



The Outlook

First Baptist Church Clayton

Show • Tell
Grow • Serve

May 10, 2026

Volume 49 Number 18

Jesus is the cornerstone of faith

By Dr. Len Keever
Pastor

This morning I finished putting an office chair together for Drew. The store would have done it for a fee; I'd rather save the church the money. Besides, I love putting things together.



This brings up several thoughts for me. First, I think about how in the church everyone plays an important role. With the chair, a missing bolt could mean falling onto the floor.

In church, missing members affect our stability as well. We need each other to give God the glory God deserves. No one is irrelevant in church; everyone is important.

The second thing I think of goes back to our youngest son thinking instructions were pronounced construction. In church our desire is to follow the instructions of Jesus as we are being constantly constructed into being his body on earth.

With every challenge and every success, we are being made new. Each new member, each new opportunity, every mission and ministry presented to us is a chance to be constructed to be who God wants us to be.

Hebrews 4:12 instructs that the Bible is a living word. It speaks to our present needs offering wisdom, challenge and insight to face the things we face. The Holy Spirit is active. Jesus' example of loving others continually encourages us to examine how we love others.

In construction, sometimes the builder must deconstruct to make things right. They must tear down and then rebuild to correct something that was done wrong. Last week, Stephanie's sermon challenged us to build our house on a firm foundation with Jesus as the cornerstone of our faith.

I appreciate how God spoke through her challenging me to realize how I need to think more about Jesus and less about those things that distract me. I am still under construction too! God is not through with me.

I have a long way to go before I am fully shaped and formed as Jesus wants me to be.

A third thing, given that it is Mother's Day, is how I am so appreciative for my mom and the family into which I was raised. God

Mission Moment

Celebration



The Celebration Ministry Team recognizes significant events of our church members such as birthdays, anniversaries, baptisms and births. Team members are assigned one month to send out birthday and anniversary cards to members. The church provides the cards and postage. There are currently 20 members on this team, but we need more. If you are interested in joining this team and serving your church family, contact Sarah Brooks at 919-550-0874.

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. If the Lord leads you to join a Ministry team, there is a place where you can write down your name and contact information. A team member will be in touch.



BCH collection a huge success

Thank you so much for your support of items collected for the North Carolina Baptist Children's Home. We had a car load and \$325 in gift cards. A special thank you goes out to Jennifer Blackley who delivered these items for us. Please know that each and every item provides love and security for these children.

– Cathy Paschal
and Jackie Tarkington
Co-Directors, WMU

Graduate Recognition Sunday is May 17

If you would like to participate in Graduate Recognition Sunday on May 17 at First Baptist Church Clayton, please call Terry McCallum in the church office at 919-553-4161.

She will need your full name, your parents' names, your grandparents' name if they attend First Baptist, the high school, community college or university you're graduating from and your future plans. A processional will begin the 9:30 a.m. worship service.

Youth leader Vicky Andrews will introduce the graduates.



YOU ARE INVITED

Twentieth Graduation Ceremony



First Baptist Church Clayton Child Development Center

Thursday, May 14 | 5:30 p.m.

Church Sanctuary

A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.
Thank you for your support of the CDC!

Everyone is welcome to the Spring Fellowship

Bring your family, your friends and neighbors to First Baptist Church Clayton's Spring Fellowship on Wednesday, May 13. The fun and fellowship begins at 5:30 p.m. and ends at 7:30 p.m.

There will be Bounce Houses for kids, Gaga Ball games, Bingo and a Cake Walk for all ages, free hot dogs, drinks, chips and funnel cakes and music from the FBCC Praise Band. Our Prayer Ministry Team will also host a Prayer Tent.

The event will be held on the church lawn next to the Fayetteville Street parking lot.

Cornerstone

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used them as builders, faithful craft persons, to help instruct and construct me into who I am today.

Their work was both to teach and to lead me in ways that taught me so much. The encouragement they gave and the discipline they instilled continues to provide something to build on.

I am so thankful for those who gave of themselves to help me know Jesus. I am so thankful there are so many people of faith in the church today to continue the work that Christ began in me so many years ago. I wonder what I will look like when the Holy Spirit's work is completed---

Memorials and Honorariums

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE

General Fund in Memory of

Jerry Carroll by Bill and Faye Brooks

Organ Fund in Memory of

Jerry Carroll by Joyce Nixon

Organ Fund in Honor of

Gerald and Glenda Toler by Joe and Linda Hester

Children's Ministry Fund in Honor of

Children and Leaders by Joe and Linda Hester

Youth Ministry Fund in Memory of

Roger Michaelson by Curtis and Elaine Moore

Youth Ministry Fund in Honor of

Youth and Leaders by Joe and Linda Hester

Weekly Reports

Baptisms this Year.....	4	New Members.....	10
Worship Attendance			
Sunday, May 3.....	186	Sunday, April 26.....	263
Sunday School Attendance			
Sunday, May 3.....	136	Sunday, April 26.....	154
General Fund Giving			
Sunday, May 3.....	\$11,941	Sunday, April 26.....	\$12,730
2026 Weekly Needs.....	\$17,470		