



The Outlook

First Baptist Church Clayton

Show • Tell
Grow • Serve

February 8, 2026

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Spiritual journeys lie ahead

By Dr. Len Keever
Pastor

Over Christmas Cathy and I did something we hardly do anymore – we went to a movie. The movie was great, but I have to say I was disappointed about something. We got there early enough, bought our tickets and got something to drink. We found our seats and then it began, or should I say it didn't begin.

When I was younger, one of the joys of going to the movies was watching the trailers of coming attractions. When I was in high school you could go to the movies in early June and plan out your entire summer deciding which shows to go to on the weekends.

Nowadays the trailers are about renting the theater for business meetings. The point is, I missed the coming attractions so – I thought I'd do my own. What follows are First Baptist Church Clayton's Coming Attractions so you can plan to take advantage of the next few months of special worship.

First, February 18 at 6:30 p.m. will be our Ash Wednesday service. Put on your hiking clothes and start your journey on the 40-day trek toward Easter by entertaining how you can grow closer to Jesus as he readies himself for the most trying moment of his life.

Empty yourself of excess baggage so you have room for the discoveries you'll find along the way. Allow ash to be placed on your forehead or wrist as a sign of your commitment to follow our Savior as he prepares himself to make the ultimate sacrifice for those he loves.

February 22 will be a youth led worship service following Elevation Weekend. Come see up and coming leaders from the church as they share their experiences of growing in Christ.

Plan to be inspired by their energy, giftedness and passion for Jesus. Show your appreciation, your encouragement, and your support by celebrating the gifts that God is developing in them.

Don't forget to check in on Wednesdays at noon, February 25 through April 1 as I share a midweek Lenten Devotion on the church's website and Facebook page. Don't miss out on this opportunity to enhance your Lenten experience.

If music is your thing, the First Baptist Church Choir will be sharing their Easter Cantata March 22 in the morning service.



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Come and enjoy free lasagna, classic comedy on Feb. 10

Prepare to laugh with *Bringing Up Baby*, described by one film critic as “one of the finest screwball comedies ever, fast, furious, and very very funny.”

Cary Grant plays an earnest paleontologist whose sole purpose is to find an intercostal clavicle to complete his brontosaurus skeleton. What he finds instead – on an out-of-control toboggan ride – is Katherine Hepburn, who plays a scatterbrained heiress who is nuts about him (or maybe just nuts). Riding along are a dog named George, a leopard named Baby, a snooty society matron with a spare million dollars, a caretaker on the sauce and more.

The fun starts at 5:30 p.m. with a free meal of lasagna, salad and garlic knots from Venero's Pizza. Water, tea and desserts will be provided. There will also be plenty of free popcorn.

Because this is a special event, the usual movie night permanent list does not apply. If you would like to attend, you must call or sign up at the church office. Terry's number is 919-553-4161. The signup deadline is Tuesday, February 10.

Ministry Team Focus: Hospital Visitation and Transportation

At First Baptist Church Clayton there are eight Ministry teams dedicated to loving and supporting our church family. These teams function under the auspices of the Deacons and are led by active Deacons. They are Prayer, Bereavement, Casserole, Celebration, Homebound, Hospital Visitation, Transportation and Visitor/New Member. This week our focus is on the Hospital Visitation and Transportation ministry teams.

The Hospital Visitation Ministry team visits, sends cards and/or make telephone calls to church members who have been hospitalized. They also connect with people in rehabilitation facilities. Team members serve on weekly rotations. When a team member is on call, it his or her responsibility to find out who is in the hospital by calling the church office, checking the board or contacting the Prayer Ministry team for prayer requests.

If you are interested in serving on this dedicated and impactful ministry team, please contact leader Kim Harrell at 919-264-9832.

The Transportation Ministry team is ready and willing to provide transportation for church members who need it. Typically, team members receive a call from the church office requesting a ride for someone to a doctor's or physical therapy appointment. The team will also be glad to provide a lift for other needs. If you would like to serve your church family by volunteering for this ministry, please call leader David Outlaw at 919-634-7356.

The Ministry teams at First Baptist Church Clayton are not committees and members are not elected by the church. To participate, all you have to do is volunteer. And you do not have to be an official member of our church to serve on a Ministry team. For more information about the Team Ministry, contact chairman Ann Austin at 919-333-6791 or dddhd@aol.com.

There is a bulletin board with information on all eight Ministry teams in the hallway near the south vestibule to the sanctuary. If the Lord leads you to join a Ministry team, there is a place on the vestibule where you can write down your name and contact information. A team member will be in touch.



Emily Carole Farmer, Barrett Long to sing February 28

Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 28 at 5 p.m. Barrett Long and Emily Carole Farmer will represent First Baptist Church Clayton in a Community Church Youth Choir concert at Wake Forest Baptist Church.

They will sing "Crown Him Lord of All," "This Little Light of Mine," "Noel," "Sing

a Jubilant Song," and "Be Thou My Vision" all in three and four part harmony. We look forward to this wonderful concert and hope you will join us to support our youth musicians.

Wake Forest Baptist Church is located at 107 East South Ave., Wake Forest, NC 27587.

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Plan to be there to enjoy the talents, the gifts and our praise filled worship as we are caught up in the emotion, the seriousness and the image of what God in Christ has done for us.

Don't forget Maundy Thursday! Find yourself drawn into the drama, the suspense and witness the betrayal of our Lord when he is cruelly sold for 30 pieces of silver. Watch in horror as Jesus is beaten and tortured. Stand with Peter in the courtyard and ask with the others who watch in disbelief, "Will our Lord escape the cruelty? Will Jesus overpower his captors? Will Angels descend from Heaven to save God's Son?"

Stay tuned – all those answers will be found on Sunday morning at Sunrise.

The Lenten season has so much to offer. Don't miss a single opportunity for worship and celebration. God wants us to grow deeper in our faith. Let's make plans to do so.

Memorials and Honorariums

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE

General Fund in Memory of

Gardner Temple, Jean Lee, Ricky Dean Barbour and George Lovering by Bucky Coats
 Jean Lee, Gardner Temple, George Lovering and Jackie Fussell by Jiles and Kim Harrell
 Jean Lee and Jackie Fussell by Bill O'Neal WMU
 Jean Lee and Lois Langston's daughter, Emily, by Nancy Blinson
 George Lovering by the Hope Sunday School Class
 Helen Ellerbe by Jeff and Cheryl Perry
 Helen Ellerbe by Donna Vann
 Jean Lee by Mr. and Mrs. Garry Lee
 Tom Medlin's birthday by Paula Medlin and family
 Gardner Temple by Lexene Lee
 Gardner Temple by Scott and Crystal Barnhill
 Gardner Temple by Anne Fishel
 Gardner Temple by Earl and Hope Johnson

Youth Ministry Fund in Memory of

Chuck Turlington by Kim and Jiles Harrell

WMU Fund in Memory of

Jean Lee by MRT Mission Group

Music/Choir Fund in Honor of

Jack and Judy Coats, and Ann Austin by Joyce Nixon

Organ Fund in Memory of

George Lovering, Jean Lee and Gardner Temple by Gerald and Glenda Toler
 Jackie Fussell, Jean Lee and George Lovering by Joe and Linda Hester
 Jean Lee and George Lovering by Chris Diane Pearce
 Jean Lee, Ricky Dean Barbour and Jackie Fussell by Joyce Nixon
 Jean Lee by Lee Family Rentals (Shirley, Sherald and Donald)
 Jean Lee by Tammy and Caroline McLeod
 Jean Lee and Ricky Dean Barbour by Candy Pope

Blood drive set for February 27

The American Red Cross and First Baptist Church Clayton will hold their third annual Blood Drive on Friday, February 27 from 12 noon to 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

According to the Red Cross, local blood supplies are severely low. Since Thanksgiving, supplies have been depleted by 35% due to historic levels of flu cases, the Christmas holiday and weather. Please consider donating blood. It could save a life.

Call Terry in the church office at 919-553-4161 to make an appointment to give blood. You may also use the link or the QR code below to sign up.

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?order=DATE&range=10&zip-Sponsor=FirstBaptistClayton>



LOCAL HEARTS, NATIONAL IMPACT

Blood Drive

First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

411 N Fayetteville St
Clayton, NC 27520

Friday, February 27, 2026
12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



**American
Red Cross**

