



Thank you to all who donated to the Souper Bowl of Caring, With your help, youth were able to donate almost 335 lbs of food and over \$200 to Iredell Christian Ministries.



FIRST
BAPTIST
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THE INTERIM

Volume 79 Issue 5

February 27, 2022

From the Pastor...

The Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022. Lent is a time of reflection and repentance. It reminds us of the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness to prepare for his ministry. It also helps us prepare for Good Friday and Easter.

Our Lenten sermon series is entitled *Journeying with Jesus* and will follow Jesus as he moves toward the cross. Our children's devotional guide is also about this journey but has a more whimsical title: *Roadtrip-pin With Jesus*. It has creative age-appropriate activities to focus on Lent (please see Melissa if you'd like a kit).

Of course, when we think of Lent, we often think of giving up something. The idea is to deny ourselves of a worldly pleasure and replace it with a spiritual focus. So you don't "give up" something for Lent, you also "add on something" as well.

Perhaps you give up coffee and instead give the money to a mission's cause. Or maybe you give up negative language and replace it with kindness and encouragement. Maybe you give up some television or social media time and use it for a daily devotional.

A couple of folks have asked me for resources to help them focus during Lent. On Wednesday evenings I'll be doing a study on forgiveness that is very apropos for Lent. Our Sunday School lessons will be on the Book of Job, which also focuses on a time of temptation and trial.

If you'd like something daily, I enjoy the devotionals at d365.org. You can use it online or in their app. Their Lenten theme is similar to our sermon series. It is called, *Journey to the Cross* and includes devotional thoughts, worshipful music and a challenge to go.

Another devotional source I find inspirational is *The Manna Connection*. It's e-mailed out twice a week by Dr. David Smith, Ministry of Pastoral Care, First Baptist Church of Lenoir. David takes a scripture and expounds on how it fits into our lives. To receive Dr. Smith's e-mails, you can e-mail him at dbsmith6363@gmail.com.

Whatever you decide to do during Lent, my prayer is that this time will be meaningful for us all. In a world that constantly tells us to indulge, it's a healthy practice to cut back every now and then. Lent is not something we always "enjoy", but is something from which we can benefit.

Schedule

Sunday, February 27

7:00 a.m. Sunday School Lesson
 Uploaded to YouTube & Facebook

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

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

Monday, February 28

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

Wednesday, March 2

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wed. After School Program

5:15 p.m. Family Night Meal

6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, March 3

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Sunday, March 6

7:00 a.m. Sunday School Lesson
 Uploaded to YouTube & Facebook

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

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

Monday, March 7

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

Wednesday, March 9

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

5:15 p.m. Family Night Meal

6:00 p.m. Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, March 10

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. 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
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Eddie Steele Fund at Fifth Street Ministries

Our March Alms Offering will go to the Eddie Steele Fund at Fifth Street Ministries. Through our ministries and the help of others in the community, Eddie went from being homeless to being a vital part of First Baptist Church. To honor his memory, we created a fund with Fifth Street that is used to help people move toward permanent housing.

The Eddie Steele fund has helped many people with rent and utilities as they transitioned to more permanent housing. For instance, it helped Candice. Candice had to move out of her public housing unit due to a domestic violence situation. She needed help with getting utilities turned on in her name. With this fund, Fifth Street was able to help her begin again.

You may give to this special fund when we receive our Alms Offering at the end of the service, Sunday, March 6, 2022 or you may mail a check to the office designated Eddie Steele Fund.



Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of February 13 & 20, 2022

| | 2/13 | 2/20 |
|------------------------|------|------|
| Live Stream Views..... | 16 | 18 |
| In-Person..... | 134 | 157 |
| Sunday School..... | 102 | 107 |

Financial Statistics

| | February | Year-to-Date |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Giving Goal | 65,198.00 | 402,491.00 |
| Budget Receipts | 46,050.00 | 615,318.00 |
| Monthly Not Met/YTD Met | (19,148.00) | 212,827.00 |
| Alms | 3,351.00 | 6,702.00 |
| Designated | 6,342.00 | 53,391.00 |

A Message from Minister of Young Families & Missions Elizabeth Kilby

Thank you so much for the generous support from our congregation. We were able to meet the need of the washing machine for the clothes closet recipient.

We are looking ahead to the spring and the summer and are excited about Easter and the summer schedule that we have. The Chicago mission trip is shaping up and we have just a few more weeks to register for the trip. If you are interested in going please let me know as soon as possible so I can get you on the list. Join us in praying for not only our team that will be going on the trip but also those who we will impact on the ground in Chicago. God is already sewing seeds that I can't wait to see how they come about when we get on the ground.

Our hearts and our minds are preparing for Easter, the Lenten season and what it means to await the resurrection of Christ and how we move and grow during the spring season. What are we doing now in the winter to cultivate the harvest that we can expect God to move and grow?

May our hearts and minds be close to Christ as we lean into his leading.

Many thoughts and prayers,
Elizabeth

Learning More About Our Members The Faulkenberry Family

Ben and Allison Faulkenberry joined FBC on Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019. Ben is an assistant district attorney for Catawba County and Allison is a high school math teacher at Pine Lake Prep in Mooresville. They have two children. Isabelle (Izzy) is 4 years old and Jones is 3 years old.

Ben has recently been ordained as a deacon and is a member of the Missions Committee. He helps build ramps with the missions team. Ben and Allison also help run the live stream of the Sunday service once a month. The whole family enjoys participating in White Christmas and Operation Inasmuch. Ben and Allison attend the Adventurers Sunday School Class and Izzy is in the 4 Year Olds Sunday School class with Neill Pardue and Jody Parlier.

As a family, they love to hike, camp in the mountains and go to the beach. Ben and Allison are UNC alumni so they like attending and watching UNC sports. Every Sunday night, they watch America's Funniest Home Videos while eating homemade cookies as a family.

Izzy and Jones both enjoy being outdoors and going for family hikes and picnics. They have both played soccer for Statesville YMCA. Jones loves any sport involving balls, but he particularly loves baseball and mini golf. Izzy attends weekly dance classes at Tilley's Dance Academy and loves to attend plays and shows.

Ben and Allison are very grateful God led them to join the FBCS church family. Everyone is so kind and welcoming and has facilitated their whole family's spiritual growth since they've become members.





Announcements

Wednesday Evening Menus

March 2

spiral ham, cabbage, black eyed peas,
& chocolate chip cookies
Kids meal: cheeseburgers & chips

March 9

chicken parmesan, angel hair pasta, italian green
beans & banana pudding
Kids meal: spaghetti & meatballs

Be sure to make your reservations by Monday at
10:00 a.m. by calling the church office, e-mailing
kayley@statesvillefbc.org, or using the Remind
App.

COVID Mask Update

It is good that the COVID numbers are moving in
the right direction and the governor has encour-
aged folks to move toward more normal lives.
Things are better, but Iredell County is still in the
red zone with a positivity rate of 14.96% (the goal is
to get below 5%). The CDC also recommends that
masks still be worn in public indoor settings.

**First Baptist Church recommends, but doesn't
require masks.** Each person should use their own
discretion, while remembering that a number of our
folks are immunocompromised and children under
five have no access to vaccinations. For now, our
ministerial staff will continue to mask during wor-
ship and masks are still required in the nursery.

Parents Night Out Friday, March 18, 2022 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Melissa and Kristina will offer a Parents Night Out
on Friday, March 18. The children (birth-grade 5)
will enjoy an evening of pizza, movies, crafts, and
recreation. Cost is \$5.00/child. Please register at
<https://www.vbspro.events/p/events/0412ce>.

Happy Birthday

March 1

Michael White

March 3

Judy Jackson

March 5

Connie Minnix

March 6

Jacob Palmer

March 7

Caroline Bentley
Ruby Kate Lowrance

March 8

Luke Williams

March 9

Bob Dellinger
Brent Winston

March 10

Clarence Poole

March 11

Margaret Barnard

March 12

Nathan Rash

March 13

Johnie McLeod

March 14

Donnie Bowers
Mary Beth Wynne
Kelby Houston
Kevin Houston

March 16

Ian Rushton
Barbara Price
Tim Tobey
Stan Williams

March 17

Joel Wilson

March 19

Andrew White

March 20

Hailey Wiseman

March 23

Tammy Tillery
April Waugh

March 24

Kristina Sellers

March 25

Bill Eubanks
Hersey Miller

March 27

Lori Fincannon
Steve Koontz

Jud Van Zee

March 28

Bill Stiles

March 31

Donna Abercrombie
Don Daniel
Luke Wimpy



For you are dust and to dust you shall return.
Genesis 3:19