



Steeple Talk

Faith Fellowship Mission

First Baptist Church
Lexington, NC

January 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday Mornings at 9:00am

"First Stop Coffee" Before Sunday School - Fellowship Hall

January 15th

Church Office and MBCC Closed - MLK Holiday

MLK Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall

January 21st

Finance Committee Meeting - 9:00am

January 22nd

Winter & Spring Bible Study Resumes - 7:00pm Sanctuary

January 28th

Deacons Meeting - 4:00pm - Parlor

January 31st

Quarterly Business Meeting - 6:30pm - Fellowship Hall

February 4th

Communion During 11:00am Worship Service

February 11th

Youth Group Fundraiser Mission Trip Luncheon 12:15pm
-Fellowship Hall

CHILDREN'S CENTER RESIGNATION

We had some sad news at the end of this year. Carson Huff, our excellent Children's Center Director, has resigned her position for personal reasons. We will miss Carson . . . a lot! Carson has done a tremendous job rebuilding our Children's Center during her time as Director. We wish her the very best and will always be grateful for her faithful service to our Children's Center and our church. The Personnel Committee is currently seeking applications for a new director. If you know anyone who would be a good candidate, please contact Jim Tate at: tate@fbcclex.org or 336-245-1261, Ext. 111.

WINTER BIBLE STUDY

"No part of the New Testament has a more contemporary relevance than the letter to the Ephesians," states Dr. Ralph Martin. Ephesus was one of the most advanced and influential cities in the ancient world. It was the main commercial center of the Mediterranean in Paul's day. The Apostle spent more time in this city (3 years) than any other single place in his world-changing ministry.

Several of us are planning to visit Ephesus in April. But before we go, we are going to study the dynamic Epistle to the Ephesians, written by the Apostle Paul. Our study will begin on Monday night, January 22nd, at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The study will be streamed on our YouTube Channel. The study will continue each Monday night at 7 p.m. Plan to participate either in-person or via YouTube.

FEEDING THE HUNGRY WITH GRACE EPISCOPAL

The month of January provides the opportunity for us to partner with Grace Episcopal Church in their Sunday meal program for the needy and homeless. If you have not been involved in this much needed ministry, now is a great time to get started. Jen Fuller-Allen is the contact for this ministry. You can contact Jen at jen@lexingtonymca.com

Here is the January schedule with those who have volunteered.

January 7: Robert and Martha Adams, David and Karen Sparrow

January 14: Ralph and Jean Ashley

January 21: Booty Hilton and Sally Davis

January 28: Carol Frank and Trish Allred

SUNDAY SCHOOL MATTERS

Connie L. Russell

The year 2023 has been a busy one for our Sunday School. Attendance is slowly going upward. The presently used Childrens Rooms and Craft Room have been cleaned, organized, and equipped with televisions. The Youth Suite is a work in progress. A new year begins now. What will we accomplish in 2024? This year, we want to work on reaching out to all church members as well as new people we encounter. We always want to make everyone feel welcome and offer meaningful, purposeful Bible Study each Sunday. We want to see growth take place in 2024 in our church and Sunday School.

Our next Sunday School Leadership Meeting is January 21st in the Parlor. Our Pastor, Ray Howell will come and share with us about his vision for Sunday School at FBC. Our meeting will begin at 4:00pm. Come join us.

We will continue to have First Stop the month of January in our Fellowship Hall. Come join us for a time of Fellowship, then your Second Stop is your Sunday School Class. Our Third Stop is our 11:00am Worship Service. We hope to see you there!!

CAROLYN PHILLIPS MISSION GROUP

The Carolyn Phillips Mission Group will meet on Tuesday, January 9th at noon at Yarboroughs Restaurant. Jim Edmiston will share information about the many missions of Baptist Children's Homes. Please let Brenda Hipp know by January 6th if you plan to attend.

NURSERY WORKERS NEEDED

Prior to COVID, we operated three rooms in our church nursery - Bed Babies, Toddlers & 2, 3 & 4 Year old children. Now we are only able to operate one room, and we do not have enough volunteers to keep it staffed.

Right now, church nursery services are **provided for kids ages 0-5 only** due to space and volunteer limitations. All school age children are welcome in the Sanctuary, and we have some new opportunities for big kids who may need a break during the service to step inside the vestibule for a break. If you are able to help in the nursery, please contact Jen Fuller Allen at jen@lexingtonymca.com. If you would like to help with school age children activities, please contact Eryn Myers at jegwmyers@triad.rr.com

HONORARIUMS

General Fund: *Tommy Stroupe* by Sandra Blackwelder; *Wes Richardson, Marty Stanbery, Sherri Salinas, Phyllis Penry, Jim & June Honeycutt, Ashley & Gay Whitfield, Harriet Whiteman, Ray & Joyce Howell, Richard Honeycutt, Trish Green, Tommy Stroupe, Trey Shoaf and Ronnie Smith* by Bob & Ann Cole; *Lelia Shepherd and family, Tobin Shepherd and family & Ellen Shepherd and family* by Jan & Luke Shepherd

Homebound Ministry: *Hazel Frady and Kathy Hinkle* by Renee & Barry Sink

Baptist Children's Home: *Bruce & Ginger Hill* by Kay Hardin

MEMORIALS

General Fund: *Hubert Olive, Richard Baxley, Frances Hoover and Betty Colescott* by Brenda Hipp, *Hubert Olive* by Suzy Conner, David & Julia Dunn and Jim & June Honeycutt; *J.B. Lopp* by Hoyle Wagner and Margaret Strickland; *Brenda Houser* by Ronald Hartzog, Fred & Lynda Belk, Gloria & Vinnon Williams, Bob & Ann Cole, Wells Fargo Team, David & Julia Dunn, Jim & June Honeycutt and Cheryl Wicker; *Harvey Fulbright, Estelle McKinney, & Tony Townsend* by David & Julia Dunn; *Mrs. & Mrs. William Harris* by Cheryl Wicker

Building & Grounds: *Brenda Houser* by Hal & Donna Routh

Music Memorials: *Wyatt Helsabeck, Adena Swing Wall, Harvey Fulbright, Tony Townsend and Hubert Olive* by Robert & Martha Adams

Bereavement Fund: *Evelyn Bingham, Mike Mitcham, Richard Baxley, Frances Hoover, Chris Rhodes, Estelle McKinney and Brenda Houser* by Robert & Martha Adams

MBCC Scholarship Fund: *Brenda Houser* by Kathy Hinkle; *Edgar & Mildred Thomas, Ann Corn and Evelyn Bingham* by Tom & Cammey Manning



Thank You!

Dear Julia Dunn and First Baptist Church member,

I want to take time to thank each of you for all that you have done this year to make our Backpack Program at South Lexington successful.

The need for food has been greater this year and over the last few weeks we have seen an exception increase in need of help of food for some of our student's families.

Your generous donations of food are appreciated. I can't tell you how excited I get when I look up and see Mrs. Dunn coming into our school. She brings a smile and bring food from your church to help stock our Backpack Pantry and that is appreciated more than you can ever know.

Wishing each of you a very Merry Christmas! May the New Year bring blessings to all!

Sincerely,



Kelly Young
BackPack Coordinator

*Your thoughtfulness
at the holidays
was greatly appreciated.*

*Thank you all for
the cards, notes &
Christmas treats - &
Jungle Bells!
Mary Ederhart*

27 Dec 2023

*This note is to thank each
and every member of the
congregation for their prayers,
thoughts and gifts - delivered
to my home - I wish I
could write each person a
note but there were so many
it would take a long, long,
time - Love to all - Sandee
Blackwelder*

BUDGET UPDATE

As of November 30, 2023

Budget Received in November: \$50,676.14

Expenses in November: \$56,995.11

Shortfall: \$6,318.97

To Meet 2023 Budget by December 31, 2023 - will
need **\$171,813.66**

Year To Date

2023 Budget - \$687,462.27

Budget Received YTD - \$515,648.41

Expenses YTD - \$530,665.32

Shortfall YTD - \$15,016.91

Endowment Balance as of November 2023:

\$1,974,892.43

During November, we began to pay our local missions obligations. As we near the end of 2023, we are hopeful that we will meet our yearly budget obligations.

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 Email: fbclexington@fbclex.org

Ray Howell – Senior Minister - ray@fbclex.org, (336) 239-4828 or (336) 245-1261 Ext. 104

Jim Tate – Interim Business Administrator – tate@fbclex.org, (336)689-1392 or (336) 245-1261 Ext. 111

Wes Richardson - Minister of Music - wes@fbclex.org, (336) 970-3983 or (336) 245-1261 Ext. 105

Martha Best Children’s Center Contact – (336) 245-1261 Ext. 108

Sherri Salinas – Financial Assistant – sherri@fbclex.org (336) 245-1261 Ext. 103

Beryl Phillips (Newsletter): bhphillips1960@outlook.com, (336) 245-1261
(Information Deadline is the 23rd of each month)



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