



STEEPLE VIEWS

First Baptist Church • Monroe • North Carolina

Issues 28 & 29 -- July 9, 2025

Three “Loving Within” Training Opportunities

Pastor Chris will be leading three training opportunities for the coming church year. On Monday, July 28 at 6:30 p.m., there will be a training session for those interested in working in the nursery with our children on Sunday mornings, and those interested in livestreaming our worship services. On Tuesday July 29 at 6:30 p.m., there will be a training session for anyone interested in working with children and youth discipleship opportunities on Sundays and Wednesdays. The final training session will be Wednesday, July 30 at 6:30 p.m. for those interested in teaching the adults in Bible Fellowship on Sunday mornings, and for leading mid-week worship on Wednesday evenings.

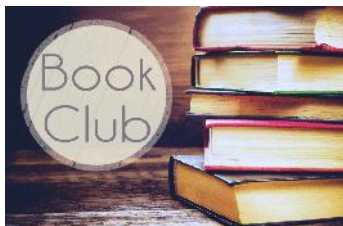


The 4th Wednesday Lunch Bunch will meet at Mayfair Restaurant on Wednesday, July 23 at 11:30 a.m.

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a time of fellowship and lunch together!

Quilting Retreat

**Friday and Saturday, July 11 and 12
9:30 a.m. - Family Life Center
Contact Kiki Myers for details**



The Faith in Fiction Book Club invites you to join them on Monday, July 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center to discuss Brandon Slocumb’s book, **Symphony of Secrets**

Facts & Figures:

Sunday, July 6, 2025

Weekly Budget Requirements	\$	6,875
Budget Receipts	\$	6,325
Budget Receipts to Date	\$	283,149
Expenses to Date	\$	297,257

Called Church Meeting

The Board of Trustees is requesting to have a Called Business Meeting on Wednesday, August 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center to discuss and vote on renting the church facilities to Christ Hills Presbyterian Church of America (PCA). This is a church plant for the PCA denomination and Pastor Trent Thomas, who will attend the meeting, has met with me and the Trustees to see if partnering locally, a thriving church characteristic, with FBC Monroe is an option. Please put the above date on your calendar, and if you have any questions, don’t hesitate to reach out to me, and you can do your own research by searching Presbyterian Church of America (PCA) to see who they are and what they believe.

— Grace & Peace,
Pastor Chris

Thank You...

First Baptist Church Monroe:

Thank you for your love, care, prayers and support of us and our ministry to Ukrainians. It has been 3 years since the invasion of Ukraine. Our goal was and is to thank each person, church, organization and foundation that gave to the CBF Ukraine Relief Fund, even if it takes us several years to do so. The war has forced us to relocate from Kyiv, Ukraine to Krakow, Poland. We continue our ministry to and with Ukrainians and refugees from Ukraine in other countries. Thank you, on their behalf and ours for your solidarity and prayers. They are needed like never before!

— Serving Christ with you,
Gennady and Mira Podgaisky

July Bible Fellowship

The study on the Four Gospels in Bible Fellowship continues for July — you are encouraged to read the following chapters in order:

- July 19 - Luke chapters 11-13
- July 20 - Luke chapters 14-16
- July 21 - Luke chapters 17-19
- July 22 - Luke chapters 20-22
- July 23 - Luke chapters 23-24-John 1
- July 24 - John chapters 2-4
- July 25 - John chapters 5-7
- July 26 - John chapters 8-10
- July 27 - John chapters 11-13
- July 28 - John chapters 14-16
- July 29 - John chapters 17-19
- July 30 - John chapters 20-21

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, July 13
9:30 am Bible Fellowship - Room 308
10:30 am Morning Worship - Sanctuary/Facebook

Monday, July 14
6:00 pm Faith in Fiction Book Club - FLC

Thursday, July 17
6:00 pm Faith and Fitness - FLC/Courtyard

Sunday, July 20
9:30 am Bible Fellowship - Room 308
10:30 am Morning Worship - Sanctuary/Facebook

Wednesday, July 23
11:30 am 4th Wednesday Lunch Bunch - Mayfair

Reminder!

This is a two-week issue of Steeple Views
Please keep this copy for the next two weeks to
check for “happenings”



Joe Harris - Frances Vaughan - Dot Bates
Josh Handy - Ed Varney
Barbara Austin

Savanah Britt
Elliott Atwood, daughter of friends of Brittany Potter
Paula Hightower, friend of Kiki Myers
Joel Penegar
Sam Goodwin, father of Sally Goodwin
For peace between Ukraine and Russia
For peace to take hold in the Middle East
For doors to open for job seekers affected by recent unemployment

Sunday Worship - July 13
10:30 AM

Words of Welcome Dr. Chris Dawson
Call to Worship Dr. Chris Dawson
Gathering Music: “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”
Scripture: Deuteronomy 30: 9-14 Dr. Melanie Williams
Hymn: “Sing Praise to the Father”
Scripture: Colossians 1: 1-14 Michelle Dawson
Sharing Prayer Concerns Michelle Dawson
A Moment of Prayer
Prayer for the People Michelle Dawson
Lord’s Prayer
Hymn: “Trust and Obey”
Greet Stranger, Neighbor and Friend
Choral Response: “I Am the Body of Christ”
Duet: “The Spirit Song” Jenna Bailey & Fred Starkey
Sermon Text: Luke 10: 25-37 Dr. Chris Dawson
Sermon Dr. Chris Dawson
Prayer Dr. Chris Dawson
Hymn: “Help Us Accept Each Other”
Stewardship of Tithing and Fellowship
Sending Song: “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”
Closing Voluntary Elaine Potter

This Week’s Committees

Livestreaming Equipment for Worship:
Ben Potter

Nursery: Crystal Brantley

Ushers: Ken and Ann Handy, Tim McBride

Lay Leader: Michelle Dawson

Money Counters: Jim Griffin, Harvey Whitle



Steeple Views
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Christopher S. Dawson, Senior Minister	cdawson@fbcmonroenc.com
Melanie Williams, Minister of Worship Arts	
Elaine Potter, Church Accompanist	
Marsha Sexton, Business Manager	msexton@fbcmonroenc.com
Kathy Cole, Ministry Coordinator	kcole@fbcmonroenc.com

Vision Statement: “First Baptist Church Monroe exists to Love God, Love Within, and Love Beyond”

Annual Church Meeting — June 25, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Harvey Whitley and Dr. Chris Dawson opened with prayer.

Dr. Chris Dawson presented the New Officer Nominees for the 2025-2026 Church year. No one had any others to present. Mr. Whitley floored the nominees to a vote. These officers were all voted in unanimously.

The Adoption of the 2025-2026 Church Budget was presented by Dr. Chris Dawson and Carolyn White. A reason was given for each line item that was either an increase or decrease. The New Budget total is \$357,533 compared to last year's budget of \$351,351. This reflects a decrease of (\$6,182), which is only a change of (1.7%). The decrease is mainly due to decreases in the Ministry Coordinator new starting salary, Custodial Services Expenses being decreased to no preschool at this time, and various decreases in other areas. These decreases are offset by an increase in Property Insurance. Mr. Whitley floored the Budget, and all approved.

The Treasurer's report was given by Mr. Joel Myers. He presented the Financial Summary as of May 31, 2025, and for seven nine months, September 2024 through May 2025. Mr. Myers pointed out the Total Revenue \$250,823 and Expenses \$260,755 which leaves a deficit of \$9,932. The collections \$17,327 short, but the Church underspent \$7,395 in expenses. General checking has a balance of \$12,127 and the Special designated funds have a balance of \$88,075. The Mutual Funds are a total of \$200,000 and Preschool checking is \$7,572.

Following the Financial Report was the Church Clerk, Crystal Brantley. Ms. Brantley reported that the Church now has a total membership of 310. She reported for this quarter that we had no new members and transfer by letter was Joe Litaker and Jessie Ruth Litaker

The Board of Trustee Report was from Carolyn White. The Steeple repair will take place soon. The contractor is waiting on a lift to be able to do the repair. The Trustees approved to pay the \$12,000 HVAC bill with \$6,000 from the columbarium fund and \$6,000 from the interest from the Mutual Funds. The Trustees also approved for a group of Girl Scouts to meet at the church and if all goes well, First Baptist could start their own Girl Scout group. The new Church sign is still in the process. Dr. Dawson and Mrs. White will be meeting with the sign company soon. Lastly, the Trustees approved for the Mission Board to sponsor Fundraisers for the Steeple Repair Project.

The next report from the Board of Deacons was given by Dr. Chris Dawson (Melody Hawkins was not able to attend). The Deacons continue to reach out to their families with cards, visits, and phone calls. The Deacons meet every other month and send out a small gift to each shut-in and homebound member.

The next report was from the Board of Missions by Connie Harrell (Debby McBride was not able to attend). This year the Mission Board continues to prepare and deliver Food Packs weekly to 44 students at Rock Rest Elementary. The Mission Board collected items and filled 44 "Summer Fun Bags" for Rock Rest Elementary. These bags included bubbles, gaming cards, sidewalk chalk, hot wheels, activity books, etc. The Loving Beyond event is planned for Cotton Street this Fall due to hot weather. The Mission Board hosted a meal for 125 Monroe Middle School teachers. The Mission Board also supported the Faith and Fiction Book Club event with a free lunch and A potato and salad bar meal for Bible Trivia. Other missions to come are "David's Advocacy for the Homeless on June 28th and one day trip on July 28 to volunteer with CFBNC Disaster Response for Western NC. . The Mission Board also would like everyone to please look at the bulletin board in the hallway for pictures displayed of different events.

Harvey Whitley asked for a motion to accept the reports. Gary Potter made the motion and Ken Handy 2nd.

Other Business: Vote on ordaining Ben Potter (Richard Benjamin Potter) to the Gospel Ministry. Mr. Potter met with the ordinance committee and was unanimously voted to be ordained. Dr. Dawson made a motion for ordaining Mr. Potter into the Baptist Ministry and all approved. The ordaining ceremony is scheduled for August 31, 2025

Dr. Dawson thanked Harvey Whitley for his 15 years of being First Baptist Church Moderator. Ben Potter will be taking his place.