



The Outlook

First Baptist Church Clayton

Show • Tell
Grow • Serve

May 17, 2026

Volume 49 Number 19

Finding rest in the midst of change

By Drew Langdon
Youth Minister

It has been such a joy to spend my first week getting to know you all. While I am still learning names (so please don't quiz me just yet!), I am already grateful for the kindness and welcome I have experienced here at First Baptist Church Clayton. I'm excited to continue building relationships and becoming part of what God is doing in this church family.

As I settle into my role as Youth Minister, I also want to share a little about myself. I enjoy being outdoors, whether that's fishing, playing or watching sports, or just spending time outside. I also enjoy going to the movies and finding ways to connect with others through shared interests and experiences.

This season of my life has been marked by change. I began as a Youth Intern, simply trying to discern if youth ministry was where God was leading me.

What I expected to be a year of learning quickly turned into something more. Through unexpected staff transitions and new opportunities, God stretched me and called me into serving as the Interim Youth Minister at Trinity Baptist Church.

In the midst of all that change, one thing became clear, even when plans shift and the future feels uncertain, God remains steady.

It can become easy to feel unsettled when doors close or when life doesn't unfold the way we expect. But, what I began to notice is that when one door closes, God faithfully opens another, often leading us exactly where we need to be.

That's where we find rest, not in having everything figured out, but knowing the steadiness that God can bring us. True rest comes from knowing that God is in control, that He is guiding our steps, and that His plans are always good.

I am thankful that God has led me here to First Baptist Church Clayton, and I'm excited to see how He continues to work in and through this church. Please don't hesitate to stop by and say hello, I would love to meet you and hear your story.

“Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him. Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken.” – Psalm 62:5-6



Youth celebrate year's end

The youth of First Baptist Church Clayton gathered on May 6 at the home of Michael and Laney Ford to celebrate the end of another year. Michael and Eric Petit cooked hamburgers and hot dogs for the 70 plus youth and parent volunteers. The youth families were also introduced to the church's new Youth Minister, Drew Langdon, and had the opportunity to spend time getting to know him. In addition to the food and fellowship, they played games outside and had a wonderful time.



**American
Red Cross**

BLOOD DRIVE



**SCHEDULE YOUR
APPOINTMENT TODAY!!!
SEE BELOW**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
FELLOWSHIP HALL**

411 N. Fayetteville Street
Clayton, NC 27520

**Friday, June 19, 2026
12:00 pm to 5:00 pm**

**SUMMER
LIFESAVERS NEEDED**



Please visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter: [FirstBaptistClayton](https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/dnry&results?zipSponsor=FirstBaptistClayton) to schedule an appointment or **CLICK** on the following **LINK**:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/dnry&results?zipSponsor=FirstBaptistClayton>



**First Baptist
Church Clayton**

Show • Tell
Grow • Serve

fbcclaytonnc.org
411 North Fayetteville Street
Clayton

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, May 25
Memorial Day
Church office closed

Saturday, May 30 at 10 a.m.
Bada Bling Dance Recital
in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday, May 31
Church Business Meeting
following 9:30 a.m. Worship

June 10-13 Passport Kids Camp

June 14-20 Youth Mission Trip

July 12-16 Vacation Bible School



Spring Fellowship

Delightful weather greeted a great crowd at FBCC's springtime celebration on Wednesday. Church members, families, friends and neighbors enjoyed hot dogs, snacks, desserts, music, games & Christian fellowship.



Memorials and Honorariums

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE

General Fund in Memory of

Roger Michaelson by Diane Johnson
Kathleen Butler, Ann Hardee, Helen Mitchell for Mother's Day by Jo Ann Hardee

General Fund in Honor of

The Hope Sunday School Class and Jiles Harrell by Jo Anne Norris

Organ Fund in Memory of

Jean Wheeler, Ken Lee, Earlene Wheeler and Joyce Canady by Joyce Lee

Organ Fund in Honor of

Jim Elmore by Joyce Lee
Margaret Gardner by Jack and Cindy Morgan

WMU - O'Neal Fund (N.C. Baptist Foundation) in Honor of

Jackie Tarkington and Cathy Paschal by Joe and Linda Hester

Children's Ministry Fund in Honor of

Emma Rose Arrington by Jo Anne Norris

Youth Ministry Fund in Honor of

Youth and Youth Leaders by Ricky and Elizabeth Waddell

Homebound Ministry in Honor of

Anne Abene and Lexene Lee by Jo Anne Norris

Special Needs Fund in Honor of

Anne Abene by Ricky and Elizabeth Waddell

Music Fund in Honor of

Jeff and Jackie Tarkington by Jo Anne Norris

With Love From Jesus in Honor of

First Baptist Church Clayton Volunteers by Joe and Linda Hester

Young adults invited to Echo

What is Echo? It is a gathering of younger adults (and those who think young) sharing what they've heard in the worship service. It is an opportunity to share what continues to reverberate after the benediction. Younger adults face different challenges when it comes to building relationships in church. We are offering time to drink coffee, get to know one another, and discuss issues that are unique to their lives. If you want to come and check it out, we meet in the Fellowship Hall after the Sunday morning worship service. We look forward to seeing you!

- Dr. Len Keever

Weekly Reports

Baptisms this Year.....4	New Members..... 10
Worship Attendance	
Sunday, May 10.....209	Sunday, May 3.....186
Sunday School Attendance	
Sunday, May 10.....127	Sunday, May 3.....136
General Fund Giving	
Sunday, May 10.....\$18,047	Sunday, May 3.....\$11,941
2026 Weekly Needs.....\$17,470	