



# Steeple Talk

Faith Fellowship Mission

First Baptist Church  
Lexington, NC

February 2024

## A MESSAGE FROM RAY...

The financial books are closed on the 2023 Church Mission Budget and the news is good . . . very good!

We ended the year with a financial surplus in the amount of \$29,243.86.

Even though the budget allows us to withdraw funds from the endowment, for the third consecutive year, this has not been necessary! Thanks be to God for gracious and generous givers.

The financial contributions to the 2023 budget were \$613,952.54. Refunds from the Martha Best Children's Center and other miscellaneous income amounted to \$39,640.15. This brought the total operating revenue to a grand total of \$653,592.69.

Our total expenses for the year were \$624,348.83. This leaves a balance of \$29,243.86.

It is important to note that all of our mission items were paid in full. International Missions, CBF State and National Missions, State Missions, East St. Louis Ministry, support for the Huff Ministry in Southeast Asia and all community missions (Cancer Services of Davidson County, First Hope Ministries, Meals on Wheels, Davidson Prison Chaplaincy, Pastor's Pantry, Davidson Medical Ministries, and First Hope Ministries) were paid 100%. All Personnel expenses, salaries and benefits, were also paid in full.

The one area of our budget that was not fully funded was Building and Grounds. A total of \$48,660 was budgeted for Building and Grounds, Repairs, and Supplies. Only \$19,776.02 was spent from these three areas. The primary reason was not knowing whether we would have the funds in the 2023 calendar year.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Jim Tate and Sherri Salinas for their diligent day to day financial oversight. And we are so very grateful for our Church Treasurer, David Huneycutt, and our Finance Committee for their faithful fiduciary supervision. They carefully monitor our cash flow and make wise decisions on our spending.

Thank you most of all for your commitment to our church as expressed in your generous giving. The Apostle Paul proclaimed to the Corinthians: "God loves a cheerful giver." You have been faithful and cheerful. Paul wrote: "God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything."

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 4th** - Communion at 11:00am Worship

**February 11th** - Joint Worship Service with Second UCC at 11:00am - Jazz Sunday

**February 11th** - Chili Cookout Fundraiser Lunch For Summer Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic - 12:15pm in the Fellowship Hall

**February 14th** - Ash Wednesday Service - Noon in the Fellowship Hall (no meal)

**February 18th** - Finance Committee Meeting - 9:00am

**February 25th** - Deacons Meeting - 4:00pm in the Parlor

**Sundays in February** - First Stop Coffee - 9:00am in the Fellowship Hall Before Sunday School

**Mondays in February** - Winter/Spring Bible Study - in the Sanctuary - 7:00pm

**March 17th** - Sunday School Breakfast - Fellowship Hall - 9:00am



## DECEMBER & END OF YEAR FINANCIALS

### Financial Summary as of December 31, 2023

December income - \$137,944.28

December expenses - \$93,733.51

Surplus at the end of the 2023 Budget year - \$29,243.86

All Missions were paid - All outstanding bills as of December 31, 2023 were paid

Endowment Balance as of December 31, 2023 - \$2,054,672

# FBC YOUTH

## 2024 YOUTH ACTIVITIES

### February

Friday Feb 2nd - Thunderbirds Hockey – Winston Salem - leave at 5:00  
Cost - \$5.00 and bring money for supper and snacks.

Sunday Feb 4th - Youth 5:00

Sunday Feb 11th – Souper Bowl Fundraiser

Sunday Feb. 18th – Youth 5:00

Sunday Feb. 25th – Youth 4:00  
Dominican Republic Meeting (**Mandatory**)– 5:00 FBC

### March

Sunday March 3rd – 5:00 (Combine with FUMC)

Sunday March 10th – Bowling – 5:00 YMCA

Sunday March 17th – Youth 4:00  
Dominican Republic Meeting (**Mandatory**) – 5:00  
FUMC

Sunday March 24th – Kickball – Grimes Park – Time – TBA

### April

Sunday April 7th – Youth 5:00

Sunday April 14th – Spare Time – Time TBA

Sunday April 21st – Youth 4:00  
Dominican Republic Meeting (**Mandatory**) – 5:00 FBC

Sunday April 28th – Youth 5:00

### May

Sunday May 5th – Cinco De Mayo! – Mi Casa – 5:00 – Bring \$ for supper

Sunday May 19th – Youth – 4:00  
Dominican Republic (**Mandatory**) – 5:00 FUMC

### June

Saturday June 1st – LAKE DAY! Leave FBC at 1:00; Return at 8:00

Sunday June 30th - Mission Trip Commisioning????

### July

July 6th-12th – Dominican Republic Mission Trip

## YOUTH FUNDRAISER FOR DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MISSION TRIP

Our youth will be traveling to the Dominican Republic this summer on an International Mission trip! They are working with Mission Emanuel, “a cross-cultural, relational, Christian ministry that strives to promote discipleship through short-term mission trips focused on community transformation.”

We are working with Lee Mabe and the youth of First United Methodist Church on this mission. The dates for the trip are July 6th – 12th.

The youth are holding a fundraiser on Sunday, February 11th, following the worship service. We are all invited to a Chili Cookoff in the Fellowship Hall. This will be for our church and Second United Church of Christ.

You are invited to make a crockpot of chili or a dessert for this special event. There will also be sign-up sheets posted around the church. Please let us know by February 4th.

We are having a joint worship service with Second UCC on February 11th. Everyone will be invited to the Fellowship Hall following the service to enjoy delicious chili and desserts with great fellowship. The cost of the meal is a \$7 minimum donation with a \$30 maximum per family.



## FEBRUARY 11th IS JAZZ SUNDAY

Second United Church of Christ invites us to join them in their traditional service on the final Sunday before Lent, Jazz Sunday. Christians have traditionally feasted on the final Sunday before the fast of Lent begins. On this Sunday we will feast on the riches of Jazz music as we praise the Lord with joy and celebration. Don't miss this exciting service of festive praise!



## SUNDAY SCHOOL MATTERS

*Connie L. Russell*

Good things continue to happen in our Sunday School! September, 2022-January, 2023 we were averaging about 76 per Sunday. September 2023-January 21, 2024, we are averaging 102 per Sunday. Thank you for your continued support. Keep up the good work of contacting people and inviting them to Sunday School.

Our February Leadership Meeting will be on February 18, 2024, at 4:00 in The Parlor. We will talk about Outreach and also finalize details for our March 17 Breakfast. Since we will be involved with the breakfast on March 17th, there will not be a Leadership Meeting for March.

We will have another Sunday School Breakfast on Sunday, March 17th. Adults and Youth will stay in the Fellowship Hall for Sunday School that day. Children and Preschoolers will go to their classes. Our Guest Speakers that morning will be Kathy Robertson, Executive Director of the Prison Ministry in Davidson County, David Vanstory, Part-Time Pastor and Worship Leader for the Prison Ministry in our county, and Maranda Lane, the New State Chaplain for our Prison Ministry. I hope you will make plans now to attend. We will need help with getting food together. As in the past, we will have Breakfast Casseroles, Home Fries, Grits, Biscuits, Donuts, etc. We will begin serving at 9:00. We will have a table in the lobby for Sunday School Check-In for both churches-FBC and Second UCC. More details to come.

Thank You for your continued support of our Sunday School. If you are not involved in a class, please see me, Randy Everhardt, or Joe Leonard so we can help you find a class which will meet your needs.

## CAROLYN PHILLIPS MISSION GROUP

The Carolyn Phillips Mission Group will meet at Yarboroughs Restaurant at noon on Tuesday, February 12. Jim Edminson will share information about the many missions of Baptist Children's Homes. Please contact Harriet Whiteman by noon on February 10th if you plan to come for lunch. Harriet's number is 910-514-1803.

## MEMORIALS

General Fund: **JB Lopp** by Sally Davis; **Brenda Houser** by Sally Davis, Peggy Barnhardt, Bruce & Ginger Hill and Lewie & Beryl Phillips; **Pauline Ward** by Mr. & Mrs. Donald Bailey; **Hubert Olive** by Tommy Saintsing

**MBCC Scholarship Fund: Brenda Houser** by Gerald Smith

**Youth Fund: Brenda Houser** by Becky Kirkendall and The Thornhills

# Thank You!

*Dear church members,*

I want to thank you for the beautiful cards, gifts and prayers you sent me at Christmas. I love each one, and miss all of you and my church. I pray your New Year will be blessed and happy. May God bless you all.

*Love, Jane Motlow*



**DON'T FORGET TO STOP IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9AM FOR A CUP OF COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP.**



**SUNDAY SCHOOL! IF YOU AREN'T A MEMBER OF A SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS, CHECK OUT OUR SS BROCHURE AND FIND A CLASS THAT FITS FOR YOU. ALL ARE WELCOME. 9:45AM**



**MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE: JOIN US IN THE SANCTUARY FOR A WONDERFUL WORSHIP EXPERIENCE. ONCE AGAIN, ALL ARE WELCOME. 11AM**

## CONTACT US!

## Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m to 5 p.m. Friday 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Phone: 336-245-1261 Website: [fbclex.org](http://fbclex.org) Email: [fbclexington@fbclex.org](mailto:fbclexington@fbclex.org)

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(Information Deadline is the 23rd of each month)



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