

J U L Y B I R T H D A Y S

- 07/01 Lyfe Love
- 07/02 Toronica Jenkins, Ariel Paige, Noel Evans
- 07/03 Georgianna Parnell
- 07/04 Jordan Thompson
- 07/06 Tony Alston, +Zack McCormick Jr.
- 07/08 Victoria Williams
- 07/09 Marica Dunlap
- 07/10 Pastor Paul G. Matthews, Melanee Bennett, +Randolph McNair
- 07/12 James McDougald
- 07/13 Deja Jenkins, +Odessa Williams
- 07/14 Marcell McDuffie
- 07/15 Jerry Stephens Sr.
- 07/16 Taxius McNatt, +Carolyn Kyle
- 07/18 Jameah Mckee, +Linda McKee
- 07/19 Harrison Tisdale
- 07/20 Jason McCallum, Tabitha Mitchell
- 07/21 Carlton Graham, Jakari Council, Annie Thompson, Tony Robeson
- 07/22 Katie Barnhill, +Edward Green
- 07/26 Tavon Southerland, Jewel Moody, Jabrea Faulk
- 07/30 Marlie Bennett, Ellen Ellis, Jamal Cassidy
- 07/31 Dallys Jenkins

Upcoming Events

- July 6th – IN-PERSON Prayer Meeting & Bible Study @ 6:30pm
 - July 10th – Laymen League Breakfast 8am, Speaker – County Commissioner Wixie Stephens

Contact Information

- Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00-2:00
- Website: www.firstbaptistlumberton.com
- Conference Call: 435-777-2200 ID #: 739-3939
- Text to give: Text “give” to (910) 407-7393 - Cash App: @fbcblton



Sick and Shut In

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Sis. Lela Crawford | Sis. Melissa Stephens | Bro. Willie Hall |
| Bro. Joe Hall | Sis. Laura Cade | Sis. Shirley Blount |
| Bro. James Dockery | Sis. Betty McNeill | Sis. Alma Dawson |
| Sis. Linda Blackmon | Bro. Tony Bridgett | |

July Newsletter

First Baptist Church
504 West 2nd Street
Lumberton, N.C. 28358

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Seasoned Spotlight
Sis. Hazel Kennedy

Sis. Hazel Kennedy has been a member of First Baptist Church since the tender age of 12. Sis. Kennedy has been apart of many choirs during her membership from the Sunshine Band to the Sanctuary Choir. She has held many positions in First Baptist as well as the Robeson Baptist Union. She has served as President of the Susie Scale Floral Club, Advisor of the Young Adult Missionary and representative for the State Missionary. Her great work is not limited to the church and Union but continues within the community. From the Lumberton Zeta Amicae, or the Order of the Eastern Stars or the Matron Guild, Sis. Kennedy participates to make a difference.

She has always been a very active member and although she is now a Seasoned Saint, she doesn't let her age stop her from being present to many of the services at church. When asked the question, "What keeps you going?", her response is "First and foremost, letting God lead my life, then a daily routine of early morning worship at 6 am (prayer, scripture, Upper Room & the Missionary Helper) and watching 'Walker Texas Ranger'".

We thank God for a pillar of First Baptist and pray He continues to grant her abundant life. "Wisdom is with the aged and understanding in length of days." (Job 12:12)

A Moment in Black History

July 5, 1827 – In 1827 Rev. Nathaniel Paul, a minister in Albany, New York, hails the final abolition of slavery in that state. His address given on July 5, 1827 in Albany marks that occasion.

July 28, 1868 - The 14th Amendment, making Blacks citizens was passed, 1868

July 25, 1971 - Liberty Life Insurance Company, a forerunner to Supreme Life Insurance Company, at one time one of the largest African American owned insurance companies in the nation, is founded by Frank L. Gillespie

Coming Soon..



100th Church Anniversary/Homecoming

August 3-7, 2022

Aug. 3rd- In-person Prayer meeting 6:30 pm, Bible Study 7:00 pm

Aug. 4th - Joy Night 6:00 pm

Aug. 5th - Homecoming Ball 6 pm-10 pm

Aug. 6th - Cookout Fellowship & Praise

Aug. 7th - 100th Church Anniversary Homecoming Service and Dinner 10 am

Chairperson Edna McMillan asks that you please get ALL pictures turned in ASAP. Deadline July 15.

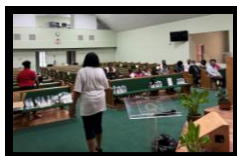


Vacation Bible School



Sending a special thank you to Pastor Paul Matthews, teachers, members and friends for their help in making Vacation Bible School 2022 such a big success!

Rev. Sandra Cassidy, Vacation Bible School Superintendent



Group Implementation

As the Church continues to evolve, there are at least two things that we can hold true to. One is that *“the gates of hell shall not prevail against it”* (Matt. 16:17b). The second is that change is certain and necessary. We have progressed in our households from outhouses to indoor bathrooms, landline phones to cell phones, and wood-burning stoves to digital appliances. At First Baptist, we have TV monitors, displaying scriptures, hymns and any needed information, SimpleChurch app that helps members give and stay connected, plus we stream on three different platforms a Sunday. Like our homes, these changes help improve the quality of life and help us to do things easier. The changes we have at First Baptist help us serve one another as well as visitors and the community.

One of the latest changes in ministry is the involvement of groups. Groups consist of some of the committees and teams, we already have in place like Sunday School classes and missionary circles, but also extend to specific areas i.e., Singles ministry, Couples Ministry, Bereavement ministry, etc. This will allow greater growth from everyone as certain areas in their life are addressed and ministered to. While I believe that as a pastor, I can make an impact in someone’s life, the impact of a group is much more sustainable and reproducible. From a blog shared in August 2016, Eric Geiger gives 3 reasons groups can impact our church.

- 1 – A group provides encouragement that no one person will ever be able to provide.** We are all limited in the number of relationships we can have. Thus, a church that does not value group acts as they foolishly believe that a pastor/leader can deeply relate to a lot of people. Without groups, ministry leaders can run feverishly in futile attempts to relate deeply to lots of people.
- 2 – A group illustrates the faith in multiple ways.** One person can provide an incredible example of faith and godliness, but it is *one* example. A group of people provide multiple expressions and illustrations of how the Christian faith is expressed in different spheres of life.
- 3 – A group of believers provides a counter culture.** People in your church are going to be impacted by some group of people. The wisdom writer wrote, *“The one who walks with the wise will become wise, but a companion of fools will suffer harm”* (Proverbs 13:20). The groups of people we surround ourselves with either help or harm us. By offering and emphasizing groups, churches offer an opportunity to walk with the wise. If people don’t walk with the wise, they will be a companion of fools and suffer harm. My prayer is that the implementation of group ministries will help address the whole man and empower us the more to be **Committed To Serving Others With Love.**