



**First Baptist Church**  
**P.O. Box 35**  
**Clayton, N.C.**  
**27528-0035**

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**RETURN SERVICE**

**Church Staff**

Dr. Charles K. Royal, Jr., Intentional Interim Pastor  
Rev. Stephen Nance, Pastor of Senior Adults  
Rev. Stephanie C. Parker, Pastor of Children and Families  
Mrs. Keeley S. Tarkington, Director of Music  
Mr. James O. Elmore, Organist  
Ms. Terry A. McCallum, Administrative Assistant  
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September 2023

*The Outlook*

Volume 2, Number 8

**REBUILDING A CHURCH**

The first temple built to God was built around the 10th century BCE. The second king of all Israel, king David, intended to build it, but God gave the job to David’s son, Solomon. God did allow David to make preparations for building the temple. David not only began **collecting money, supplies and artisans**, he took time to share with Solomon the kind of character and behaviors that were needed to succeed.

In 1 Chronicles 22:12-13 David tells his son, “May the Lord give you discretion and understanding when he puts you in command over Israel, so that you may keep the law of the Lord your God. Then you will have success if you are careful to observe the decrees and laws that the Lord gave Moses for Israel. Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged.”

In this passage “discretion” is more about prudence, good sense or wisdom. So, David is saying something like, “You will need God given wisdom and understanding to pull this off. There will be lots of political intrigue and disruptive events enticing you to redirect your efforts. But, the wisdom of God will keep you standing firm in the ways of God. It will give you courage and overcome fear and discouragement. It has the best chance of success for you and the Kingdom of God.”

I hear these words echo over time to folks called to build or rebuild the local church. What was true then, has always been true and is true today. Groups of people attempting to be the body of Christ or reestablish something that has been shaken will need the wisdom of God, to stand firm in the ways of God, in order to be successful in walking together for the goodness of God, the body of Christ and the community.

If First Baptist Church of Clayton is to succeed in bringing glory to God through Jesus Christ our Lord; if people in our community are to know that we are followers of Jesus Christ by our love; if people are to know that we are followers because of our unity, like the the unity of Jesus and the Father (John 17); then the wisdom of God is the best avenue to success. Right?

Let’s all keep reading the Word of God everyday, seeking Him in all our ways, asking for wisdom and understanding, and He will make our paths straight. Amen?

**Don't just come to church  
BECOME the church!**  
**The church is NOT a building  
where we gather.**  
**The church IS the people  
who gather in Christ's name.**

*Dr. Royal*

Inside this Edition	
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**SMOKE DETECTOR BATTERY CHANGE**

WE’RE HERE TO HELP....



Challengers are youth boys on mission for our church families!! On Sunday, September 17th, we will be out and about changing smoke detector batteries. **We are specifically looking for HomeBound or Senior Adult Church Members who would like for us to come to your home and change your smoke detector batteries.** If you would like for us to come by on Sunday afternoon, September 17th, please contact Melissa Long by text or phone at 919-201-7502 or via email at [melissalong2038@gmail.com](mailto:melissalong2038@gmail.com) We look forward to serving you!!



*Working*  
**SMOKE ALARMS  
SAVE LIVES**

**Faith Fair Fundraiser**

Mark your calendars and join us for lunch Sunday, September 10th immediately following Sunday School.

The Men of FBCC will be preparing Bar-B-Q Chicken with all the fixins’ and dessert. You can eat-in and fellowship with family and friends or take one to-go!!

ALL donations will be gladly accepted and appreciated and will go towards supporting Faith Fair on the Square.



# Children's Ministry



## Backpack Blessings

As families are getting settled into the new school year (when-ever you may have started), we took a moment to pray over

those carrying bags into the year that awaits during the Worship Service on August 27. After the blessing was recited, backpacks were given a tag with a verse and a message that reads: *"This backpack has been packed with purpose, blessed, and prayed for by a congregation that loves and supports this student."* So that we may be faithful to the words on these tags, below is the blessing for you to pray throughout the year for our students. Thank you for your partnership in showing love and support:

### Backpack Blessing

As we begin a new school year, we pray for our bag-carriers to have the strength and courage to do good in all things.

**God of goodness, bless those who will carry these bags.**

As our children face hard choices and circumstances that threaten their wholeness, we pray for them to seek peace and pursue it, peace that surpasses all understanding, bonds us together through the unity of the Spirit, and allows us to stand strongly with the shoes of readiness to share the good news of your great love.

**God of peace, bless those who will carry these bags in seeking the peace that brings us together as we draw closer to you.**

As students prepare for intellectual and spiritual growth, we pray for them to go after it, with minds filled with curiosity, questions, and openness to learning in new ways.

**God of knowledge, fill our students with passion, gentleness, humility, and grace as they learn and experience new things.**

As the school administrators, teachers, and employees go into another year of more questions than answers, of facing hard decisions regarding the safety and well-being of others, we pray you give them discernment, creativity, resilience, and vision.

**God of grace, may we give grace and receive it, on the good days and the bad.**

When parents, teachers, and staff grow weary of the unknowns that await, may they be reminded that in their weakness, you are strong.

**God of strength, may we be reminded of your presence and ability to do far beyond all we could ask or imagine by your power at work within us.**

May we all do good, seek peace, and go after it, grounded in the love of the Father, the Courage of the Son and the power of the Holy Spirit. Aaaaaamen.

### This Month in FBC3M

September 6 – Rise Against Hunger Kickoff  
(5:15 pm Pizza, 6:00 pm Packing)

September 13 – FBC3M Wednesday Activities Begin

September 15-17 – Friends Retreat for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Graders

September 20 – FBC3M Parent Meeting at 6:30 pm

September 23 – Faith Fair

We look forward to loving, serving, learning, and growing together in FBC3M!

Peace,

Rev. Sparker

Rev. Stephanie Parker  
Pastor of Children and Families



## PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Pastor Search Committee is excited to share that we are now accepting resumes and applications for the Senior Pastor position. We encourage church members that know of a good possible candidate to direct them to our church website. The position is listed under Job Openings.

We ask for your continued prayers as we begin reviewing resumes and applications.

Pastor Search Committee,

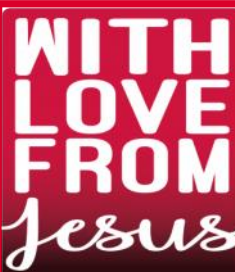
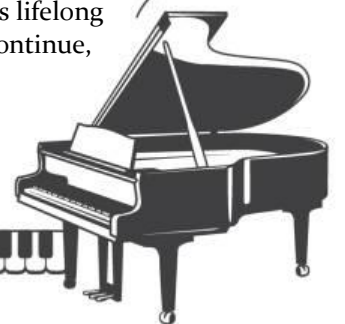
Anne Abene  
Craig Lee  
Rudy Oliver  
Sandra Phillips

Keith Blackley  
Melissa Long  
Diane Pearce



Many of you have expressed thanks to me for our family's gift of the piano. However, together with my brother John and sisters, Anna and Mary, we would like to express our thanks to Keeley, Jim and church at large for accepting our gift. It allows our mother's lifelong desire to glorify God through music to continue, and for that we are truly grateful.

Sarah Ellerbe



### Missions Opportunity

Our church has been providing volunteers to the "With Love From Jesus Ministry" on the 4th Sunday of the month since March of 2021. This month we once again have an opportunity to serve local people in the community. Sunday, Sept. 24th is the date, and we need 5 to 10 volunteers to help with food, clothing and household furnishings distribution from 4:30 until 6:30 pm. You will be helping guests in the house select clothes and food items, sorting

donated supplies, showing the Love of Jesus and telling the Good News. If you are interested and willing to help, please call or text Rudy Oliver at 919-271-1178, or email him at [reoholston@gmail.com](mailto:reoholston@gmail.com).

Please pray about it and join us if you feel led to do so. You will be a blessing and you will be blessed too. That's a promise from Jesus!!

**"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"**

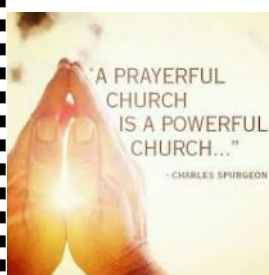
Matthew 25:40

## Corporate Prayer Time

Join us for Corporate Prayer Time as we will pray for the Kingdom and our church family, discuss true prayer and learn how to pray through practice. Everyone is invited to meet in the Basic Sunday School Class to do just that. We will discuss why prayer is vital for the church, how we might teach and inspire people to pray and the complementary roles of corporate and individual prayer. The purpose is to grow our private and corporate church prayer life so that through the Spirit we are empowered to increase His Kingdom and make disciples for Jesus. These conversations will be followed by a time of praying together.

**If for some reason you cannot attend but would like to join us, please use the following Wednesday Night Zoom Link each week at 6:30 pm:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81421140962?pwd=VGovNUtCNXISeHRuYkpZNlN1hPQT09>



**\*\*Note:**

*Corporate Prayer Time will meet weekly with the exception of Sept. 13th which is our Sept. Business Meeting.*



## WMU NEWS

### AND

## REMINDERS

Our WMU 2023 Kickoff meeting was a success!! Thank you to the men of FBCC for preparing a wonderful and delicious meal that was enjoyed by all.

Thank you for all the school supplies provided for needy children. They were delivered to various Clayton schools with a note included with each delivery to identify the WMU of FFBC as the source of the supplies and good wishes for a successful year.

CAM is low on food supplies. Bins have been placed outside the church office for your donations. Kathy Wilkerson will pick up the donations and deliver to CAM.

# Youth ministry

Serving God By Serving Others

Our new youth year has begun! We welcome all youth in 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades to join us. There are many opportunities to get involved and grow in your relationship with Christ.

On Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup> we hunted down our incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders and kidnapped them in the church bus for dinner. Then we headed to an ice cream social at church with all the youth to welcome them to group. We would like to thank all those that helped in donating ice cream and toppings and helping to serve at the social. It was a fun way to kickoff the year!

**Youth Registration** – We would like all youth and volunteers to register via Realm. This will help us gather needed information and communicate through email to those participating. Use the following link or QR code:

<https://onrealm.org/fbccclaytonnc/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=ZjVknJmZMTAtM2NIMC00NTU0LTkyNjAtYjA1MjAwZjUzMTEj>



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT

### Wednesday Night Activities –

Wednesday Nights are a time for youth to come together for fellowship, games, devotion, and small groups. It is a chance to bond with your friends personally and spiritually. Devotions will be focused on ways to grow in your faith and discuss topics of interest. We know youth are busy so the evening is broken up so that you can come to all or part of the activities.

#### Regular schedule of activities:

5:30 – 6:00 – Youth Fellowship Meal in the Fellowship Hall (eat what is being served at church or bring your own) we encourage youth to join together for the meal

6:00 – 6:30 – Youth Fellowship and Games in the Upper Room. Come play ping pong, foosball, Xbox, sit around on the couches and chat with your friends about what is going on at school, etc.

6:30 – 7:30 – Youth Devotion and Small Groups in the Youth Room. We will start together as a whole group and then split into small groups by age and gender for a deeper discussion on the topics. This is a time to really connect with God's direction for your life.

Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> – Youth will help the Children pack meals for Rise Against Hunger

Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> night of our Regular Wednesday Night Schedule of activities



### Acteens and Challengers –

Acteens are for our youth ladies and are split between middle school and high school ages. Challengers are for our youth gentlemen. Both groups are focused on missions in and outside of our church. The groups meet once a month normally on Sundays following Sunday school. They share lunch together and then participate in a mission activity or project.

In August, the 2022-23 Acteens closed out the summer with a visit with Ms. Lois Weeks to celebrate her 97<sup>th</sup> birthday.

She is a wonderful example of a Christian woman.

Challengers kicked off the start of their year with a pool party at the home of Mr. Ronald Mooneyham. They had a great time getting to know each other better, and can't wait to start doing missions in September.

Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> – Middle School Acteens kickoff the 2023-24 year with lunch and begin working on the Quest Challenge for the year.

Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup> – Challengers will meet for lunch and change smoke detector batteries for church members



Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> – High School Acteens will meet for dinner at 5:30 pm before youth group

### YOUTH CHOIR –

This is a chance for our youth singers to shine. Come join the Youth Choir and share your talent with others. This group will have the opportunity to participate in many musical performances at church throughout the year. The group will practice twice a month on Sunday afternoons 2:00 – 3:00 pm. Any youth interested in participating in the Youth Choir should join Mrs. Keeley for practice in the Choir Room on Sunday, Sept. 10th and Sept. 17th from 2:00- 3:00 pm

### YOUTH TRIPS AND ACTIVITIES –

The Youth Council has planned at least one additional activity each month outside of the regular scheduled events. These activities are meant to provide a chance to just have fun and build personal relationships with other Christian youth that is crucial to tackle the challenges of middle and high school years.

Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> – Dinner and Frankie's Fun Park 6:00 pm

Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> – Volunteer at Faith Fair on the Square

**FALL RUSH RETREAT** - Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at Caswell Beach, NC

Sign up using the link or QR code below:

<https://onrealm.org/fbccclaytonnc/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=NWJiZTQ3NmMtY2ZiMS00ZDBkLWlwYmltYjA1YTExMTkxZjAw>



### How to stay connected?

Join Youth Activities REMIND for messages

**Send a text to 81010**

**Text this message @fbccyoutha**

Follow us on Instagram

FBCCYouthClayton

If you have any questions, feel free to contact any member of the Youth Council.



## “Faith Fair on the Square”

One of FBCC’s major outreach efforts is coming up on Saturday September 23<sup>rd</sup> (4-7 pm) as we join in with 5 area churches to sponsor “Faith Fair on the Square.” It’s an opportunity to show God’s love to our community through a family fun time featuring food, fellowship, Christian music, bouncy houses, face painting and a prayer walk area for our Clayton neighbors! We’ll also be showcasing 3 of our local missions – *With Love from Jesus Ministries*, *Clayton Area Ministries (CAM)* and *Smithfield Rescue Mission* – who are each in need of canned foods and goods, which will be collected at the event!

YOU are the key to make this event successful! We need lots of VOLUNTEERS, so please follow the link below and decide how you can best serve! Sign up and show up as First Baptist shines the light of Jesus to our Clayton neighbors!

### SIGN-UP GENIUS LINK:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044DAFA822A13-faith1>

Feel free to share this link with friends and family members who would also like to help!

This event is sponsored by our FBCC Mission Council and is a church-wide and community-wide event. Please contact Gwen Canady at (919) 818-1285 if you have any questions and don’t miss this great opportunity to share the love of Jesus with others!



## MEEKNESS: THE HEART OF KINGDOM CITIZENS

Meekness gets a bad rap in our dog-eat-dog world. “Meek” people often are seen by many as weak, unassertive, unaggressive; pushovers who are easily taken advantage of. Scripture, however, gives us a very different picture.

Jesus said, “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth” (Matt. 5:4 ESV). This turns the world’s idea of meekness on its head. The Greek word for “meek” can also be translated as mild, humble, gentle, but none of these truly capture the full force and meaning of the Greek word. Gentleness is certainly part of it, but it also encompasses balance and self-control. Biblical meekness is a condition of the mind and the heart; W. E. Vine describes it as “an inwrought grace of the soul.” Gentleness, then, describes the actions that result from a heart and mind characterized by meekness.

Biblical meekness is the fruit of power. Rather than weakness, meekness refers to great strength and power brought under control by training and discipline. Southern horse breeders used to say that “the meekest horse wins the race,” because the meek horse is the one that has most responded to its training. Jesus was meek, not because he was weak but because he willingly submitted himself completely to his Father and thus had the Father’s infinite resources at his command. His demeanor during his earthly ministry was the opposite of self-assertiveness and self-interest, and thus provides the model for all who follow him. Meekness, then characterizes the heart of kingdom citizens. Oswald Chambers describes meekness as “giving up our right to ourselves” and “giving up our insistence on our own rights” in favor of submission to Christ. Although meekness is listed as one of the nine fruits of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23), all nine together comprise a fairly comprehensive description of biblical meekness: these are others-centered qualities.

The meek, Jesus said, are blessed because they will “inherit the earth.” To “inherit the earth” includes all spiritual good provided through and in Christ, and especially all that is contained in the hope grounded on the promises of God. It looks ahead to the climax of history: reward in the coming kingdom reign with Christ. That is the great and glorious inheritance that awaits us, all who hope in the promises of God and seek, in his grace and power, to emulate the meekness of Christ in our speech, our behavior, and our actions and attitudes toward others.



But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control

Rev. Stephen Nance

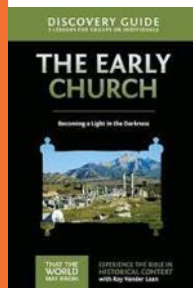


### Wednesday Morning Bible Study Resumes

*“The Early Church”*

September 6, 13, 20, 27 and October 4

9:30-11:00 am



*SALT Class and ZOOM. Discovery Guides are \$10.00*

For Christians today, faith in Christ can sometimes seem to be a cerebral choice. For the early church, it was the difference between life and death. In this fifth volume of *That the World May Know®*, discover the passion and commitment early believers displayed as they claimed Jesus in the face of fierce consequences and powerful adversaries. Featuring Ray Vander Laan.

*Sign up and pick up your book in the church office today!*

### Friday, Sept. 8: Senior Adult Movie Night - 5:30 pm.

*Pizza, popcorn, and drinks provided. Bring a dessert or snack to share.*

#### Featured Film: *“THE ABSENT-MINDED PROFESSOR”*

Ned Brainard, an absent-minded professor of physical chemistry at Medfield College, accidentally invents a substance that gains energy when it strikes a hard surface. He names it “flubber,” but in the excitement of his discovery misses his own wedding to Betsy Carlisle—for the third time. He uses flubber to help Medfield’s basketball team win a crucial game, and then applies it to turn his old Model-T into a flying car. Classic and zany Disney fun from 1961.

In order to get an accurate count for pizza, please notify Terry in the church office no later than **September 6** if: 1) you are on the permanent list but cannot attend or 2) you are not on the permanent list but plan to attend.

### Tuesday, Sept. 12: TEBA Fall Senior Adult Gathering 10 am-1 pm Beulah Baptist Church, Benson

Catered lunch is \$15.00. Limited seating. **Sign up and pay** in the church office NLT Wednesday, **September 6**. Featured program guest is **Scott Mason**, the “Tar Heel Traveler” of WRAL.

*Bus will leave the church parking lot at 9:00 am.*



**Tuesday, September 19: Senior Adult Outing to the Country Doctor Museum, Bailey, NC, with lunch following at McLean’s Ole Time Café in Zebulon. 9:00 am-2:00 pm**

**Sign up** in the church office NLT Wed., Sept. 13. Senior adult admission to the museum is \$8.54 including tax. Guided tour lasts 45-60 minutes.

*Bus will leave church parking lot at 9:00 am and return by 2:00 pm.*



**Monday, September 25: NBC Luncheon - 11:30 am.**

*Catered by Smithfield’s Chicken and BBQ \$8.00 — Program: TBA*

If you are on the permanent list but cannot attend, or not on the permanent list and plan to attend, please notify the church office NLT Wednesday, **September 20**.



# MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE GIFTS GIVEN TO THE GENERAL FUND

“In Memory of”

Jewel Geesin by Betty and Ayden Lee  
Mary Rose Sadler by Betty and Ayden Lee  
Dorothy Gerdes by Joyce Nixon  
Mary Rose Sadler by Joyce Nixon  
Nadine Wells by Andy and Gloria Pleasant  
Mary Rose Sadler by John and Lynn Gibson  
Hugh McCullen by Doug and Sandra Phillips  
Tony Pope by Doug and Sandra Phillips  
Caroline Reddick by JoAnn Hardee  
Ernest Blackley by Donna Brown  
Ernest Blackley by The Bill O’Neal Mission Group  
Ernest Blackley by Nancy Blinson  
Ernest Blackley by Anne Abene  
Ernest Blackley by Gerald and Glenda Toler  
Ernest Blackley by The Hope Sunday School Class  
Mary Rose Sadler by Ramona Cash  
Jewel Geesin by Ramona Cash  
Ernest Blackley by Joe and Linda Hester  
Ernest Blackley by Donna and Cecil Lee  
Duba Coats by Donna Brown  
Ernest Blackley by JoAnn Hardee  
Ernest Blackley by Ramona Cash  
Duba Coats by Ramona Cash  
Duba Coats by The Faith Sunday School Class  
Ernest Blackley by Debbie Ragland and Ronald Crowder  
Duba Coats by Debbie Ragland and Ronald Crowder  
Ernest Blackley by Jim and Judy Nappier  
Duba Coats by Jim and Judy Nappier  
Ernest Blackley by Walter and Jill Rasor  
Duba Coats by Gerald and Glenda Toler  
Duba Coats by Joe & Linda Hester  
Duba Coats by Lexene Lee  
Ernest Blackley by Lexene Lee  
Duba Coats by David and Jo Earp  
Ernest Blackley by David and Jo Earp  
Duba Coats by Tom and Paula Medlin  
Ernest Blackley by Tom and Paula Medlin  
Duba Coats by Rudy and Edwina Oliver  
Duba Coats by Emory and Josephine Howard  
Ernest Blackley by Emory and Josephine Howard  
Joe Capps by Emory and Josephine Howard  
Duba Coats by Durwood Hatcher and Peggy Morgan  
Ernest Blackley by Carol Gilbert  
Duba Coats by Tom, Emily and Jay Vinson  
Duba Coats by Billy Parrish  
Ernest Blackley by Jiles and Kim Harrell  
Duba Coats by Jiles and Kim Harrell  
Joe Capps by Jiles and Kim Harrell  
Ernest Blackley by Bill and Lou Woodard  
Duba Coats by Bill and Lou Woodard  
Joe Capps by Bill and Lou Woodard  
Tony Pope by Ginger Jones  
Belle Allen by Ginger Jones

“In Honor of”

Ken Dillo by The Hope Sunday School Class  
Jerry Johnson by The Hope Sunday School Class  
Denny Sutton by The Hope Sunday School Class  
Lois Weeks’ 97th Birthday by Lexene Lee  
Lois Weeks’ Birthday by Andy and Gloria Pleasant  
The Small Jobs Ministry by Joyce Kidd

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE GIFTS GIVEN TO THE BAPTIST MEN’S FUND

“In Memory of”

Ernest Blackley by Rudy and Edwina Oliver

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE GIFTS GIVEN TO THE ORGAN FUND

“In Memory of”

Nadine Wells by Tom, Emily and Jay Vinson  
Ernest Blackley by Tom, Emily and Jay Vinson  
Tony Pope by Bobby and Nancy Hardee  
Ernest Blackley by Martha McCullen  
Duba Coats by Martha McCullen  
Ernest Blackley by Chris and Diane Pearce  
Duba Coats by Chris and Diane Pearce

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE GIFTS GIVEN TO THE SENIOR ADULT FUND

“In Memory of”

Dorothy Mae Gerdes by John and Dolores Bagley  
Ernest Blackley by John and Dolores Bagley

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE GIFTS GIVEN TO THE FBCC BAPTIST MEN’S FUND

“In Memory of”

Ernest Blackley by Lowell and Dorothy Harris

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE GIFTS GIVEN TO THE SPECIAL NEEDS FUND

“In Memory of”

Duba Coats (Starter of Special Needs) by John and Dolores Bagley  
Duba Coats by Walter and Jill Rasor

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE GIFTS GIVEN TO THE WMU OF NC FUND

“In Memory of”

Duba Coats by Lowell and Dorothy Harris

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE GIFTS GIVEN TO THE HECK JONES FUND

“In Memory of”

Jewell Gessin by Rudy and Edwina Oliver  
Nadine Wells by Rudy and Edwina Oliver

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE GIFTS GIVEN TO THE BUILDING FUND

“In Memory of”

Ernest Blackley by Fred and Texie Lee  
Duba Coats by Fred and Texie Lee



phone calls and most of all your prayers. Ken is now fully recovered from his surgery and hospitalization.

Thank you so much,  
Ken and Diane Dillo

Dear First Baptist Families, I wanted to write and give heartfelt thanks to all of you who have prayed us through the last few months. Through the grief of losing Mom in Mark (Katherine Ripley), to being diagnosed with breast cancer in June and having a successful lumpectomy. We are so fortunate to have you in our lives. As I continue to be treated for cancer and we get back to a more normal life for us, I wanted to thank for the cards, messages and wonderful meal. Those thoughts and prayers are so appreciated. My continued health issues will keep us from being actively there with you in person but know your friendship means so very much!

In Christian Love,  
Julie Stewart and Family  
(Ken, Rosalie and Kendra)

The Family of Ernest Blackley would like to thank all of our friends at First Baptist Church for the many ways you spiritually fed us through your prayers, visits, calls, texts, flowers, cards, funeral service and music, and all the food prepared for us during our time of sorrow. Your kind expressions of love brought comfort to our souls.

God bless you,  
Joyce Blackley, Linda & Philip Edwards Family and  
Mike & Ronda Blackley Family

Thanks to all my friends,  
I, like Humpty Dumpty had a great fall down the brick walkway to my house and because of all the prayers, visits, good food, cards (like 46) with sweet messages of encouragement from my First Baptist friends, I’m on the mend and will soon be back in operation. I thank sweet Jesus from sending you all my way. God bless you all.....for I care for you.

Love and Hugs to All,  
Margaret Gardner

First Baptist Church,  
Thank you for your hospitality following the funeral of Ernest Blackley. To feed this enormous extended family was over and beyond anything expected or even thought of. It was greatly appreciated! May the Lord bless each one that had any part in that gracious outpouring of Love.

In Christ,  
Shirley Lee

We want to thank our church family so much for the outpouring of kindness and cards following the death of Bill’s brother, Robert Nowell Brooks.

Sincerely,  
Bill & Sarah Brooks

# September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 11:30am - 12:30pm The Honeycombers Prayer Group-Parlor	2
3 8:30am - 9:30am Summer Choir Rehearsal 9:30am - 10:30am Worship Service - SANCTUARY 10:45am - 11:45am Sunday School - In Person & ZOOM	4 Church Office CLOSED for Labor Day 11:00am - 12:00pm Patrick Moore Mission Group - Ladies Parlor 7:30pm - 8:30pm Deacons Meeting - SALT Classroom	5 7:00pm - 8:00pm Tuesday Night Bible Study-SALT Classroom	6 9:30am - 11:00am Sr Adult Bible Study "The Early Church" - SALT/Zoom 1:00pm - 7:00pm FBC3M Meal Packing Kickoff "RISE AGAINST HUNGER" 1:00pm Staff Meeting - Conference Room 5:15pm - 5:50pm RAH Volunteer Pizza Dinner 6:00pm - 8:00pm Rise Against Hunger Meal-Packing Kickoff 7:00pm - 7:15pm Acolyte Training	7 6:30pm - 7:30pm Trustees - Conference Room	8 11:30am - 12:30pm The Honeycombers Prayer Group-Parlor 12:30pm - 9:00pm Clayton Travel Club Day Trip - Grass Parking Lot 5:30pm Sr Adult Movie Night - Fellowship Hall	9
10 8:30am - 9:30am Summer Choir Rehearsal 9:30am - 10:30am Worship Service - SANCTUARY - Baptism 10:30am - 10:45am Acolyte Training 10:45am - 11:45am Sunday School - In Person & ZOOM 11:45am - 12:45pm 5th on Second (5th Grader Lunch) 11:45am - 12:45pm Faith Fair Fundraiser - Fellowship Hall (Following SS) 11:45am - 12:15pm Mix It Up Handbells 12:00pm - 2:00pm Middle School Acteens Kick-Off Lunch & Quest - Off Premesis 2:00pm - 3:00pm Youth Choir	11 6:00pm - 7:00pm Building and Grounds Committee Meeting - Conference Room 7:00pm CDC Oversight Committee Meeting-ZOOM	12 WMU Groups 9:00am - 2:00pm TEBA Fall Sr. Adult Rally, Beulah B. C., Benson 11:00am - 12:00pm Eph Whisenhunt Group - Conference Room 2:00pm - 3:30pm Bill O'Neal Circle Group-Conference Room 7:00pm - 9:00pm Sarah Beddingfield Group - Fellowship Hall 7:00pm - 8:00pm Tuesday Night Bible Study-SALT Classroom	13 9:30am - 11:00am Sr Adult Bible Study "The Early Church" - SALT/Zoom 1:00pm Staff Meeting - Conference Room 5:30pm WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP KICK-OFF MEAL - FH 6:00pm - 6:30pm YOUTH Free Time Fun - Upper Room 6:15pm - 7:30pm FBC3M Activities 6:15pm - 7:00pm Handbell Kick-Off 6:30pm Business Meeting - Fellowship Hall & ZOOM 6:30pm - 7:30pm YOUTH - Devotion & Small Groups - Youth Room 7:30pm - 8:30pm Choir Rehearsal Kick-off	14 6:00pm - 8:00pm Baptist Men's Kick-Off Dinner/ Fellowship - Fellowship Hall	15 11:30am - 12:30pm The Honeycombers Prayer Group-Parlor 5:00pm - 11:59pm FBC3M Friends Retreat	16 FBC3M Friends Retreat
17 FBC3M Friends Retreat 9:30am - 10:30am Worship Service - SANCTUARY 10:45am - 11:45am Sunday School - In Person & ZOOM 11:45am - 12:15pm Mix It Up Handbells 12:00pm - 2:00pm Challenges 2:00pm - 3:00pm Youth Choir	18 5:30pm - 7:00pm Denomination Relations Com. - SALT 6:00pm - 7:00pm Children's Council Meeting 6:30pm - 7:30pm Budget & Finance - Conference Room	19 9:30am - 2:00pm Sr. Adult Trip Country Doctor Museum, Bailey NC and Lunch 7:00pm - 8:00pm Personnel Meeting - Conference Room 7:00pm - 8:00pm Tuesday Night Bible Study-SALT Classroom	20 9:30am - 11:00am Sr Adult Bible Study "The Early Church" - SALT/Zoom 1:00pm Staff Meeting - Conference Room 5:30pm - 6:30pm Dinner Served in Fellowship Hall 6:00pm - 6:30pm YOUTH Free Time Fun - Upper Room 6:15pm - 7:00pm Adult Handbell Choir 6:15pm - 7:30pm FBC3M Activities 6:30pm - 7:30pm FBC3M Parent Meeting 6:30 pm - Corporate Prayer - Basic/Zoom 6:30pm - 7:30pm YOUTH - Devotion & Small Groups - Youth Room 7:30pm - 9:00pm Choir Rehearsal	21	22 11:30am - 12:30pm The Honeycombers Prayer Group-Parlor 6:00pm Youth Dinner & Frankie's Fun Park	23 8:00am - 6:00pm Faith Fair Preparations - FH (Entire Day)
24 9:30am - 10:30am Worship Service - SANCTUARY 10:45am - 11:45am Sunday School - In Person & ZOOM 11:45am - 12:15pm Mix It Up Handbells 12:00pm - 5:00pm FH Rental	25 11:30am NBC Luncheon - Fellowship Hall	26 7:00pm - 8:00pm Tuesday Night Bible Study-SALT Classroom	27 9:30am - 11:00am Sr Adult Bible Study "The Early Church" - SALT/Zoom 1:00pm Staff Meeting - Conference Room 5:30pm - 6:30pm Dinner Served in Fellowship Hall 6:00pm - 6:30pm YOUTH Free Time Fun - Upper Room 6:15pm - 7:00pm Adult Handbell Choir 6:15pm - 7:30pm FBC3M Activities 6:30 pm - Corporate Prayer - Basic/Zoom 6:30pm - 7:30pm YOUTH Devotion & Small Groups - Youth Room 7:30pm - 9:00pm Choir Rehearsal	28	29 11:30am - 12:30pm The Honeycombers Prayer Group-Parlor	30



- 5:30 pm – Dinner
- 6:00 pm – Youth Free Time – Youth Room
- 6:15 pm – FBC3M Activities
- 6:15 pm – Adult Handbell Kick-Off
- 6:30 pm – Corp. Prayer – Basic/Zoom
- BUSINESS MEETING (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed of Month)
- 6:30 pm – Youth Devotion & Small Groups
- 7:30 pm – Choir Rehearsal