

# Lent

"He fasted for forty days  
*and* forty nights..."

## THE CONTACT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER MARCH 2017 VOLUME 52, NUMBER 3

We are excited to announce our newest members - the Bazemores.



Stephen and Heather Bazemore

We are happy that Stephen and Heather decided to join our church family! You can learn more about them in this month's "Spotlight" article.

### EVENTS AT A GLANCE

**MARCH 1**, ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE IN  
THE SANCTUARY

**MARCH 3-5**, FESTIVAL BY THE SEA

**MARCH 12**, DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

**MARCH 17**, HOSPICE MEALS SERVED  
12 NOON

**MARCH 20**, STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
9 A.M.

**MARCH 21**, DEACONS MEETING  
7 P.M.

COMPLETE MONTHLY  
CALENDAR ON BACK.

TO ADD AN EVENT TO OUR  
CALENDAR, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH  
OFFICE: (910) 642-2139

"But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed."

1 John 4:10

# PASTOR'S CORNER: TESTING THE SPIRITS

"Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil." Matthew 4:1, NRSV

"Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God; for many false prophets have gone out into the world." 1 John 4:1, NRSV

This March, we begin the Lenten season. Lent is a time for us to "test the spirits." This is the only way we can know, and recognize, which voice is from God, and which voices are not. There's a reason that Jesus' ministry began by the Holy Spirit driving him out into the wilderness.

Jesus' journey was to be a long one; it was a difficult, intentional journey that led him to walk to his own death (a miserable one, at that). Jesus' time in the wilderness was a preparation for what was to come, but it was also a time for discernment.

- "What, God, do you want me to do?"
- "Who should join me in the work for which you are calling me?"
- "Where do you want me to go?"
- "Who do you want me to go to?"

Will you join me, in this season of Lent, to test the spirits, in order to get better at hearing the still, small voice of God? Will you join First Baptist Church in a season in the wilderness, where we are sure to also come face to face with temptation, in order that we might learn true dependency upon our maker?

Our journey will begin at our Ash Wednesday service, March 1 at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

- Rev. Ryan Clore

## Music Notes

Our **Youth Choir** has been busy for several months preparing music to participate in the *Festival by the Sea* in Myrtle Beach on March 3-5. They will combine with 350 plus youth singers representing churches in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and several other states. Timothy Michael Powell is this year's guest choral director. Timothy serves as the Director of Choral Activities at Martin Methodist College in Pulaski, TN.



Youth participants this year from left to right: Emily Sauls, Mitchell Sauls, Bryce Russell and Jack Scherrer. Not pictured is Bridger Warlick.



*Festival by the Sea* 2016 closing worship.

The **Chancel Choir** is preparing music for the season of Lent, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday. The Chancel Choir rehearses each Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. Join us this week!

The **Youth and Adult Handbell Choir** continues to rehearse each Sunday at 4:15 p.m. We presently are in need of two additional ringers. Please contact Eddie if you are interested.

The **Children's Music Activity** (grades 1-5) meets each Wednesday at 5:10 p.m. This time with our children includes a variety of musical experiences ranging from singing, handchimes, rhythm instruments and more. We welcome any child who would like to share in our time of music.

Each month the children learn a hymn of the month. Listed below are our hymns for the 2016-2017 choir year:

September 2016	<i>A Mighty Fortress Is Our God</i>
October	<i>O God, Our Help in Ages Past</i>
November	<i>Praise and Thanksgiving</i>
December	<i>Go Tell It on the Mountain</i>
January 2017	<i>O Sing a Song of Bethlehem</i>
February	<i>I Love Thee</i>
March	<i>Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound</i>
April	<i>Lift High the Cross</i>
May	<i>All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name</i>

## SUNDAY SERMONS

March 5:	First Sunday of Lent "Fasting for Justice" Isaiah 58:1-12
March 12:	Second Sunday of Lent "Tabula Rasa" John 3:1-17
March 19:	Third Sunday of Lent "Ripe" John 4:5-42
March 26:	Fourth Sunday of Lent "20/20" John 9:1-41

## Our Financial Stewardship

Worship Attendance Average: 101  
Sunday School Attendance Average: 59

<b>Jan. 29, 2017- Attend 102</b>	<b>YTD</b>		
Budget Rec'd	\$10,400.22	Budget Needs to Date	\$147,660.66
Budget Needed	\$8,203.37	Budget Received YTD	\$107,720.30
Over	\$2,196.85	Budget Under YTD	\$39,940.36

<b>Feb. 5, 2017- Attend 102</b>	<b>YTD</b>		
Budget Rec'd	\$7,221.00	Budget Needs to Date	\$155,864.03
Budget Needed	\$8,203.37	Budget Received YTD	\$114,941.30
Under	\$982.37	Budget Under YTD	\$40,922.73

<b>Feb. 12, 2017- Attend 95</b>	<b>YTD</b>		
Budget Rec'd	\$5,513.30	Budget Needs to Date	\$164,067.40
Budget Needed	\$8,203.37	Budget Received YTD	\$120,454.60
Under	\$2,690.07	Budget Under YTD	\$43,612.80

<b>Feb. 19, 2017- Attend 115</b>	<b>YTD</b>		
Budget Rec'd	\$4,808.00	Budget Needs to Date	\$172,270.77
Budget Needed	\$8,203.37	Budget Received YTD	\$125,262.60
Under	\$3,395.37	Budget Under YTD	\$47,008.17



Thanks  
for Your  
Support!



Join us on Wednesdays for Supper (5:45 p.m.) and Prayer Meeting (6:30-7:00 p.m.)  
A nursery is available after supper.

## Wednesday Night Supper



Matthew 4:1-11 <b>March 1</b> Brenda Carter Something Scrumptious Assorted Desserts  <b>Nursery</b> Mary Alice Stanley Kathrine Scott	Matthew 18-19 <b>March 8</b> Mary Alice Stanley Something Scrumptious Assorted Desserts  <b>Nursery</b> Tricia Sanderson Leah Sanderson Carly Sanderson	Matthew 20-21 <b>March 15</b> Hilda Ray Something Scrumptious Assorted Desserts  <b>Nursery</b> Peggy & John Norosky	Matthew 22-23 <b>March 22</b> Janice Young Baked Chicken Tenders Greek Potatoes Strawberry spinach salad Assorted desserts <b>Nursery</b> Brenda Carter or Genie Carter & Kate Carter	Matthew 24-25 <b>March 29</b> Fred & Martha Senter Something Scrumptious Assorted Desserts  <b>Nursery</b> Taylor Jordan
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# MARCH MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

5 Grayanna Young  
12 Gina Morningstar  
19 Katherine Jordan Scott  
26 Tricia Sanderson

## WORSHIP SERVICE GREETER

Merle Worley

## DEACONS OF THE WEEK

5 Emory Worley / Merle Worley  
12 Stephen Prince / David Jordan  
19 Rose Langston / Kate Carter  
26 Jerry Wilson / Jim Warlick

## NURSERY

5 Bobby & Wendy Hensley  
12 Tricia, Leah & Carly Sanderson  
19 Tricia, Leah & Carly Sanderson  
26 John & Peggy Norosky

## SOUND & VIDEO

5 Jason Schoolcraft  
12 Wil Ezzell  
19 Kirby Sanderson  
26 Eric Kronenwetter

## OFFERING TELLERS

5 John & Peggy Norosky  
12 John & Peggy Norosky  
19 Haywood & Myrtle Corbett  
26 Haywood & Myrtle Corbett

## PEW STOCKER

Mary Jean Prince

## DVD DISTRIBUTION

5 Peggy Walters  
12 Hilda Butler  
19 Rose Langston  
26 Frances Price

## USHERS (CHAIRMAN: JOE HOOKS)

5 Ellis Jordan, David Carter, Emory Worley, Clint Grainger, Trent Young, & John Norosky  
12 Jerry Wilson, Travis Harrison, John Sauls, Buster Carter, & Charlie Hall  
19 Harry Ward, David Tedder, Emory Worley, Haywood Corbett, & Edgar Tison  
26 Buster Carter, Glenn Waters, David Heath, Grayson Ward & Charlie Hall

## SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS

5 Clint & Carolyn Grainger  
12 Bill & Jolene Lewis  
19 Rose Langston & J.C. Hyatt  
26 Jerry Wilson & Yvonne Bass

## HOSPICE MEAL FOR MONTH OF MARCH

Betty Jo Prevatte

- |                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 2 Janice Young         | 17 Brenda Carter    |
| Jan Hinson             | Chris Jayroe        |
| Grace Morningstar      | Wil Ezzell          |
| 3 Doris Hughes         | 18 Chris Blackmon   |
| Coburn Powell          | 21 Ann Sauls        |
| Bryon Ward             | 22 Lois Willetts    |
| 6 Haywood Corbett      | Howard Tew          |
| Tricia Sanderson       | Joe Cook            |
| Pierson Young          | 23 Joann Hinson     |
| 7 Jerry FormyDuval     | 24 Clinton Grainger |
| Gary Bass              | Ken Walters         |
| 9 Anna Ezzell          | Wendy Hensley       |
| 11 Martha Ann Prevatte | 25 Hilda Butler     |
| Justin Faulk           | Kate McNeil         |
| 12 Leigh Fowler        | Ashley Memory       |
| Stephen Underwood      | 26 Jennifer Rooks   |
| Rachel Powell          | 27 Johnny Britt     |
| 13 Glenda Turbeville   | 29 Jeanette Rogers  |
| Nancy Smith            | 31 Josh Austin      |
| Charles Lytle          |                     |
| 14 Katie Thompson      |                     |
| Terri Powell           |                     |
| Melissa Priest         |                     |
| 15 Jay Hill            |                     |



**THANKS**  
**FOR**  
**SERVING!**

## Ministerial Staff

Rev. Ryan Clore, Pastor  
Rev. Eddie Fort, Minister of Music

## Support Staff

Mrs. Teresa Malpass, Ministry Assistant  
Mrs. Dinah Reaves, Financial Ministry Assistant  
Mr. Jim Council, Interim Organist

Church Office Hours 8:30 p.m.—4:30 p.m. Monday—Friday  
Phone: (910) 642-2139 Fax: (910) 642-5874  
Web Site: [www.fbcwhiteville.com](http://www.fbcwhiteville.com)  
Email: [fbcoffice@embarqmail.com](mailto:fbcoffice@embarqmail.com)  
CCLI #1445259

# FBC SPOTLIGHT

*This month's Member Spotlight highlights new members, Stephen & Heather Bazemore.*

Stephen was born in Whiteville and lived in Chadbourn until age 5 while his parents served at Chadbourn Baptist Church. His family moved to Wallace, NC in 1989 when they were called to serve at First Baptist Church – Wallace. Heather grew up in the mountains of North Carolina, in the small town of Canton, where her parents still reside.

Stephen and Heather met while attending Campbell University, where they both graduated in 2006. They began dating shortly after graduation and were married in August of 2008. They lived in Colorado for their first two years of marriage, then moved back to NC to be closer to family and friends. They loved their time in Colorado, spending many days in the great outdoors hiking, biking, skiing, hunting, and fishing. Since moving back to NC, they lived in the Research Triangle area until Stephen's career brought them to Columbus County in June 2015.

Stephen works for GFR Forestry Consultants as a consulting forester and manages their Lake Waccamaw office. Stephen found his passion for forestry while working at a tree nursery in Colorado. When they moved back to NC, Stephen received his Master of Forestry from NC State University. He truly enjoys working outdoors and helping individuals manage their timberland in this part of the state.

Heather is a nurse in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington. She earned a Master's degree in Environmental Health from Colorado State, which she used while working for Duke



University Health System. However, she began volunteering at a free clinic in Durham in 2011 and felt the Lord calling her to nursing. She returned to school and graduated with her BSN from UNC-Chapel Hill in 2015.

Stephen and Heather have been attending First Baptist since April of 2016. They have really enjoyed getting to know the congregation and have felt so welcomed by everyone! Stephen is a choir member and Heather joins the Knit Wits on her Mondays off; they both also enjoy being part of handbells. They are involved in the "Inquirers" Sunday School class, where they have fun and meaningful fellowship with friends. They are excited about the future of First Baptist and look forward to serving with everyone!



**"If anyone  
would come after me,  
he must deny himself and  
take up his cross  
and follow me."**

**MARK 8:34, NIV**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

If you are looking for a way to serve, we have an opportunity in the church office. We have staff meeting once a week on Monday at 10 a.m. If you would be willing to help out by answering the telephone during our meetings (which last about an hour), give us a call in the church office.

## OPERATION INASMUCH

"Inasmuch as you did it for the least of these, you did it for me." - Jesus

Mark you calendar for the annual Operation Inasmuch Mission day. On April 29, 2017, we will come together to serve in our community. In the past we have made soup for people in the community, made ramps for better home access and many other projects to show the community that Jesus cares for them. If you have never been a part of Operation Inasmuch, why not plan to join the outreach this year?

The mission of Operation Inasmuch is to live out the Gospel through daily acts of compassion: serving the unserved, loving the unloved, reaching out to the unchurched. This is another opportunity for the community to see Jesus' love through the service of His people.

If you have any ideas for projects, please call the church office.

## THANK YOU

On behalf of our entire family, we want to thank all of you for your love, support and prayers during Mother's illness and following her death.

Many of you provided food, cards, letters, flowers and words of encouragement. All your efforts were very much appreciated!

Mother lived a life full of grace, service and love. What a Christ-like legacy she gave to so many! We cherish our memories of her. Thanks again for all of your kindness.

Love in Christ,  
Coburn and Terry Powell

Our family is overwhelmed by all of the support that you have shared with us over the past several months. We appreciate all of the prayers, phone calls, e-mails, words of encouragement, and meals that you've given us during this time.

Thanks to your prayers and God's grace, I am on the mend and hope to return to work and church by March. We look forward to seeing you soon. Thanks again for your support.

Much Love,  
Jim Warlick and Family

We would like to thank the following group of men, who spent Saturday morning rebuilding a shelter for us—Charlie Duncan, Fred Senter, Emory Worley, Jerry Wilson, Ellis Jordan, Stephen Bazemore and Kirby Sanderson.

When Hurricane Matthew came through, a tree fell on our carport and shelter, crushing the shelter.

We are very grateful to these men who generously give of their time helping others.

With sincere thanks,  
Pat & JC Hyatt

# LENT *Lent* LENT *Lent*

## MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Mark you calendars for our Maundy Thursday Service which will be **April 13 at 6:30 p.m.** It will be a communion service followed by a service of shadows, presented by choir and congregation.

## WMU HIGHLIGHTS FOR MARCH

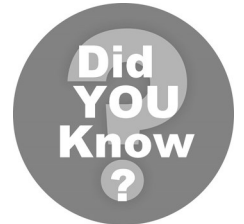
**March 13:** WMU meeting, 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

**Missions Project:** Purses for Families First Domestic Violence Shelter. Purses may be filled with personal hygiene items such as soap and washcloths, shampoo, comb and brush, toothbrush and toothpaste, lotion, deodorant, etc.

**Heck-Jones Offering:** Our goal - \$3,500.00. Collected - **\$2,090.00.** We have reached almost two-thirds of our goal. Thank you! Donations are still needed and accepted.

**Linen Project:** We are collecting lines for Marc and Kim Wyatt in their ministry to internationals in the North Carolina greater triad area. New or good used linens of all sizes are needed and may be placed on the Missions Table in the Fellowship Hall.

All meetings and projects are open to the congregation. Contact Myrtle Corbett, WMU Director, or any WMU member for more information on any project.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Each year we remember and celebrate the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which he overcame death and provided for us a redemption from sin. **Lent** is a season of preparation for this celebration, a time of personal and communal renewal and penitence. As individuals, and as a community, we are invited into a time of intentional self-examination, prayer, meditation upon God's Word, giving of alms, and fasting during the season of Lent. According to *Call to Worship: Volume 48.3*, "Lent is the time to modify our Christian walk and turn toward other parts of our lives that need developing." Like Jesus Christ, who made his journey toward the cross, Lent is that time of year that we commit to making that journey with him.

The season of Lent lasts for 40 days, (leading up to Easter), but does not include Sunday's. The forty days of Lent reflect the biblical significance of the number forty. There are several prominent stories where this number stands out: in the story of Noah God caused it to rain for forty days and forty nights to cause the great flood, Moses spent forty days with God on Mount Sinai and his people wandered the wilderness for forty years, Elijah trudged toward Mount Horeb for forty days and forty nights, and the prophecy was given to Jonah that the city of Nineveh would be destroyed in forty days. But the best example we have in the Bible of the number forty is after Jesus' baptism, when he was driven into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit to spend forty days fasting and being tempted by the devil.

Did you know that **Ash Wednesday** marks the beginning of Lent? Many congregations like ours recognize this season of renewal by holding an Ash Wednesday service. During the service (which usually reflects a more somber mood than most) we usually prepare our hearts and minds for the difficult, self-reflective journey of Lent. The service is typically concluded with the imposition of ashes. This is where the officiating clergy will mark the foreheads of the worshipers with ashes, in the shape of the cross. The imposition of ashes reminds the worshiper of his or her own mortality and need for repentance.

Most Christians use Lent as a time to give something up, or take something on in order to learn dependency upon God through intentional prayer time. What will you commit to giving up or taking on this Lent season?

(Adapted from *The Services of the Christian Year, Volume V*, Webber, 1994, pgs. 253-25 and *Call to Worship: Volume 48.3* pgs. 3-4).

*If you have a topic you would like us to discuss in the "Did You Know" section, we encourage you to contact the church office.*

	March 2017																																																													
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																								
		<b>ASH</b> <b>Wednesday 3/1</b> 	<b>1 Ash Wednesday</b> 5:10 Children's Music Activity (Grades 1-5) 5:45 Wednesday Night Supper 6:30 Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary) 7:15 Chancel Choir	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Youth Choir Festival by the Sea (March 3-5)	<b>4</b> Youth Choir Festival by the Sea (March 3-5)																																																								
<b>5</b> 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship  Youth Choir Festival by the Sea (March 3-5)	<b>6</b> 10:00 Staff Meeting 4:00 - 6:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 5:10 Children's Music Activity (Grades 1-5) 5:45 Wednesday Night Supper 6:30 Prayer Meeting & Bible Study (Mt 18-19) 7:15 Chancel Choir	<b>9</b> 10:00 Peer Learning Group for Pastor	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>																																																								
<b>12 Daylight Saving Time</b> 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship Handbells Ring in Worship 4:30 Youth/Adult Handbells 5:15 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Bible Study	<b>13</b> 10:00 Staff Meeting 4:00 - 6:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 5:10 Children's Music Activity (Grades 1-5) 5:45 Wednesday Night Supper 6:30 Prayer Meeting & Bible Study (Mt 20-21) 7:15 Chancel Choir	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 12:00 Hospice Meals Served	<b>18</b>																																																								
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<b>26</b> 9:45 Sunday School Ruth Believers—Liberty 10:30 Chancel Choir Warmup 11:00 Morning Worship & Children's Worship 3:00 Chrismon Workshop 4:30 Youth/Adult Handbells 5:15 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Bible Study	<b>27</b> 10:00 Staff Meeting 4:00 - 6:00 Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 5:10 Children's Music Activity (Grades 1-5) 5:45 Wednesday Night Supper 6:30 Prayer Meeting & Bible Study (Mt 24-25) 7:15 Chancel Choir	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">April 2017</th></tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr> <td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr> <td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr> <td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr> <td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	April 2017							S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30							
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Sunday Morning Worship [www.wtxy1540.com](http://www.wtxy1540.com), Audio Streaming Live.....at 11:00 a.m.

Scroll to the "Click to Listen Live" link

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**412 North Madison Street**  
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