

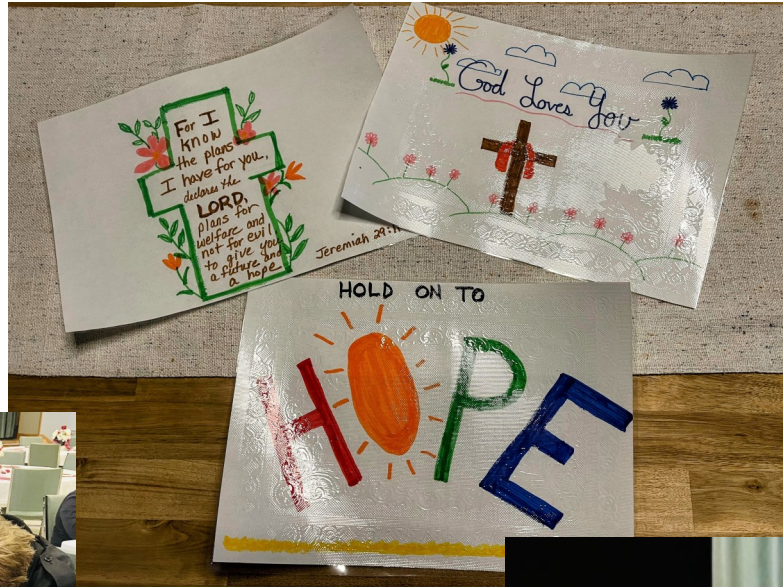
# The Scope

First Baptist Church  
of North Wilkesboro

510 D. Street ~ North Wilkesboro, NC 28659

Corner of 6th & D. Streets  
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March 2026  
Volume 62: Issue 3



### Placemats for St. Paul's Crisis Ministry Lunch

Sending a message of love and hope to those who will partake of the meal at St. Paul's Crisis Ministry. We had our inaugural intergenerational missions meet-up on Sun., Feb. 15. We hope to see you at our next! Sun., March 22 from 5:30-6:30 pm in Wayland Hall, we will be putting together Blessing Bags. All are welcome.



### 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

Faith. Friendship. Community.

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

DR. BERT YOUNG

## Together We Prepare Our Hearts for a High and Holy Season

Although our March newsletter is just arriving, our Lenten journey is already underway. This year, we began the season of Lent on February 18th with our Ash Wednesday Service. These six weeks lead us prayerfully toward Holy Week—the final week of Jesus' earthly life—and will culminate in the joyful celebration of Jesus' Resurrection on Easter Sunday, April 5th. The purpose of this sacred season is to spiritually prepare our hearts to experience the resurrection anew by embracing the events that led up to the Resurrection, including betrayal, denial, and crucifixion. Lent invites us into reflection, renewal, and deeper devotion as we journey together through pain with Christ to arrive at the victory and glory of Easter. The word "Lent" comes from the old Anglo-Saxon word "Lencten," meaning "spring season"—a fitting reminder that this is a time of spiritual renewal, growth, and new life.

The observance of Lent began for Christians after it was decreed by the church at the Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D. The 7 weeks equal exactly 40 days if you do not include Sundays/Resurrection Days (so if you are fasting or giving something up for Lent you are not required to deprive yourself on Sundays). The 40 days are based up Jesus' 40 days of fasting in the desert that ended with his defeat of Satan and his temptations. The early church only performed baptisms on Easter Sunday, so these 40 days prior were times of intense bible study, prayer, fasting, and spiritual formation for the baptismal candidates. Believe it or not, prior to the Council of Nicaea, some churches required three years of fasting, prayer, spiritual formation, etc. before baptizing a new convert.

The purpose of fasting is not to simply inflict pain or discomfort upon ourselves; rather, when we feel tempted to partake in what we have given up, we are to turn to the Lord in prayer for strength and conviction—hopefully to discover again and again that God's grace is, indeed, sufficient. It is also appropriate to commit to doing something for Lent (prayer, bible study, acts of service) daily, instead of giving something up. Either method is suitable spiritual preparation for the Season of Lent.

### **FIFTH SUNDAY DONUT FELLOWSHIP Hosted by: Women of the Church**

There are five Sundays in March, so you know what that means! On the fifth Sunday, March 30th, everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 am for donuts, coffee and juice. We will not have Sunday School that morning so that we will have plenty of time to visit with friends and get to know new members and visitors we have not had a chance to get to know yet. WE WILL ALSO HAVE A BRIEF DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE so we don't totally ignore Sunday School. Make sure you come, and make sure you bring someone with you.

### **SMALL GROUP CONTACTS**

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!

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

**Nursing Home Visitation**---Contact Janet Atwood (336) 452-0008.

**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

**Plarning Group**---(2nd and 4th Wednesdays) 1:00 pm in the Wayland Hall; Contact Annette Battle (336) 500-3383 Feb. 11 and 25

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

**Lunch Group**---We will meet at 12:30 pm 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**---Group Contact: Gary Newman 336-902-0343

**Happy Wanderers Small Group**---Next Meeting March 17 at 3:30 p.m. in lg. conf. room. **Topic: Ireland** Contacts: Jerry Swaim (336) 262-2855 or (336) 818-1450 and Jim McRae (336) 981-7082

## Everyone is Welcome!

### **Worship with us at First Baptist**

#### **Regular Sunday Activities**

9:15 am Library Open

9:45 am Sunday School/Bible Study all ages

11:00 am Worship Service

Nursery available ages birth to 3 years during Sunday School and Worship

4:30-6:30 pm First Kids and Youth Groups meet

### **FOREVER YOUNG**

Let's go shopping and out to eat!

Tuesday, March 31

Leave FBCNW at 9:00 am - Return late afternoon

We will go shopping at Thruway Shopping Center

and eat lunch together!!

RSVP to Katie or Patricia by Sunday, March 29 if you can go!!!

## YOUTH CORNER

◇ March 6-7 our FBCNW youth will join North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Youth and Millers Creek United Methodist Youth for a Lock-In. Please pray for the relationships that will be made and the fellowship with little sleep that will be had.

◇ March 12-15 several of our youth will be in a musical called "Rock of Ages". The performances will be at The Mayes Pitt on Wilkes Community College campus. I encourage you to contact the Wilkes Central Choral Department to reserve a ticket to attend. Your support would be greatly appreciated. Our youth are going on Sunday afternoon to support. Lake Carver, Maddie Caudill, Harper Jordan, Grayce Mitchell and Ainsley Young are all participating from FBCNW.

◇ MerleFest is a little over a month away. The youth, along with volunteers, run a parking lot fundraiser (Dr. Bond's old office lot on School St.) If you would like to support the Youth Ministry by volunteering, please sign-up early to help park cars with Patricia. Lots of volunteers are needed for MerleFest and all funds raised will support Youth PASSPORT Camp and Missions. It takes everyone helping out and we appreciate you volunteering!!

◇ Thank you to everyone who participated in the Intergenerational Mission Project. Our next project is Sunday, March 22 which will be making Blessing Bags for the homeless.

Blessings to each of you, Patricia

## CHURCH-WIDE INTERGENERATIONAL MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

Patricia and Jamie want to thank everyone who joined the Youth and First Kids for our first Intergenerational Mission Project of 2026. Friends came together to enjoy fellowship and to make beautiful placemats for the St. Paul's Crisis Ministry lunch served on Thursday, February 26th. We hope this is just the start of many, many mission projects that not only will bless our community but also allow for all generations of our congregation to form lasting connections. Please join us for our next event that will be held Sunday, March 22nd from 5:30-6:30 pm We will be making blessing bags filled with hygiene products and food items.

### Items and/or Donations for Blessing Bags for the Homeless

Ramen Noodle Packs, Instant Oatmeal Packets, Mini Beef Jerky sticks, Chewy Granola Bar, Cheese/Peanut Butter Crackers, Single Serve Drink Mix Packets, Fruit Snacks, Tootsie Rolls, Socks, Water Bottle, Band-Aids, Sunscreen, Small packs of Kleenex, Mints and Lip balm. Bring items or donations **to the office or give to Patricia or Jamie**. Thank you for your help with this project. Items or donations needed by Friday, March 20!!

### **Upcoming Dates:**

March 22 - Blessing Bags

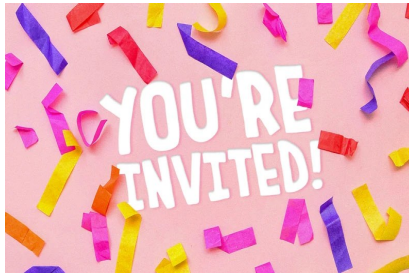
April 12 - Baskets for and delivery to our Community Helpers

May 17 - Party at Ebenezer Children's Home.

Contact Jamie or Patricia if you have any questions.

These projects help youth and children understand the importance of serving others while also creating meaningful relationships across generations.

## FIRST KIDS



Getting invited to a party is one of the best feelings, and being left out is one of the worst. But there's good news—Jesus never leaves anyone out! He invites everyone to spend time with him, experience his love, and share it with others. This

series will remind kids that Jesus' invitation is always open, and we're never too far away to join the party! In this 5-week series, kids will learn that I'm invited to believe in Jesus, love like Jesus does, experience Jesus' miracles, ask Jesus for help, and worship Jesus.

### **Important Dates to remember:**

March 18th (Wednesday): 6:30-7:30 First Kids Players (**new drama experience/small group**)

March 22nd (Sunday): 5:30-6:30 Intergenerational Mission Project (during First Kids/Youth)

March 29th (Sunday): 4:30-6:30 Journey through Holy Week (Easter Celebration)

## NURSERY VOLUNTEERS



Nursery Volunteers Needed! If you are willing and able, please sign-up for one or two spots every 3 months. This would ensure that our nursery is covered, you get to play with some adorable little humans, and enjoy the company of our Ms. Racheal! Just visit our website and click the "Nursery Volunteer Sign-Up" button. Thank you!

## NEW BABY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Three wonderful families have been blessed with new arrivals in February! We certainly will be praying for you all, and congratulations on your new little ones!

**February 12, 2026:** Brian and Jamie Higginbotham are "Oma and Opa" again! A little boy, Jayce Ren Higginbotham, 6 lb., 12 oz., 19" long. Proud parents are Cole Higginbotham and Lyndsay Hardy.

**February 18, 2026:** Wilma Lovette is Great-Grandmother to another little one, a little boy, Graham Alton Lovette, 8 lb., 1 oz., was born to John and Nancy Lovette (John is Wilma's grandson), grandparents are Mark and Lynn Phillips Lovette (Mark is Wilma's son).

**February 19, 2026:** A little boy, Bryce Wayne Sharp, 8 lb., 4 oz., was born to Brian and Kelly Sharp. (Lloyd Sharp and Kim Sharp are the proud grandparents)

## LIBRARY NEWS

*Mostly What God Does is Love You*, by Savannah Guthrie award-winning Today Show co-anchor and New York Times bestseller (released Feb 2025), is designed to teach children about God's unconditional love and presence. Inspired by her adult essay collection, this 32-page picture book features poetic, gentle prose to reassure kids they are cherished, using nature and daily life to convey messages of compassion and kindness.



See other available media via this link:

[www.librarycat.org/lib/fbcnwlibrary](http://www.librarycat.org/lib/fbcnwlibrary)

## FROM THE SECRETARY

Let's stay up to date! Please send me (Katie) any changes to your phone, address, or email. You are welcome to update your individual or family photo also! I would like to create an updated online church directory by April 1st. So please email any photos or changes to: [katielfbc@gmail.com](mailto:katielfbc@gmail.com) by the end of March. I will be updating you with reminders. Thanks!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**MONDAYS: LUNCH GROUP MEETS AT 12:30 \*\*SCHEDULE IN SCOPE**

**WEDNESDAYS: Regular activities: Bible Study 4 pm, Handbells 5 pm, Handbell/Choir Small Group 6 pm, Chancel Choir at 6:45 pm**

**March 1:** Begin Food Collection for Spring Food Giveaway (Tentative Date Sat., May 9) (Also, we will be taking up for Blessing Bags Event coming up March 22—please bring blessing bag donations to the office \*\*see Scope article with more details!)

**March 6-7:** Fri., March 6, Youth breakfast The 50s 6:15 am, Youth collaborative Lock-in w/1<sup>st</sup> UMC and N.W. Presbyterian

**March 8:** Daylight Savings, “Spring Forward” One Hour, Youth/First Kids 4:30-6:30 pm

**March 10:** Finance Committee meeting 2:30 pm, Executive Committee meeting 4:00 pm

**March 11:** Plarn 1 pm, along with regular activities

**March 12:** CareNet Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregiver Support Meeting 11 am

**March 13:** Youth breakfast The 50s 6:15 am Rev. Patricia Turner On Call March 13-14 for pastoral needs

**March 15:** Deacons meeting 8:30 am. Worship with Communion. Youth to lunch and Musical after worship. First Kids meet 4:30-6:30

**March 18:** In addition to regular activities, on March 18th we will have **New!! First Kids Players**—drama experience/small group 6:30 -7:30 pm. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:45 pm

**March 22:** Intergenerational Mission Opportunity—Blessing Bags 5:30-6:30 pm in Wayland Hall, Youth/First Kids 4:30-6:30 pm

**March 25:** Plarn 1 pm, along with regular activities

**March 26:** St. Paul's Crisis Ministry "Team A" provides lunch 9 am CareNet Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregiver Support Meeting 11 am Shelf Indulgence Book Club meets 1 pm

**March 27:** Youth breakfast The 50s 6:15 am.

**March 29:** Fifth Sunday Fellowship Wayland Hall 9:30 am, (No Sunday School), Palm Sunday Worship Service 11 am, Youth/First Kids 4:30-6:30 pm—Easter Celebration “Journey through Holy Week”

**March 30:** Packing Food Boxes for Seniors at HOPE 6 pm

**March 31:** Forever Young Trip & Lunch—Thruway Shopping Ctr.

*“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights” James 1:17a*

## **IN HOUSE DEACON MISSIONS GROUP SPRING FOOD GIVEAWAY**

In May, we will be having a Spring Food Giveaway, in conjunction with HOPE Ministry. Bins will be placed at the entrances to the Portico, rear of the Education Building, and the Narthex. Our first phase of collection begins March 1-21 and we request the following canned food items: Corn, Green Beans, Peas, Pinto Beans, Mixed Vegetables, and Potatoes. We are grateful to everyone who has a hand in making this a wonderful community mission to help our neighbors. We could not do this without YOU!

## **Financial Report & Donations to Enduring Gifts Feb. 15 and 22, 2026**

### **Weekly Report February 22, 2026**

Designated Receipts	\$ 1,075.00
Budget Receipts	\$ 5,300.00
Weekly Budget Needed	\$ 11,421.46
Budget Needed to Date	\$ 57,107.31
Budget Received to Date	\$ 36,057.11
<b>Budget Deficit</b>	<b>\$ 21,050.20</b>

**Donations to Enduring Gifts/Rainy Day Fund the weeks ending 2/15/26 and 2/22/2026**

### **Memorials:**

#### **In Memory of Lois Bentley**

Given by Gail Harris, Wilma Lovette, Linda Bentley, Aileen Bentley, Roger & Katherine McGrady, Barbara McKenzie, Shirley Deal, Dwayne & Tammy Pevette, Lori Watkins, Norma Riley, Jane Brookshire

#### **In Memory of Celia Maddry**

Given by Sheree Sloop

#### **In Memory of Roger Trivette**

Given by Dwayne & Tammy Pevette

#### **In Memory of Jamie Martin**

Given by Wilma Lovette

#### **Honorariums:**

#### **In Honor of Women of the Church**

Given by Michael & Lisa Lentz, Gail Harris, and Judy Parsons

# First Baptist Church of North Wilkesboro

## March 2026

**\*Sunday Regular Activities**  
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School/Bible  
 Study All ages  
 11:00 a.m. Worship  
 4:30-6:30 p.m. First Kids/Youth



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i> <b>Spring Food Giveaway item collection begins</b> *Regular activities	2 Lunch Group to The 50s 12:30 pm	3 No School	4 Bible Study 4 pm Wayland Hall Handbells 5 pm Choir Small Group 6 pm Choir 6:45 pm	5	6 Youth 50s 6:15 am <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>Youth Lock-In with MCUMC &amp; NW Pres.</b> </div>	7
8 <b>Daylight Savings Time Begins, spring ahead one hour!</b> Third Sunday of Lent *Regular activities	9 Lunch Group to Mo. Falls Grill 12:30	10 Finance Committee meets 2:30 pm Exec. Committee meets 4:00 pm	11 Plarn Group 1pm Bible Study 4 pm Wayland Hall Handbells 5 pm Choir Small Group 6 pm Choir 6:45 pm	12 CareNet Support Group 11 am	13 Youth 50s 6:15 am <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>Rev. Patricia Turner On Call for Pastoral Needs</b> </div>	14 <i>Baby Shower for Anabelle 3-6 pm in Wayland Hall</i>
15 <i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i> Deacons meet 8:30 am Communion, Library Team 9 am *Regular activities with exception of Youth Lunch/H.S. Musical after worship, First Kids as usual	16 Lunch Group to Cagney's 12:30 pm	17 "Happy Wanderers" Travel Discussion Small Group 3:30 pm Lg. Conf. Rm. Topic: Ireland.	18 Bible Study 4 pm Wayland Hall Handbells 5 pm Choir Small Group 6 pm Choir 6:45 pm	19	20 Youth 50s 6:15 am	21
22 <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i> "Parenting in the Pew" *Regular Activities & <b>Intergenerational Missions 5:30-6:30 pm in Wayland Hall, all welcome</b> Youth/First Kids 4:30-6:30	23 Lunch Group to Amalfi's 12:30 pm	24	25 Plarn Group 1 pm Bible Study 4 pm Wayland Hall Handbells 5 pm Choir Small Group 6 pm Choir 6:45 pm	26 St. Paul's Team A CareNet Support Group 11 am Book Club 1 pm	27 Youth 50s 6:15 am	28
29 5th Sun. Fellowship 9:30 a.m. in Wayland Hall (No Sun. School) Worship 11 a.m. First Kids/Youth 4:30-6:30	30 Lunch Group location TBA 12:30 pm Packing Food Boxes for Seniors at HOPE Ministry 6 pm (church-wide)	31 <i>Forever Young Shopping/Lunch Trip</i>	<b>Spring Food Giveaway Collection begins March 1st. Items Needed: Green Beans, Corn, Pinto Beans, Mixed Vegetables, Peas, Canned Potatoes, Toothpaste, Tooth Brushes, Deodorant, Brush/Comb</b>			

# First Baptist Church North Wilkesboro

## March Worship Volunteers

	March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
<b>Ushers</b>	Robert Greene's Team	Bill Myers Team	Tommy Caudill's Team	Frank Day's Team	Youth
<b>SS Nursery</b>	Linda Wehrmann	Open	Open	Open	5th Sun. Fellowship
<b>Worship Nursery</b>	Adena Greene	Open	Open	Tamarah Cornette	Open
<b>SS Greeters</b>	Jim & Marie Waddell	Brian Huffman; Mickey Leapley	David & Hilda Smith	Frank Day	Jerry & Diane Swaim
<b>Worship Greeters</b>	Patrick Smith	Steve Moree	Madelene Johnson	Janet Atwood	Frank Day
<b>Visitor's Table</b>	Pam Greene	Martha Myers	Marie Waddell	Madelene Johnson	Women of the Church
<b>Open Up</b>	Danny Stanley	Danny Stanley	Danny Stanley	Danny Stanley	Danny Stanley
<b>Lock Up</b>	Mike Norwood; Anthony Davis	Mike Norwood; Anthony Davis	Mike Norwood; Anthony Davis	Mike Norwood; Anthony Davis	Mike Norwood; Anthony Davis

### Upcoming March Birthdays

**March 1:** Anthony Davis, Bobby Johnson  
**March 5:** Tabitha Garvin  
**March 6:** Susan Hagaman  
**March 7:** Donna Brooks  
**March 10:** Olivia Edwards  
**March 11:** Marie Davis, Barbara McKenzie, Will Slate  
**March 13:** Lynn Day, Aven Eller

**March 14:** Steven Call, Harold Lloyd, Linda Wehrmann  
**March 15:** Vivian Collins  
**March 16:** F.D. Forester  
 Dannette Hincer  
**March 17:** Angela Eller  
**March 18:** Whitney Abrams  
**March 20:** Mickey Leapley, Owen Piotrowski

**March 24:** Steve Nixon  
**March 25:** Tammy Watts  
**March 26:** Bennett Hagaman  
**March 27:** Larry Christenbury  
**March 28:** Matthew Carver, Genene Reynolds  
**March 30:** Donna Greene, Noah Horton, Caleb Norwood

### Looking Ahead to April

**April 1:** Lloyd Walker  
**April 2:** Madelene Johnson  
**April 3:** Myra Johnson  
**April 4:** Connie Glass  
**April 5:** Jenni Foster  
 James Gilbert  
**April 6:** David Mastin  
**April 8:** Bobbi Jennings  
**April 9:** Amy Cox  
 Ryan Smith

**April 11:** Brooke Welborn  
**April 12:** Susan Christenbury  
 Alicia Johnston  
 Larisa Leapley  
**April 13:** Hanion Johnson  
**April 17:** Sydney Owens  
**April 19:** Michael O. Greene  
 Lauren Larsen  
 Brady Scott

**April 22:** Holly Carver  
**April 24:** Sam Mayberry  
**April 25:** John Warren  
**April 27:** Vickie Murphy  
 Pat Osborne  
 Katie Rash  
**April 29:** Georgia Mastin  
**April 30:** Jeanie Davis