

Celebrating 175 Years of
Loving God
Loving Others



First Baptist Church
Rutherfordton

First Baptist Rutherfordton Newsletter | July 29, 2026



August 2, 2026 | 10:55 a.m.

Songs of Worship

Make a Joyful Noise
O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus
My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
Come to Jesus
The Master Has Come
Blest Be the Tie

Communion

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

Sermon

Summer Drive-in: Finding God in the Movies
The Sheep Detectives
John 10:11-18
Aimee Hobbs

WATCH THE SERVICE HERE

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Church Family,

Thank you for the many ways you expressed your thanks to Donna for the wonderful ministry she has had at First Baptist. If you were not in town on Sunday and would like to still drop by a note of thanks, you're welcome to pass those along and I'll make sure Donna receives them.

With Donna's departure, we have two open positions to fill. The ALC will soon be naming a search team for the part-time Minister to Children position. More details on that process will be shared in the coming weeks.

The other position is administrative in nature and includes tasks like returning phone calls, handling mail, creating and sending out the newsletter, creating and printing the order of worship, updating the website and social media, scheduling room requests, etc. This position is 10 hours a week and extremely flexible in its schedule (much can be done from home). Candidates must have strong computer and communication skills. If you know of someone who would be interested, please reach out or pass along my contact information.

One of the core values that drew me to First Baptist in my first conversations with the pastor search committee was our commitment and dedication to advocacy.

We may not call it that but that's exactly what we are doing when we give away food and hygiene kits, allow unhoused members of our community to shower in our building, serve nutritious hot meals at Welcome Table, repair roofs and decks, clean up trash in the creek, deliver breakfast items to a local elementary school, assist with rent and car repairs, host movement classes for adults with disabilities, hand out hot dog dinners at Halloween, and the list goes on!

*Advocacy is simply taking action to create change. Speaking for those who have no voice.
Seeing a problem or need and working to address or resolve it.*

Those ministries named above all happen because someone at First Baptist saw a need and took action. More often than not, that posture of advocacy was formed within us at a young age. I am honored to be leading Advocacy Camp for children next week. This is a camp I have written the curriculum for and led at previous congregations and it has been life-changing for all involved.

Through games, activities, and Bible study, the children will learn more about an area that needs advocates and then get to see how people in our community are doing just that (and they can help!). We have partnered with Ruff'ton Roots, Welcome Table, Rutherford Housing Partnership, Rutherford Life Services, and Rutherford Outdoor Coalition to create a hands-on week of learning and exploring.

Camp is for children entering 3rd-6th grade and is from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. August 3-6. Two spots remain if you know of a child who would be interested in attending!



Sunday concludes our summer sermon series and we're finishing with our newest film - *The Sheep Detectives*! While at first glance, it appears to just be a silly kid's movie about talking sheep, it is so much more than that. This murder-mystery is thoughtful, funny, and a touch emotional. You can watch it on Amazon Prime.

Don't forget to swing by and celebrate Dot's 95th birthday on Saturday afternoon! Her party will be in the Fellowship Hall from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. and I hope to see you there.

Blessings,
Aimee

COME CELEBRATE DOT THIS SATURDAY!



Please RSVP to Office@FBCRutherfordton.org if you can come!

BEST WISHES, MARTHA JONES!



This week, Martha is moving to Tennessee to be closer to family. She will be missed by so many - it's hard to imagine First Baptist without Martha in the pew! On Sunday, her class (and some special guests) celebrated her with breakfast, gifts, and well wishes.

Please join us in praying for travel mercies and smooth transitions in her journey!



A special time of prayer for
children, youth, and teachers
returning to school



**Blessing of the
Backpacks**

CHILDREN & YOUTH ARE ENCOURAGED TO BRING THEIR BACKPACK!

Sunday, August 9 • 10:55 a.m.

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE!

*Join us for an evening of
remembering and celebrating!*



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RUTHERFORDTON

175TH
Anniversary
BANQUET

SATURDAY

SEPT.
26

5:30 P.M.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
FELLOWSHIP HALL
246 N. Main St.
Rutherfordton, NC

GET TICKETS HERE
\$10 SUGGESTED DONATION
CHILD CARE (INCLUDING
CHILDREN'S DINNER) PROVIDED
WITH RESERVATION



Skate & Stuff



July 25, 2026

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR SPINDALE ELEMENTARY

August 11 is back to school for Spindale Elementary, which means breakfast items will be needed once again!

Throughout the school year, we collect shelf stable breakfast items (granola and breakfast bars, pop-tarts, etc) that staff can use for hungry students who miss breakfast or need a snack.

Donations can be left in the church office and we'll make sure they are delivered! Thanks for helping with this important ministry!



THANK YOU WISHES

My heart is full of love, kindness, and hugs from my church family. Thank you for the uplifting words, gifts, and celebration as I exit as a staff member and become a congregant.

Thank you to all of the volunteers and children that I have served with. Thank you to all of the wonderful friends and family that I have worshipped with.

I will see you all in the pews! Much love, Donna



CHECK OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING:

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 **canned chicken**. 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.

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

August 2 - Penny Parker
Terry Honeycutt, Joe Hughes
August 9 - Beth Archer
Gayle Youngblood, Amy Revis

WORSHIP CARE SCHEDULE

August 2 - Beth Archer, Belinda Camper
August 9 - Susan Martin,
Shelia Cuthbertson

MEALS ON WHEELS SCHEDULE

July 31 - Janis Rosenbaum, Nell Bovender
August 7 - Gayle Youngblood, Meryl Lawrence

USHERS FOR AUGUST

Todd Hodge (Coordinator), Daryl Camper, Jamie
Knox, Mindy Miller

COLLEGE STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Will return in August

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK

July 29 - Jack Clements
July 30 - Winston Marsh
July 31 - Berry Freeman
August 1 - Julie McGinnis
August 1 - Tim Smith
August 1 - Amy Revis
August 1 - Alan Marshall

YOKEFELLOW ITEM OF THE MONTH:

Canned Chicken

July Goal: 30

Collected: 30

2025-2026 Church Leadership

Deacon Council

Debbie Bumgarner - Chair (2026)

Administrative Leadership Council

Andy LaBreche - Chair (2027)

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)

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)

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 UPDATE

Debbie Ford is on vacation this week so financial updates for
July 26 will be shared in next week's newsletter.

Annual Budget: \$457,753

Upcoming Schedule

August

1 - Dot Carnegie's Birthday Party | 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
3-6 Children's Advocacy Camp | 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
3 - Welcome Table | ALC Meeting
9 - Blessing of the Backpacks
11 - First Day of School (RCS)
15 - Wedding Shower for Lauren Revis and Greg Rinn | 2:00 p.m.
16 - Youth Ministry Illuminate resumes
19 - 2026-2027 Budget Presentation
26 - Churchwide Back to School Event | 5:30 p.m.

September

7 - Church Closed - Labor Day
8 - Women on Mission
9 - Wednesday Night Programming returns
11 - Lifeline Screening | 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
14 - Welcome Table
21 - Fellowship of Christian Women
26 - Anniversary Banquet | 5:30 p.m.
27 - 175th Anniversary Celebration Worship Service | 10:55 a.m.
27 - Stronger Together Service | 3:00 p.m.

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

Alex Tapp - 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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