



# STEEPLE VIEWS

First Baptist Church • Monroe • North Carolina

Issues 36 -- August 27, 2025



**Season 5 of *The Chosen***  
**will be shown on Wednesdays,**  
**September 3 - October 29**  
**at 6:00 p.m. in Room 308**

— *facilitated by Pastor Chris Dawson* —

Join us to watch and discuss Season 5!

Join us this  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 31 AT 9:30 A.M.**  
**IN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER**  
for our final conversation on  
***THRIVE***

## Thank You . . .

To My Church Family:

Thank you for the wonderful retirement celebration this past Saturday. It was such a special day! Working at First Baptist for almost 56 years has been the biggest blessing of my life. God has blessed this church with wonderful people, many who are now Saints! Thank you for this incredible journey.

— Kathy Cole



## Blood Drive

**Friday, September 5 - 2:30-7:00 p.m.**  
**Family Life Center**

## Facts & Figures:

**Sunday, August 24, 2025**

Weekly Budget Requirements .....	\$	6,875
Budget Receipts .....	\$	2,390
Budget Receipts to Date .....	\$	326,152
Expenses to Date .....	\$	342,126



Called  
to  
Serve

Celebration of

## ORDINATION

Sunday, August 31  
during Morning Worship  
for

*Ben Potte*

## Craft Supplies for FBC Childrens' Worship

This is the new sign for the craft closet (upstairs beside Room 308). It has been cleaned out and all items labeled. Because we're now sharing areas with preschool, all who will be working with the FBC children and youth need to know where they can find supplies. Please use item from this closet as they are getting old and closet is small.



We welcome Natasha Higgins who joined this past Sunday on the transfer of her membership. Cindy Helms serves as Natasha's deacon.

## August Prayer Focus

### Healing - Loving Within & Loving Beyond

The month of August is considered National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM), which raises awareness about the importance of vaccines and how they can help prevent serious diseases. If you're like me, you're not a big fan of shots; however, when we get immunized, we're taking our responsibility to look out for our own health AND the health of others seriously.

As Christ-followers, Jesus told us the 2nd greatest commandment, after Loving God completely, was loving the stranger, neighbor, and friend as we love ourselves. To me, that means should prioritize and pray for Healing; physically, emotionally, and spiritually, for ourselves, and more importantly, for others.

# CHURCH CALENDAR

**Sunday, August 31**  
9:30 am Thrive Conversation - *Family Life Center*  
10:30 am Morning Worship - *Sanctuary/Facebook*

**Monday, September 1**  
Church Offices Closed

**Tuesday, September 2**  
6:00 pm Board of Deacons - *Parlor*

**Wednesday, September 3**  
6:00 pm Showing of *The Chosen* - *Room 308*  
Children & Families Dinner - *FLC*  
6:30 pm Children's Music/Discipleship  
Youth Discipleship  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir - *Choir Room*  
Board of Missions - *Conference Room*

**Thursday, September 4**  
6:00 pm Faith and Fitness - *FLC/Courtyard*

**Friday, September 5**  
2:30 pm Blood Drive - *FLC*

## Church Offices Closed

The church offices will be closed on  
Monday, September 1 for Labor Day



Joe Harris - Frances Vaughan - Dot Bates  
Martha Melton - Dr. Jimmy Taylor  
Vivian Roberts - Josh Handy - Ed Varney  
Richard Poindexter, former member  
Savanah Britt  
Elliott Atwood, daughter of friends of Brittany Potter  
Sam Goodwin, father of Sally Goodwin  
For peace between Ukraine and Russia  
For peace to take hold in the Middle East

## Sunday Worship - August 31 10:30 AM

Words of Welcome	Dr. Chris Dawson
Call to Worship	Dr. Chris Dawson
Sharing Prayer Concerns	Dr. Chris Dawson
Prayer for the People/Lord’s Prayer	Dr. Chris Dawson
Gathering Music: “Seek Ye First”	
Scripture: Psalm 112	Dr. Melanie Williams
Hymn: “Living for Jesus”	
Scripture: Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16	Michelle Dawson
Song of Calling: “The Journey”	Dr. Melanie Williams
Ordination and Laying on of Hands	Dr. Chris Dawson
Hymn: “Draw Me Nearer”	
Greet Stranger, Neighbor and Friend	
Choral Response: “I Am the Body of Christ”	
Sermon Text	Rev. Ben Potter
Sermon	Rev. Ben Potter
Prayer	Rev. Ben Potter
Anthem: “In Remembrance of Me”	Chancel Choir
Ordinance of Communion	
Hymn: “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”	
Closing Voluntary	Elaine Potter

## This Week’s Committees

**Livestreaming Equipment for Worship:**  
Tim McBride

**Nursery:** Ruby Coffey

**Ushers:** Kathy Cole, Don Haver, Melody Hawkins

**Lay Leader:** Michelle Dawson

**Money Counter:** Jim Griffin



**Steeple Views**  
**First Baptist Church**  
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Web-site .....	www.fbcmonroenc.com
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”

# From Pastor Chris

As we kick-off our Mid-Week worship here at FBC Monroe for the 2025-26 church year, I wanted to share an overview of what’s going to be happening with the students of all ages and adults for the 2025 Fall/Winter Loving Within Discipleship Opportunities.

The students will begin their Fall Loving Within Spiritual Formation on Wednesday, September 3 at 6:00 p.m. for a bring your own family meal time in the Family Life Center. Then around 6:30 p.m., our youngest church family members will have choir and learn during a time of spiritual formation. Ann Handy, Brittany Potter, and Jenna Bailey will be teaching the younger students through November before they take a Winter Break. Matt and Lisa Dinkins, and Tim McBride will be leading the older students from September through November.

Through the leadership of Rev. Caitie Jackson, CBFNC Campus Minister, our Choral Scholars will meet on Wednesday nights. This is a continued partnership that began last year and looking forward to seeing how the Holy Spirit will lead in this endeavor.

For the adults, we will begin our Loving Within time by gathering on Wednesday, September 3 in Room 308 at 6:00 p.m. (please notice the time), to watch and discuss Season 5 of The Chosen. These spiritual formation opportunities will happen from September 3 – October 29, EXCEPT for September 24, which is the first quarterly business meeting of the new church year

On November 5 and 12, Ben Potter will lead the adults on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in Room #308 to discuss Biblical Hospitality: this is a continuation of our Helping Churches Thrive journey and then there will be a Hands-On Hospitality ministry event that will take place on November 17; stay tuned for the details of this event. There will be NO mid-week worship during the week of Thanksgiving.

There will be 2 Loving Within Discipleship gatherings in December. The first one is our Blue Christm Service that will be held on Wednesday, December 17 at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary, and the second is our Christmas Eve Service held on Wednesday, December 24 at 5:30 in the Sanctuary.

As this church family continues to perpetuate thriving for God’s honor and glory, I look forward to these Loving Within Spiritual Formation opportunities and discover how God will continue to lead us and help us grow into the Christ-followers we’re called to be.

Grace & Peace,  
Chris



**September Anniversaries:**

- 1 - Jimmy and Dot Taylor
- 2 - Ben and Brittany Potter
- 9 - Gene and Pat Herrell
- 11 - Alan and Melanie Williams
- 18 - Bob and Patti Duncan
- 26 - Bob and Shirley Bullard

**September Birthdays:**

- 4 - Larry Tuggle
- 9 - Ron Reed
- 11 - Reggy Gaddy
- 13 - Libby Totty
- 14 - Norma Griffi
- 15 - Ruby Coffey
- 16 - Matt Dinkins  
Faye Varney
- 19 - T.J. Coffey
- 23 - John Whitley
- 24 - Lisa Davis
- 25 - Adam Dinkins
- 26 - Natasha Higgins

# September 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<div>1</div> <div>Labor Day Church Offices Closed</div> <div></div>	<div>2</div> <div></div> <div>6:00 pm Board of Deacons, Parlor</div>	<div>3</div> <div></div> <div>6:00 pm Wed. Evening Activi- ties Begin  7:30 pm Board of Missions, Conf. Room</div>	<div>4</div> <div></div> <div>6:00 pm Faith and Fitness, Courtyard/FLC</div>	<div>5</div> <div></div> <div>2:30 pm Blood Drive, FLC</div>	<div>6</div> <div></div> <div></div>
<div>7</div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>8</div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>9</div> <div></div> <div>6:30 pm Board of Trustees, Conf. Room</div>	<div>10</div> <div></div> <div>6:00 pm Regu- lar Wed. Even- ing Activities</div>	<div>11</div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>12</div> <div></div> <div>9:30 am Quilt- ing Retreat, FLC</div>	<div>13</div> <div></div> <div>9:30 am Quilt- ing Retreat, FLC</div>
<div>14</div> <div>11:30 am Faith in Fiction Book Club Lunch, FLC</div> <div></div>	<div>15</div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>16</div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>17</div> <div></div> <div>6:00 pm Regu- lar Wed. Even- ing Activities</div>	<div>18</div> <div></div> <div>6:00 pm Faith and Fitness, Courtyard/FLC</div>	<div>19</div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>20</div> <div></div> <div></div>
<div>21</div> <div>10:30 am Dea- con Ordination Service</div> <div></div>	<div>22</div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>23</div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>24</div> <div>11:30 am 4th Wed. Lunch Bunch  6:00 pm Chil- dren/Youth Reg. Activities  6:30 pm Quar- terly Church Meeting, FLC</div>	<div>25</div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>26</div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>27</div> <div></div> <div></div>
<div>28</div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>29</div> <div>12:00 pm Pro- vide Lunch for Next Door Clubhouse at Council on Ag- ing</div> <div></div>	<div>30</div> <div></div> <div></div>				