

C NNNECT

Volume 75 Number 2

February 1, 2026

**Missions Supported
Through our Budget**
WMU
GPS Prison Ministry

Prayer Requests

To share a prayer request, please send emails to elucas@fbcasheboro.com or call the church office, from 8 am-5 pm, Monday-Friday.

“Don’t worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:6-7

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Youth Mission Luncheon Fundraiser

Come support our youth as they raise money for their mission trips to Caswell & Charleston, SC.

Sunday, February 8 | CLC



1st Serving Time
11:00 am

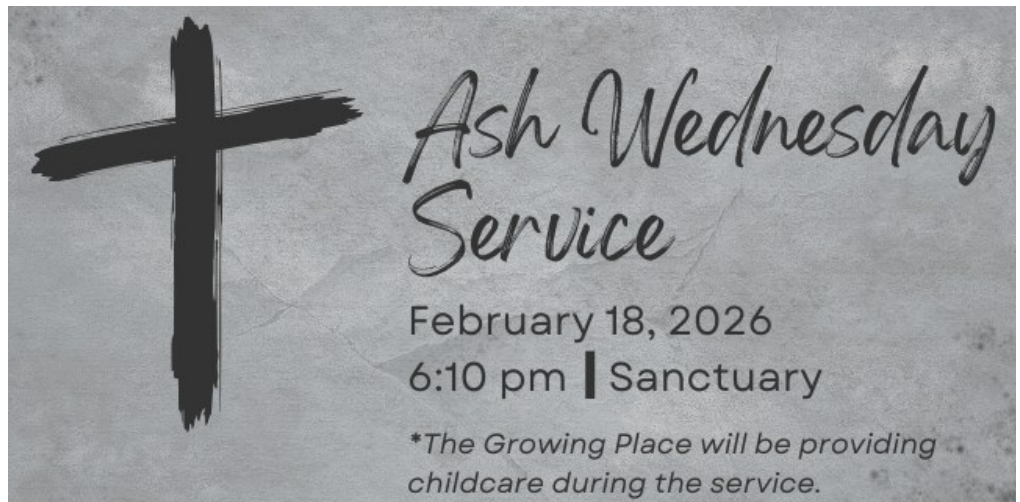


2nd Serving Time
12:15 pm

Use the QR code to register for the serving time of your choice.

Registration Deadline: February 6

Donations Only



On August 10, 2023, I was riding around Asheboro and God put a word heavy on my heart. It was so heavy I had to pull over to find something to write on. He led me to know that First Baptist was a place he wanted his Gospel to come first! I quickly jotted that down on a green sticky note. What followed over the next two and half years has been an amazing journey together as we have built on First Baptist’s strong tradition of seeking to spread the Gospel and even doubled down that the Gospel, letting others know about Jesus, was the cornerstone of our DNA.

Recently he has put a new word on my heart (or rather acronym) – W.A.L.K. As we have continued to be First Baptist where the ‘Gospel Comes First’, he is urging us to help others know how to “walk” in the Gospel together. As new people join our church family and as we have exciting things ahead for us, God is calling us to have a clear path, an expectation of what it means to be part of putting the Gospel First at First Baptist. Here is what is laying heavy on my heart today –

First Baptist needs to W.A.L.K. together as we put the Gospel First! That means for every single person in our church family we need to:



W – Worship – Be part of Corporate Worship.

A – Ask/Answer – Be part of a group where you can ask questions and find answers.

L – Love – Be part of a serving group/be on mission to love on others.

K – Keep in Step – Be part of spurring each other on through prayer, sacrificial giving, mentoring the next generation and more to keep in step with how God moves, bringing in others to join us.

I want to encourage us all to surrender even more as we “WALK” in the Gospel together. Over the month of February, you will hear more about “WALKing” together in the Gospel. We will look at each letter of this acronym in more detail. I encourage you to begin praying for how God is wanting you to WALK with him and each other here at First Baptist.

Church family, I cannot thank you enough for allowing me to be part of God’s work. It is truly an honor to serve with you. Let’s continue to W.A.L.K. together as we put the Gospel First!



“This is my command: Love one another as I have loved you.” *John 15:12 (CSB)*

PASTOR ON CALL

- February 7-8..... Jenn York/336-906-6779
- February 14-15..... Michael Thames/336-971-6798
- February 21-22..... Aaron Littell/828-719-7716
- February 28-March 1 Stephen Owen/828-292-4627

Giving Numbers

Received: December 2025	\$127,421.00
Budgeted: December 2025	\$144,861.00
Received Year to Date 2025.....	\$1,330,417.00
Budgeted Year to Date 2025.....	\$1,395,457.00

CONNECTIONS

MICHAEL THAMES

Life is better **together**. I do not mean that life is better simply because there are people around you. You can still feel alone in a crowded room. What I mean is that life is better when we are truly in **relationships together**. God created us to be **together**. Some of the greatest sorrow in life is when we are unable to be **together**. God intends for us to live life **together**!

Does being **together** really matter in church? Do **relationships** really matter in church? Sure, you can come in and worship God and not be a part of the church family. You can attend a class or a group **without building relationships**. You can serve God by serving others **without connecting to those around you**. All of those are good things to do. But you would be missing out on the very best, a huge part of the blessing of church and of life. You can be surrounded by people and still feel alone in a crowded room.

Do you remember when I said God created us to be **together**? He thought it was important. Look at Genesis 2. God created man, and He had already created a wonderful place for them to spend time together. That should have been enough, right? It is hard to imagine that the presence of God in a wonderful place would not be enough. And yet God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone." Being alone was not God's design in the garden, and it is not what He wants for you in church or in life. **You were not created to be alone.**



It is better for us to worship God **together** as a part of a church family. It is better for us to be in a group and truly build relationships. It is better for us to connect with others while we serve. Church life is better **together**. If you do not know where to start, let me help you. You are not alone. We are **together** in this church family!

MUSIC MINISTRY

ALYSSA PLOTT



Some hymns feel less like songs and more like old friends, quietly walking with us through the years. *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* is one of those steady companions — not flashy or dramatic, but rooted and sure, like a hand we can hold. The text comes straight from Lamentations 3:22-23: "Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness."

Those verses were written in the middle of ruin and uncertainty, yet even there the prophet Jeremiah noticed the sunrise and dared to trust that God's mercy had not run out.

Centuries later, hymn writer Thomas O. Chisholm took those same truths and made them personal. Limited by fragile health and an ordinary, often difficult life, he never pointed to grand miracles, only to the quiet, daily faithfulness of God. He simply testified that the Lord had always provided what he needed. Composer William Runyan later set the poem to music, saying the melody seemed to write itself, matching the text's steady, sincere trust.

Perhaps that is why the hymn still resonates so deeply. It reminds us that faithfulness often appears not in spectacular moments, but in everyday grace — strength for today and hope for tomorrow.

As we potentially step into this season of renovation and renewal in our church home, there may be dust, noise, and change all around us. Yet our true foundation has never been brick or beam, it is the faithful presence of God among His people. Long before these walls stood, and long after they are renewed, He remains the same.

So we move forward with confidence, singing not merely from tradition but from trust: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness, Lord, unto me." And morning by morning, we will continue to see His mercies anew.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

JENNIFER YORK

BUMPER JUMPERS – February 28



Join us at Bumper Jumpers, an indoor play area for toddlers to 12 year olds. The cost for children is \$12 per person, payable upon arrival. Once you are registered, you will be sent a link to fill out a waiver. RSVP by Wednesday, February 25.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, February 28

Family Trip to Bumper Jumpers | 10 am

Sunday, March 15

Children's Day | Both Worship Services
Breakfast | 9:30-10:30

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Monday, June 15 – Thursday, June 18

Vacation Bible School—Illumination Station

RAs , GAs, Mission Friends and Choir



Is your child in PreK, Kindergarten, or 1-6 grade? If so, we would love to have them join us on Wednesday nights from 6:00-7:30 pm! We offer choirs and mission groups they can participate in. See Jenn York for more information.

CHILDREN'S DAY – March 15

The children who are leading in worship are asked to attend both services. They may leave after their choir sings at the 11:00 am service unless they are scheduled for another role. Rehearsal will be held on Wednesday, March 11. Please mark your calendar and plan for your child to attend.

Please use the QR codes for the following...



-Sign up your child to participate during Children's Day using the QR code.

-Use the QR code to sign up your family to enjoy a hot breakfast from 9:30-10:30 am (preschool & children's leaders are also invited).



February Birthdays:

Mackenzie Kale 2/10, Zachary Nguyen 2/10,
Madalynn York 2/21

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

AARON LITTELL

Youth Mission Luncheon Fundraiser—Youth and youth parents, sign up to serve at the youth mission luncheon on February 8. Remember that the money raised is used to offset the cost of our trips this summer to Caswell and Charleston. Those going on either trip should plan to volunteer during the luncheon.



Menu: *Chicken broccoli rice casserole, green beans, mac & cheese, side salad, roll, and dessert*



Youth "Christmas" Party— Join us on Saturday, February 28 at 4:00 pm for our Youth Christmas Party! Bring a \$10 white elephant gift and come ready for fun! We hope to see you there!

Young Adults

Bible Study—Stephen and Emily are hosting a Bible study from 6:30-8:30 pm at their home (1662 Old Cox Rd. Asheboro, NC) on Sunday's. We would love for you to be part of what God's doing!

WinterJam— Shelby and Derrick will be taking the young adults to WinterJam in Raleigh on Friday, February 27. Meet at the church at 2:30 pm to ride the bus. We will stop for dinner before the concert, so please bring money for food. Registration is due by Wednesday, February 4. Cost is \$30 per person.



CHURCH NEWS

WELCOME FBC'S NEW MISSIONS PASTOR

Michael Trogdon



Prime Time Update: The Prime Time section of the Connect is now a separate document. You can find copies on the second floor in the Sunday school hallway and at the church office entrance. For any questions, please contact Michael Thames at mthames@fbcasheboro.com.

First Baptist Church | Preliminary Financial Report | For the year ending December 31, 2025

	2025 Budget.....	2025 Actual.....	2024 Actual
Revenue			
Unified Contributions	\$1,395,457.....	\$1,330,417	\$1,254,481
Mission Asheboro	0.....	0	30,998
Other Revenue	35,700.....	74,792	47,750
Total Revenue.....	<u>\$1,431,157</u>	<u>\$1,405,209</u>	<u>\$1,333,229</u>
Expenditures			
World Mission Ministries	\$220,740.....	\$179,878	\$163,470
Missions Education	5,725.....	2,542	5,486
Pastoral Ministries.....	5,900.....	5,110	8,009
Christian Education	24,800.....	29,936	25,744
Youth and Family Ministries	15,040.....	15,395	15,040
Music Ministries	19,640.....	19,738	18,566
Preschool and Children's Ministries	8,315.....	10,462	6,970
Specialized Ministries	19,600.....	16,328	9,800
Supportive Ministries	82,980.....	74,578	76,945
Personnel Support Ministry	867,138.....	835,146	746,248
Property and Equipment	161,279.....	204,210	168,138
Total Expenditures	<u>\$1,431,157</u>	<u>\$1,390,323</u>	<u>\$1,244,417</u>
Net Surplus	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$14,886</u>	<u>\$88,812</u>

OTHER INFORMATION

Cash/Investment Balances—December 31, 2025

Unified Fund	\$406,900
Designated Fund.....	\$358,556
Endowments.....	\$450,944

Notes: In 2025, we spent an additional amount of \$80,678 of designated funds, the majority of this being for the new minibus. We have also spent \$117,396 of prior year unified surplus this year on a portion of the minibus cost, new sanctuary piano, and new video equipment for the sanctuary.

LOOKING AHEAD

February 2	<i>Coffee & Inspiration</i>
February 5	<i>Bingo (Senior Adults)</i>
February 8	<i>Church Vote to Approve Renovation</i>
February 8	<i>Youth Mission Luncheon Fundraiser</i>
February 15	<i>Sweeter Than Honey Class Begins</i>
February 16	<i>Hearts & Hands</i>
February 17	<i>Joyful Singers (Senior Adults)</i>
February 18	<i>Ash Wednesday Service</i>
February 24	<i>NC Baptists' Disciple Making Conference</i>
February 27	<i>WinterJam (Young Adults)</i>
February 28	<i>NC Baptists' Mission Training</i>
February 28	<i>Bumper Jumpers (Children)</i>

Connect will next be published on

February 27, 2026

The deadline for submitting information is
Noon on Wednesday, February 18, 2026.

See the weekly **Ministry Guide** for
more upcoming events.



WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 am & 11:00 am

With Livestream on YouTube @ 11 am

BONUS TEACHING HOUR

(infant—4 year-olds Bible learning activities)

8:30 am & 11:00 am

1st floor of The Growing Place Childcare Center

SUNDAY SCHOOL

(for all ages)

9:45-10:45 am

133 N. Church Street

Asheboro, NC 27203

336.629.9191 | www.fbcasheboro.com

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8 am-5 pm