

Celebrating 175 Years of
Loving God
Loving Others



First Baptist Church
Rutherfordton

First Baptist Rutherfordton Newsletter | March 11, 2026

Wandering Heart

"I'm fixed upon it"

Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 15, 2026 | 10:55 a.m.

Songs of Worship

How Great Thou Art
How Deep the Father's Love for Us
The Way
All Hail King Jesus
Jesus Paid it All

Sermon

"I'm Fixed Upon It"
Matthew 16:21-23
Aimee Hobbs

[WATCH THE SERVICE HERE](#)

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

CELEBRATING THE FAITHFULNESS OF PENNY DAVIS

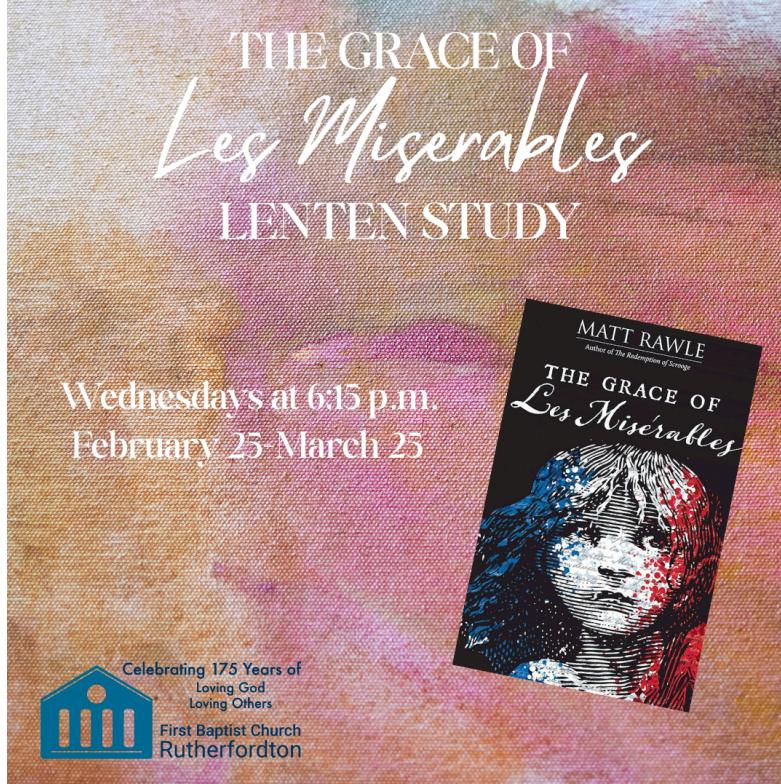


Penny Pendergrass Davis was a lifelong member of First Baptist Church. As a child, she was active in Girls in Action (GA's) and as an adult, she served on numerous committees and taught the Willing Workers Sunday School class.

Penny worked for the Rutherford County Department of Social Services where she was known as an advocate for children and the underprivileged. Along with her years of service on the boards of several non-profits in our area, Penny taught Bible study at Rest Well Assisted Living on Sunday mornings for over 25 years!

When Penny died in 2016, she left a portion of her estate to First Baptist Church. The last piece of her property was recently sold and a generous gift was given to our church.

We are grateful for Penny and her deep love for this congregation. Thanks be to God for the life, work, and faithfulness of Penny Pendergrass Davis!



Join us tonight for dinner! On the menu is Shredded Pork Roast, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Rolls (\$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

SATURDAY!

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 

Join us THIS SATURDAY for our churchwide birthday party and talent show!



CHURCH T-SHIRTS HAVE BEEN RESTOCKED!



Everyone's favorite super-soft tee is restocked in both colors! Shirts are \$15 and come in youth and adult sizes. If you ordered your shirt in advance, we have set yours aside.

We hope you'll reach for yours when running errands, traveling, or volunteering alongside fellow church members. Matter of fact, we'll wear ours at the upcoming community workday!

 Easter SCHEDULE	
March 28 11:00 a.m.	EASTER EGG HUNT
March 29 10:55 a.m.	PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP
April 2 5:30 p.m.	MAUNDY THURSDAY DINNER & COMMUNION
April 3 All Day/5:00 p.m.	GOOD FRIDAY INTERACTIVE STATIONS OF PETER
April 5 7:00 a.m.	EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE & BREAKFAST <small>RUTHERFORDTON CEMETERY/ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL</small>
April 5 10:55 a.m.	EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RUTHERFORDTON
FIRSTBAPTISTRUTHERFORDTON.COM

Maundy Thursday

Dinner and Communion

THURSDAY, APRIL 2 | 5:30 PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL

AN OFFERING FOR CBF GLOBAL
MISSIONS WILL BE COLLECTED



Rsvp



GOOD FRIDAY
STATIONS OF PETER

APRIL 3

SELF-GUIDED STATIONS FROM
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

GROUP EXPERIENCE
5:30 P.M.

www.firstbaptistrutherfordton.com



CHECK OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING:

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!

EASTER LILLIES | If you would like to place an Easter lily in memory or in honor of someone, please fill out the form located in the vestibules and return it to the church office along with a payment of \$18.00/plant by Sunday, March 29. The lilies will be displayed on Easter Sunday with a list of names published in the order of worship.

BUILDING ENVELOPE ASSESSMENT | The assessment of our property, completed by Carlton Collins Architecture, has been completed. Findings of this assessment were used in our 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. 15 - Belinda Camper
Andy LaBreche, Pam LaBreche
Mar. 22 -Debbie Bumgarner
Nell Bovender, Jeff Archer

WORSHIP CARE SCHEDULE

Mar. 15 - Susan Martin, Shelia Cuthbertson
Mar. 22 - Dane Heffner, Mindy Miller

MEALS ON WHEELS SCHEDULE

Mar. 20 - Griggs & Debbie McKinnon

USHERS FOR MARCH

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

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK

Mar. 12 - Michael Jones
Mar. 13 - Debbie Archer
Mar 14 - Bill Keever
Mar. 14 - Sandy Harrill
Mar. 15 - Susan Martin
Mar. 16 - Martha McGinnis

YOKEFELLOW ITEM OF THE MONTH:

Pork & Beans

March Goal: 30
Collected: 28

February Collected: 45

SPINDALE ELEMENTARY WEEKEND BACKPACK COLLECTION

Items needed:

Breakfast Bars & Snack Bars
March Collected: 8

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)

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 8, 2026
Budget Offering: \$3,720.00
Weekly Budget Requirement: \$8,802.94

YTD Budget Received as of March 8: \$209,199.97
YTD Needed as of March 8: \$202,468

Annual Budget: \$457,753

Upcoming Schedule

March

- 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
- 16 - Senior Adult trip to Strawberry Hill
- 20 - Welcome Table
- 25 - Day of Caring
- 26 - Stronger Together Service (No Worship Service at FBCR) | 11:00 a.m.
- 27 - ALC Meeting | 6:00 p.m.

May

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

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

Rev. Beth Heffner - Minister of Music & Senior Adults

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

Alison Moore - Pianist

828-980-2761

beth@fbcrutherfordton.org

Rev. John Miller - Minister of Youth

704-472-5860

johnfbc@gmail.com

Pam McNeil - Organist

Garry Cuthbertson - Facilities Coordinator

garry@fbcrutherfordton.org

Debbie Ford - Financial Secretary

finance@fbcrutherfordton.org



**First Baptist Church
Rutherfordton**

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