

Celebrating 175 Years of
Loving God
Loving Others



First Baptist Church
Rutherfordton

First Baptist Rutherfordton Newsletter | February 25, 2026



Second Sunday of Lent
March 1, 2026 | 10:55 a.m.

Songs of Worship

Holy, Holy, Holy
Day By Day
Into the Waters
Hear My Prayer
Trust and Obey

Communion

As is our practice on communion Sundays, we will also be collecting a local mission offering at the close of worship.

Sermon

"Rescue Me From Danger"
Matthew 14:22-23
Aimee Hobbs

[WATCH THE SERVICE HERE](#)

LENTEN SERVICES BEGIN TODAY

Community Lenten Services

Join us each Wednesday of Lent for a short service and simple (free) lunch. All services begin at Noon; no RSVP necessary.

Feb 25

Location: Advent Lutheran Church, Spindale

Speaker: Lance Smith, pastor of First Presbyterian Forest City

March 4

Location: Rutherfordton Presbyterian

Speaker: C. Pierson Shaw, pastor of Advent Lutheran Church

March 11

Location: First United Methodist Rutherfordton

Speaker: Stencil Quarels, pastor of Union Grove Missionary

March 18

Location: First Baptist Church Rutherfordton

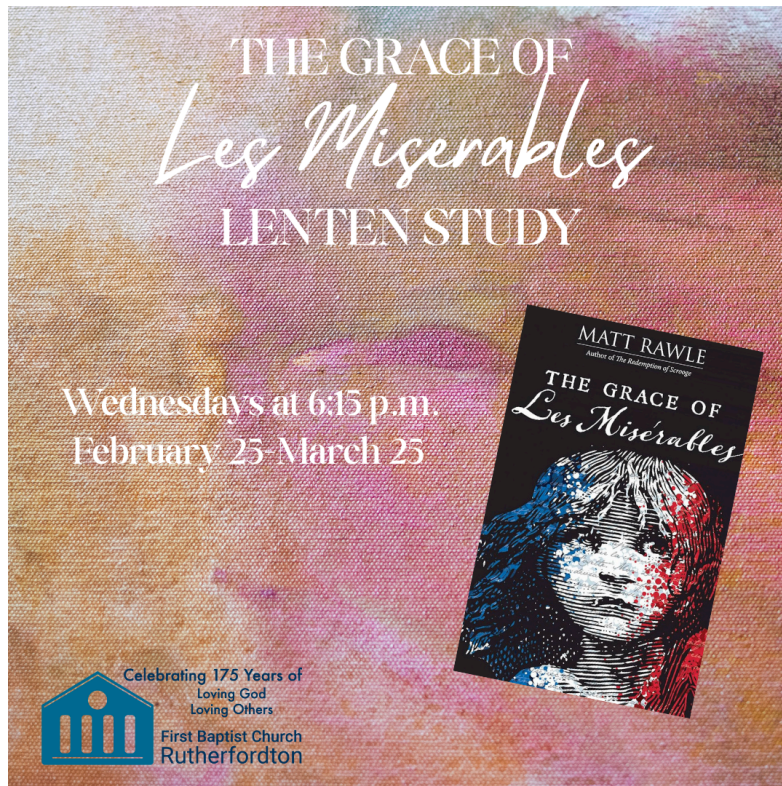
Speaker: Henry Kerns, pastor of Gold Hill Missionary Baptist

March 25

Location: New Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Spindale

Speaker: Larry Gregg, pastor of First Baptist Church Spindale

Hosted by the Rutherford Ministerial Alliance



Join us tonight for dinner! On the menu is Mi Pueblito's Taco Bar (\$8/adult, \$5 children, \$20 family max).

5:30 p.m. Dinner


6:00 p.m. Children's Programming - Difference Makers and Children's Choirs

6:15 p.m. The Grace of Les Miserables Lenten Study (meets in the conference room)

6:30 p.m. Open Minds on Main (meets at Main Street Coffee and Ice Cream)

7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

YOUTH MISSION PROJECT THIS SUNDAY

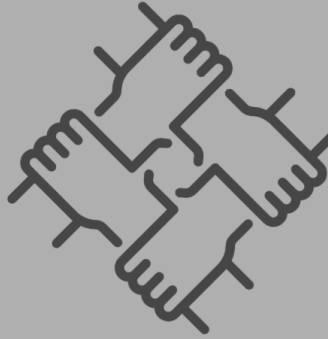


FBC-Rutherfordton
Youth Ministry

Lunch at Zaxby's
right after worship.

Mission work @
the Dover's.

This Sunday (3/1)
12-5pm



The Youth Group will be visiting Jeni & Daniel Dover on Sunday to assist with some projects around their home and business. As a token of love and support, they will be taking a gift basket filled with various helpful items. If you would like to contribute to the basket, please bring items like gift cards for gas or groceries, teas, mugs, heating pads, adult coloring books, or toys for the boys (Dave is 11, Charlie is 8).

The gift basket will be in the Welcome Center today through Sunday. Any questions can be directed to **John**.

CHURCHWIDE BIRTHDAY PARTY & TALENT SHOW



First Baptist Church IS TURNING *175 years old!*
JOIN US FOR A BIRTHDAY PARTY & CHURCHWIDE TALENT SHOW

SATURDAY, MARCH 14
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Bring a finger food to share

It's your time to shine! We need individual and group acts as part of our churchwide talent show.

Sign Up Here 

First Baptist Church of Rutherfordton is turning 175 years old this year! We are kicking off our year of celebration with a churchwide birthday party and talent show - Saturday, March 14 from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

It's your time to shine! We need individual and group acts as part of our churchwide talent show.

SIGN-UP HERE!

CHECK OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING:

BRIDAL SHOWER FOR STEPHANIE RZONCA | You're invited to a bridal shower honoring Stephanie Rzonca on Saturday, March 7 at 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. [Stephanie is registered here.](#)

SENIOR ADULT PIZZA PARTY | Our senior adults are invited to a pizza gathering on Thursday, March 19 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. This is an informal gathering where we can enjoy each other's company and pizza from a local restaurant. You can sign-up in the Welcome Center. The deadline to sign-up is Sunday, March 15.

EASTER EGG HUNT | Our annual Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday, March 28 at 11:00 a.m. and we need eggs and fillers! Can you help? We'll be collecting donations until March 22. Thanks for supporting this fun spring event for our community!

CHILDREN'S SUMMER CAMP/PASSPORT CAMP FUNDRAISING UPDATE | We are close to the goal... can you help us get there? We are just \$700 away from being fully funded to take 5 children and 2 chaperones to Passport Kids Camp for 4 days at Montreat Conference Center in Black Mountain, NC. We need the support of our church family to make camp a reality for these young girls. Camp has proven to be a life-changing experience in the lives and faith journeys of many children. Help this dream be a reality! Mark all contributions "Children's Passport Camp." Contact Donna for more information.

BUILDING ENVELOPE ASSESSMENT | The assessment of our property, completed by Carlton Collins Architecture, has been completed. Findings of this assessment are being used in our upcoming grant application. If you would like to view a copy of the complete assessment, which includes noted problem spots, proposed repairs, and photos, you can view a print copy in the church office or have a digital copy emailed to you. [Email Aimee](#) if you'd like a digital copy.

PRAYER TEAM OPPORTUNITY | Every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m., a small group gather with a deacon to pray for our congregation and our world. We have a few open Sundays on our schedule. You can sign-up as a couple, individual, or even family with children! If you're interested in joining the prayer team ministry, or learning more, contact Jane Simpson (828-429-4843).

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.

FIRST BAPTIST PRAYS

WEEKLY PRAYER LIST



[CURRENT PRAYER LIST](#)

[SUBMIT A PRAYER REQUEST](#)

PRAYER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Mar. 1 - Jane Simpson
Laura Hodge, Amy Revis
Mar. 8 - Ben Moore
Joe Hughes, Scott Carpenter

WORSHIP CARE SCHEDULE

Mar. 1 - Laura Hodge, Violet Nyamiwa
Mar. 8 - Lori Herrick, Jessica Godfrey

MEALS ON WHEELS SCHEDULE

Mar. 6 - Belinda Camper & Penny Parker
Mar. 20 - Griggs & Debbie McKinnon

USHERS FOR MARCH

Todd Hodge (Coordinator), Jeff Archer,
Bud Grissom, Don Ledbetter, Susan Martin

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK

Feb. 25 - Donna Stephenson
Feb. 25 - Blain Jones
Feb. 27 - Crag Sappenfield
Feb. 27 - Mike Martin
Feb. 27 - Lorena West
Feb. 28 - Ali High
Mar. 2 - Gail Jones
Mar. 2 - Henry Giles
Mar. 3 - Kevin Young

YOKEFELLOW ITEM OF THE MONTH

Pork & Beans
March Goal: 30
Collected: 0

February Collected: 45

SPINDALE ELEMENTARY WEEKEND BACKPACK COLLECTION

Items needed:

Breakfast Bars & Snack Bars
March Collected: 0

February Collected: 19 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 February 22, 2026
Budget Offering: \$9,401.00
Weekly Budget Requirement: \$8,802.94

YTD Budget Received as of February 22: \$198,287.47
YTD Needed as of February 22: \$184,861.74

Annual Budget: \$457,753

Upcoming Schedule

February

25 - Lenten Noonday Service | The Grace of Les Miserables Lenten study begins
27 - Deadline to sign up for the Talent Show

March

1 - Communion | Youth Lunch and Mission Project
4 - Lenten Noonday Service
7 - Bridal Shower for Stephanie Rzonca | 2:00 p.m.
9 - ALC Meeting | 6:00 p.m.
11 - Lenten Noonday Service
14 - Church Birthday Party and Talent Show | 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
18 - Lenten Noonday Service (hosted at First Baptist)
19 - Senior Adult Pizza Party | Noon
19/20 - CBF North Carolina Annual Gathering | Hayes Barton Baptist Church, Raleigh
21 - Greatest American Clean-up in Rutherfordton | 10:00 a.m.
22 - Youth Trip to Top Golf
25 - Lenten Noonday Service
28 - Easter Egg Hunt | 11:00 a.m.
29 - Palm Sunday | Youth Worship Event

April

1 - No Mid-Week Gatherings (Holy Week)
2 - Maundy Thursday dinner | 5:30 p.m.
3 - Good Friday Stations of Peter
5 - Easter Sunday
6 - Church Campus Closed (Easter Monday)
8 - No Mid-Week Gatherings (Spring Break)
13 - Welcome Table
14 - Lifeline Screening
20 - Welcome Table
25 - Day of Caring

Rev. Aimee Hobbs - Senior Pastor
704-534-3267
aimee@fbcruetherfordton.org

Rev. Beth Heffner - Minister of Music & Senior Adults
828-980-2761
beth@fbcruetherfordton.org

Donna Sand - Minister of Children & Administration
704-953-2453
donna@fbcruetherfordton.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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Rutherfordton

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