



First Baptist Church

Growing Toward Christ

Whiteville, NC



**Homecoming Harvest Day
Celebrating 189 Years
November 5, 2023**

The Church at Worship

Homecoming—Harvest Day

Sunday, November 5, 2023

Eleven o'clock

* Please stand as you are able.

*But the jar he (the potter) was making did not turn out as he had hoped, so he crushed it into a lump of clay again and started over. Then the LORD gave me this message:
“O Israel, can I not do to you as this potter has done to his clay?
As the clay in the potter’s hand, as are you in my hand.”*

Jeremiah 18:4-6 NLT

Prelude	Largo	Dr. Patricia Slomanski George Frideric Handel
Choral Call to Worship	<i>Sing! Make a Joyful Sound!</i>	The Chancel Choir
Welcome, Greeting, and Introductions		Dr. Christopher Hillman
Invocation		Dr. Hillman
Memorial Recognitions		
* Hymn of Praise, No. 54	<i>Great Is Thy Faithfulness</i>	
Choral Call to Prayer	<i>Spirit of the Living God, Fall Fresh on Me</i>	The Chancel Choir
Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer		Dr. Hillman
Choral Response	<i>Hear Our Prayer, O Lord</i>	The Chancel Choir
Worship Through Music	<i>Unbounded Grace</i>	The Chancel Choir
* Hymn, No. 334	<i>Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!</i>	
Offertory Hymn	<i>Give thanks with a grateful heart! Give thanks to the Holy One! Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son! (Repeat) And now, let the weak say, “I am strong!” Let the poor say, “I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us!” (Repeat) Give thanks! Give thanks! Give thanks!</i>	
* Offertory Prayer		Mrs. Kate C. Lee
Offertory	<i>His Eye Is On the Sparrow</i>	Dr. Slomanski arr. Marilyn Hamm
Doxology	<i>Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.</i>	
Worship Through Music	<i>The Holy City</i>	Dr. Wayne Brown
Reading of the Holy Scripture	Jeremiah 18:1-11	Rev. Daryl Trexler
Sermon	We Are The Clay	Rev. Trexler

* Hymn of Invitation, No. 277

Take My Life, and Let It Be

* Benediction and Blessing of the Fellowship Meal

Dr. Hillman

* Organ Dismissal

Fanfare

Dr. Slomanski
arr. Diane Bish



The cornucopia arrangement is given to the glory of God by Michael Memory.

A gracious welcome is extended to all who worship here today.
Lunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the morning service.

We welcome Rev. Daryl Trexler back to the pulpit for Homecoming. Rev. Trexler served as supply pastor here at FBC-Whiteville when we were without a pastor. He received his Bachelor of Business Administration (1994) and his Masters of Divinity (2002) from Campbell University. He serves with the North Carolina Baptist Foundation in the area of Financial Services. He is currently serving as the founding and volunteer pastor at the The Leland Church in Leland, North Carolina. He and his wife, Dawn, have two children, Abby and Ethan. We are so thankful he has come to share with us this Homecoming Sunday!

The History Room is open today. After extensive damage from Hurricane Florence on September 14, 2018 and its heavy rains, and the COVID issues, the History Committee is very happy to report that the Church History Room is now open. If anyone or group would like a guided tour, the committee will be happy to arrange that. However, anyone who wishes to visit, browse, or just see the History Room is welcomed to do so anytime the church office is open. Please call Carlton Prince or the church office to arrange a guided tour. Thank you, church family, for your patience and understanding.

The History Committee—Charlotte Collins, Doris Davis, Mary Jean Prince, Jo Anne Vereen, Sherry Waters, Lois Willetts, Carlton Prince-Chairman.

Deceased Committee Members—Martha Holt, Bettie Lou Memory, Mary Lou Smith, Olene Utley, Joanne Wall, William “Bill” Wilson.

A Short History of the FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WHITEVILLE, NC

First Baptist Church was constituted on August 17, 1834. The first pastor was the Reverend Dennis Lennon from the Lennon's Crossroads area. Services were held at the Court House Square until the church moved to its present location in 1866.

An attractive clapboard church with two front doors, bell tower and steeple was built in the 1870's. A brick addition was constructed behind this building in the 1920's. The clapboard building was torn down in 1932 and a new sanctuary was completed in 1932. This building became known as the old chapel building when the present sanctuary was built in 1952. The architect was Mr. H. C. Lenthicum who died the week construction was scheduled to begin. Mr. A. G. Carter, the contractor and a member, handled the entire building project. Dedication of the debt free sanctuary took place on March 17, 1957. The old chapel building was torn down in 1988 and the present education section on the north side of the sanctuary was constructed. Dedication of this building was on November 5, 1989.

Adjacent properties have been purchased. In 1882, the church purchased the property south of its first parcel from the First St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church. Until 1872 these congregations worshiped together. In 1913, the church purchased a parcel of land south of its property from the NC Black Methodist Association. This church is now known as St. Mark AME Zion Church. In 1958, the church bought land from the Baggett family just across Church Street on its north side; this area is now a parking lot. In 1965, the church bought the property on the east of the sanctuary where the Fellowship Hall was constructed in 1966. The F. M. White house was bought in 1988 and has since been removed.

A first parsonage was built in the early 1900's at what is now the corner of US Highway 701 Bypass (J. K. Powell Boulevard) and Business US Highway 74-76, known as the Washington Street or Chadbourn Road. A second parsonage was built on the south side of the sanctuary in the 1930's and razed in the spring of 2009. This area is now used as a children's playground.

First Baptist has had twenty-six pastors: Dennis Lennon, C. T. Anderson, James W. Dickson, Haynes Lennon, George W. Hill, John Franklin McMillan, Carson Powell, A. W. Price, James A. Smith, John F. Tuttle, J. T. Betts, B. H. Phillips, J. G. Blalock, Charles Cooke Smith, J. H. Poteet, I. T. Newton, B. T. Roach, Samuel N. Lamb, Dr. Robert C. Foster, Dr. Francis S. Chesson, Dr. Gwenn McCormick, Roy Walker, Dr. Roger B. Gilbert, Dr. L. Kendell Cameron, Jr., Dr. Ronald M. Hinson, Jr., Rev. Ryan Clore, and Dr. Christopher Hillman. The Reverend Eddie Fort served as our Minister of Music from August 2004 until February 2023. The church has had six interim pastors—Daniel Deaton, James F. Heaton, Frank Hawkins, Luther "Drag" Kimrey, Andrew Barnhill, and Dr. Wayne Brown.

Three pastors were foreign missionaries: Carson Powell (Africa), B. T. Roach (China) and Frank Hawkins (Brazil). Two were Confederate officers in the Civil War: James W. Dickson and John Franklin Tuttle. The Reverend James A. Smith served as a private and later led in the effort to get Fort Fisher named a National Park. Several members have gone to the foreign mission field: Miss Mary Fannie Memory 1879; Mrs. Lela Memory (Harold) McMillan 1913 (China); Mrs. Elaine Sheffield (Archie) Nations 1952 (Japan); Wallyce Todd (Slovakia); Mason

Smith (Germany); and Mrs. Stephanie Underwood Hathaway (Adam) (Shenyang, China). First Baptist continues a strong emphasis on missions.

According to the information available, the church has ordained the following ministers: Archibald McMillan, Charles Glisson, Dennis Phillips, Kerry Peeler, Mason Smith, and Wallyce Todd. Several women have been ordained as deacons since Mrs. Gayle Powell was ordained in 1987. Linza Grace Smith Layman Coffee and Charles Lee Price who both grew up in First Baptist Church have been ordained to the ministry by their respective churches.

One of FBC Whiteville's most distinguished members in the field of Religious Work is Dr. H. I. Hester, who was a member and Sunday School teacher here from 1909-1914 when he left for Wake Forest University.

The Women's Missionary Union was organized in 1879. A ministry to the deaf was begun in 1948. The church started the Columbus Baptist Mission in 1953, and this congregation evolved into Trinity Baptist Church, now located on South Thompson Street.

The Church History Room was officially opened and dedicated on the 175th Anniversary of First Baptist Church celebrated on November 1, 2009.

The church accepts persons for membership who profess a Christian faith and who have experienced a believer's baptism or requests a baptism by immersion. Others join by promise of church letters from another Baptist church or by their statement of Christian faith and prior baptism.

Over the years, a broad range of activities has been offered, including weekly Bible study through our Sunday School; Mission groups for men, women and children, ministries to Senior adults, children, youth, and families, a graded choir ministry, Vacation Bible School, Mission trips, Operation Inasmuch, and weekly Wednesday night supper before prayer service. Favorite special activities have included Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Hanging of the Greens, The Youth Progressive Dinner and the Christmas Eve Communion. The Community Thanksgiving Service is also a highlight. Another special event is the exchange worship service and reception between First Baptist and First St. Paul Missionary Baptist. These congregations worshiped together through 1872.

As of November 1, 2023, First Baptist Church Whiteville has a membership of 342, of which 277 are resident members. The Church is a warm, inviting, relevant, caring fellowship. The congregation worships God with a music emphasis, a strong proclamation of God's Holy Word and the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

Submitted by Carlton Prince, Chair of the History Committee

Sources: Church and Associational minutes, newspaper accounts, *Contacts*, bulletins, letters, etc. All of these are in the History Room.

REMEMBERING OUR HERITAGE
First Baptist Church
Whiteville, North Carolina
Fifty or More Years of Membership

Audrey Black
Murline Britt
Carl E. Butler
Hilda Butler
A. G. "Buster" Carter
Brenda Carter
Jerry L. Carter
Michael Cole
Charlotte Collins
Joseph W. Cook
Doris B. Davis
Charles L. Duncan
Dale Duncan
Elizabeth Fowler
Rocky Fowler
Yvonne Gold
Jackie Harper
Doris Harwood
David Heath
Charles Hickman
Sally McKenzie High
Joe Hooks
Doris Hughes
Billie Jayroe
Betty Gail Kronenwetter
Rose Langston
Coy M. Long
Charles Lytle

Michael Memory
Simms Memory
Jennifer Moranz
Milton Page
Janet Plasky
Betty Jo Prevatte
Carlton Prince
James Rogers
Lynn Rogers
Ella Jo Sellers
Myrtie Sellers
William D. Smith, Jr.
Carolyn Southerland
Juanita Stanley
Nancy Lytle Stapp
David Tedder
Rita Todd
Glenda Turbeville
Joanne Vereen
Ronald M. Walters
Harry D. Ward
Glenn Waters
Barbara Whitson
Lois Willetts
Stephen Willetts
J. Gregory Williams
Merle Worley

MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED SINCE NOVEMBER 1, 2022

Jeffery Mahanes, November 20, 2022
Keith Beverly, February 12, 2023
Jamie Beverly, February 12, 2023
Christopher Hillman, August 6, 2023
Resa Hillman, August 6, 2023

Karen Dawsey, August 13, 2023
Julie Hillman, September 17, 2023
Brian Hogeboon, September 17, 2023
Christie Hogeboon, September 17, 2023

MEMBERS WHO HAVE PASSED SINCE NOVEMBER 1, 2022

Rev. Joe Sellers, January 4, 2023
Nancy Smith, February 5, 2023
Lois Batten, March 6, 2023
Juanita Tedder, March 6, 2023

James Collier, Jr., May 23, 2023
Dewey Hill, Sr., June 27, 2023
Jean Patterson, July 17, 2023
Carol Jones, October 2, 2023

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

- Sunday, November 5**
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Homecoming/Harvest Day with special
guest speaker Rev. Daryl Trexler and
special music by Dr. Wayne Brown
12:00 noon Covered-Dish Dinner in the fellowship hall
- Monday, November 6**
6:30 p.m. Bible Study Coordinated by Willis & Sue
Pinnell and Robert & Kris Cliburn
- Wednesday, November 8**
6:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting
- Saturday, November 11**
FBC Float in the Veterans Day Parade
We still need candy donations.
We will not need riders this year.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Sunday, November 12**
9:30 a.m. Breakfast and Joint Adult Sunday School
Presentation by Sara Lamkin
11:00 a.m. Mental Health Sunday, Morning Worship
Sara Lamkin
- Monday, November 13**
9:30 a.m. Finance Meeting
10:00 a.m. WMU Meeting
6:30 p.m. Bible Study Coordinated by Willis & Sue
Pinnell and Robert & Kris Cliburn
- Wednesday, November 15**
5:45 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper—Group 4 (Brenda Carter &
Genie Carter, co-chairs)
6:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting
- Sunday, November 19**
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. Community Thanksgiving Service at First
Baptist Church Whiteville.
- Monday, November 20**
Poinsettia Order Deadline
9:30 a.m. Finance Meeting
6:30 p.m. Bible Study Coordinated by Willis & Sue
Pinnell and Robert & Kris Cliburn
- Tuesday, November 21**
6:30 p.m. Deacons' Meeting

Church Staff
Ministerial Staff

Dr. Christopher Hillman, Pastor

Ministry Assistance Staff

Mrs. Teresa Malpass, Ministry Assistant
Mrs. Dinah Reaves, Financial Ministry Assistant
Dr. Patricia Slomanski, Organist

Church Office Hours 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Monday—Thursday

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