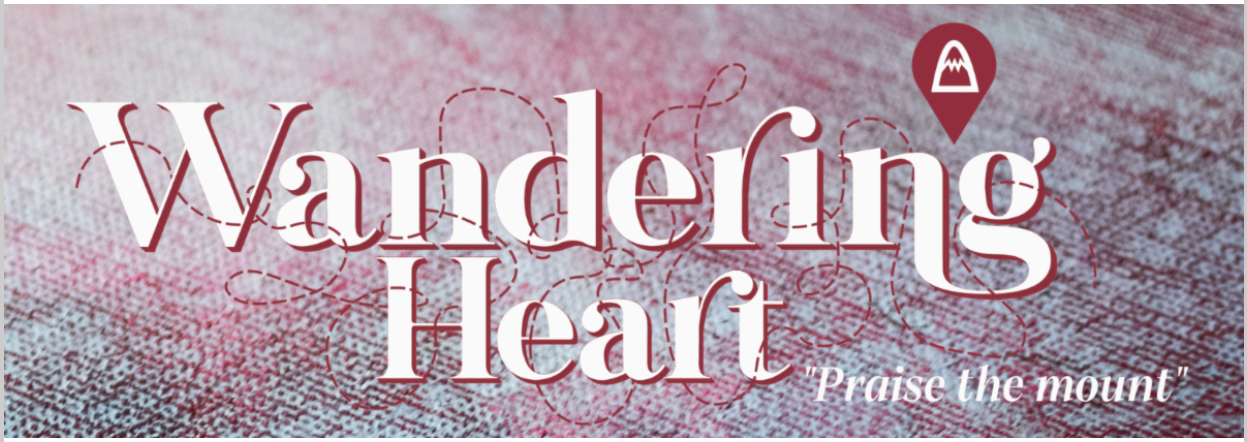
Celebrating 175 Years of
Loving God
Loving Others

First Baptist Church
Rutherfordton

First Baptist Rutherfordton Newsletter | March 4, 2026



Third Sunday of Lent
March 8, 2026 | 10:55 a.m.

Songs of Worship

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
Built on the Rock
Here at the Peak
Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy
Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know

Sermon

"Praise the Mount"
Matthew 16:13-20
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

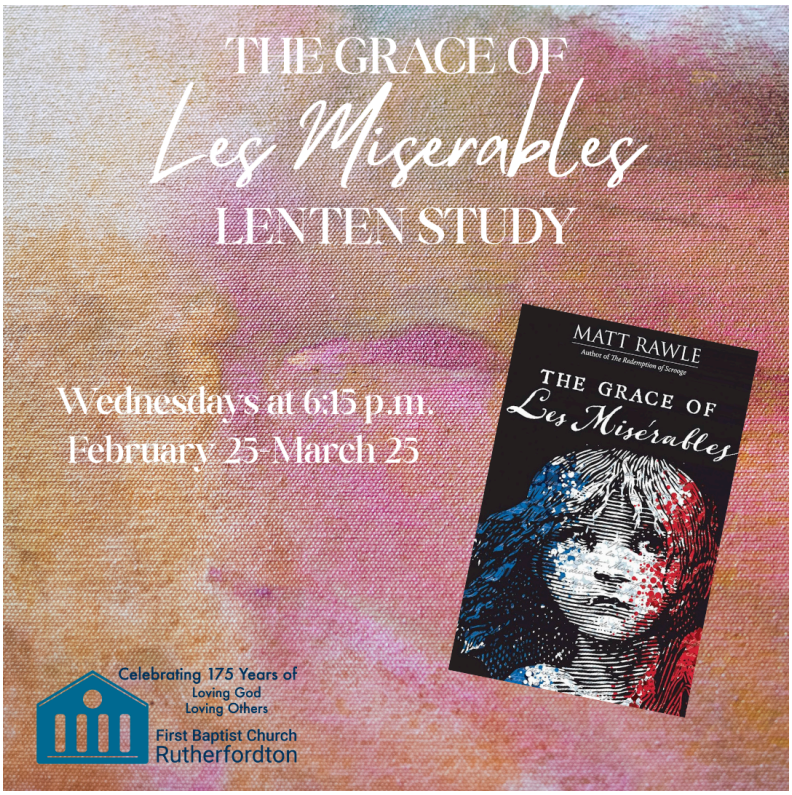
March 4
Location: Rutherfordton Presbyterian
Speaker: C. Pierson Shaw, pastor of Advent Lutheran Church

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



Join us tonight for dinner! On the menu is Fried Chicken, Baked Potatoes, Green Beans, Fresh Veggies ($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 past Sunday, our youth group had the privilege and opportunity to serve the Dover family. We assisted them by cleaning out a shipping container, tidying up their property, and even helping to feed the sheep on their farm. Additionally, our church collected a gift basket that we were able to present to them during this time of need. We truly appreciate the generosity of our church family!

CHURCHWIDE BIRTHDAY PARTY & TALENT SHOW

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**!

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!

CHECK OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING:

SPRING FORWARD THIS WEEKEND | Don't forget it's time change weekend! Be sure and set your clocks forward one hour before you head for bed on Saturday night.

RUTHERFORDTON COMMUNITY WORKDAY | We will be joining others in our community for the Greatest American Clean-up on Saturday, March 21 at 10:00 a.m. We'll be "adopting" the greenway and creek on our property stretching to Kiwanis Park. Trashbags, gloves, and some pickers will be provided. Bring a picker if you have one. We will meet at Billy's Swing. All ages welcome! **Wear your church t-shirt and come lend a hand!**

BRIDAL SHOWER FOR STEPHANIE RZONCA | You're invited to a bridal shower honoring Stephanie Rzonca this 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 made our goal with some to spare! We are very excited to announce that we are able to take 5 elementary children and 2 chaperones to Passport Summer Camp at Montreat Conference Center in Black Mountain, NC. AND because of our very generous church family, we will also have funding for transportation and supplies (think talent show and extra snacks) for the group.

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.

MAUNDY THURSDAY DINNER | Our Maundy Thursday dinner will be Thursday, April 2 at 5:30 p.m. The meal is free, but an offering for CBF Global Missions will be collected. If your family plans to attend, please RSVP by March 29. **You can RSVP here.**

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.

CURRENT PRAYER LIST **SUBMIT A PRAYER REQUEST**

PRAYER MINISTRY SCHEDULE
Mar. 8 - Frank Jones
Joe Hughes, Scott Carpenter
Mar. 15 - Belinda Camper
Andy LaBreche, Pam LaBreche

WORSHIP CARE SCHEDULE
Mar. 8 - Belinda Camper, substitute
Mar. 15 - Nell Bovender, Shelia Cuthbertson

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
Mar. 4 - Annaleigh Boyce
Mar. 4 - Maxine Moore
Mar. 4 - Terry Payne
Mar. 4 - Claude Waters
Mar. 5 - John McClain
Mar. 5 - John Miller
Mar. 5 - Janis Rosenbaum
Mar. 6 - Bailey Graeper
Mar. 7 - Betty Davis
Mar. 7 - Spencer Creswell
Mar. 8 - Jimmy Peplinski
Mar. 9 - Timothy Keever
Mar. 9 - Sonya Marshall
Mar. 9- Michelle McClain
Mar. 10 - Tim Mode
Mar. 10 - Jennifer Roberts
Mar. 10 - Brent Washburn

YOKEFELLOW ITEM OF THE MONTH:
Pork & Beans

March Goal: 30
Collected: 24

February Collected: 45

SPINDALE ELEMENTARY WEEKEND BACKPACK COLLECTION

Items needed:
Breakfast Bars & Snack Bars
March Collected: 4

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)

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

Financial Records for March 1, 2026
Budget Offering: $7,192.50
Weekly Budget Requirement: $8,802.94

YTD Budget Received as of March 1: $205,479.97
YTD Needed as of March 1: $184,861.74

Annual Budget: $457,753

Upcoming Schedule

March
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@fbcrutherfordton.org

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

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

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

Alison Moore - Pianist

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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