

Celebrating 175 Years of  
Loving God  
Loving Others



First Baptist Church  
Rutherfordton

First Baptist Rutherfordton Newsletter | April 1, 2026



**Easter Sunday**  
**April 5, 2026 | 10:55 a.m.**

**Songs of Worship**

*Easter People Raise Your Voices*  
*Christ the Lord is Risen Today*  
*Crown Him With Many Crowns*  
*Low in the Grave He Lay*  
*Christ is Alive*  
*Because He Lives*  
*He is Lord*

**Sermon**

*"And I Hope"*  
Luke 24:1-12  
Aimee Hobbs

[WATCH THE SERVICE HERE](#)



# Holy Week **SCHEDULE**

April 2   5:30 p.m.	MAUNDY THURSDAY DINNER & COMMUNION
April 3 9am-5pm Self-Guided 5:30 p.m. Group Experience	GOOD FRIDAY INTERACTIVE STATIONS OF PETER
April 5   7:00 a.m.	EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE & BREAKFAST RUTHERFORDTON CEMETERY/ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL
April 5   10:55 a.m.	EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RUTHERFORDTON  
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## COMBINED YOUTH WORSHIP



Last Sunday night, our youth participated in a combined worship service with some of our neighbors. They had dinner, played interactive games, and attended a meaningful worship service where they learned about the importance of loving God, others, and themselves.

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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LINDA CAMPER OUR NEXT NONAGENARIAN

We welcome our latest Nonagenarian, Linda Camper, as she celebrates her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on Thursday, April 9. Linda and her late husband, Jim, became members of FBCR in 1970 after moving to Rutherfordton from Virginia. Their family consists of four children, five grandchildren, and two “bonus” grandchildren.

Linda holds a B.S. in music education from Bridgewater College, an M.A. in music education from James Madison University, and an M.A. in language arts from Gardner-Webb, as well as certification in teaching the academically gifted. Her career included teaching classroom and instrumental music in Maryland and Virginia, and gifted students in Rutherford County.



Linda has fond memories of directing our children’s choirs in the 70’s and participating in the adult choir and handbell choir. She said she was even allowed to be the interim choir director for a year in 1980.

She considers it a privilege to have served the church as a Sunday School teacher, church clerk, and member of the pastor search committee, which secured our beloved former pastor, Rev. Dean Baughn. Linda had a hand in beginning our partnership with Yokefellow and remains passionate about supporting donations to their food pantry. These are just a few of the ways that she has blessed our church with her time and talents over the years.

She now enjoys seeing longtime friends and new faces while watching the Sunday morning worship services on YouTube. She also stays involved by communicating regularly by email and writing letters to many members of the church, sharing her knowledge of church history, and making sure all nonagenarians are recognized in the newsletter.

Happy birthday, Linda!

(If you would like to send Linda a birthday wish, reach out to [office@fbcRutherfordton.org](mailto:office@fbcRutherfordton.org) to get her contact information.)

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## EASTER EGG HUNT

Thank you to everyone who supported our Egg Hunt! We had a great time running the fields behind the church and collecting over 500 eggs! We had 5 visiting families who joined us.



# Happy Easter



## THANK YOU, PAM!

Pam McNeil's last Sunday with us will be Easter morning. She has taken a similar position at a church closer to her home in Tryon.

Pam, we have loved having you as part of our community, and are grateful for the good gifts you have brought our worship service! Blessings to you in your continued ministry.

## STRONGER TOGETHER SERVICE ON APRIL 26

Free Event  
Multi-denominational  
Community Worship Service

SAVE THE DATE

8th

**STRONGER**  
WORSHIP SERVICE  
**TOGETHER**

Sunday, April 26th, 2026  
**11AM**  
RS Central High School  
641 US-221, Rutherfordton, NC 28139

Visit us on Facebook  
<https://www.facebook.com/MDCCRC>

MDCCRC

The spring Stronger Together service has been rescheduled for Sunday, April 26 at 11:00 a.m. **We will not have worship service at First Baptist Church that morning**, though Sunday school classes are welcome to meet at 9:45 a.m. before coming to the high school for the Stronger Together service. Make plans to meet us at R.S. Central for a multi-denominational morning of worship!

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## CHECK OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING:

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT GATHERINGS** | We will not meet tonight (April 1) or next Wednesday (April 8) due to Holy Week and Spring Break. Join us when we resume on April 15!

**BUSINESS MEETING UPDATE** | At last week's special called business meeting, we approved the purchase of the new church van. It has been ordered and we anticipate receiving it around Memorial Day. We also approved the hire of Alex Tapp, our new church organist. Alex will begin on April 12.

**SENIOR ADULT TRIP TO STRAWBERRY HILL** | Make plans to join us on Thursday, April 16 for breakfast at Strawberry Hill! We will leave the church at 8:30 a.m. Following breakfast, we will walk across the road to shop at their fresh produce stand. Bring money to cover your meal and any produce you want to purchase. Please sign-up by Sunday, April 12.

**WELCOME TABLE** | We are hosting Welcome Table on April 13 and April 20. Volunteers are desserts are always welcome! Reach out to Nell Bovender for more information.

**CHURCH T-SHIRTS** | Church t-shirts have been restocked in both colors! Shirts are \$15 and come in youth and adult sizes. We hope you'll reach for yours when running errands, traveling, or volunteering alongside fellow church members.

**175 ANNIVERSARY ART PROJECT** | As part of our 175th anniversary celebration, you are invited to participate in a canvas art project! Pick up a blank canvas, paint a memory of First Baptist, and add your artwork to our anniversary wall. Pick up a blank canvas, along with instructions, in the church office.

**BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM** | Did you know the Outreach Class is available to attend via Zoom each Sunday? The class meets at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday. Simply [CLICK HERE](#) and enter the password **138147** to join via Zoom. No app download is needed; **reach out if you need help logging in.**

**YOKEFELLOW FOOD PANTRY** | This month, we are collecting pork & beans. Cans can be either the small or regular size. Contributions can be left in the church office or near the Sanctuary doors. We hope that you can add a can or two to your weekly grocery shopping to help our neighbors in need.

**SPINDALE ELEMENTARY BACKPACK COLLECTING** | During the school year, we collect breakfast items for Spindale Elementary's Backpack Program. Individuals or groups can drop off items such as breakfast bars and Pop-Tarts in the church office or at the Sanctuary doors. We deliver them to the school on a monthly basis.

**PRAYER UPDATES BY EMAIL** | If you'd like to receive prayer request updates throughout the week, in addition to the prayer list found in the weekly newsletter, request to be added to our new prayer distribution email list! Just **click here and add your name and preferred email address.** You can also join by calling or **emailing** the church office.

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# FIRST BAPTIST PRAYS

## WEEKLY PRAYER LIST



[CURRENT PRAYER LIST](#)

[SUBMIT A PRAYER REQUEST](#)

### PRAYER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

April 5 - No 9:00 Prayer Time

April 12 - Beth Archer

Terry Honeycutt

### WORSHIP CARE SCHEDULE

April 5 - Penny Parker, Will Tompkins

April 12 - Bob Smith, Rachel Tompkins

### MEALS ON WHEELS SCHEDULE

April 17 - Nell Bovender & Susie Kernodle

### USHERS FOR APRIL

Todd Hodge (Coordinator), Steve Barnes, Andy

LaBreche, Bob Smith

### COLLEGE STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Hayden Walker

Senior at UNC Charlotte

Contact the office if you would like mailing information for this student.

### BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK

April 2 - Jaylen Ledbetter

April 3 - Pam Newton

April 5 - Jada Knox

April 7 - Reggie Biggerstaff

April 7 - Elizabeth Owens

April 7 - Ed Peplinski

### YOKEFELLOW ITEM

#### OF THE MONTH:

Pork & Beans

April Goal: 30

Collected: 0

March Collected: 48

### SPINDALE ELEMENTARY WEEKEND

#### BACKPACK COLLECTION

#### Items needed:

Breakfast Bars & Snack Bars

April Collected: 0

March Collected: 23 boxes

## 2025-2026 Church Leadership

### Deacon Council

Debbie Bumgarner - Chair (2026)

Lori Herrick - Vice-Chair (2026)

Beth Archer - Secretary (2027)

Dale Heffner (2026)

Jane Simpson (2027)

Frank Jones (2027)

Ben Moore (2028)

Penny Parker (2028)

Belinda Camper (2028)

### Administrative Leadership Council

Andy LaBreche - Chair (2027)

Chip Bond - Vice-Chair (2027)

Jessica Godfrey - Secretary/Church Clerk (2026)

Faith Archer (2026)

Kurt Parker (2026)

Gayle Youngblood (2027)

Laura Hodge (2028)

Carolyn Keever (2028)

Mike Stephenson (2028)

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

You can give online through our website! Click "Giving" at the top of our website, or click the button below.

[CLICK HERE TO GIVE](#)

Financial Records for March 29, 2026  
Budget Offering: \$6,668.50  
Weekly Budget Requirement: \$8,802.94

YTD Budget Received as of March 29: \$228,822.75  
YTD Needed as of March 29: \$228,876.44

Annual Budget: \$457,753

## Upcoming Schedule

### April

- 1 - No Mid-Week Gatherings (Holy Week)
- 2 - Maundy Thursday dinner | 5:30 p.m.
- 3 - Good Friday Stations of Peter | 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (self guided), 5:30 p.m. (group experience)
- 5 - Easter Sunday | 7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service, 10:55 a.m. Service in the Sanctuary
- 6 - Church Campus Closed (Easter Monday)
- 8 - No Mid-Week Gatherings (Spring Break)
- 13 - Welcome Table
- 14 - Lifeline Screening
- 16 - Senior Adult trip to Strawberry Hill | 8:30 a.m.
- 20 - Welcome Table
- 25 - Day of Caring
- 26 - Stronger Together Service (No Worship Service at FBCR) | Deacons Meeting
- 27 - ALC Meeting | 6:00 p.m.

### May

- 3 - Communion Sunday
- 13 - Last Mid-Week Gathering
- 14 - CBF Foothills Regional Gathering at FBC Shelby
- 17 - Children's Choir Musical in Worship
- 22 - Last Day of School (RCS)
- 24 - Pentecost Sunday
- 31 - Graduate Sunday

### June

- 1 - Welcome Table
- 7 - Youth Pool Party
- 8 - Welcome Table
- 14 - Water Olympics | 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- 17-19 - CBF Annual Gathering (Jacksonville, Florida)
- 29 - Welcome Table

Rev. Aimee Hobbs - Senior Pastor  
704-534-3267  
[aimee@fbcrutherfordton.org](mailto:aimee@fbcrutherfordton.org)

Rev. Beth Heffner - Minister of Music & Senior Adults  
828-980-2761  
[beth@fbcrutherfordton.org](mailto:beth@fbcrutherfordton.org)

Donna Sand - Minister of Children & Administration  
704-953-2453  
[donna@fbcrutherfordton.org](mailto:donna@fbcrutherfordton.org)

Alison Moore - Pianist

Pam McNeil - Organist

Rev. John Miller - Minister of Youth  
704-472-5860  
johnfbcr@gmail.com

Garry Cuthbertson - Facilities Coordinator  
garry@fbcrutherfordton.org

Debbie Ford - Financial Secretary  
finance@fbcrutherfordton.org



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