

# Steeple Talk

Faith Fellowship Mission

October 2024

## First Baptist Church Lexington, NC

### OCTOBER SUNDAYS

October 6th - World Communion Sunday. We will also observe the ordination of Joe Leonard and William Hopkins.

October 20th - Ray Nance Howell IV is preaching

October 27th - Tommy Wilson is preaching. The combined choirs of First Baptist Church and First United Methodist Church will be singing

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The Operation Christmas Child box collection week will be November 18th-24th. Boxes will be available the first week of November, and we are fortunate that Wes Richardson and the youth are going to be putting the boxes together. They will be available in the foyer or vestibule. **The children that get the least amount of boxes are boys 2 to 4 and boys 10 to 14 so, please consider this when you are shopping.** This year, you may purchase a box online for \$25, and they do the buying and pay the shipping. For more information please contact Trish Allred at 417-682-4000.

### ALL SAINTS SUNDAY NOVEMBER 3rd

One of the most meaningful Sundays of the year is All Saints Sunday. This is when we remember our loved ones and friends who have passed away during the past year. We light a candle of hope from the Christ candle, not only to remember our loved ones, but to be reminded of the promise of life everlasting. All of our church members who have passed away will be remembered. Many of you have lost family members, and we want to give you the opportunity to include them in this powerful service. Please contact Ray ([raynancehowell3@gmail.com](mailto:raynancehowell3@gmail.com) or 336-239-4828) if you would like your loved one to be included.

### FBC FALL/WINTER CALENDAR

Oct 6th	Communion
Oct 7th	Budget Planning Meeting - Tentative
Oct 20th	Finance Committee Meeting
Oct 26th	Lexington BBQ Festival - Parking Lot Fundraiser
Oct 27th	Deacons Meeting - 4pm Church Parlor
Oct 28th	Neighborhood Churches Block Party for Halloween
Nov 3rd	Daylight Savings Time ends
Nov 3rd	Christmas Shoe Box Ministry starts
Nov 10th	Salvation Army Christmas Angels Event starts
Nov 11th	Veteran's Day Holiday
Nov 13th	Budget Proposal Discussion - 6:30pm - Fellowship Hall
Nov 17th	Finance Committee Meeting
Nov 24th	Deacons Meeting - 4pm - Church Parlor
Nov 25th - 27th	Decorate Church for Christmas Begins
Nov 27th	Church Office closes at 1pm
Nov 28th - 29th	Thanksgiving Holidays - Church Office Closed
Dec 1st	First Sunday of Advent
Dec 4th	Quarterly Church Business Meeting - 6:30pm Fellowship Hall
Dec 8th	Second Sunday of Advent
Dec 9th	Stage Set-up Nine Lessons and Carols
Dec 11th	Christmas Food Boxes
Dec 15th	Third Sunday of Advent
Dec 15th	Finance Committee Meeting - 9:00am
Dec 15th	Nine Lessons and Carols (50th Anniversary) 11am Sanctuary
Dec 19th	Cancer Services Christmas Party - Fellowship Hall
Dec 22nd	Fourth Sunday of Advent
Dec 22nd	Tentative - Deacons Meeting - 4:00pm
Dec 24th-26th	Christmas Holidays - Church Office and MBCC CLOSED
Dec 24th	Candlelight/Communion Christmas Service - 5:30pm Sanctuary
Dec 29th	Informal Worship Service - 10:30am Sanctuary
	No Sunday School
Dec 31st	End of the Church Financial Year

## 2025 WINTER CALENDAR

Jan 1st	New Years Day Holiday – Church Office & MBCC Closed
Jan 19th	Finance Committee Meeting
Jan 20th	MLK Holiday- Church Office and MBCC Closed
Jan 26th	Deacons Meeting – 4:00pm – Church Parlor
Jan 29th	Quarterly Church Business Meeting – 6:30pm Fellowship Hall

## CAROLYN PHILLIPS MISSION GROUP

The Carolyn Phillips Mission Group will meet October 8th at noon at Tricia's Restaurant. Our speaker will tell us about The Dragonfly House ministry. Members can share about items for the hygiene bag materials that we are collecting. Please let Brenda Hipp know by October 6th if you plan to attend and have lunch.



## CRANBERRY SAUCE COLLECTION

We have been asked to provide the cranberry sauce for Pastor's Pantry's holiday meals for their clients. 450 cans are needed! Let's make the month of October our Cranberry Sauce Collection month. If we average 125 cans per week, we will exceed our goal. Collection containers are located in the vestibule as well as the elevator lobby.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL MATTERS

Connie I. Russell

Thank you one and all who helped make our Breakfast on September 8, 2024 a special time of fellowship and learning. Thank you to Jim Edmison who filled in as our speaker on very short notice. He gave us some things to consider as we rebuild our Sunday School!! Mark your calendars now! Our next Sunday School Breakfast will be March 16, 2025. Barring no unexpected issues, our new Associational Mission Strategist, Rev. Brian Alexander will be with us. He had to cancel being with us September 8th due to the very unexpected death of his father.

Our Sunday School Attendance continues to grow. For the first four Sundays of September, 2024, we have averaged 101. May we continue to work together as we rebuild our Sunday School.

First Stop will be Sunday, October 6th. Come join us for light refreshments and fellowship before going to your Sunday School Class. October 20th, we will have our Sunday School Leadership Meeting at 3:30 in the Parlor. We will be talking about Ways We Can Show Hospitality to the Guests who come our way. We are seeing an increase in the number of visitors with children in particular. Also on October 20th, the Downtown Churches are having the yearly Block Party celebration. The Block Party begins at 5:00. So you can support the Block Party, we will have our Leadership Meeting at 3:30.

If you are not involved in a Sunday School Class, Joe Leonard and I will be happy to help you find a class that meets your needs.

We continue to need volunteers in our Nursery, and also in Extended Session. If you would like to be a volunteer in Extended Session, Dustin and McKenna Young would love to hear from you.

## MEALS ON WHEELS

Volunteers are needed on the First Baptist route for Meals on Wheels of Lexington. Julie Householder and Rena Morrison, long time volunteers, will be retiring soon. We thank them for their dedicated service to this ministry. If you have about an hour to give between 10:30 and 11:30 on alternating Fridays, please call or text Jim Honeycutt at 336- 408-7294. Thank you.

## URGENT!

### NURSERY WORKERS NEEDED

We continue to need volunteers to take care of the nursery on Sunday mornings. This vital service is needed as our church continues to grow. Please contact Dustin and McKenna Young if you are willing to serve.



## FINANCIAL INFORMATION – AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

### FBC

August 2024 Income - \$41,239.22  
YTD 2024 income - \$368,815.68  
August 2024 expenses - \$44,572.81  
YTD 2024 expenses - \$397,562.43  
Shortfall for August 2024 - \$3,333.59  
Shortfall YTD 2024 - \$28,746.75  
Amount needed to fund remaining 2024 budget - \$314,363.03

### FBC Endowment

Balance end of July 2024 - \$2,267,503.85  
Balance end of August 2024 - \$2,297,246.95  
Change in value during the month - \$25,991.51

### MBCC

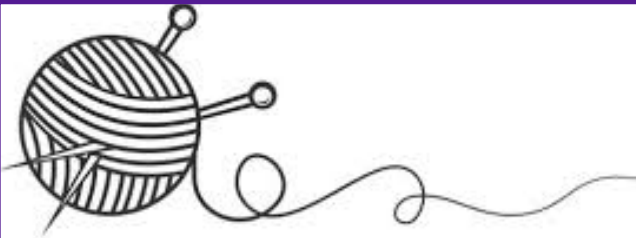
August 2024 income - \$53,626.50  
Fiscal YTD 2024 income - \$655,923.08  
August 2024 expenses - \$49,394.26  
Fiscal YTD expenses - \$649,166.26  
August 2024 shortfall - \$4,232.24  
Fiscal YTD excess - \$6,756.82

New Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget started  
on September 1, 2024

## GRAPE JELLY & SOUP FOR FIRST HOPE MINISTRIES



For many years we collected Grape Jelly and Tomato Soup for the Crisis Ministry of Davidson County. Crisis Ministry is now First Hope Ministries but the need for jelly and soup remains. Please bring Grape Jelly and any type of soup to the container in the elevator lobby. Thanks to Ralph and Jean Ashley for coordinating this ministry.



### 2025 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES SHAWL NOTIFICATION

Another year has past and our 2024 seniors have received their loving afghans from our ministry. As most know, there is a lot of love and time that goes into the making of these afghans. Since covid our numbers of volunteers in the ministry has dwindled down to just four lady's. I would like to personally thank Ginger Hill, Virginia Flippin and Melinda Hartley for helping with this wonderful mission, this year. The making of an afghan doesn't happen overnight, it is more like weeks, so we are looking for new volunteers to help in this project. We are moving forward to the planning for 2025, at this time we are aware of six graduates; Jake Brown, Ava Leigh Fulbright, Sydney Hall, Brooke Lambeth, Deanna Loftis and Charlotte Pyle. We are asking all parents/grandparents of our graduates to please notify our Chair or Co-Chair about the choice of your child's school or favorite colors, as soon as possible. There is a cutoff date for notification of schools/colors as of April 1st, 2025. As we stated our number of volunteers are dwindling and this labor of love is time consuming.

Thank you with blessing and loving hearts.

Chair person- Louise Walters, lwltrs.48@gmail.com or 321-586-9320

Co-Chair person - Melinda Hartley, melhartley@ptmc.net or 336-250-207

### 2025 BUDGET PLANNING PROCESS

The budget planning process for the 2025 Church Budget began in September. The Budget Planning Committee is chaired by David Huneycutt, church treasurer. The committee is made up of members of the Finance Committee, the Deacons and church volunteers. The final meeting is scheduled for October 27th. Budget discussion will be held during a churchwide meeting on November 13th. The 2025 budget proposal will be approved on December 4th at the quarterly business meeting. If you are interested in helping with the budget planning process, please contact David Huneycutt or Jim Tate.

### MEMORIALS

**General Fund:** *Shirley King* by Renee & Barry Sink

### HONORARIUMS

**General Fund:** *Renee Sink* by Brenda Hipp

**Youth Ministry:** *VBS Volunteers* by Barry & Renee Sink

**Building & Grounds:** *Anniversary of Ray & Joyce Howell* by Hal & Donna Routh

## WORSHIP STREAMING VIA TELEPHONE

Sunday morning worship services are now available via telephone. Call 833-659-9737 and listen to the service.

## CONTACT US!

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

**Jim Tate** – Business Administrator – [tate@fbclex.org](mailto:tate@fbclex.org), (336)689-1392 or (336) 245-1261 Ext. 111

**Wes Richardson** - Minister of Music & Director of Youth & Children - [wes@fbclex.org](mailto:wes@fbclex.org), (336) 970-3983 or (336) 245-1261 Ext. 105

**Krystal Craven** - Martha Best Children's Center Director – [krystal@fbclex.org](mailto:krystal@fbclex.org), (336) 245-1261 Ex. 108

**Sherri Salinas** – Financial Assistant – [sherri@fbclex.org](mailto:sherri@fbclex.org) (336) 245-1261 Ext. 103

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



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