

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Aug 1-5** Office & Ministerial Staff Vacations, Office Closed (Mickey will be back Friday for Fast Food Friday)
- Aug 8** First Kids Fun Day 9:30-3:30 p.m.
- Aug 10** Vespers at **Summit on Cross Mountain 6:30pm**
- Aug 14** Deacons (current, new and rotating off) will Meet in Wayland Hall at 2:00 p.m.
- Aug 16** Choir practice 6:30 p.m.
- Aug 17** Women of the Church Ladies Luncheon (New Member Meet & Greet) 12 noon Wayland Fellowship Hall
- Aug 23** Choir practice 6:30 p.m.
- Aug 24** First Kids Fun Day 9:30-3:30
- Aug 25** Shelf Indulgence Book Club meets 1 p.m.
- Aug 26-27** Choir Retreat Blowing Rock Convention Center
- Sept 5** **Labor Day-Church office closed**
- Sept 7** Wednesday Night activities resume

ON FRIDAYS DURING THE SUMMER: MICKEY AND THE YOUTH WILL MEET FOR “FAST FOOD FRIDAYS” AT 11:30 a.m.



**First Baptist Church
of North Wilkesboro**
510 D. Street
N. Wilkesboro, NC
28659

Bert’s Benediction

*Live Simply
Love Generously
Care Deeply
Speak Kindly
Forgive Freely
Pray Daily
And Leave the Rest to God*

The Scope

Monthly newsletter, August 2022



A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTH WILKESBORO

Volume 58, Issue 8

AUGUST 2022

The Scope

Giving Thanks for Larisa!

Believe it or not, on August 9th, Larisa Leapley will have been the Music Director of The First Baptist Church of North Wilkesboro for 29 years—and what a BLESSING she has been. Larisa has directed, molded, and whipped (I mean trained) our Chancel Choir into one of the most consistent and talent-ed singing groups- not just in churches, but anywhere around. She also shares her silky, soaring voice with us not only to elevate our worship, but bring comfort at funerals as well as joy and beauty to weddings. Larisa has given her time to our First Kids through the years by teaching them to sing as well as to love and praise God through song. Through the years she has also worked with our youth group as well as Forever Young, our active senior adults. More than any of these things, Larisa has loved and served the people and staff of this church for 29 years with enthusiasm, grace, and dedication. She is always ready to lend a helping hand and knows everyone in Wilkes County! Please take a moment to call, email, text, or send a card to Larisa this month to let her know how thankful you are that she is here and how much you appreciate her 29 years of ministry here.



Rejoice In the Lord Always

August 2022

First Baptist Church of North Wilkesboro

Corner of 6th & D. Streets
Mailing Address: PO Box 458
N. Wilkesboro, NC 28659
Office phone: 336.838.5197
Administrative email: katie1fbc@gmail.com

Church Group, Team & Committee Meetings

Book Club

Shelf Indulgence Book Club will meet on Thurs. Aug. 25 in The Gathering Place to discuss *The Last Flight*, by Julie Clark. If you would like to be a part of the book club, contact Betty Kilby, or just arrive, all are welcome!

First Baptist Diaconate

All current and newly-elected church deacons, as well as deacons who are rotating off, will meet in The Wayland Fellowship Hall on Sunday, August 14 at 2:00 p.m.

Youth Happenings

On July 11th, 13 Youth and four chaperones headed to Berea, Ky. for Passport Camp. At Passport our Youth did Bible study and local mission work during the day. In the evenings the entire camp attended worship. After worship just our Youth would find a quiet spot for group devotions and talk about what we experienced that day.

We made new friends and renewed old friendships as well as grew closer to God and each other. We returned home on July 16th.

On the 20th five Youth and four chaperones tubed the New River! What a fun and relaxing time we had! Afterwards we went to the Summit for Vespers with our church family.

Thank You Church Family

Dear First Baptist Church,

It has been with deep appreciation that I honor each and every one of you!

Your comfort, grace and mercy was given to me through your cards, thoughts and prayers during the passing of my parents. You took my heart in overwhelming kindness and your comfort was touching and tender!

During my recent illness you rallied again! You uplifted my mind, body, and soul to a place of recovery. You are each a treasure of this earth! I cherish it always.

My utmost Thanks & Love,

Judy Foster

AUGUST VESPERS CHANGED

Wednesday, August 10 at 6:30 p.m., **we will return to The Summit at Cross Mtn.** because of the cool air, amazing views, convenience, and amenities. If the drive is an issue, PLEASE call the church and we will arrange a safe ride! Don’t miss out!

As part of this Vespers Service, we also will observe the Lord’s Supper together. There is no need to sign up for Vespers, just bring enough food for your family and a few more folks (we really like to eat!)

Alzheimer/Dementia Caregivers’ Support Group Breaks for August

Under the guidance of Counselor David Holden of CareNet, our church offered a place of support, compassion, and empathy to many people in our community who are caring for or have cared for loved ones suffering from Alzheimer’s Disease or Dementia over the past year. The group had their largest gathering so far on Monday, July 25. The Support Group will not meet in August but will resume meeting in September on the SECOND and FOURTH Mondays of the month. David will be joined by a new graduate student intern once the sessions begin again. If you know anyone who might be interested in attending these support groups, please have them call our church office or simply encourage them to attend the September 12 meeting at our church.

Wednesday Night Activities

Save the date! Wednesday Night Activities will resume on **Wed., September 7** after the Labor Day Holiday. We are so excited to begin Family Night Meals, In-Person Bible Study, as well as activities for Youth and Kids, Adult Handbells, and Chancel Choir Rehearsal. Keep your eyes out for more details to come!

Choir Retreat 2022

We are so excited to be back together for Choir retreat this year. We will be in Blowing Rock on August 26 & 27 at the *Blowing Rock Convention Center*. Can’t wait to spend this time in fellowship together again, and learning new music!

First Baptist Church
Deacon Election 2022

Listed below are the individuals our church has called to serve our congregation on The Diaconate. These newly elected deacons of First Baptist Church will begin their service on August 14, 2022. The names are listed in alphabetical order.

Frank Bright
Tamarah Cornette
Brad Hinch
Martha Myers
Ronnie Osborne
David Reynolds
Jennifer Royall
Linda Wehrmann

We will have a Deacon Ordination Service for new Deacons, Brad Hinch, Martha Myers, and Jennifer Royall during worship on Sunday, August 14. Please plan to be present for this holy sacrament.

FIRST KIDS in AUGUST

First Kids Fun Day, August 8th 9:30-3:30, RSVP Jamie or Katie

First Kids Fun Day, August 24th 9:30-3:30, RSVP Jamie or Katie

Parent’s Night Out, Friday, Aug. 26, 6-9 p.m., RSVP by Wed.

Friendship Blooms Here

The Women of the Church invite you to a Meet & Greet Luncheon!

We look forward to a fun time of fellowship and the opportunity to get to know you better. Come enjoy lunch at noon and visit as long as you can.

When: Wednesday, August 17, 2022
Where: FBC Wayland Hall
Time: 12:00 PM – until
Please RSVP to Katie at 336.838.5197 by August 12th

A Word from The Pastor
Dr. Bert Young

The following devotional entitled Compassionate Listening is from Richard Rohr at the Center for Action and Contemplation. His insights and wisdom apply not only to the Church but to any institution or society that desires to live in such a way as to talk through problems and disagreement while growing closer and more united in the process.

Can we take responsibility for the fact that we push people to polarized positions when we do not stand in the compassionate middle? I think of how often, during my talks, someone raises a hand and says, “I disagree with what you just said.” Often, they did not hear or understand what I said, and they don’t have the humility to ask, in a non-accusatory way: “Did I hear you correctly in saying . . . ?” or “What do you mean when you say . . . ?” Of course, sometimes I am wrong, but such a mentality does not encourage dialogue or mutuality. Unfortunately, my response also often suffers because of the negative energy generated. I am then defensive or biting my tongue to control my own judgments or desire to attack back. The result is a half response, at best, because the environment is not safe and congenial.

Responses of this sort are usually full of assumptions: “I did understand you. I know your motivation. I know what you’re trying to say. Therefore, I actually have the need and right to attack you.” Normally, neither person grows or expands in such a context. The truth is not well served, because neither individual feels secure, respected, or connected. Unfortunately, this has become the state of our public discourse.

Fortunately, there will always be people who have the grace and the ability to engage in reflective listening, to ask, “Richard, did I understand what you were saying?” and repeat back to me their perception of what I said. Normally then I can clarify, or perhaps admit that I have communicated poorly or am, in fact, incorrect. When we can listen and respond in that way, each person is treated with the respect and dignity they deserve as children of God. Each person feels heard, and misunderstandings are clarified compassionately.

Unfortunately, that is not the way the ego likes to work. Opposition gives us a sense of standing for something, a false sense of independence, power, and control. Compassion and humility don’t give us a sense of control or psychic comfort. We have to be willing to let go of our moral high ground and hear the truth that the other person may be speaking, even if it is only ten percent of what they are saying. Compassion and dialogue are essentially vulnerable positions. If we are into control and predictability, we will seldom descend into the vulnerability of undefended listening or the scariness of dialogue. If we are incapable of hearing others, we will also be incapable of hearing God. If we spend all day controlling and blocking others, why would we change when we kneel to pray?

FINANCIAL REPORT & ENDURING GIFTS

Weekly Report July 24, 2022	In Memory of Bishop Bullock	<i>Honorariums</i>
Designated Receipts 703.98	Given by Steve & Pamela Call	In Honor of Bert Young
Budget Receipts 10,737.00	In Memory of Thurman Horner	Given by Steve & Judy Foster
Weekly Budget Needed 9,616.23	Given by Tam & Karen Hutchinson	In Honor of the Music Program
Budget needed to Date 288,486.92	In Memory of Jerry McNeil	Given by Shirley Deal
Budget Received to Date 291,912.94	Given by Stacy Dunn	In Honor of Ron & Carolyn Carpenter
<u>Donations to Enduring Gifts/Rainy Day Fund</u>	Given by Lynnette, Tom & Tommy Wyatt	Given by Lynnette, Tom & Tommy Wyatt
<i>Memorials</i>	In Memory of Polly Prevette	In Honor of William Prevette
In Memory of Jeremy Barnes	Given by Herman & Bud Province	Given by Danny & Stacy Dunn
Given by Greg & Pam Edwards	In Memory of John (Jay) Stringfield	
In Memory of Jim Bentley	Given by Tam & Karen Hutchinson	
Given by Willa S. Caudill, Charles & Susan Kerbaugh Fleming		