

# CONNECT

Volume 75 Number 3

March 1, 2026

**Missions Supported  
Through our Budget**  
*Your Choices Randolph  
 CODA Mountain Academy  
 Southern Baptist Convention*

### Prayer Requests

To share a prayer request,  
 please send emails to  
[elucas@fbcasheboro.com](mailto: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*



## CHILDREN'S DAY

**SUNDAY, MARCH 15**

*Children will lead in worship during both services.*

### HOT BREAKFAST

**9:30-10:30 am | Christian Life Center**

*For all children's volunteers and children's families.*



Register by **Monday, March 9**  
 if you plan to attend the breakfast.



### What's Inside

- Senior Pastor ..... 2&3
- Pastor On Call ..... 3
- Connections..... 4
- Missions..... 4
- Children's Ministry ..... 5
- The Growing Place..... 5
- Music Ministry..... 6
- Youth & Young Adults ..... 6
- Church News ..... 7
- Church Calendar ..... 8

**THE SHADOW  
 OF Redemption**

**Combined Worship**  
*Easter Cantata*

**Sunday, March 29**  
 9:45 am | Sunday School  
 11:00 am | Worship

We have spent the last several years learning about putting the Gospel first! Over the last several weeks we have spent even more time in God's word together to see how God is calling us on an individual level to live this out. We have looked at how each and every member of our church body needs to W.A.L.K. together. Let's review what we have studied.

Romans 12 (Christian Standard Bible)

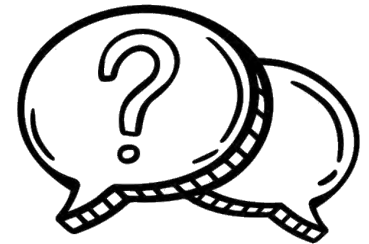
*Therefore, brothers and sisters, in view of the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your true worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.*

**W – Worship:** Worship is presenting ourselves to God as a living sacrifice. Simply put, this means responding to God in surrender. To truly follow God, to walk in the Gospel together, it all starts with our response to God. We come regularly to worship services, not to check something off our to do list, but to serve as a catalyst for our surrender and worship that should be happening everyday in our lives. We worship together corporately, to encourage worship in your daily life. Are you joining us in worship at First Baptist?



<sup>3</sup> For by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he should think. Instead, think sensibly, as God has distributed a measure of faith to each one. <sup>4</sup> Now as we have many parts in one body, and all the parts do not have the same function, <sup>5</sup> in the same way we who are many are one body in Christ and individually members of one another. <sup>6</sup> According to the grace given to us, we have different gifts: If prophecy, use it according to the proportion of one's faith; <sup>7</sup> if service, use it in service; if teaching, in teaching; <sup>8</sup> if exhorting, in exhortation; giving, with generosity; leading, with diligence; showing mercy, with cheerfulness.

**A – Ask & Answer:** You don't know it all! We must be careful not to think too highly of ourselves. We need help! God has "distributed a measure of faith to each one." God has gifted and revealed who He is in different ways to different people. We need each other to learn and grow. We need others to pour into our lives, and we need to pour into the lives of others! Are you part of an ask & answer group here at First Baptist? Are you being poured into? Are you pouring into others?



<sup>9</sup> Let love be without hypocrisy. Detest evil; cling to what is good. <sup>10</sup> Love one another deeply as brothers and sisters. Take the lead in honoring one another. <sup>11</sup> Do not lack diligence in zeal; be fervent in the Spirit; serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; be persistent in prayer. <sup>13</sup> Share with the saints in their needs; pursue hospitality. <sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. <sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud; instead, associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own estimation. <sup>17</sup> Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Give careful thought to do what is honorable in everyone's eyes. <sup>18</sup> If possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. <sup>19</sup> Friends, do not avenge yourselves; instead, leave room for God's wrath, because it is written, Vengeance belongs to me; I will repay, says the Lord. <sup>20</sup> But if your enemy is hungry, feed him. If he is thirsty, give him something to drink. For in so doing you will be heaping fiery coals on his head. <sup>21</sup> Do not be conquered by evil, but conquer evil with good.



**L – Love:** We are called to genuine love! We can't be hypocrites! We can't say we love God and then hate a brother or sister. Instead, we must cling to what is good and detest evil! There is a clear difference between right and wrong. God's word outlines that for us. God created humanity in His image and He loves every single human being. So, while people are typically poor image bearers because of their sin and struggle with evil, we are still to cling to them and love them. That means we must honor everyone! Keep hope no matter how dark or sin ridden someone's life is! Be hospitable! Remember, what we do for the least of these we do for God. Finally, leave the results in God's hands to avenge. Our job is not to convict or convince anyone, because the Holy Spirit handles all of

that. We speak truth about what is evil, but we do so in love. Our job is to love! Are you involved in helping First Baptist show genuine love?

Galatians 5:22-26 (Christian Standard Bible)

*<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things. <sup>24</sup> Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. <sup>26</sup> Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.*

**K – Keep in step with the Spirit:** To keep in step with the Spirit means to align our daily actions and attitudes with the guidance of Holy Spirit. We must have a close, continuous, and intentional relationship with Holy Spirit for this to happen. As we seek out this type of relationship it will affect all aspects of our lives – our priorities, our finances, our relationships, and all our plans. God is always moving to offer His Gospel of salvation to the world. As He moves, we must move with Him if we want to be part of His work. Are you joining us here at First Baptist to follow where Holy Spirit leads? How is Holy Spirit speaking to you that you need to share with others here at First Baptist?



**Worship, Ask & Answer, Love, Keep in Step – WALK!**

I want to invite you to WALK together in the Gospel here at First Baptist. I challenge you to make the adjustments in your life so you can be a part of putting the Gospel first together.

What adjustment do you need to make? Do you need to join a small group? Do you need to sign up for a mission trip? Do you need to join one of our volunteer teams? How is God calling you to WALK with Him and WALK with First Baptist together?



**PASTOR ON CALL**

- March 7-8..... Aaron Littell/828-719-7716
- March 14-15..... Michael Thames/336-971-6798
- March 21-22..... Michael Trogdon/336-588-8223
- March 28-29..... Jenn York/336-906-6779

**Giving Numbers**

Received: January 2026 ..... \$79,057.00  
 Budgeted: January 2026 ..... \$135,064.00

## CONNECTIONS

MICHAEL THAMES

Red Rover, Red Rover, send (Name) right over:

If you never played this game growing up you really missed out. Two teams of children would hold hands and face each other. A team would pick a person, like Jill, from the other team and say the words: Red Rover, Red Rover, send Jill right over. Then they would hold hands as tight as they could because Jill was going to try to run through their hands. If she broke through, she would pick someone from that team to join her team. If she was not strong enough to break through, then she would join the team that held their hands tightly enough to keep her out.

I sometimes wonder if we feel like we are playing Red Rover at church. One of the most difficult things in the church world is to invite people into our church family and then make it easy for them to actually join us. Maybe it is because we have been here so long that we do not remember how it felt to get involved in a church. Maybe it is because you are like me and meeting new people in new places is fun! Or maybe it is because we do not really notice the people who are trying to break into our team.

I promise, people are not trying to steal us away to another church because we are not playing Red Rover. They are trying to be a part of a group of people who love God and love others, and we are that group! We are that church family! If you want a way that you can make a difference in this area, try sitting in the middle of the pew as we gather to worship. Make it easier for others to find a place to sit and worship with us.

There is nothing wrong with holding hands. There is nothing wrong with loving our church family. But as we face people who want to join us and Jesus, let us make it easy for them to have what we have. Let us receive with open arms. Let us enjoy our church family and the people God sends to us. Let them join our WALK.



## MISSIONS

MICHAEL TROGDON



*For the poor will never cease from the land; therefore, I command you saying, "You shall open your hand wide to your brother, to your poor and your needy, in your land."*  
Deuteronomy 15:11

It is my absolute honor to be a part of the First Baptist Church Family as your new Missions Pastor! God aligns our lives in ways we cannot always anticipate. These are exciting times filled with endless possibilities. These possibilities will transform into opportunities to make a difference in the lives of individuals whose circumstances make it difficult for them to move forward.

The referenced scripture above is dear to my heart because, according to Deuteronomy 15:11, the poor and needy are our brothers. I have sat in On Mission Team (OMT) meetings and have had the opportunity to sit with several church members. Through these conversations, I have received recommended readings and countless ideas from a variety of publications. My heart is indeed overwhelmed! FBC is On Mission, On Purpose! I look forward to working with the OMT, as well as all individuals who give of themselves to make a difference in the lives of others. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be part of this great vision and mission!

By way of announcements, I met with Gene Woodle, Director of Our Daily Bread (ODB) Kitchen. He shared that they are in need of a cooking and serving team for the second Thursday of each month. I have also talked at length with Susan Huff, who coordinates the ODB team that serves presently. It would be wonderful if we at FBC could fill that second Thursday vacancy each month. We are looking for five volunteers to serve and three to help cook. If you are interested, please email me your name, contact information, and preferred area of service at [mtrogdon@fbcasheboro.com](mailto:mtrogdon@fbcasheboro.com). Blessings!





### Children's Day is Coming!

We are excited to have our children, preschool—6 grade, lead us in worship on Sunday, March 15 during both worship services! In between services, there will be a time for families with children and children's volunteers to fellowship together over a hot breakfast. During the breakfast time we will have a devotional and worship. *Please scan the QR codes to sign your child up to serve during worship and to save your spot for breakfast.*



Children Participation Signup



Breakfast Signup



### UPCOMING EVENTS:

#### Sunday, March 15

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

#### Sunday, March 15

Church Bible Drill | 5 pm | Sanctuary

#### Sunday, March 22

Associational Bible Drill | 5 pm | Sanctuary



### March Birthdays:

Stella Grant 3/14, Dax Owen 3/18

**Easter**— is quickly approaching and with all the commercial shine of the holiday we invite you to join us in regaining focus on what Easter is truly about. There will be two church events that will help your children better understand and experience Easter for it's true meaning.

**Experiencing the Cross | Wednesday, April 1**— This is an interactive walk through scripture of the last days of Jesus' life leading up to the cross.

**Good Friday Service | Friday, April 3**— We will worship and reflect on the meaning of Jesus going to the cross for us.



*\*Childcare will be available for infants-4 year olds for both of these events.*

# THE GROWING PLACE

# KATHERINE DAVIS



The snow didn't slow us down! The Growing Place children absolutely loved the snow and playing outside. What great way to teach the children how great our God is! God's love covers us — just like snow covers the ground. It helps our hearts feel clean and new again.

**Dental Health Month**—It was fun to have Mr. Jimmy Fetner here from Randolph Pediatric Dentistry to teach the children how important it is to take care of our teeth! He rolled in on his hover board and used his stuffed animal friends to demonstrate how to brush your teeth.



**Renovation**—We are so blessed to be able to move over to West Asheboro Church of God during the renovation. I ask for and covet your prayers during this time, that God will continue to be in the details for a smooth transitional move.

**Spring Planting and Gardening**—If you would like to volunteer and be a part of our spring planting and getting our garden & outdoor space ready, please contact The Growing Place or email Katherine Davis at [kdavis@fbcasheboro.com](mailto:kdavis@fbcasheboro.com). All volunteers must fill out forms to participate.



## MUSIC MINISTRY

ALYSSA PLOTT

During the long, shadowed night in the Garden of Gethsemane, while Jesus poured out His heart in anguish and surrender, His closest friends slept. The disciples could not keep watch. He had asked them to pray, to remain present, to stay with Him, and yet human weakness overtook them. Their failure was not born of indifference, but of exhaustion and incomprehension. They simply did not understand the magnitude of what was unfolding.



How often are we the same? We “sleep” through sacred moments. We grow distracted, comfortable, or spiritually drowsy while God is moving right in front of us. We miss His prompting, overlook His quiet work, and remain unaware of what He is shaping within us. Like the disciples, we may love Jesus deeply and still fail to stay alert to His voice. Gethsemane reminds us that spiritual wakefulness matters...that watching and praying keeps our hearts aligned with what God is doing. The garden calls to us gently but urgently: Wake up. Stay near. Pay attention. The Savior is at work, even in the shadows. Lent offers us a sacred invitation to do just that — to slow down, to quiet our hearts, and to draw close in prayer and reflection as we become more aware of God’s work in our lives and in our church.

Our upcoming cantata invites us into that very posture. Though the presentation begins with Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem and moves through His final teachings at the Last Supper, it lingers most intentionally in the garden. As the choir sings pieces such as “Stay with Me” and “Shadow Garden,” you will hear the deep emotion of Christ as He pleads with His friends to remain with Him — to stay awake, to linger, to not leave Him alone in His hour of sorrow.

The music asks us to sit in the tension, to watch, to listen, and to resist the pull toward spiritual sleep. Rather than rushing past the sorrow toward Easter morning, this presentation dwells in the darkness where surrender was chosen and redemption began to unfold. It is an invitation to keep vigil with Christ, to notice what He is doing in us and around us, and to awaken to the profound love that carried Him from the garden to the cross — and ultimately, to the empty tomb!

## YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

AARON LITTELL

**Mission Luncheon:** We raised over \$6,300 at the Mission Luncheon to go toward the youth trips this summer. Thank you for your continued support of our youth!



**Youth and Parent Night:** All youth and parents are invited to join us for food, fellowship, and a Bible study on Sunday, March 8 at 6:00 pm in the Christian Life Center. We hope to see everyone there!

**Teen Extreme:** The youth will attend Teen Extreme March 13-14. Plan to meet at the church at 8:00 pm to ride the bus to Greensboro. The youth will travel to Proehlfic Park and Main Event for sports, pizza, a Bible message, bowling, arcade, and laser tag. We will leave Main Event at 5:00 am, stop for breakfast, and return to the church around 6:30 am. The cost is \$15 per person, please register by March 8.



**Adopt-A-Grandparent:** On Sunday, March 15 our Adopt-A-Grandparents and Grandchildren will meet at 3 pm in the lobby and return around 7 pm. We will be playing mini-golf, eating, and fellowshiping together. Hope to see you there!

**Spring Retreat:** Youth and youth parents are invited to join us April 24-26 for our spring retreat to Fort Caswell. We are leaving Friday at 4:00 pm and will return by Sunday at 3:00 pm. Cost: youth/\$75, adults/\$150, couples discount - \$250/couple. Please register by March 15.



YOUNG Adults

Stephen and Emily are hosting a Bible study from 6:30-8:30 pm on Sunday’s at their home (1662 Old Cox Rd, Asheboro, NC). This is your chance to explore faith, build connections, and ignite your passion for God. Come be part of this transformative journey!

# CHURCH NEWS



Thank you to everyone for their prayers, cards and texts of sympathy

on the passing of my dad, David Aldrich. We are grateful for such a kind, loving and supportive church family. You are very much appreciated.

*The Aldrich Family*

Words cannot express how thankful I am for all your prayers, cards, hospital visits, and phone calls. It's great to have a church family that cares.

*Joyce Smith*

We wish we could find the perfect way to say "thank you" for all the thoughtfulness and kindness shown to the family of Betty LaGrange. Love and caring is such an important part of who you are as a church family and it is evident in times of sadness and loss and in times of joy and thanksgiving. Your gentle and generous spirit has touched our lives greatly, just as Ms. Betty's life has gently touched us all here.

*Tom, Amy, Brad, & the Family of Betty LaGrange*



## NEW MEMBERS!



**Bryce McDonald**

*November 23, 2025*



**Michael & Audrey Trogdon**

*February 8, 2026*



**Military Ministry:** To ensure our records are current, please share any changes of address or rank for your military family with Ellen at [elucas@fbcasheboro.com](mailto:elucas@fbcasheboro.com). Please submit all updated information by **Friday, March 6**.

**Homebound Ministry:** If you are aware of any church member who is unable to attend services due to limited mobility or ongoing health concerns, please contact Ellen at the church office. We would love to place them on our monthly visitation list and provide them with a copy of *Mature Living* magazine and the *Open Windows* daily devotional.

These ongoing visits and resources help provide encouragement, spiritual nourishment, and a continued sense of fellowship with their church family.



**Spring Forward!**  
**Sunday, March 8**  
Don't forget to set your clocks forward an hour!



**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**  
in observance of Easter  
**Friday, April 3 &**  
**Monday, April 6**

*"Let's strive to know the LORD. His appearance is as sure as the dawn. He will come to us like the rain, like the spring showers that water the land."*

Hosea 6:3 (CSB)



## LOOKING AHEAD

- March 1** Children & Youth Volunteer Training
- March 2** Coffee & Inspiration (Sr. Adults)
- March 3** Joyful Singers Practice (Sr. Adults)
- March 5** Bingo (Sr. Adults)
- March 6** Men's Chili & Cornhole
- March 8** Spring Forward
- March 8** West Virginia Mission Trip Interest Meeting
- March 9** Cracker Barrel Trip (Senior Adults)
- March 10** Joyful Singers/Alpine H&R (Sr. Adults)
- March 13** Teen Extreme (Youth)
- March 15** Children's Day
- March 15** Adopt-A-Grandparent
- March 15** Church Bible Drill
- March 15** Armenia Mission Trip Interest Meeting
- March 16** Hearts & Hands
- March 16** VBS Volunteer Meeting
- March 17** Joyful Singers/Ramseur R&H (Sr. Adults)
- March 22** Associational Bible Drill
- March 24** Joyful Singers/North Pointe (Sr. Adults)
- March 29** Combined Worship/Easter Cantata
- March 30** 90s Luncheon
- March 31** Joyful Singers/Brookdale (Sr. Adults)

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](http://www.fbcasheboro.com)

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8 am-5 pm

Connect will next be published on

**March 31, 2026**

---

The deadline for submitting information is  
**Noon on Friday, March 20, 2026.**