

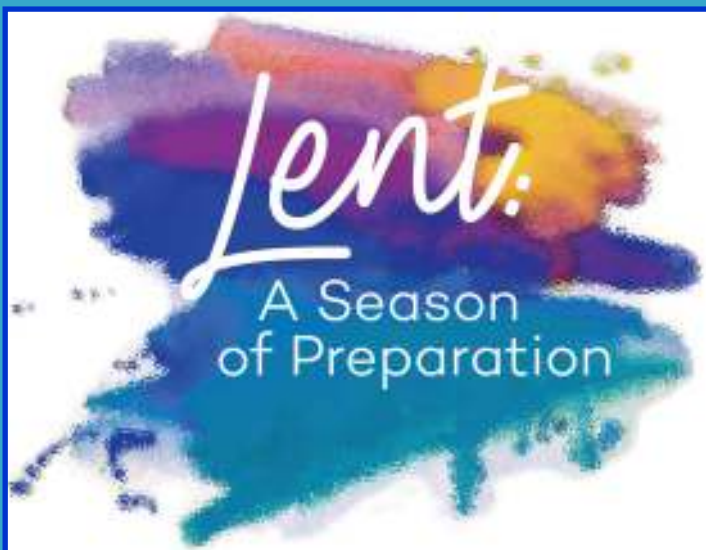


First Baptist Church

Growing Toward Christ

Whiteville, NC

THE CONTACT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER MARCH 2023, VOLUME 58, NUMBER 3



Please join us for Lenten services at Whiteville United Methodist Church each Wednesday in March at 12 noon. Lunch will be provided after the service.

Events At A Glance

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Lenten services at Whiteville United Methodist Church, 12 noon with lunch to follow.

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Prayer meeting, 6:30 p.m.

March 6, 13, 20, 27 - Bible Study coordinated by the Pinnells and the Clyburns, 6:00 p.m.

March 8 - Called Church Conference, 6:30 p.m.

March 15 - Wednesday Night Supper, 5:45 p.m.

March 20 - Finance Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

March 21 - Deacons' Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

*Complete monthly calendar on back.
To add an event to our calendar,
please contact the church office:
(910) 642-2139*



Set your clocks ahead one hour on March 12.



PASTOR'S CORNER



On Wednesday, February 22, 2023, we celebrated together at First Baptist Church with our ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE at 6:30 p.m. This special service helped us focus on the meaning of death and that we have “come from dust and to dust we shall return” (Genesis 2:7). Typically, the ashes that we use to mark on our foreheads or hands, are made from burning the palm branches which were used in the church services on the previous year’s Palm Sunday. Often, the ashes can be purchased from a Christian Supply Store as ours were this year.

Lent is a period of forty (40) days during which Christians remember the events leading up to and including the death of Jesus Christ, whose life and teachings are the foundation of our faith: Christianity. This 40-day period (weekdays) from Ash Wednesday to Resurrection Sunday is called “Lent,” after an old English word meaning “lengthen,” because the days get longer during this spring season of the year as we approach summer.

Lent is a time of reflection and of asking for forgiveness—as each day should be— regardless of whether it is in the calendared period we call “Lent”—or not! We acknowledge our sins and our trespasses . . . as we often pray together in the Lord’s Prayer (Luke 11:2-4 and Matthew 6:9-13). We are called to repentance—the act of turning away from those “sins which so easily beset us” (Hebrews 12:1). During the Lenten Season, many people give up something they really like or love as a sign of their own personal sacrifice and to test their self-discipline. Christians believe this represents Jesus Christ’s sacrifice when He went into the desert to pray and fast for the 40 days before later dying on the cross at Calvary. In the New Testament, while Jesus was in the desert, Satan tempted Him to turn away from God and to worship him (Satan) instead, but Jesus refused to do so, and commanded Satan to leave. The example which Jesus set in resisting Satan is a powerful illustration for all of us who follow Him as our Lord and Savior. He will strengthen us to resist Satan’s temptations—as Jesus did Himself—and we can find His help in our own struggles. Please remember: “Temptation is **not** a sin! It is when we **yield** to temptation that it becomes sin!” Sin = selfishness = “I want what I want when I want it!” = sIn = the big, bad “I” of sIn and pride “will take us farther than we meant to go . . . keep us longer than we meant to stay . . . and cost us more than we meant to pay!” So . . . praise God we DO have a Savior Who wants to save and deliver us from ourselves and from ANYTHING that will . . . or ANYONE who will harm us! Praise God for such a Savior! Lent ends with Holy Week which culminates on Easter (Resurrection) Sunday—the most important day in the Christian calendar as we celebrate the fact that Jesus defeated death and God resurrected Him from the grave/tomb . . . assuring us that we, too, have a hope and a future . . . and an eternal home with Jesus!

Please take advantage of our worship opportunities at First Baptist Church during this holy and meaningful season which will include a variety of special music. Our Maundy Thursday Communion Service will be held on April 6, at 6:30 pm. Our Resurrection (Easter) Sunday Worship Celebration on April 9, 2023 will be at 11:00 a.m.

I also urge you to please attend and help support our **Community Lenten Worship Services** sponsored by the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Whiteville. The services will be hosted **each Wednesday at 11:00 a.m.** at the Whiteville United Methodist Church. A delicious lunch will be served in the church’s fellowship hall following the worship service in the sanctuary of the church. The services will be held **each Wednesday = March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 at 11:00 a.m.** I hope to see **YOU** there as we worship **TOGETHER** in our community of faith!

Interest has been expressed to me to see if we could coordinate a tour to Kentucky to see **THE ARK** and to visit **THE CREATION MUSEUM**. If **Y-O-U** have any interest at all in considering this adventure and would enjoy taking this trip, please let me know and we will investigate the possibilities. You can call the church office, 910-642-2139, or my cell number, 843-796-0397.

We all want to congratulate and assure **Eddie Fort** of our gratitude, love, thoughts, and prayers as he retires after eighteen-plus (18 plus) years of ministry here at First Baptist Church of Whiteville. As a Christian, and also as a Minister of the Gospel, we all realize that we never “retire” from serving God or from sharing the Good News of the Gospel. I am sure God will continue to use Eddie as one of His servants wherever he goes and in whatever God leads him to pursue.

I, personally, am grateful for Eddie’s partnership in ministry during my three years (since March 1, 2020) as your Interim Pastor. WOW! Time certainly flies by quickly, doesn’t it? We sincerely **THANK YOU**—each and everyone—for your participation and help in the life . . . missions . . . ministries . . . and activities of this great church! And . . . may God continue to lead . . . guide . . . bless . . . and direct our Pastor Search Committee in all of their work, deliberations, and decisions for the future of this wonderful body of Christians known as the First Baptist Church of Whiteville, North Carolina!

Gratefully and prayerfully, in Jesus’ love,
Wayne Brown



Music Notes

Eddie Fort came to First Baptist Church Whiteville in August 2004 as our Minister of Music eighteen and one-half years ago. Before his retirement in February 2023, he has served as a Minister of Music for forty-seven and one-half years.

During his 18½ years here, Eddie has served with three pastors—Kendell Cameron, Ron Hinson and Ryan Clore. He also has served with four interims—Drag Kimrey, Daryl Trexler, Dr. Andrew Barnhill, Dr. Wayne Brown, and long-term pastor supply Dr. Tony Cartledge. Eddie has worked with five organists—Randy Page, Leslie Bergbower, Mark Anderson, Jim Council, and Patricia Slomanski.

During his tenure with First Baptist Church these 18½ years, Eddie has prepared wonderful worship bulletins with stimulating and inspiring gospel messages. He has provided beautiful music to enhance the chosen scriptures and messages. He has been the stable presence for funerals, tragedies, and special worship services, Ash Wednesdays, Lent, Easter, Christmas, Hanging of the Greens, adult, youth, and children special music programs, Wednesday night music, and events for many other church activities for church groups and organizations including The Community Band.

Eddie had David Schwoebel, a distinguished Minister of Music and a Christian Music Composer Arranger, arrange a special song, "Our Everlasting Guide" for First Baptist Church Whiteville's 175th Anniversary.

And, yes, during the lean years of small participation in adult, youth, and children music, and handbells, and the difficult times of conflicts, and departures from our church, Eddie has been the stabilizing influence. He has always exemplified a Christ-like spirit and attitude in all he has done for our church and its ministries.

First Baptist Church Whiteville should express tremendous gratitude and appreciation to Eddie Fort for his 18½ years of humble, selfless Christian service to our music ministry, and our church life with "well done thou good and faithful servant."

Go in peace with our prayers and love and with a substantial love offering send off. God be with you and God bless you.

Carlton Prince, History Committee Chairman

I would like to sum up 18 1/2 years at First Baptist by quoting Micah 6:6, 8 - "With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on High? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Eddie

MARCH SERMONS	March 5, 2023 Second Sunday in Lent Amos 7:10-17 <i>The Cost of Discipleship</i>	March 19, 2023 Fourth Sunday in Lent John 11:1-46 <i>Do You Believe?</i>
	March 12, 2023 Third Sunday in Lent Psalm 23:1-6; John 10:1-30 <i>The Good Shepherd</i>	March 22, 2023 Fifth Sunday in Lent John 11:47-57; 12:1-11 <i>What Really Matters?</i>

MARCH MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

- 5 Tina Sauls
- 12 Gina Morningstar
- 19 Tricia Sanderson
- 26 Grayanna Young

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

- 5 Stephen Prince / Betty Jo Prevatte
- 12 Kate C. Lee / John Sauls
- 19 Janice Young / Mel Ray
- 26 Ron Walters / Betty Jo Prevatte

HOSPICE MEALS

Betty Jo Prevatte

SOUND & VIDEO

- 5 Kirby Sanderson
- 12 Eric Kronenwetter
- 19 Kirby Sanderson
- 26 Eric Kronenwetter

SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS

- 5 Clint and Carolyn Grainger
- 12 Genie Carter
- 19 Rose Langston / J. C. Hyatt
- 26 Jolene Lewis

USHERS (Chairman: Charlie Duncan)

- 5 Buster Carter / Glenn Waters /
David Heath / Clint Grainger /
J. C. Hyatt
- 12 Bill Floyd / David Carter / Mitchell
Sauls / Willis Pinnell / Johnny Britt
- 19 Travis Harrison / John Sauls /
Mel Ray / Kenwood Royal /
Chris Blackmon
- 26 Harry Ward / David Tedder /
Haywood Corbett / Kevin
Williamson / Kyle Cook

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE FOR FEBRUARY

February 5, 2023 - 50
February 12, 2023 - 44
February 19, 2023 - 41
February 26, 2023 - 43

Average attendance for February
Sunday School is 45.

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

STEWARDSHIP

February 5, 2023

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$480.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$4,790.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$1,455.00
Total Budget This Week	\$6,725.00

Designated/Other Funds	\$511.00
Total Collections This Week	\$7,236.00

Over Budget This Week \$58.42

Budget Need to date	\$126,665.02
Budget Rec'd to date	\$110,654.47
Under Budget to date	\$16,010.55

February 12, 2023

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$475.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$2,542.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$340.00
Total Budget This Week	\$3,357.00

Designated/Other Funds	\$341.00
Total Collections This Week	\$3,698.00

Under Budget This Week \$3,309.58

Budget Need to date	\$113,331.60
Budget Rec'd to date	\$114,011.47
Under Budget to date	\$19,320.13

February 19, 2023

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$250.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$3,728.19
Budget Gifts Operational	\$110.00
Total Budget This Week	\$4,088.19

Designated/Other Funds	\$645.00
Total Collections This Week	\$4,733.19

Under Budget This Week \$2,578.39

Budget Need to date	\$139,998.18
Budget Rec'd to date	\$118,099.66
Under Budget to date	\$21,898.52

February 26, 2023

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$525.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$3,418.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$1,295.00
Total Budget This Week	\$5,238.00

Designated/Other Funds	\$1,415.00
Total Collections This Week	\$6,653.00

Under Budget This Week \$1,428.58

Budget Need to date	\$146,664.76
Budget Rec'd to date	\$123,337.66
Under Budget to date	\$23,327.10

MARCH



- 2 Janice Young
Grace Morningstar
- 3 Coburn Powell
Byron Ward
- 4 Jason Wheatley
- 6 Haywood Corbett
Tricia Sanderson
Pierson Young
- 7 Gary Bass
- 9 Anna Ezzell
- 11 Justin Faulk
- 12 Rachel Powell
- 13 Glenda Turbeville
Tanya Clark
- 14 Terri Powell
- 17 Brenda Carter
Will Ezzell
- 18 Chris Blackmon
- 22 Lois Willetts
Howard Tew
Joe Cook
- 24 Clint Grainger
Kenneth Waters
Wendy Hensley
- 25 Hilda Butler
- 26 Jenny Rooks
- 27 Johnny Britt

OFFICE CONTACT INFO

Ministerial Staff

Dr. Wayne Brown, Interim Pastor
843-796-0397, interimpastor@fbcwhiteville.com

Dr. 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: Monday, March 13, 2023, 10:00 A.M.
Call to Prayer and Program: Betty Jo Prevatte
Hospice Meal: Betty Jo Prevatte (Contact Karen: 910-642-9051)
March Mission Project: CRCI Thrift Store

The February Heck-Jones Banquet was a special event for our church with a delicious meal provided by the WMU and Family Life Committee, and a challenging, entertaining program presented by retired International Missionary to Chile, Rev. Caroline Jones. We appreciate and thank the young ladies who assisted with serving: Olivia Crawmer, Carly Sanderson, and Jillian Young. On the night of the banquet, we collected \$1,085 toward our Heck-Jones goal of \$3,000. As of February 27, the total collected is \$2,602.00. Donations to this offering may be given any time throughout the year.

The March mission project focuses on the recently opened CRCI (Christian Recovery Centers, Inc.) Thrift Store located in Shallotte, NC. Gently used household items, clothing, linens, etc. are accepted. You may bring these items to the church and place them on the Missions Table in the Fellowship Hall. Please call Myrtle or Betty Jo if you have questions. The WMU appreciates the support of our church members in carrying out the monthly mission activities.

2022-24 Watchword: *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, WMU Director
Betty Jo Prevatte, Co-Director



Thanks!

We appreciate all the volunteers that helped make our Heck-Jones Meal a success and those that came to share the meal and hear our special guest, Rev. Caroline Jones!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE

We were able to get our supplies for Ukraine delivered to the missionaries, Gennady and Mina Podgaisky. They are our CBF missionaries who are on leave and living in Black Mountain, North Carolina until they can return to Ukraine. They are both from Ukraine and are eager to return. Please pray for them.

The SOCK collection was wonderful. Martha Senter reached out to Pleasant Plains Baptist Church and Lennox Cross Roads Baptist Church. We did not have time to count them but we know we had well over 1200 pair of socks. The Podgaiskys were so appreciative of the socks as supplies are not getting into the stores for people to purchase and socks are so needed as it has been very cold in Ukraine this winter. THANKS FOR ALL IN OUR CHURCH WHO PARTICIPATED. When presented with a need, you always come through. We give a special thanks to Vann Underwood who provided a van and a driver to deliver the supplies to Charlotte where Fred met Gennady and transferred the supplies to his SUV.

The Missions Committee voted to include CPR in our monthly missions giving with \$100.00 per month for the present.

Look for upcoming information concerning a Blood Drive at our church.

If you know of a need, please contact the church or the Missions Committee.

BAPTIST MEN

A special thanks to the men who helped build the raised beds at the Edgewood School as requested by Donna Prince. The weather cooperated with us and we were able to complete our work.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday morning, April 2nd with breakfast. All men of the church are invited to attend.

If you know of needs the men of our church can meet, please let us know.

LENTEN SERVICES

Please note the Community Lenten services will be held at the **Whiteville United Methodist Church** on **Wednesdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29** at **12 noon** with lunch to follow. The speakers include Howard James, Joe Washburn, Dalton Dockery, Andy Anderson, and Jeremy Simmons. Please join us for these meaningful services.

BIBLE STUDY

The weekly Bible study coordinated by Willis & Sue Pinnell and Robert & Kris Clyburn has moved to Monday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room. Everyone is welcome—please, invite a friend!

CALLED CHURCH CONFERENCE

There will be called church conference on **Wednesday, March 8, 2023** at **6:30 p.m.** Please join us in the fellowship hall.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

Wednesday Night Supper is on the third Wednesday of the month. We will continue through May 17th, 2023 with the following Cooking Group schedule. We invite you to join us for the meal at 5:45 p.m. and Prayer Meeting and Bible Study beginning at 6:30 p.m.

March 15, 2023	Group 6	Fred and Martha Senter, Co-Chairs
April 19, 2023	Group 7	Peggy Norosky, Chair
May 17, 2023	Group 3	Myrtle and Haywood Corbett, Co-Chairs

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,

Ella Jo and Jeannine Sellers would like to express their appreciation and gratitude for the many gestures of kindness and support extended to them during their father's illness and death.



Dear First Baptist Church Family,

Thank you for coming to my birthday reception, for the cards, and calls for my birthday. What a wonderful surprise!

Special thanks to the Ruth Believers Class, the John The Baptist Class, and all the individual First Baptist Church members who contributed time, talent, and treasure to Community CPR in 2022. What a difference your support made to so many!

Grace and peace,
Wallyce Todd, Executive Director



IN THE COMMUNITY

We have an opportunity to have a part in another faith ministry in our area. The Anchorage Christian Camp at Lake Waccamaw is having a barbecue sale on March 7 and March 21 from 5:00 –7:00 p.m. to raise money to refinish their gym floor at the camp. If you happen to be in their area around supper time on those days, they would appreciate your support.

Many of you may know the camp for their Saturday night skating and basketball invitational tournaments. Though the beginning of the ministry envisioned a summer youth program, the camp has grown to offer summer camps, retreats, conferences, school camps and custom camps, and has outreach to youth, adults, families and churches. They have recently opened a coffee bar to the public every Monday-Wednesday from 6:30-10:00 a.m. serving specialty coffee (featuring their signature blend, "Waccamaw Mud"), sweet rolls and other treats. You can visit

their website at www.anchoragecamp.org to read more about their history, check out the camp schedule, or see some of the changes that have taken place recently at the camp.

THE DETAILS:

FAMILY DINNER WITH 1 SIDE: \$25
FAMILY DINNER WITH 2 SIDES: \$30

- 1.5 lbs pork BBQ
- Coleslaw and/or baked beans
- 12 rolls
- extra 1.5 lbs bbq for \$12.00
- Specify your preferred pick-up time on the order form

ORDER ONLINE:

**If you have an order of 6+ meals, please place your order a week ahead of time



MORE CONTACT INFO:

info@anchoragecamp.org |
910-646-4111 (office)

March 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 12:00 Lenten Service at WUMC with Howard James, lunch to follow 6:30 Prayer Meeting	2	3	4
5 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship	6 1:30 Staff Meeting	7	8 12:00 Lenten Service at WUMC with Joe Washburn, lunch to follow 6:30 Prayer Meeting and Called Church Conference	9	10	11
12 Daylight Saving Time Begins 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship Guest Musicians: Louanne and Jamie Tippins	13	14	15 12:00 Lenten Service at WUMC with Dalton Dockery, lunch to follow 5:45 Wednesday Night Supper 6:30 Prayer Meeting	16	17	18
19 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship	20 9:30 Finance Meeting	21 6:30 Deacons' Meeting	22 12:00 Lenten Service at WUMC with Andy Anderson, lunch to follow 6:30 Prayer Meeting	23	24	25
26 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship	27	28	29 12:00 Lenten Service at WUMC with Jeremy Simmons, lunch to follow 6:30 Prayer Meeting	30	31	

April 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

FBC contact information: Phone - 910-642-2139, Email - office@fbcwhiteville.com, Web - www.fbcwhiteville.com
 Sunday Morning Worship Live on WTXY AM 1540, FM 103.9, kool1039radio.com—*Listen Live*,
 and First Baptist Church Whiteville Facebook page

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