

FBC
High Point

THE HERALD
WORKING WITH GOD'S BLUEPRINTS

Chicken Pies are back!

There are some “Area Famous” Chicken Pies available to benefit the Vietnamese Baptist Church. They are \$12 each.

If you would like some, contact Kerry Jones at KLJones119@aol.com or 336-669-6692 to arrange for delivery.



Do you miss Vacation Bible School? Well, you are in luck. The Children’s Committee is in the very early stages of planning VBS and we need your help. We would like to fill 5 stations: Registration, Bible Study, Recreation, Music and Snacks. The tentative date for right now is July 19-21. If you would like to be a part of this exciting time in our newly revised Children’s Ministry please let Alisha Hunnicutt (336-688-3350) or Teena Reddeck (336-689-4502) know where we can put you. Also, please keep a lookout in future Heralds for more updates.

Thank you,
Alisha Hunnicutt
Chair of Children’s Committee

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

405 N. Main St., High Point, N.C. 27260-5088

336-883-0178

www.fbchighpoint.org – www.facebook.com/firstbaptisthighpoint

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship at 11 a.m. in person in the sanctuary or via Facebook Live.

Offering and Income

April 21, 2024

Weekly Budget Need \$6,786.37
Tithes & Offerings \$2,219.00
Total Budget Receipts \$2,219.00
Budget Needs to Date \$108,581.92
Budget Receipts to Date \$59,887.04

April 28, 2024

Weekly Budget Need \$6,786.37
Tithes & Offerings \$4,509.23
Total Budget Receipts \$4,509.23
Budget Needs to Date \$115,368.29
Budget Receipts to Date \$64,396.27

May 5, 2024

Weekly Budget Need \$6,786.37
Tithes & Offerings \$4,396.00
Total Budget Receipts \$4,396.00
Budget Needs to Date \$122,154.66
Budget Receipts to Date \$68,792.27

May 12, 2024

Weekly Budget Need \$6,786.37
Tithes & Offerings \$12,752.00
Total Budget Receipts \$12,752.00
Budget Needs to Date \$128,941.03
Budget Receipts to Date \$81,544.27

May 19, 2024

Weekly Budget Need \$6,786.37
Tithes & Offerings \$4,079.00
Total Budget Receipts \$4,079.00
Budget Needs to Date \$135,727.40
Budget Receipts to Date \$85,623.27



Online Giving

It is easy to support FBC with your monetary gifts online. Go to the church's website, www.fbchighpoint.org, and click on the word "GIVE" in the blue bar at the top of the homepage. Instructions will appear for giving online with credit and debit cards using Tithe.ly. There are also instructions for setting up an automatic bank draft.

Gathering together



As Martin Handford's books in the "Where's Waldo?" series progress, it gets harder and harder to find the brown-haired, glasses-wearing young man in the red-and-white-striped shirt and knit cap. The figure of Waldo gets smaller, and the crowds around him get larger. In the early 1990s, Handford added sisters Wilma and Wenda to the series, but finding them isn't easy either, so it strikes me as an apt analogy for the challenge a search committee faces in the 21st century.

As I pointed out last month about the "Supply Side: Seminaries," 20 years of declining seminary enrollment in the U.S. has resulted in an annually shrinking pool of ministers with 5, 10 and 15 years of experience, and the fundamentalist takeover of the seminaries of the Southern Baptist Convention almost 40 years ago destroyed the "feeder system" and "networks" on which FBC relied in the past to find its pastors. The disarray of the Baptist seminary supply chain is reflected in the fact that each of this church's three pastors called since 2000 received their ministerial training at non-Baptist institutions (Wake Forest – "ecumenical," Duke – UMC, and Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary – ELCA).

Then there's the "Supply Side: Churches." The word "seminary" means "seed plot," a place where seeds are planted and germinate and where seedlings sprout and grow until they are mature enough to be transplanted into the field. The seeds in the seed plot originate from flowering and fruiting that occurs in the field. When churches are not flowering and fruiting, they are not sending seeds to the seminaries. Over the last 20 years, church attendance in the U.S., especially among young people and young families, has declined. Fewer seeds. Furthermore, healthy churches produce the most seeds, as churches infected by conflict, power struggles, dysfunction and disillusionment don't flower and fruit.

Sympathy

... to Lisa Powell on the death of her brother Jason.

Thank you

Thank you all for your cards and prayers following my recent automobile accident and surgery. Your thoughtfulness is most appreciated; it is what makes the First Baptist family the best. Love to all, Betsy Hines.

Even fewer seeds. Again, this church's experience is illustrative: How many seeds has FBC sent to seed plots in the last 5 years? 10 years? 20 years? When churches decline, the number – and quality – of candidates to pastor them declines, and the challenge that search committees face increases.

Next month: the "Demand Side: Seminaries and Churches"

– Jeff Rogers, interim minister

Scripture readings for June worship planning

June 2

1 Samuel 3:1-20; 2 Corinthians 4:5-12

June 9

1 Samuel 8:4-20; 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

June 16

1 Samuel 15:34 – 16:13; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

June 23

1 Samuel 17:32-49; 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

June 30

Psalm 130; Mark 5:21-43
Terry Eddinger preaching

May Called Church Conferences summary

At the May 5 Called Church Conference, the members voted unanimously for incorporation of First Baptist Church. The motion was brought by the Trustees. When the funds from the sale of our church property at 405 N. Main were received, the Trustees began to explore incorporation for First Baptist Church to limit risk and to comply with best legal church practices. Our society has become highly litigious in recent decades. The Trustees seek to limit risk and liability for individual church members should someone bring a lawsuit against the church and individual church members.

At the May 26 Called Church Conference, Carl Hunnicutt was unanimously voted to fill a vacancy on the Pastor Search Committee.

Deadline for information for the JUNE Herald is JUNE 22. Please email your information to Carol Brooks at cab1@northstate.net.

Staff

Dr. Jeff Rogers
Interim Minister
jeff@fbchighpoint.org

Heather Absher
Director of Finance
and Communication
heather@fbchighpoint.org

Stan Grady
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Carol Brooks
Herald Editor, Webmaster
cab1@northstate.net

Pastoral Care Line
881-6480



REMEMBER:

Wednesday evening meals and Bible study are suspended until September 4 for a summer break.



From the Pastor Search Team

On May 16, the Pastor Search Team met to explore a new strategy for our search. We unanimously agreed we needed to widen our search, and to accomplish that, we decided to work with a staffing firm, Chemistry Staffing. They have a database of over 14,000 candidates and search nationwide. We presented this proposal to the Stewardship Committee for approval and they agreed it was the right move for us at this time. We have already been in touch with our coach (who will work with us throughout the process) and are beginning the necessary work.

Please be in prayer for us as we gather the information needed that we will be thorough and give them what they need to find the best candidates for us. Also be in prayer for the team that will be working for us, that they will have the insight and wisdom to make the best matches possible. We all feel very optimistic about this new process. We are confident that good things are ahead of us!

Teena Reddeck, chair

Financial Report through April 2024

	2024 YTD	2023 YTD
Budget Receipts	\$64,396	\$77,234
Budget Spending	\$99,154	\$94,782
< Budget Deficit >	<\$34,758>	<\$17,548>
City Lease	\$20,000	\$0
< Net Deficit >	<\$54,758>	<\$17,548>

Receipts of \$15,557 in April are still running lower than a year ago by \$13,000 on a year-to-date basis. At the same time we are not in an insurmountable situation.

Spending is on track at \$29,824 for April (including the lease.) There is no other big spending line item to reduce. We keep looking though. We will spend about \$25,000 per month plus another \$5,000 for the City lease. The biggest unwieldy item is property maintenance – which was actually favorable for April but still unfavorable year to date.

We show the City lease “below the line” so that the “budget spending” line is comparable to last year for the same line items. Besides that, the City lease is a temporary cost for 24 months. It would be a big stretch to add \$60,000 lease expense to the budget and expect it to be covered.

Economic times are tough and we appreciate your faithfulness in giving.

– Don Myers, treasurer

2024 CBF General Assembly

June 19-21

Sheraton Greensboro at Four Seasons and Koury Convention Center

This summer at General Assembly, we will re:imagine as we live out our faith through our unique Baptist identity and are ever being transformed through the Holy Spirit. Together, we'll consider transformation through imagination – our own and that of the Holy Spirit moving through us as a community. With the idea of re:, we're exploring the idea of “regarding imagination” as well as the transforming quality of re-imagining – revising, reinvigorating, reenergizing, and renewing.

For more information, visit <https://cbf.net/assembly>.

If you are interested in attending as a delegate from First Baptist, call the church office to sign up.

Pastor Relations Committee

On May 19, the Pastor Relations Committee met with Jeff Rogers for the first of three quarterly meetings. It was a very productive and successful meeting. We discussed performance in the areas of Worship Leadership, Congregational and Staff Relations, Church Vision and Growth, Personal and Professional Growth, and Service. We identified the things that were going well and things that could be improved came up with specific action steps for the next quarter.

The committee felt very good about our work. We feel this is going to be a positive process for facilitating communication between the congregation and the pastor.

This is an area that has been lacking in the past and the Pastor Search Team has found that candidates are interested in some type of process for supporting their ministry and relationships with their congregants.

Our next quarterly meeting will take place in early September. If you have words of encouragement or suggestions for our pastor that we can discuss at our next meeting, please pass these along to one of the committee members (Pam Burgess, Joy Key, Terry Eddinger, Debbie Edwards, Patricia Clinard, Alisha Hunnicutt, Teena Reddeck).

Missions

The Mission Committee is very grateful for response to our monthly mission focus. So far this year we have collected warm clothing for the men at the Open Door Shelter as well as toilet tissue and paper towels- In March we asked for gallon-size Ziploc bags for the backpack program of the Salvation Army and United Way. You responded with 27 boxes of more than 1,000 bags which will be filled with food and unobtrusively placed in a child's backpack. This effort, along with your continued participation in the Simple Gestures food collection program (dropoff by June 23), serves to ease hunger in the High Point area.

In May we collected toilet tissue, laundry detergent and large black garbage bags for Leslie's House, High Point's shelter for women. In addition, when there was extra food on Wednesday nights, Wayne and Maxine Perdue have delivered it to Leslie's House.

June's focus will be on World Relief with collection of new twin sheets and pillows. July and August will once again focus on school supplies for Communities in Schools.

Another ongoing mission is our Blessing Box. With warmer weather, we need to remember to fill it with non-perishable items, as well as items that are packaged to keep ants and bugs out.

Finally, if you know of a need that we can address in our monthly mission focus, please advise me or any member of the Mission Committee.

And once again, thank you for your generosity!

– Linda Winslow

Children's Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Children's Sunday School began again March 3! Located in Room 225, across from the flags, the new Children's Sunday School is open to any school-aged children in

grades K-5.

Volunteers are needed. Contact Alisha Hunnicutt or Wayne Perdue if you would be available to help. Thank you!

Greeters

June 2

David & Abby Williams

June 9

?

June 16

Lib & Bud Blackwell

June 23

Wayne & Maxine Perdue

June 30

Brian Garis

Jeanneen Adamcik

Deacons on Call

June 2

Linda Causby

Rob Fincher

June 9

Brian Garis

Janet Odum

June 16

Jeanneen Adamcik

Alisha Hunnicutt

June 23

Diania Baum

Donna Willis

June 30

Wayne Perdue

Linda Winslow



Did you know ...

The 2024 Summer Olympics will be held in Paris July 26 to Aug. 11. Did you know that the first Olympian from High Point – and the University of North Carolina – was a member of First Baptist? His name was Harry Williamson, a middle-distance runner. Williamson participated in the 1936 Berlin Olympics. He didn't medal in his 800-meter run (he finished sixth) but he was part of a world record 4x800-meter team later that year. To make the Olympic team, he finished third at the trials. His personal bests were 1:51.2 in the 800 meters in 1936 and 4:15.3 in the mile in 1934. He was inducted into the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame in 1999. Born in 1913, Williamson died in 2000. There is a display about Williamson in the Heritage Room. Stop by and look at it.

The first structure for First Baptist Church in High Point (then called Salem Street Baptist Church) was a small, wooden building and was used from 1860-1906. No photographs have been found of this church building but when the new sanctuary was built in 1906, the old frame building was moved by mules to Howell Street (now Westwood Avenue) to be used as a nurses' residence for the hospital.

From "Rules of Decorum" as copied from the original record of 1832: "No brother shall abruptly Break off or absent himself from the church without obtaining liberty." "No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject without obtaining liberty from the church." "No person shall be at liberty to be whispering in the time that a brother is making a speech."

200th Anniversary Committee

The Anniversary Committee has been discussing some exciting ideas for the 200th Anniversary of our church. Specific details are still being decided. After all, the anniversary isn't until 2025.

We want to invite back all former members and staff, so if you know how to get in touch with these people or family, let us know at the email address above.

It is not lost on the Anniversary Committee that the celebration of our 200th anniversary (looking back) and the move to some new location (looking forward) could be happening in the same year. We are so excited about our past, present and future!

Looking forward (and back),
The Anniversary Committee

200thanniversary@fbchighpoint.org

BIRTHDAYS in



Freddie Campbell	June 1	Bobby Henderson	June 22
Christopher Counou	June 2	Caitlin Adamcik	June 23
Rick Smoot	June 3	Benjamin Anderson	June 25
Kevin Jones	June 8	Gary Pressley	June 27
Thomas Freeman	June 12	Don Hritz	June 28
Vipa Burapavong	June 15	Wayne Perdue	June 28
Deborah Edwards	June 18	Hunter Eddinger	June 30
Brian Garis	June 21		

Sunday Worship Live Stream Every Sunday

at 11:00 a.m. on



The Lobby Desk hours are now
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
from
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Pastoral Care Line
336-881-6480