

The Children's Choir and Sanctuary Choir practice together.



Volume 83 Issue 7

April 5, 2026

From the Pastor...

Happy Easter! I'm looking forward to seeing you this Sunday as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is the holiest day of the year and one that deserves our presence. If you cannot join us in person, I hope you will join us online. Easter will also kick off a new sermon series entitled, The Stories that Unite Us. It will look at how the stories of Jesus united the early church, and how they can unite us today. Easter season messages include:

April 5, 2026
Tell Me a Story – Easter Sunday
John 20:1-18

April 12, 2026
From Doubt to Peace
John 20:19-31

April 19, 2026
Walking with Jesus
Luke 24:13-35

April 26, 2026
Hearing Jesus' Voice
John 10:1-10

May 3, 2026
You're Going to Be Great
1 Peter 2:2-10

May 10, 2026
Never Alone
John 14:15-21

May 17, 2026
Time to Share Your Story
Acts 1:6-14

On Wednesday nights we will look more closely at these stories and hear some of our members share their own stories. If you'd like to share how Easter has changed your life, please let me know.

Easter is more than a day, it is a season. I hope you will join us on Easter Sunday and on each Sunday of Eastertide.

Schedule

Sunday, April 5

9:00 a.m. Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary & Live Stream

11:15 a.m. After Worship Sunday School

Monday, April 6

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, April 8

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

No Wednesday Evening Activities

Thursday, April 9

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Sunday, April 12

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary & Live Stream

Monday, April 13

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

Wednesday, April 15

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

2:00 p.m. Wond. Wed. After School Program

5:15 p.m. Family Night Meal

6:00 p.m. Music & Missions & Youth on Mission

6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, April 16

11:00 a.m. Senior Adult Luncheon

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Church Staff Directory

Dr. Nelson Granade.....Senior Minister
Mr. James Martin.....Minister of Music & Worship
Rev. Melissa Wilson.....Minister of Children & Youth
Mrs. Kristina Kyles.....Children's Ministry Associate / Preschool Director
Mrs. Elizabeth Kilby.....Minister of Young Families & Missions
Mr. Eddie Wiseman.....Accompanist / Music Assistant

OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Mon - Thur, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Fri
Tel: 704-873-7231

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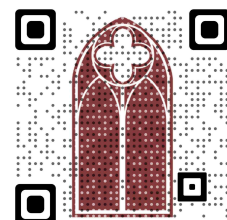
Spiritual Statistics

	3/22	3/29
In-Person	178	170
Online	16	21
Sunday School	90	95

Financial Statistics

	March	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	83,308.00	565,455.00
Budget Receipts	111,154.00	504,031.00
Goals Not Met	27,846.00	(61,424.00)
Eddie Steele Fund	3,441.00	14,377.00
Designated	2,148.00	92,325.00

Scan the QR code to give online.





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Announcements



Senior Adult Luncheon

Thursday, April 16, 2026 - 11:00 a.m.

Clay Lunsford and Matthew Weaver will entertain. The menu includes pinto beans, collard greens, cornbread, and dessert. Cost is \$5 payable at the door. Please make your reservation by Monday, April 13

Visioning Session: Writing Our Future Story

Sunday, April 19, 2026 - 11:00 a.m.

Join us for the last congregational meeting in our visioning session as we write First Baptist Church's Future Story. We will hear results on our core values, community needs, and asset mapping. We will use these to guide us in writing a future story.

A future story is a vision of where we want to be in the next three to five years is a way to visualize where God is calling us and how to get there.

Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser

Sunday, April 19, 2026

The Colorado Mission Team will serve a spaghetti lunch at the Visioning Session on Sunday, April 19. There will be gluten free options. Please plan to stay for lunch (and make a donation) and the visioning session

Thank you for Giving!

Thank you to all who gave toward our Catch Up Offering. We surpassed our March Budget Goals and cut our deficit in half! We are still \$61,424 behind our goals, but we are in a stronger financial position. We appreciate your sacrificial giving and trust we will make our budget goals over the next few months.

Upcoming Events

Missions Yard Sale

May 1-2

Graduation Sunday

May 17

Passport Kids Camp

June 10-13

Passport Youth Camp

June 21-26

Colorado Mission Trip

July 11-17

Vacation Bible School

July 26-31



Message from Minister of Mission Elizabeth Kilby

Can you believe that we are in April? I feel like the first quarter of the year has flown by and we are progressing just as quickly into the second quarter. With that being said, two REALLY big things are happening for missions in the coming weeks. First is our lunch fundraiser. We will have spaghetti - both regular and gluten free. We would love you to stay for our Visioning Session, however if you can't we'll have to-go boxes upstairs as you leave or ask downstairs and we can make you some meals to put back in your freezer as well.

Our second HUGE announcement is back by popular request. We will have our church yard sale on May 1 and 2. We are switching it up this year with two shopping days and times. Drop off will start on Sunday, April 26 and run through Friday, May 1 at noon. Evening drop off will be on Wednesday, April 29, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Shopping will be open Friday 4:00-7:00 pm and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Please do not bring items to the church prior to these dates. Though our building is large we have many things going on and don't have consistent storage areas for items prior to the sale. As usual please don't bring computers, televisions or clothes.

Many thoughts and prayers.
Elizabeth

Missions Yard Sale

Friday, May 1, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 2, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Unexpected Opportunity to Educate

By Mike, CBF Field Personnel - CBF Blog

My university in Indonesia recently constructed worship spaces for five of the nation's minority religious groups, which include Christians. Our congregation is blessed to meet in this space on Sunday evenings. A colleague from the local Islamic university informed me that she wanted to bring a group of her philosophy students to visit and asked if I had a contact for someone overseeing the worship center. I did.

Trying to be a hospitable host, I arrived early to the worship facilities to welcome our guests and to head off any issues with guards or staff who may have been confused by the presence of these students. I had planned to simply greet the students on arrival and make a quick retreat after they were settled in.

My professor friend was late to arrive, and the students immediately started asking me questions. Continuing in the spirit of hospitality, I adapted. We made quick visits to the Hindu, Buddhist and Confucian temples. Most of our time, however, was spent in the Catholic and Protestant "churches."

What was meant to be a quick greeting turned into a couple of hours of deep theological discussion—explaining Christian history, the divergences of different denominations and comparing conceptions of heaven, hell, and salvation in Christianity and Islam ... with philosophy students, no less.

Someone once said we should "always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks for the reason for the hope that we have (1 Peter 3:15)." Thankfully, I was prepared.
