



# First Baptist Church

Growing Toward Christ

Whiteville, NC

## THE CONTACT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2024, VOLUME 59, NUMBER 4

*Celebrate 90+*

*April 21, 2024*

*11 a.m. Worship Service  
with lunch to follow.*

*Mark your calendar.*

*Please plan to join us on  
this special day.*



*April 27, 2024*

*Breakfast: 8:00–9:00 a.m.*

*There will be a project for all.*

*You are invited to participate with us.*

### Events At A Glance

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 – Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.

April 3, 10, 17, 24 – Wednesday Night Prayer Service, 6:30 p.m.

April 4 – Reaching Out To Our Neighbors, 6:30 p.m.

April 9 – Nominating Committee Meeting with committee chairs, 6:30 p.m.

April 9 – Growing Our Church, 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

April 14 – Baptist Men's Breakfast, 8:00 a.m.

April 14 – Church Council Meeting, 3:00 p.m.

April 15 – Finance Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

April 15 – WMU Meeting, 10:00 a.m.

April 16 – Deacons' Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

April 17 – Bridger Warlick Degree Recital, 7:30 p.m., Fayetteville, NC.

April 21 – 90+ Celebration, 11:00 a.m.

April 24 – Covered-Dish Meal, 5:45 p.m., and Quarterly Church Conference, 6:30 p.m.

April 27 – Operation Inasmuch, beginning with breakfast, 8:00–9:00 a.m.

## PASTOR'S CORNER



*"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly beyond all that we ask or imagine, according to the power that works in us."*

**(Ephesians 3:20)**

*Exceedingly, abundantly, and beyond. These three incredibly powerful words are promised us by our loving God. This is an especially appropriate verse for right now, as I believe this ties in beautifully with Easter and everything it means to us. As we all know, right at this precise moment in the Biblical calendar, Jesus is planning to accept the horrors of the cross for our behalf. And this is exactly what He came here to do for us. He has willingly entered into the week of Passion so that He might now be able to pass on His healing strength to you and me.*

In church this past Sunday, I had mentioned my attendance at a concert over the weekend where three popular Christian musicians played a wonderful variety of praise and worship music - this to an audience of thousands of jubilant participants. People came from all over the world including Indonesia and Ireland... Myrtle Beach and Whiteville. Among the songs played was one that was entitled "When I Fight I'll Fight On My Knees". What a perfectly apt description of the cross! His battle plans for us are acceptance, patience, love, and kindness. After all, God came riding in on a lonely little donkey - this, to put on display His humility for us. I've said it before in the pulpit, and I'm sure that I will say it again: In the midst of my busiest days I need to always pause and remember the importance of 'getting out of my own way'. While one or two - or four or six different things are going on all at once in our beautiful ministries, we all must slow down long enough to "**LET GO AND LET GOD!**"

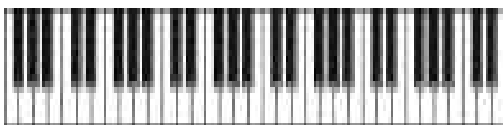
This same line of thinking also goes for our local businesses, corporations, institutions, schools, sports teams, and houses of worship, as well. With God's guidance; together we can do so much. *Exceedingly means to an unusual degree. Abundantly means generously, lavishly or profusely. Beyond means surpassing all limitations.* Let us ponder these definitions... Then imagine - imagine what God could do in our own lives. Imagine what He could do in your life. What could He do in the life of First Baptist Whiteville? What answers will He send to our prayers?

Now let us bump it up several notches. Let us bump it up well beyond what we may think is even possible. Let's allow our faith to rest here for a while. Let it rest on the exceptional, on the extraordinary, on the supernatural - because this is what Jesus promises to bring to us now that we're into the Holy week.

**HAPPY EASTER** and *GOD BLESS US ALL* as we prepare for the cross soon to be followed by the **EMPTY TOMB!**

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Chris



Notes of **THANKS**

Dear First Baptist Family,

Haywood and I thank you for your love and support during the death of my brother, Charles Long. Every card, conversation, and phone call was a bright spot during this time of grief and sorrow. The fellowship of Christian friends is a treasured blessing.

In love and appreciation,  
Myrtle Corbett

# CHILDREN'S EASTER ACTIVITY

Thank you to everyone who took part in this activity. The children had a great time!



## APRIL MESSAGES

**April 7, 2024**

*How Soon We Forget*  
Luke 24:31

**April 14, 2024**

*Prove It!*  
John 20:24-25

**April 21, 2024**

*We Are God's Children*  
1 John 3:7-8

**April 28, 2024**

*Same Product, Different Label*  
1 John 5:21

## WEDNESDAY PRAYER SERVICES

**April 10, 2024**

*Strolling Through Romans*

**April 17, 2024**

*Strolling Through Romans*

**April 23, 2024**

*Strolling Through Romans*

**April 30, 2024**

*Strolling Through Romans*



## APRIL MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

### CHILDREN'S CHURCH

7 Tina Sauls  
14 Jan Hinson  
21 Tricia Sanderson  
28 Beverly Pope

### DEACONS OF THE WEEK

7 Buster Carter / Bobby Hensley  
14 Willis Pinnell / Glenn Waters  
21 Stephen Prince / Betty Jo Prevatte  
28 Kate C. Lee / Kirby Sanderson

### HOSPICE MEALS

Rose Langston

### NURSERY WORKERS

7 Kate C. Lee  
14 Bobby & Wendy Hensley  
21 Keith & Jamie Beverley  
28 Brenda Carter / Genie Carter

### SOUND & VIDEO

7 Kirby Sanderson  
14 Eric Kronenwetter  
21 Kirby Sanderson  
28 Eric Kronenwetter

### A Personal Conversation between David and his Heavenly Father:

#### Psalm 119:9-16

*How can a young person stay pure? By obeying Your word. I have tried hard to find You — don't let me wander from Your commands. I have hidden Your word in my heart, that I might not sin against You. I praise You, O LORD; teach me Your decrees. I have recited aloud all the regulations You have given us. I have rejoiced in Your laws as much as in riches. I will study Your commandments and reflect on Your ways. I will delight in Your decrees and not forget Your word.*

David Powlison observes, "Psalm 119 is actually not about the topic of getting Scripture into your life. Instead, it is the honest words that erupt when what God says gets into you. It's not an exhortation to Bible study; it's an outcry of faith...**Psalm 119 is the thoughtful outcry that rises when real life meets real God.**" (Speaking the Truth in Love, p. 14).

## STEWARDSHIP

### March 3, 2024

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$0.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$3,470.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$566.00
<b>Total Budget This Week</b>	<b>\$4,036.00</b>
Designated/Other Funds	\$2,472.50
<b>Total Collections This Week</b>	<b>\$6,508.50</b>
<b>Over Budget This Week</b>	<b>\$1,368.95</b>
Budget Need to date	\$124,313.85
Budget Rec'd to date	\$134,071.00
Over Budget to date	\$9,757.15

### March 10, 2024

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$0.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$5,015.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$1,000.00
<b>Total Budget This Week</b>	<b>\$6,015.00</b>
Designated/Other Funds	\$431.46
<b>Total Collections This Week</b>	<b>\$6,446.46</b>
<b>Over Budget This Week</b>	<b>\$610.05</b>
Budget Need to date	\$129,718.80
Budget Rec'd to date	\$140,086.00
Over Budget to date	\$10,367.20

### March 17, 2024

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$0.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$2,347.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$1,025.00
<b>Total Budget This Week</b>	<b>\$3,372.00</b>
Designated/Other Funds	\$255.00
<b>Total Collections This Week</b>	<b>\$3,627.00</b>
<b>Under Budget This Week</b>	<b>\$2,032.95</b>
Budget Need to date	\$135,123.75
Budget Rec'd to date	\$143,458.00
Over Budget to date	\$8,334.25

### March 24, 2024

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$110.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$3,242.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$1,520.00
<b>Total Budget This Week</b>	<b>\$4,872.00</b>
Designated/Other Funds	\$490.00
<b>Total Collections This Week</b>	<b>\$5,362.00</b>
<b>Under Budget This Week</b>	<b>\$532.94</b>
Budget Need to date	\$140,528.70
Budget Rec'd to date	\$148,330.00
Over Budget to date	\$7,801.30

### March 31, 2024

Will appear in the May Contact.

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 Michael Memory  
6 Gina Morningstar  
11 Audrey Black  
13 Charlie Duncan  
14 April Ray  
15 Mary Hooks  
Geoffrey Hopkins  
Grayson Ward  
Harry Ward  
16 Robert Clyburn  
20 Christopher Duncan  
30 Nicole Hopkins  
Anna Kimball

## MARCH SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

March 3, 2024 - 43  
March 10, 2024 - 46  
March 17, 2024 - 43  
March 24, 2024 - 42

Average attendance for March  
Sunday School is 44.

Please join us each week for Sunday  
School at 9:45 a.m.

The whole of the believer's life is  
lived under the shadow of the cross  
and in the warm glow of the empty  
grave.

Alex Kocman

## OFFICE CONTACT INFO

### Ministerial Staff

Dr. Christopher Hillman, Pastor  
pastorhillman@fbcwhiteville.com  
804-301-2580

Mrs. Patricia Slomanski, Organist

### Ministry Assistant Staff

Mrs. Teresa Malpass, Ministry Assistant  
[office@fbcwhiteville.com]

Mrs. Dinah Reaves,  
Financial Ministry Assistant  
[fbcwhite@fbcwhiteville.com]

## OFFICE HOURS

Church Office Hours 8:30 A.M. — 4:30 P.M.,  
Monday—Thursday  
Phone: 910-642-2139 Fax: 910-642-5874

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WMU

**WMU Meeting: Monday, April 15, 10:00 A.M.**

**Call to Prayer and Program: Hilda Ray**

**Mission Project: Operation Inasmuch, April 27**

**Hospice Meal: Rose Langston (Contact Karen: 910-642-9051)**



What a beautiful Spring and Easter season we have enjoyed! May we strive to “Burst Forth in Bloom” as we seek to minister and witness through missions. The WMU mission project for April is the Soup Ministry that we provide for Operation Inasmuch led by the Missions Committee. Each luncheon bag contains a cup of homemade soup, a pimento cheese sandwich, an oatmeal cookie, and a witness card from First Baptist Church. Our hearts are blessed as we joyfully prepare and distribute these meals.

We have collected \$2,692.00 for the Heck-Jones Offering, and \$132.50 for the Annie Armstrong Offering. Thank you to everyone who gave!!

**The 2022-24 Watchword is:** *Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.*

--Romans 12:12

### **Our Mission**

...is to inform and inspire Christians to influence their world for Christ.

Myrtle Corbett, Director

Betty Jo Prevatte, Co-Director

## GROWING OUR CHURCH



Fifteen people have already participated in the four March meetings that we have had to discuss Growing Our Church! The next meeting is Tuesday, April 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. There are plenty of seats for everyone to join together to have rich conversations about bringing people to God! During the upcoming weeks we will begin a *Listening Tour* featuring dinner talks just like the enjoyable ABC Dinners we did last year! There will also be focus groups, surveys, and more because EVERY voice is important to be able to craft a vision for future work at FBC. Pray that the love of Christ is at the center of this work and mission. More details to follow after April 9th, so stay tuned!

## FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

We have had a lot of fun with Family Movie Night so far. We have had good crowds, lots of popcorn, and good fellowship. In February we saw *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe*, and last month, in honor of Easter, we watched *Risen*. Family Movie Night will be the last Friday of the month at 6:30 p.m. and bi-monthly from here on out, so look for the name of the next movie in the May Contact. We hope you will come out and fellowship with us over a family-friendly Christian movie.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONT'D)

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Committee Chairs, please mark you calendars for our next church council meeting on **Sunday, April 14 at 3 p.m.** *Please remember that all committee/organizational reports need to be turned in to the church office by Wednesday, April 10, so they can be included in the Conference Packet.*



Baptist Men's Breakfast will be **April 14 at 8:00 a.m.** All men of the church are welcome to join us!

## BAPTIST MEN

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Look at this! One of our own, Bridger Warlick, is giving his Degree Recital on **April 17 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Matthews Ministry Center at Methodist University in Fayetteville, NC. What an exciting time for Bridger! We want to encourage him as he finishes his work for his music degree.

## 90+ CELEBRATION

What an honor it is to celebrate 20 of our members who will be 90 years old by the end of 2024! On **April 21**, we are going to honor these folks who have served the Lord so faithfully in so many different areas of service at First Baptist Church. We will be recognizing them in the morning worship service along with their families. After worship we will have the opportunity to fellowship with them during lunch. All members and their families are invited to attend. What a blessing these folks are to us! We encourage you to plan to attend and honor these special members.

## CHURCH CONFERENCE

Our next Quarterly Church Conference is scheduled for **Wednesday evening, April 24, at 6:30 p.m.** For Conference, we meet after Wednesday Night Supper, which is a covered-dish meal, to discuss the changes/activities during the last quarter. If you are looking for service opportunities, this will be the perfect time to get the full overview of church activity. Please join us to get a better view of how our church is ministering to its members and to the community.



## MISSIONS OPPORTUNITY

Please mark your calendar for Operation Inasmuch on **April 27**. We will start this event with breakfast from **8:00-9:00 a.m.** If you have a suggestion for a project, please call a member of the Missions Committee: Bobby Hensley, Haywood Corbett, Genie Carter, Martha Watson, Donna Prince, or Martha Senter.





# ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONT'D)

## WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

“Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman who needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15 KJV.

Monday Evening Bible Study has moved to **Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.** There is still room for you to join us if you have not tried our weekly Bible Study.



## WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRAYER SERVICE

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 KJV—“Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”



During our Wednesday Night Prayer Service we do just what Paul directs (under the direction of the Holy Spirit) in this Thessalonians passage—we take the opportunity to praise the Lord for answered prayer and pray for specific needs of the church and community as we review and update our Ministry of Encouragement prayer concern sheet. After we have a time of prayer, we spend some time in scripture together. This month we will begin a study in the book of **Romans**. You are invited to fellowship over God’s Word with us each **Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m.** for Wednesday Night Prayer Service.

## CHURCH AFTER CHURCH

Let’s be the gospel that others see outside of church walls. We have had a good turn out as we have been moving out into the community together for lunch each Sunday after morning worship service. As we fellowship together over lunch, our love for one another will prove to the world that we are His disciples. Thank you for reaching out into the community with us. To give our church family a chance to have Easter with their families, **we will not have Church after Church on March 31st.**

Some of the places we have visited for lunch so far:

- Ana’s Tex Mex
- San Jose
- San Juan
- Zeko’s Italian Restaurant



Lunch at Ana’s Tex Mex (left), and Penn’s Grill (right).

	April 2024					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 6:30 Bible Study	3 6:30 Prayer Service	4 6:30 Reaching Out to Our Neighbors	5	6
7 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship	8	9 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Nominating CMTE Meeting with Committee Chairs 6:30 Growing Our Church	10 6:30 Prayer Service	11	12	13
14 8:00 Baptist Men's Breakfast 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship 3:00 Church Council Meeting	15 9:30 Finance Meeting 10:00 WMU	16 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Deacons' Meeting	17 6:30 Prayer Service 7:30 Bridger Warlick Degree Recital in Fayetteville, NC	18	19	20
21 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship with 90+ Celebration and lunch.	22	23 6:30 Bible Study	24 5:45 Covered-dish Meal 6:30 Church Conference 6:30 Prayer Service	25	26	27 8:00 Operation Inasmuch Breakfast 9:00 Operation Inasmuch
28 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship	29	30 6:30 Bible Study				

FBC contact information: Phone - 910-642-2139, Email - [office@fbcwhiteville.com](mailto:office@fbcwhiteville.com),

Web - [www.fbcwhiteville.com](http://www.fbcwhiteville.com)

First Baptist Church Whiteville Facebook page

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