



First Baptist Church

Growing Toward Christ

Whiteville, NC



Homecoming Harvest Day

Celebrating 190 Years

November 3, 2024

The Church at Worship

Homecoming—Harvest Day

Sunday, November 3, 2024

Eleven o'clock

* Please stand as you are able.

*But when he came to himself, he said, I will arise and go to my father! Luke 15:17-18
Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do
not expect. Matthew 24:44
But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful
in your prayers. 1 Peter 4:7*

Prelude *This Is My Father's World* Mrs. Patricia Slomanski
arr. Diane Bish

Welcome, Greeting, and Introductions Dr. Christopher Hillman

Invocation and the Lord's Prayer Dr. Hillman

Comments and Prayer Mr. Carlton Prince

Choral Call to Worship *Sing! Make a Joyful Sound!* The Chancel Choir

* **Hymn of Praise, No. 10** *How Great Thou Art* Congregation

* **Hymn of Praise, No. 54** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* Congregation

A Time for Personal Reflection and Gratitude Dr. Wayne Brown

Offertory Hymn, No. 334 *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine* Congregation

* **Offertory Prayer** Mrs. Betty Jo Prevatte

Offertory *Jesus, Lover of My Soul* Mrs. Slomanski
(with *Canon in D* by Pachelbel) arr. Linda McKechnie

Jesus, lover of my soul,
Let me to thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high:
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,
Till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide;
O receive my soul at last.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
More than all in Thee I find:
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick and lead the blind:
Just and holy is Thy name,
I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am,
Thou art full of truth and grace.

Other refuge have I none;
Hangs my helpless soul on Thee;
Leave, O leave me not alone,
Still support and comfort me:
All my trust on Thee is stayed,
All my help from Thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head
With the shadow of Thy wing.

Plenteous grace with Thee is found,
Grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound;
Make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art;
Freely let me take of Thee;
Spring Thou up within my heart,
Rise to all eternity.

Doxology Congregation

*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.*

Worship Through Music	<i>Unbounded Grace</i>	The Chancel Choir
Pastoral Prayer		Dr. Hillman
Choral Response	<i>Hear Our Prayer, O Lord</i>	The Chancel Choir
Reading of the Holy Scripture	Matthew 24:3-14; 29-44	Dr. Brown
Sermon	The King Is Coming!	Dr. Brown
* Hymn of Invitation, No. 309	<i>Lord, I'm Coming Home</i>	Congregation
* Benediction and Blessing of the Fellowship Meal		Dr. Hillman
* Organ Dismissal	<i>A Festive Fanfare</i> (from the Fourth Concerto)	Mrs. Slomanski arr. Johann Sebastian Bach



The cornucopia arrangement is given to the glory of God and in memory of Michael's wife, Janice Memory, 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. Dr. Wayne and Mrs. Joy Brown back to the pulpit for Homecoming. Dr. Brown received his Master of Divinity and Doctorate of Divinity from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He served as interim pastor here at First Baptist Church of Whiteville for three and one half years.

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.

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-seven 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 Cook 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., Ryan Clore, and Dr. Christopher T. 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, Dr. James F. Heaton, Dr. Frank Hawkins, Luther "Drag" Kimrey, Dr. Andrew Barnhill, and Dr. Wayne Brown.

Four pastors were foreign missionaries: Carson Powell (Africa), B. T. Roach (China) and Dr. Frank Hawkins (Brazil), and Dr. Christopher T. Hillman (national and international—Haiti and Slovakia). 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); Dr. 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, Dr. 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 and 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 receptions between First Baptist, First St. Paul Missionary Baptist, St. Marks AME Zion Church, and First St. Paul Missionary Baptist. These congregations worshiped together through 1872.

As of November 3, 2024, First Baptist Church Whiteville has a membership of 331, of which 265 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
Michael Cole
Charlotte Collins
Joseph W. Cook
William Brownie Cook
Doris B. Davis
Charles L. Duncan
Dale Duncan
Sandra Floyd
Yvonne Gold
Doris Harwood
David Heath
Joe Hooks
Doris Hughes
Billie Jayroe
Betty Gail Kronenwetter
Rose Langston
Charles Lytle

Donna Massengale
Michael Memory
Jennifer Moranz
Janet Plasky
Betty Jo Prevatte
Carlton Prince
Ella Jo Sellers
Myrtie Sellers
William D. Smith, Jr.
Carolyn Southerland
Nancy Lytle Stapp
David Tedder
Rita Todd
Glenda Turbeville
Joanne Vereen
Dr. Ronald M. Walters
Harry D. Ward
Glenn Waters
Ken Waters
Barbara Whitson
Lois Willetts
William Wilson
Merle Worley

MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED SINCE NOVEMBER 4, 2023

Christopher Duncan, November 12, 2023
Lisa Voss, November 12, 2023

Laura Senter, December 24, 2023
Joshua T. & MaryEllen Williamson, July 21, 2024

MEMBERS WHO HAVE PASSED SINCE NOVEMBER 4, 2023

Edgar Tison, December 3, 2023
Rick Kimball, December 12, 2023
Coy Long, April 3, 2024
Betty Jackson, April 11, 2024
Juanita Stanley, May 27, 2024

Muriel Hill, June 2, 2024
Sylvia Walker, July 12, 2024
Jerry Carter, July 30, 2024
Shannon Sneddon, September 24, 2024
J. C. Hyatt, October 16, 2024

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

- Sunday, November 3**
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Homecoming/Harvest Day with guest speaker
Rev. Dr. Wayne Brown
12:00 noon Covered-Dish Dinner in the fellowship hall
- Wednesday, November 6**
6:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Prayer Service

LOOKING AHEAD

- Sunday, November 10, 17, 24**
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
- Monday, November 11**
10:00 a.m. WMU Meeting
- Wednesday, November 13, 20, 27**
6:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Prayer Service
- Monday, November 18**
9:30 a.m. Poinsettia Order Deadline
Finance Meeting
- Tuesday, November 19**
6:30 p.m. Deacons' Meeting
- Wednesday, November 20**
5:45 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper—
Group 1 (Pat Davis/Gina Morningstar, co-chairs)
- Sunday, November 24**
6:00 p.m. Community Thanksgiving Service at Sacred Heart Catholic
Church with Dr. Hillman Speaking
- Thursday, November 28**
Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving
- Sunday, December 1**
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Hanging of the Greens during morning worship

Church Staff
Ministerial Staff

Dr. Christopher T. Hillman, Pastor

Ministry Assistance Staff

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

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

Phone: (910) 642-2139 Fax: (910) 642-5874

Web Site: www.fbcwhiteville.com

Email: office@fbcwhiteville.com

(Live Stream on our First Baptist Church Whiteville Facebook Page)

CCLI #2525192

CSPL#197352