staff

Senior Pastor: Dr. Bert Young

Associate Pastor: Rev. Patricia Turner

Music Director: Larisa Leapley

Children's Director: Jamie Higginbotham

Pianist & Organist: Tammy Prevette

Upcoming Events

Refer to Scope for Monthly Meetings, Groups, Clubs

Patricia & Youth will meet for Breakfast on Fridays when school is in @6:15 am
Fri., Nov. 28th there will be no Youth Breakfast and No Fast Food Friday.

SAVE THE DATE:

Sun., Dec. 7	Library Open House/Kids Café 9:30-10:30am Worship 11 a.m., 2nd Sun. of Advent Budget Pledge Cards Due 11th Annual Community Lovefeast 7:00 p.m. (Youth luminaries on display)
Mon., Dec. 8	Women of the Church prepare fruit baskets 10:30 a.m.
Thurs., Dec. 11	St. Paul's "Team B" Volunteers 8:30 a.m., Crisis Ministry Lunch Wilkes Central High School Choral Concert 7:30 p.m. (All are welcome!)
Sat., Dec. 13	Sat. night Cantata at 7:30 p.m., (Youth luminaries on display)
Sun., Dec. 14	3rd Sun. of Advent, Worship, Cantata 11 a.m., Youth Progressive Dinner 4 p.m. First Kids at The Higginbotham's 4:30 p.m. School is out Dec. 19-Jan. 5
Fri., Dec. 19	Fast Food Friday 11:30-1:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 21	4th Sun. of Advent, Parenting in the Pew
Tues., Dec. 23	Youth to Winter Fest at Carowinds, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Communion Service at 4 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 25	Merry Christmas! Church Office closed today and tomorrow, Fri., Dec. 26
Sun., Dec. 28	Lessons and Carols, No First Kids/Youth

Pastor Bert's Benediction

*Live Simply
Love Generously
Care Deeply
Speak Kindly
Forgive Freely
Pray Daily*

And Leave the Rest to God

Church Group, Team & Committee Meetings

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee meets Tues., Dec. 16 at 2:30pm in the lg. conf. rm.

Executive Committee/First Baptist Diaconate

No meetings in December.

Book Club

The *Shelf Indulgence Book Club* will not meet in December.

CARENET Alzheimer/Dementia

Caregivers' Support Group

This month they will only meet once on Thurs., Dec. 11.

St. Paul's Crisis Ministry Volunteers

*Note, change of week. "Team B" will prepare lunch on Thurs., Dec. 11th.

Coming Up after the New Year!

HOPE MINISTRY FOOD DRIVE

January is First Baptist's month to collect food and toiletry items for Hope. We will have bins placed at the entrances for your donations. Current Special Needs are: Pop-top canned pastas-Chef Boyardee, mixed vegetables, sugar, pork & beans, instant (flavored) oatmeal packets. Ongoing: ramen soup, peanut butter, cereal, mac & cheese, canned meat, dry pasta, crackers, and hygiene items.

Baby items such as diapers, baby wipes, baby lotion, car seats, clothes (up to 5T)

Below is a photo of the church members and Deacons "In-House" Missions Team that gave out food and toiletries to our community on Oct. 18th.



Janet Atwood, Madeline Johnson, Gracia Bentley, Camden Higginbotham, Steven & Pamela Call, Jamie Higginbotham, Bert Young, David Reynolds, Hope Coffey, Pat Handy, Noial Handy, Shari Smith, Jim & Marie Waddell, Hanion Johnson, Dawn Gardner, Annette Battle, and Jim Archibald.

Library News

Sun., Dec. 7, 9:30-10:30 is the Library Open House, and Kid's Café! We will giveaway 3 of Bert's Benediction ornaments, and also have some for sale. Join us for refreshments and check out what your church library has to offer, such as Christmas books, puzzles, and DVDs for adults and children, and our library's holiday book selection: *The Noel Diary*, by Richard Paul Evans.

Bestselling author Jacob Churcher hasn't been home in nearly twenty years, not since his troubled mother kicked him out at sixteen. Days before Christmas, he learns she has passed away and left him her house. Returning to settle her estate, Jacob must confront painful memories and perhaps find healing along the way.

Four copies are available for checkout—stop by and pick one up for some heartwarming holiday reading!



Here is a snapshot of some of our **Planning Group** that create sleeping mats that are donated to several different agencies. Left-to-right: Leah Osborne, Melissa Minton, Juanita Sparks, Lynn Day, and Janice Earp (not pictured but present this day are Annette Battle, Patricia Turner, and Grayce Mitchell)

Welcome, New Members

Mr. and Mrs. Matt and Brooke Welborn joined our church family on Sun., November 9th. Please offer them a warm welcome! Add their information to your directory or address book. Address: 385 Fairway Lane, Wilkesboro, NC
Brooke: 336-957-1088 **Birthday:** April 11
Email: blueridgespeechpath@gmail.com
Matt: 336-984-0469 **Birthday:** Dec. 4
Email: welborn.matthew@gmail.com
Children: Claudia (20) and Henry (15)



If you've been waiting for a sign to jump into a small group... this is it! We have something for everyone, and we'd love to help you find your place. Small groups are where real connection happens, friendships grow, and our church family comes alive. Don't sit on the sidelines—reach out and get plugged in today!



Kids News

FOLLOW THE STAR: A 4-Week Series from the Gospels on Christmas

SERIES OVERVIEW: Many families hit the road during the Christmas season, whether it's to visit loved ones or take a much-needed break. It's a time-honored tradition—one that might even be traced back to the first Christmas when a bright star dropped a pin on a special location to guide people to the birthplace of the savior. In this 4-week series, kids will learn that God gives people to guide us, God gives hope to guide us, God gives a Savior to guide us, and God gives direction to guide us.

Nursery

We are in need of nursery volunteers for the coming New Year! If you are willing and able to serve in the nursery, please sign up by clicking on the link on our website to pick a date and time. Also, if you have never signed up to volunteer in our nursery before, you will receive an email from "CIA", a company that processes our background checks for our volunteers that work with children and youth.



Some of the **Visitation Team**, on a recent visit to see Lillian Horner! Pictured left to right: Christy Rhoades, Lillian Horner, Annette Battle, Shari Smith and Janet Atwood

Youth Corner

The Advent and Christmas season is here. As we enter this season let me share a devotional opportunity beginning November 30 which has been given to the youth and families to use also. It is called Follow the Star and you can find it at d365.org or also download the d365 app. Devotions are all year long but beginning November 30 they will provide a special advent devotional. Join our youth and families in this devotional time.

Our youth will provide luminaries for Lovefeast and Cantata, enjoy a progressive dinner and a trip to Winterfest at Carowinds and lead in worship on Christmas Eve. Please encourage and thank our youth for their worship leadership and luminary preparation and presentation.

Dates to Remember for the Youth with details on band and in email.

Sun., Dec. 7 - Youth place luminaries for the Lovefeast Sunday

Sat., Dec. 13 - Youth place luminaries for the Christmas Cantata

Sun., Dec. 14 - Youth Progressive Christmas Dinner. Special thanks to Brian and Jamie Higginbotham, Holden and Whitney Abrams and Bert and Tiffany Young for hosting.

Fri., Dec. 19 - Christmas Fast Food Friday

Tues., Dec. 23 - Winterfest at Carowinds

Wed., Dec. 24 - Youth will sing for the Christmas Eve worship service.

Thank you to all who purchased luminaries. We appreciate you remembering your special loved ones and supporting our youth ministry.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Love, Patricia and the FBCNW Youth

Forever Young

We have had a great year traveling and fellowshiping together. As we look forward to a new year please send any suggestions for Forever Young activities to Patricia so plans can be made for 2026. Merry Christmas to all the Forever Young participants!! Patricia



Just some of the participants of Forever Young, pictured from one of our outings!

Left to right: Karen Newman, Tammy Prevette, Wilma Lovette, honorary member William Prevette, Lynn Day, Debra Kilpatrick, Hope Coffey, Kim Sharp, Georgia Zamora, Annette Battle, and Rev. Patricia Turner.

FINANCIAL REPORT & DONATIONS TO ENDURING GIFTS

Weekly Report Nov. 23, 2025

Designated Receipts	\$ 7,067.61
Budget Receipts	\$ 7,499.00
Weekly Budget Needed	\$ 11,328.87
Budget Needed to Date	\$ 532,456.67
Budget Received to Date	\$ 526,221.19
Budget Deficit	\$ 6,235.48

Donations to Enduring Gifts/Rainy Day Fund

Memorials:

In Memory of Iva "Babe" Faw

Given by Shannon, Carla, and Dusty

In Memory of Christine Brown Hamm

Given by Allen and Jeanie Davis

In Memory of Dr. Thomas Simpson

Given by Ida Maude Collins, Phyllis Tate, Marbry & Judith Hopkins, Thomas & Diane Nichols, James & Dianne Iseman, Libby Noah

Most Sincere Thanks

to all the Folks who helped make our

"Count Your Blessings Service" so great!

Soup makers: Whitney Abrams, Nellie Archibald, Holly Carver, Ginger Edmiston, Michael Lentz, Pat Osborne, Lou Pendry, Marie Waddell, Tammy Watts, Linda Wehrmann, Phyllis Wiggins, and Tiffany Young (I tried them all and they were ALL absolutely delicious!!)

Grilled Cheese Chefs: Ginger Edmiston, Bobby Johnson, Bob Taylor, and Viki Taylor

Dessert Pâtissiers: Lisa Lentz, Cheryl Church, Diane Swaim, Pam Greene, Sara McCall, and Annette Battle

Decorator: Annette Battle

Servers and Suppliers: Annette Battle, Diane Swaim, Steve and Phyllis Wiggins, Ronnie and Pat Osborne, Ginger Edmiston and Bobby Johnson, and Bob and Viki Taylor, (and everyone else)

Musicians: Larisa Leapley, Tammy Prevette, Jamie Higginbotham and the First Kids Choir

and to EVERYONE who attended!

Small Group Contacts

Handbell Choir Small Group---Contact Debra Kilpatrick (804) 337-6965

Nursing Home Visitation---Contact Janet Atwood (336) 452-0008 for schedule

Current Events---Contact Nellie Archibald (336) 528-1898

Sermon Discussion Group---Contact Bert Young (910) 876-4247

Trailblazers Hiking/Walking---Wednesdays 9am, Cub Creek by E-chargers. Contact Donna Greene (828) 381-3433

Supper Group---Contact the church office for info, 336-838-5197

Planning Group---(2nd and 4th Wednesdays) 4:30-5:30 in the Wayland Hall; Contact Annette Battle (336) 500-3383

Reading Between the Vines---Contact Tiffany Young (910) 876-4616

Lunch Group---We will meet at 12:30 p.m. on Mondays. Contact Patricia Turner (704) 473-4644

1st Monday: The 50's, 2nd Monday: Moravian Falls Grill, 3rd Monday: Cagney's; 4th Monday: Amalfi's

Fishing Group---Contact Bert Young (910) 876-4247

Board/Card Games Group---Contact Tory Norwood (336) 469-2441

Poverty Book Study Group---Wed, Dec. 3 at 9:30am Gathering Place

Happy Wanderers Small Group—Mon., Dec. 15 3:30 p.m. Large Conference Room (by church office) Contacts: Jerry Swaim (336) 262-2855 or (336) 818-1450 and Jim McRae (336) 981-7082

In Memory of Linda Absher

Given by Tracy Absher

Honorariums:

In Honor of new members: Jim & Mona McRae, John & Wilma Sue German, and Joe & Jill Woodie

Given by Linda Bentley