

INFORMER

July 26, 2026

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, July 29

6:30 pm Bible Study with Don Campbell

Sunday, August 2

Promotion Day

7:00 am Deacons' Meeting

8:30 am Baptism (Ansley Bridges)

6:00 pm FBC Youth Kick-Off

Thursday, August 6

12:30 pm FBC Kids Outing to Bo's

Sunday, August 9

Deacon Election Day

6:00 pm Back-to-School Bash at

S. Ray Lowder

1:00 pm TopAgers to Crawdads Game

Wednesday, August 12

6:30 pm Church Conference

Tuesday, August 18

5:30 pm NCBOM Dinner & Rally at

Lincoln Ave. Baptist

Wednesday, August 19

5:00 pm Kids/Youth Supper Resumes

6:30 pm Global Missions Night/Prayer Meeting

Message from the Pastor

Baptist Struggles with Women Leaders

Some have asked me about the recent action by the Southern Baptist Convention pertaining to women in ministry. The Convention for the second time seeks to amend the SBC constitution to prohibit women from holding the office of "pastor/elder/overseer." A few years ago, the first effort failed to gain the required two successful votes. On this second effort, the first vote was overwhelmingly supported. The Convention will vote again next summer. The issue of women in church leadership has been a top priority since the Fundamentalists takeover of the SBC decades ago. Despite the adoption of numerous resolutions and the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message Statement, the issue of women serving in ministry roles remains. The issue remains because many Baptists worldwide affirm women in various leadership roles, including serving as deacons, missionaries, staff ministers, and pastors. Baptists are not of one mind on this matter. Also, local Baptist churches are autonomous, free to interpret scripture and to govern themselves accordingly. Thus, conventions do not have authority over local churches. First Baptist Church Lincolnton has affirmed women in ministry roles for nearly 100 years, including ordaining three women to the Gospel ministry, having women among the ministry staff, and having women serve on the Diaconate. Our church history records, back in 1928, twelve women were elected by the church to serve as "deaconesses." In recent decades, we have had many women serve faithfully as deacons. We affirm these women in leadership roles under the direction of Scripture. In the Bible, Huldah, Deborah, Miriam, Anna, and Priscilla are recognized for their leadership and influence. Paul affirms women such as Euodia and Syntyche as partners in the gospel (Philippians 4). He commends women leaders such as Phoebe, a deacon, and Junia, an apostle (Romans 16). Jesus himself chose women to be the first proclaimers of His resurrection. Then, at Pentecost, God poured out His Spirit on both men and women (Acts 2), fulfilling the promise in Joel that "sons and daughters will prophesy." Pentecost makes clear that God calls all of us, both men and women, to participate in the proclamation of His Word. Thus, many churches across a range of evangelical traditions affirm women in church leadership. Though a few passages debatably can be viewed teaching against women serving in leadership roles, the breadth of Scripture presents a strong affirmation of women serving in ministry. As Paul in Galatians 3:28 reminds us, in Christ, all are one, male and female alike. This biblical truth shapes how we understand the role of women in the church and points toward their full participation. Despite what any Baptist group might say, we should be grateful and proud of our FBC women who serve the church with dedication and conviction. When you get the opportunity, thank them for their service.

Deacon Election

Deacon voting will begin on Wednesday, July 15. Voting will end on Sunday, August 9 at the close of the 10:30 worship service. Ballots will be available in the church office for absentee voting. Please prayerfully consider each candidate listed.

Rodney Ballard	Rex Rhyne
Jerry Barton	Rusty Reynolds
Josh Beam	Jennifer Sinclair
Diana Carpenter	
Rusty Cornwell	
Jeff Emory	
Gary Hoffman	

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Early Worship	Sunday	8:30 am
Sunday School	Sunday	9:30 am
Worship	Sunday	10:30 am
Prayer Meeting	Wednesday	6:30 pm

Contact us at:

704-732-1101 Email: fbc@fbclincolnton.org

Website: fbclincolnton.org

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 AM-5:00 PM

Weekly Attendance

8:30 am	78
10:30 am	185
Total	263

Sunday School	191
Nursing Home	17
Total	208

Weekly Undesignated Contribution Requirement	\$16,538.46
Actual Undesignated Contributions	\$14,461.00
<i>Weekly Deficit</i>	\$12,077.46
YTD Undesignated Contribution Requirement	\$694,615.32
YTD Actual Contributions	\$716,675.03
<i>YTD Surplus</i>	\$22,059.71
Capital Improvement	\$10.00
Property/Operations	\$1.00
Backpack	\$100.00

Collecting School Supplies for S. Ray Lowder

- 3 ring binder (1/1.5 inches)
- 3 ring plastic folder (with fasteners)
- Colored pencils
- Composition notebooks (no spiral)
- Crayola Crayons
- Earbuds/headphones
- Expo Dry erase markers
- Elmer glue Sticks
- Highlighters
- Pencil box
- Ticonderoga Pencils #2
- Pink Erasers (large)
- Scissors (blunt tip)
- Baby Wipes
- Hand Sanitizer
- Index cards
- Paper towels
- Clorox Wipes
- Tissues
- Index Cards
- Playdough
- Washable markers

Wonderful Wednesdays

When: July 29 (RSVP by July 22)
Where: Regal Theatre- Dogman & Rosedale Natural Park
Cost: \$6 (includes ticket and snack pack)
Meet: 9:30 am
Return: 3:30 PM
Please pack a lunch, drink, and towel to sit on.



When: August 6 please note that this is a Thursday (RSVP by August 29)
Where: Bo's Entertainment
Cost: \$10
Arrival: 12:30 pm
Return: 7:30 pm
We will stop for dinner. Extra money for snacks can be brought. Wear closed toed shoes.

**TopAgers Crawdads Game**

The TopAger Committee is planning a trip to see the Hickory Crawdads baseball team on August 9. We will need to leave from the FLC portico at 1:00 PM. **Our seats at the stadium will be in a covered section, so no need to worry about the weather.** The cost will be \$8. If you are interested, please call the Church office at 704 732 1101. The deadline for signing up for this trip is Monday, July 27, but please call right away so we can gauge the interest in this trip and also of course know which bus to plan on taking.

Empty Nester Group

On August 29, we will go to Hang Time Golf in Gastonia for a little golf, food and fun. The price per person will depend upon the number of participants we have. We plan to arrive at 6:00 as long as there is availability. If you are able to attend, please text Melanie Emory at 704-472-5977 by August 3.



We want to invite all women to attend a morning of Bible study with writer Cindi Wood. Saturday, September 12 at 10:00 AM in the FLC Dining Hall. Contact Michelle at 704-591-3290 for more information; please RSVP by August 30. A donation of \$15 is encouraged.

Women's Bible Study**TopAgers Caraway Trip**

The dates are October 5-8. The cost is \$145 with a \$50 non-refundable deposit due by July 23. Caraway is about 2.5 hours away and all of the meetings, lodging, and meals are in the Conference Center or a short walk through a portico to the Worship Center.

**FBC & 2026 Apple Festival, Saturday, October 17th**

We will be in the Kids' Orchard this year, which will provide many opportunities to meet and greet children and their families. There are sign up sheets in your Sunday School classes and in the church office. Please let us know which shift you will be able to work. Please include a good phone number or email address so that we can contact you. You can leave your sign-up sheet in your Sunday School class for us to pick up, or you can drop your sheet in the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Denise Girvin at 434-242-5564 or denisegirvin@yahoo.com.