

FBC ASHEBORO

CONNECT



Volume 74 Number 11

November 1, 2025

{
Prayer Partners
Heart Connections
Mission Emphasis
Baptist Children's Homes
}

Prayer Requests

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

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

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Fellowship Meal & Budget Presentation

Wednesday, November 19 | Christian Life Center

Meal @ 5:00 pm | Presentation @ 6:10 pm

Bake Sale Fundraiser



4:00 - 6:00 pm

All proceeds will support any upgrades and improvements at Camp Mundo Vista.
For those who don't have a sweet-tooth but would like to support this ministry
you may also make monetary donations to FBC with *bake sale* in the memo.



Holiday Schedule

Mark Your Calendar



Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 7

6:30 pm (Doors open @ 6:00 pm) | Sanctuary

Christmas @ First

Sunday, December 14

6:00 pm (Doors open @ 5:30 pm) | Sanctuary

Candlelight Communion Service

Wednesday, December 24

8:00 pm | Sanctuary

Family Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday, December 24

5:00 pm | Sanctuary

Combined Worship Services

Sunday, December 28

Sunday School | 9:45-10:45 am

Worship Service @ 11:00 am (no evening activities)

Psalm 145:9-16 (NIV)

9 The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made. 10 All your works praise you, Lord; your faithful people extol you. 11 They tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, 12 so that all people may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does. 14 The Lord upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. 15 The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. 16 You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

Look again at some of the amazing attributes of God we read about in this passage. God is good, compassionate, mighty, glorious, everlasting, faithful, upholding, and satisfying. Wow! We truly serve an amazing God!

Philippians 4:19 (NIV) reminds us, "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." Let me ask you a question, do you believe that God will provide for your needs? And maybe an even more challenging question, are you thankful for **how** he provides for you?

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, we may be tempted to look at the things we do not have or the wants and desires that have gone unfulfilled. We sometimes feel that we miss out or are left out. We may be tempted to not be satisfied with our life.

Here is the truth – God opens his hand and satisfies every living creature. God is enough! Jesus is enough! More than worldly possessions where moth and rust can destroy, He offers us purpose. He offers us forgiveness. He offers us salvation. He offers us abundant and eternal life through a relationship with Him!

So, this Thanksgiving season spend some time reflecting on how to find satisfaction in your relationship with Jesus Christ and not in the things of this world. This is a satisfaction that lasts for all eternity! Thank you, Lord, for who you were, are, and will always be! And thank you for loving me!



Don't forget to set your
clocks back an hour on
Sunday, November 2!

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
November 27 & 28



Redbox Packing

We will be packing Redboxes for the NC women's prisons the first week of December.

- December 1 at 6:00 pm: Packing for the Anson prison (delivering, December 2)
- December 4 at 6:00 pm: Packing for the Raleigh prison (delivering, December 5)

Chick-fil-A will be provided on both packing nights for those who come to help.

This opportunity is open to everyone! Please register by November 23.



December 1



December 4

PASTOR ON CALL

November 7-9	Michael Thames/336-971-6798
November 14-16	Stephen Owen/828-292-4627
November 21-23	Aaron Littell/828-719-7716
November 28-30	Jenn York/336-906-6779

Giving Numbers

Received: September 2025	\$80,028.00
Budgeted: September 2025	\$111,396.00
Received Year to Date 2025	\$957,917.00
Budgeted Year to Date 2025	\$1,043,098.00

CHURCH NEWS

First Baptist Church | Interim Financial Report | For the period ending September 30, 2025

Budget/2025 YTD.....Actual/2025 YTDActual/2024 YTD

Revenue

Unified Contributions.....	\$1,043,099	\$966,626	\$931,375
Mission Asheboro contributions	0	0	6,567
Other Contributions/Revenue	<u>26,475</u>	<u>24,399</u>	<u>34,587</u>
Total Revenue	<u>\$1,069,574</u>	<u>\$991,025</u>	<u>\$992,529</u>

Expenditures

Missions	\$170,655	\$141,872	\$121,171
Missions Education	4,269	1,073	5,946
Pastoral Ministries	4,425	3,577	6,135
Christian Education	18,600	20,139	18,647
Youth and Family Ministries.....	11,905	13,084	9,786
Music Ministries.....	14,105	13,184	14,790
Preschool and Children's Ministries.....	7,386	9,650	6,597
Specialized Ministries.....	14,825	15,469	7,456
Supportive Ministries	61,360	57,052	60,129
Personnel Support Ministry	638,008	623,913	553,122
Property and Equipment.....	<u>122,268</u>	<u>174,688</u>	<u>132,336</u>
Total Expenditures.....	<u>\$1,067,806</u>	<u>\$1,073,701</u>	<u>\$936,115</u>
Net	<u>\$1,768</u>	<u>(\$82,676)</u>	<u>\$56,414</u>

OTHER INFORMATION

Cash/Investment Balances 09/30/25

Unified Fund.....	\$300,658
Designated Fund	\$302,107
Endowments	\$442,495

Notes: We have spent a net amount of \$80,678 of designated funds this year to date as well. The majority of this being for the new minibus. We have also spent \$117,396 of prior year unified surplus this year on portion of the minibus cost, new sanctuary piano and new video equipment for the sanctuary.



Susan and I would like to say thank you for all the prayers and cards we received from the church. We are so blessed and felt the prayers surrounding us! God is good all the time.

Darren Chisholm

I wanted to thank everyone that reached out and provided prayers and comfort during the difficult time of the passing of my mom, Lynda Parrish. Melanie and I really appreciate it and could feel the love.

Chris and Melanie Parrish

Thank you, church family, for all the love and support that you have poured out on Worth and me since my accident. I cannot tell you how much your cards, visits, calls, food gifts, and especially your prayers have meant to us. You have blessed me beyond measure with your love, and I cannot say thank you enough.

Beth Younts

I, along with my family, would like to express our sincere gratitude for your prayers and kindness shown during my dad's illness and death. Every card, call, text, gift, and most of all your prayers, meant so much to us during this difficult time. It is amazing the love and support that all of you have shown us! Having such a loving and thoughtful church family as we go through life's journey is such a tremendous blessing!

Lee Ann & Ernie Confer & Family



It's not too late to join Bible Drill! Fourth-sixth graders are welcome to learn with us the books and divisions of the Bible, 25 verses, and 10 key passages over the next few months. With games and activities on Sunday nights and practice at home, you will gain Bible skills and knowledge to last a lifetime. We meet in Room 309 from 5-6 pm on Sunday nights in November and will resume in January. See Carolyn Thomas or Janet Smith if you have questions.



We're Heading to Camp!

CentriKid is a high-energy, intentional, gospel-centered overnight camp for 2nd–5th graders. Their mission is to help children experience the time of their lives and learn more about the message of Jesus Christ. This takes place through track times, recreation, worship, Bible study, church group time, and a variety of other fun events. CentriKid Camps are committed to providing content that is rooted in Scripture, a safe location, kid-friendly programming, and staffers who are deeply invested in your kids.



November Birthdays:

Emma Lewis (11/8), Nolan Pokorny (11/9), Eric Thompson (11/11), Anna Cranford (11/14),
Tallulah Hinson (11/19), Garrett Lahr (11/24), Izaiah McKiever (11/29)

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

Youth Fall Mission Trip – November 7-9

On Friday, November 7, registered youth will depart for the Red Springs Mission Camp. We will meet at 4 pm to load the bus and head out for a weekend filled with fun, fellowship, and Bible study. On Saturday, we will serve on mission in the community, and plan to return to FBC on Sunday, November 9, around 2 pm.

Redbox Packing

We will be packing Redboxes for the NC women's prisons the first week of December. For more information or to sign up, please see page 2 of the Connect.

Young Adults

Hiking at Caraway: Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 2, at 3:00 pm! We will meet at Shelby and Derrick's house before heading out for a hike along the Pine Path at Caraway. If you have any questions, please contact Shelby.

Fireside Friendsgiving: Save the date! Fireside Friendsgiving is happening on Saturday, November 8 at 4 pm at Shelby and Derrick's house. It will be a potluck, so bring your favorite dish to share and they will bring the turkey! Also, don't forget a blanket for the bonfire! Please RSVP by November 5 by contacting Shelby.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, November 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30

Bible Drill | 5:00-6:00 pm

Friday, November 7

GA Journey | 5:30 - 8:30 pm | Girls 1st-6th Grade

Monday, November 17

6th Graders Deliver OCC Boxes | 5:15 pm

Friday, November 21

Festival of Lights | 7:30 pm | Pre-Registered

Sunday, November 23

CentriKid Deadline to Register

Wednesday, November 26

No Wednesday Night Activities

Tuesday, December 2

Christmas Play Practice | 5:30 - 7:30 pm | Dinner Provided

Saturday, December 6

Christmas Play Practice | 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Sunday, December 7

Christmas Play Practice | 4:30 pm | Heavy Snack Provided

Sunday, December 7

Children's Christmas Program | 6:30 pm

Wednesday, December 17 and 31

No Wednesday Night Activities

The Songs of the Thankful Heart

Many of the hymns we sing at Thanksgiving sound bright and triumphant — full of joy, harmony, and celebration. Yet behind many of those cheerful melodies are stories not of comfort, but of hardship. The most enduring songs of gratitude were often written by people who knew suffering firsthand and still chose to give thanks.

Consider “Now Thank We All Our God.” It’s often sung as a hearty anthem of praise, but its author, Martin Rinkart, wrote it during unimaginable loss. Rinkart was a Lutheran pastor in Eilenburg, Germany, during the Thirty Years’ War — a time of brutal conflict, famine, and disease. When plague struck his city, he found himself as the only surviving pastor, performing as many as fifty funerals a day, including that of his own wife. His home became a shelter for the sick and starving. And yet, surrounded by suffering, he penned a hymn that speaks of “countless gifts of love” and a God who “still is ours today.”

Those words weren’t written from a place of comfort; they were a declaration of faith — a choice to believe that gratitude and sorrow can coexist, that thanksgiving can rise from ashes.

More than two centuries later, Folliott Pierpoint, a young English poet, looked out across the hills near Bath and wrote the poem “For the Beauty of the Earth.” His life wasn’t marked by war or loss, but by quiet reflection. He saw God’s goodness in the simple, everyday wonders — the sky, the flowers, the love between friends and family. His words remind us that gratitude doesn’t always shout; sometimes it simply notices.

And then there’s “Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart,” written in the 1970s by Henry Smith, a man facing both professional disappointment and the slow loss of his vision. Newly graduated from seminary, Smith couldn’t find a church position. As his sight faded, he clung to the words “And now, let the weak say, ‘I am strong.’ Let the poor say, ‘I am rich,’ because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks.” Out of that quiet struggle came a song sung now around the world — a simple chorus of steady, trusting gratitude.

Each of these hymns tells the same truth in its own way: thankfulness is not a reaction to an easy life. It’s a discipline, a way of seeing. Gratitude is what faith sounds like when life is uncertain — the echo of hope that refuses to be silenced.

So as the Thanksgiving season approaches and we lift our voices in these songs — whether centuries old or freshly written — we join a long line of believers who have done the same. People who looked hardship in the eye and still sang, “Now thank we all our God.”

CONNECTIONS

MICHAEL THAMES

Holidays: Good, Bad, or Ugly? The good part about holidays is we get to spend time with those we love, the bad part is when we are separated from them, and the ugly part is when we are surrounded by people but still feel alone. Maybe this is why holidays are full of joy for some people and sorrow for others.

The same can be said about church. Sure, we show up at church to be in the presence of God, but we also show up to be in the presence of God **together!** We enjoy being with people we love. We miss people when they cannot join us or choose not to, and sometimes people feel alone in a room full of others, even at church.

If you have never thought about this or felt this, count your blessings. If you personally know what I am talking about then I want you to know that you are not alone. I have been there. As a pastor’s kid, I sometimes felt like people knew who I was, but I did not really feel connected. I grew out of that when I realized that other people felt alone in church also. That is when I decided to get connected instead of feeling alone in rooms surrounded by people.

God does not call us to isolate ourselves. He calls us to gather, serve, and to learn together. He even called the animals to walk together to get on the Ark. God wants you to experience the good of being connected to a church family. We want that for you also! We are ready to build that together relationship with you when you are ready for it!

Join a Sunday School Class, small group, or volunteer in a ministry. Enjoy the holidays. You are not alone!

Our NC Baptist on Mission (NCBOM) Dental Clinic was a great success for our community. Our goal was to share Jesus with all patients and families that attended and to provide free, high-quality dental care to community members in need. We had 11 dental professional volunteers, 25 support staff volunteers and 3 volunteers from NCBOM.

- 46 patients received dental screenings and cleaning
- 33 patients received procedures on the Dental Bus, which included:
 - 11 fillings patients
 - 12 extraction patients
 - 10 complete exams with x-rays and other procedures



The positive feedback from patients was a testament to the dedication of the volunteers. Many expressed relief at finally receiving treatment for painful conditions that they had been enduring. We also had the opportunity to be the hands and feet, sharing Christ's love and praying with many of the patients throughout the day.

Thank you to the On Mission Team for supporting this Ministry, to Michael Thamas for coordinating, to our church family for their support and for all the volunteers from our community and beyond. We could not have done it without you.



"This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God."

2 Corinthians 9:12





PRIME TIME NEWS

¹⁹ "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. ~ Matthew 6:19-21

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Senior Living Facilities/Rehab

Alpine Health & Rehab	Tom Lewis
Asheboro Rehabilitation Center.....	Emily Nance
Brookdale	Faye McDaniel, Janice Scarborough
Clapp's	George Lucas
Clapp's Rehab	Debbie Gatlin
Cross Road Assisted Living.....	Grace Bullard, Bobbie Gibson, Kathy Snead, Patsy Myers
Cross Road Memory Care	Martha Henley, Mary Owens, Pug Yeatts
GrayBrier Nursing & Rehabilitation	Lois Edwards
Montgomery Senior Living	Susan Long
Ramseur Rehabilitation	Randy Bulla

At Home Members

Recovering from Recent Surgeries or Other Health Concerns

Joyce Crocker	Shirley Ferryman	Nancy Horton
Joretta McNeill	Sharon Hunter	Beth Younts
Deborah Wood	Gail Griffin	Nelson Rowland
Betty Reed	Charles Havens	Pam Alley

Christian Sympathy is extended to...

- Tim Greene on the passing of his aunt, Ida Brinkley, on October 9.
- Martha Philpott on the passing of her brother, Roy Phillips, on October 9.
- J.C. & Suzette Winkler on the passing of his aunt, Sarah Wilkinson, on October 14.
- John and Olafia Thompson on the passing of her mother, Astros Rose Guadnadottir Cato, on October 15.



SENIOR UPCOMING EVENTS

Bingo— Join us for fun and fellowship as we play bingo on Thursday, November 6, at 10:30 am in the Chapel. Enjoy a morning filled with friends, laughter, and special prizes!

Coffee and Inspiration— Mark your calendar for Monday, November 17, where we will spend time connecting with our Connections Pastor, Michael Thames through prayer, stories, and devotions.

Christmas at Caraway— Begin your Christmas season with the Senior Adults of First Baptist Church Asheboro for Christmas at Caraway: *The Present of His Presence*. This will be an evening of worship, fellowship, and a delicious meal on Saturday, December 6, from 5–7 pm at Camp Caraway. The cost is \$19 per person, and registration with payment is required through Realm by November 28. Come ready to celebrate the joy and meaning of Christ’s coming together.



Joyful Singers Schedule:

Nov. 4 Practice 1 pm | Sing at Stay Well 2 pm

Nov. 18 Practice 1 pm | Sing at Clapp's, Top at 2 pm

Nov. 11 Practice 1 pm | Sing at Asheboro R&H 2 pm

Nov. 25 No Joyful Singers— Happy Thanksgiving!

Dec. 2 Meet at 12 pm at CJ's for lunch | Sing at Clapps– Pleasant Garden at 2:30 pm

Adopt-A-Grandparent Social

Our first Adopt-a-Grandparent/Grandchild Social was a success! Participants enjoyed spending time together making Christmas wreaths for our Homebound members, sharing laughter and stories throughout the evening. The gathering was filled with creativity, fellowship, and a shared spirit of service. We look forward to many more moments of connection and ministry in the future!



Celebrators Conference

Fourteen Senior Adults, and a not yet Senior driver, travelled to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee for the Celebrators Conference. Fall was in full swing, so we were able to witness the colors of the leaves begin to change. We enjoyed listening to speaker, David Jeremiah, as well as music from Mark Lowry, The Collingsworth Family, and others. We had such a great time celebrating Jesus and enjoying delicious food! We want to go back next year. Who wants to join us?



LOOKING AHEAD

November 3	<i>Senior Adults/Perry Lowe Orchards</i>
November 4	<i>Joyful Singers/Stay Well</i>
November 6	<i>Senior Adult Bingo</i>
November 7-9	<i>Youth Mission Trip</i>
November 11	<i>Joyful Singers/Asheboro Rehab</i>
November 12	<i>Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Drop-Off</i>
November 14-16	<i>Couples Mission Weekend</i>
November 16	<i>Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Drop-Off</i>
November 17	<i>Coffee & Inspiration</i>
November 17	<i>Hearts and Hands</i>
November 18	<i>Joyful Singers/ Clapps Mountain Top</i>
November 19	<i>Annual Bake Sale</i>
November 19	<i>Thanksgiving Meal/Budget Presentation</i>
November 21	<i>Festival of Lights (families with children)</i>
November 25	<i>No Joyful Singers</i>
November 26	No Church Activities
November 27-28	Church Office Closed

Connect will next be published on

November 25, 2025

The deadline for submitting information is
Noon on Wednesday, November 19, 2025.

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