



First Baptist Rutherfordton Newsletter | October 8, 2025



WORSHIP ON SUNDAY October 12, 2025 | 10:55 a.m.

Songs of Worship

Great Is Thy Faithfulness
Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus
There Is a Redeemer
A Call to Thanksgiving
We, O God, Unite Our Voices

Sermon

"Where is God?"
John 3:1-17
Aimee Hobbs

[WATCH THE SERVICE HERE](#)

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Church Family,

This Sunday, we'll begin a new sermon series inspired by the book "Grateful: The Subversive Practice of Giving Thanks" by Diana Butler Bass. We have complicated relationships with gratitude - sometimes it might feel manipulative or forced; and yet, when we experience deep celebration and thanksgiving, we experience transformation. There is no shortage of reasons not to feel grateful! Yet gratitude is a defiance, of sorts, the defiance of kindness in the face of anger, of connection in the face of division, and of hope in the face of fear. Gratefulness resists evil. Being thankful is the very essence of what it means to be alive and to know life abundantly through Christ. Through the stories from scripture, we'll take a closer look at embracing the practice of giving thanks. I hope that you'll join us.

Our local missions offering, which was collected at the close of worship on Sunday, is going directly to one of our partner ministries - Out of the Ashes. Out of the Ashes provides drug and alcohol addiction treatment and emergency shelter for the underserved and uninsured. **We collected \$1,299 to send to them this week.** Thank you for your generosity in supporting the good work they are doing for our neighbors!

Tonight in Bible study, we'll be unpacking the familiar story of Zacchaeus! I hope you'll join us for dinner at 5:30 p.m. (baked potato bar + salad) followed by Bible study or Open Minds on Main.

Blessings,
Aimee

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY



On Sunday for World Communion Sunday, we filled our communion table with treasures from our travels! Thank you for bringing items to share, and for enriching our time of worship as we remember we are One - united in the person of Jesus.

CHURCH PICNIC





WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE

5:30PM

CHURCHWIDE FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Oct 8: Baked potato bar, salad
Oct 15: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, corn

\$8/adult, \$5/child, \$20 family max

6:15PM

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Difference Makers (Choir & Bible study) for ages 3 - 5th grade

"BIBLE STORIES FOR GROWN-UPS"

Revisiting familiar childhood Bible stories like Noah's Ark, Zacchaeus, and the parable of the talents

6:30PM

OPEN MINDS ON MAIN

An opportunity for our community to gather for dialogue around faith and life - this group meets at Main St Coffee and Ice Cream

7:30PM

ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL

WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTRUTHERFORDTON.COM

UPDATES FROM ESWATINI





Chip and Judy Bond are currently in Eswatini doing mission and medical work. For this trip, we sent funds for Chip and Judy to purchase and distribute hygiene kits on behalf of the church.

On their first day, Judy was able to deliver those kits to two schools for the deaf and shares that "It was so touching to see the faces of the children receiving these. When you look at what was given (see photo above), there is a long green thing, about a foot long. It is soap. Each child has to hand-wash their own clothes with this and break off a piece to use on their body and for shampoo. It was humbling to say the least. I cannot thank you enough!"

Chip and five other surgeons are doing long days of surgery, with just Sunday being a day of rest. On Sunday, they attended a Baptist church for service in a small village. It was a church plant three years ago. The conditions are bleak, as the adults met under a tree for bible study, and then everyone crammed into the small building for service (see photo above)

They are thankful for our prayers!



THRIVING AS WE AGE

Rev. Terry Honeycutt will lead us through two workshops focused on living the later part of your life the way God intended:

October 30: Biblical perspectives on aging and how we should age in a "health and youth" culture

November 6: How can we grow older as a vocation and how we should end our life well

**Free! Lunch is provided
RSVP by October 26**

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RUTHERFORDTON | ROOM 205

**OCTOBER 30 &
NOVEMBER 6
11AM-2PM**



Just a note to say thank you for all the prayers and support to our family during the past couple months. Merri's journey to her heavenly home was peaceful.

Jackie Wallace, Natalie Archer, and
Kaye McKenney

CHECK OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING:

YOKEFELLOW FOOD PANTRY | For October, we will continue to collect canned meat. Any size can is helpful! Single-serve cans are given to those experiencing homelessness and larger cans are given to families. Contributions can be left in the church office or near the Sanctuary doors.

SPINDALE ELEMENTARY BACKPACK COLLECTING | During the school year, we are collecting 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

Oct. 12 - Lori Herrick
Nell Bovender, Gayle Youngblood
Oct. 19 - Frank Jones
Laura Hodge, Pam Newton

WORSHIP CARE SCHEDULE

Oct. 12 - Laura Hodge, Violet Nyamiwa
Oct. 19 - Beth/Faith Archer, Belinda
Camper

WORSHIP READINESS SCHEDULE

Oct. 12 - Heather Mode
Oct. 19 - Chuck Godfrey & Will Tompkins

MEALS ON WHEELS SCHEDULE

Oct. 18 - Janis Rosenbaum
Oct. 31 - Sharon Scruggs, Camille Wheeler

USHERS FOR October

Todd Hodge (Coordinator)
Steve Barnes, Andy LaBreche, Bob Smith

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK

October 9 - Jim Cuthbertson
October 12 - Kevin Fountain
October 12 - Jill Knox
October 12 - Elsie Creswell
October 13 - Brenda Wilson
October 13 - Alison Moore
October 14 - Brenda Archer
October 14 - Jim Ruppe
October 15 - Beth Archer

YOKEFELLOW ITEM OF THE MONTH

Canned Meat

October Goal: 30 Cans
Collected: 9

September Collected: 49

SPINDALE ELEMENTARY WEEKEND BACKPACK COLLECTION

Items needed:
Breakfast Bars & Snack Bars

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)
Jessica Godfrey - Secretary/Church Clerk (2026)
Faith Archer (2026)
Kurt Parker (2026)
Gayle Youngblood (2027)
Chip Bond (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 October 5, 2025
Weekly Budget Requirement: \$8,802.94
Budget Offering: \$5,330.00

YTD Budget Received as of October 5: \$5,330.00
YTD Needed as of October 31: \$38,146.08

Annual Budget: \$457,753.00

A gift was given to the music reserve in memory of
Martha Wilkins by Debbie Bumgarner.

Upcoming Schedule

October

9-14 - NC State Students on Campus
12 - Church Leadership Lunch and Orientation
14 - Women on Mission
20 - Fellowship of Christian Women
26 - Youth Halloween Party
30 - Thriving As We Age Workshop
31 - Halloween on Main | FAB

November

2 - All Saints Sunday
6 - Thriving As We Age Workshop
9 - Deacon Ordination
10 - Welcome Table
19 - Churchwide Thanksgiving Dinner
21 - Lifeline Screening | 9 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
23 - Community Thanksgiving Service | 7:00 p.m.
26 - No Wednesday Night Activities (Thanksgiving)
30 - 1st Sunday of Advent | Hanging of the Green Service 6 p.m.

December

7 - 2nd Sunday of Advent | Youth Christmas Party | Adult Choir Joint Christmas Concert
8 - Welcome Table
14 - 3rd Sunday of Advent | Churchwide Christmas Party
15 - Welcome Table
21 - 4th Sunday of Advent
24 - Christmas Eve Service

Rev. Aimee Hobbs - Senior Pastor
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Rev. Beth Heffner - Minister of Music &
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Rev. John Miller - Minister of Youth
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Alison Moore - Pianist

Garry Cuthbertson - Facilities
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Debbie Ford - Financial Secretary
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