



## *Prayer of Blessing*

August 23, 2026

**Leader's Prayer:** Holy God, you are always at work renewing us, shaping us, and guiding us toward what is good. As our students and school staff begin a new school year, help them not be shaped by fear or pressure, but transformed by your love. May their minds be open to your wisdom, their hearts open to your presence, and their lives open to new possibilities in you. Amen.

**Leader:** Now, your ministers, your families, and your congregation will speak words of blessing. Listen closely to these voices of love and support as this new school year begins.

**Church Staff:** God invites you to a fresh start. Every day brings a chance to renew your mind and grow in new ways. As you learn, create, and explore this year, may God help you make choices that are kind, wise, and full of courage.

**Family Members:** God is with you - in the easy moments and the hard ones. As you meet new teachers, make friends, solve problems, and discover new things, may your thoughts and actions reflect God's love.

**Congregation:** God loves every person in your school and loves you too. Sometimes renewing our minds means thinking in new ways, trying again, or doing something brave. We are excited to journey with you and pray for you as you grow into the person God is shaping you to be.

**Leader:** You are an important part of God's blessing of your family, your school, and our congregation.

**Congregation:** We promise to pray for you now and during the school year. Let us know how we can pray for the things happening in your life and in your school.

**Leader:** We thank you, God, for the chance to bless the students, and school staff, trusting that you will guide, renew, and transform them each day.

**All: Amen.**



## Activities This Week

### Sun., Aug. 23

11:00 a.m. Worship Service, Blessing of the Backpacks  
5-8:00 p.m. Youth Back to School Event, Supper and Swimming at The Murphy's

### Mon., Aug. 24

First Day of School, Wilkes County Schools  
12:30 p.m. Lunch Group at Sagebrush

### Wed., Aug. 26

9:00 a.m. Trailblazers Walking Group at Cub Creek "John Henry Groce Trail" near e-chargers  
(weather-permitting)  
6:45 p.m. Choir rehearsal resumes

### Thurs., Aug. 27

9:30 a.m. St. Paul's "Team A" volunteers meet, prepare and serve lunch at Crisis Ministry  
1:00 p.m. "Shelf Indulgence" Book Club meets

### Sun., Aug. 30

9:30 a.m. Fifth Sunday Fellowship in Wayland Hall in place of Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Worship Service, special guest Scarlett Jasper, CBF field personnel who will give us information about the Appalachian Christmas Boxes of Olive Branch Ministries, you will have an opportunity to get your own box to prepare.

## Birthdays This Week

Aug. 23: Steve Curlee, Marie Ray; Aug. 26: Celia Canter, Martha Myers, Jim Waddell;  
Aug. 28: Elizabeth Keatley

## Contact Us

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All Services and Special Events

Livestreamed on YouTube: FBC North Wilkesboro



*welcome to*  
FIRST BAPTIST  
CHURCH  
NORTH WILKESBORO

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11AM SERVICE AUGUST 23, 2026

# Welcome

Thank you for being here to worship with us today. If you are visiting, please take a moment to complete the Visitor Card located in the pew rack in front of you so we may have a record of your visit. If this is your first time at First Baptist Church, we invite you to stop by the Visitors Table in the Narthex after worship and accept a small gift from us. We are glad you are here and hope you feel welcomed and at home.

## The Worship of Our Lord

August 23, 2026

He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”  
Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”  
Matthew 16:16

## Gathering for Worship

Chiming of the Trinity

Welcome and Announcements, Dr. Bert Young

Invocation, Dr. Bert Young

Exchanging of Peace, Dr. Bert Young  
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you  
People: And also with you

Praise Song, Choir & Congregation      We Fall Down      Chris Tomlin

We fall down we lay our crowns at the feet of Jesus  
The greatness of mercy and love at the feet of Jesus  
And we cry "Holy holy holy"  
And we cry "Holy holy holy"  
And we cry "Holy holy holy is the Lamb"

Blessing of the Backpacks, Rev. Patricia Turner (see insert)  
Children remain in the sanctuary for “Parenting in the Pew”

## Presenting Our Gifts and Tithes

Offertory Hymn, No. 202, Choir & Congregation      All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name      CORONATION

Offertory Prayer, Rev. Patricia Turner

Offertory, Tammy Prevette      Rock Medley      arr. Marilynn Ham

Doxology, Choir & Congregation  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.      OLD HUNDRETH

## Encountering the Word of God

Scripture, Rev. Patricia Turner      Matthew 16:13-20

Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer, Dr. Bert Young  
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Choral Message, Chancel Choir      People Need the Lord      Greg Nelson, Phil McHugh

Sermon, Dr. Bert Young      More Than What We Say

## Responding to God's Word

Hymn of Commitment No. 571, Choir & CongregationLet Others See Jesus In You      COLEMAN

Benediction, Dr. Bert Young  
Live Simply, Love Generously, Care Deeply, Speak Kindly, Forgive Freely, Pray Daily, and Leave the Rest to God

Postlude, Tammy Prevette      Fanfare      Jacques Lemens  
arr. David Paxton