

First Baptist Church Hillsborough

201 W. King Street, Hillsborough, NC 27278



The Messenger March 2026

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Music Director
Aaron Pickard

FBC Website
www.fbchillsborough.org

Sundays

9:00 am Community Grounds
9:45 am Bible Fellowship Groups
11:00 am Worship

In-Person Worship Attendance

February 1	0 (Snow)
February 8	102
February 15	118
February 22	110

YouTube Views

0
174
128
44

[Click HERE](#) to
Give Online

Bible Fellowship Group Attendance

February 1	0 (Snow)
February 8	61
February 15	64
February 22	59



Matthew 5:16

WATCH US GROW IN CHRIST! MONTHLY SCRIPTURE FOR KINGDOM KIDS

Parents & family members, please help your child learn these verses and look for them in their Bible. They will have the opportunity to recite the verse for a "punch" on their card!

March 1



"This is the day
that the Lord
has made."

Psalm 118:24

March 8

"Jesus said to him,
I am the way, and
the truth, and
the life."



March 15

"Be strong and
courageous."

Joshua 1:9



March 22



"Jesus Christ is the
same yesterday and
today and forever."

Hebrews 13:8

March 29



"Fear not,
for I am with you."

Isaiah 41:10

Thank you for allowing us to serve your children!

The People We are Becoming

Dear Precious Friends,

Thank you for your wholehearted welcome to Linda and me at FBC Hillsborough. You have created a wonderful opportunity for us to share with you in fellowship, worship and community. You are a faithful, loving people and we are appreciative of your friendship and grace. Hope and pray with me, friends, as we use our time and lives to honor God in this community and in this world. I pray for our community and beyond where we take care of each other and where we can be gentle with ourselves, less judgmental and more forgiving and merciful. Let's work on our level of kindness and provide others with grace. Let us have a hope where we can lean into God and keep moving. Let's reflect and take heart with the words from Paul in his letter to the Romans: "And hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us" (Romans 5:5).

The Lenten season is an invitation for Christians around the world to draw closer to God. It is a time for reflection, opening our eyes and our hearts that we may find and be found. There are times in our lives when we fail to look for God. God is faithful and always here for us. God is closer to us than the air we breathe and the ground on which we stand. We will never know God and we will never know what it is to be known by God unless we look. We look so that God can lead us and fulfill His will.

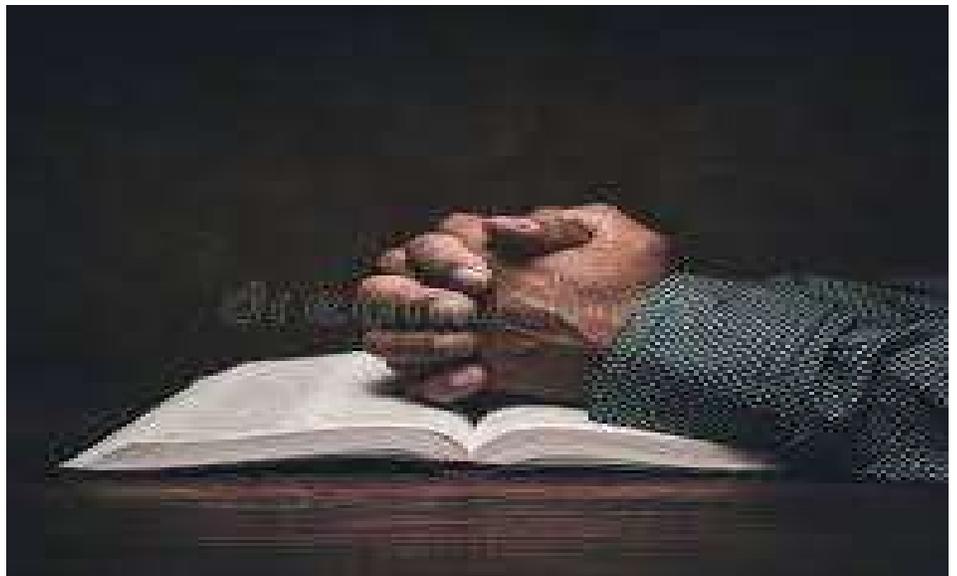
The Lenten season is a time we look for God. It is time to train ourselves to see what is already there, but hidden and obscured by the other things that occupy life. Easter is a time for starting on a journey with the destination of looking and finding ourselves and, more importantly, finding the One who has never lost us. Easter is a time to learn some "habits" that awaken us to the wonders of God's grace and love and keep us close to the one true source of hope, joy, and strength we have. So many look for that grace in all the wrong places.

Won't you join me in the journey? Won't you join me in finding the wonder of God's love and grace? Will you join me and others realizing the great sacrifice made with the death of Christ? Will you join us in the grace found in the resurrection of our Lord? Easter is a time to realize that you can prepare for eternity and that God has plans for you in the journey. God has plans for you to serve and at the same time, God has a place for you to serve. Ephesians 2:10 says: "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Missing the message of drawing closer to Christ Jesus is missing the point of your life. I encourage you to share your journey with those you meet and serve. Thank you for this wonderful opportunity and journey. My best to you as we journey together. I will see you on Sunday.

Rev. David Morton

Pastor

FBC Hillsborough



Daylight Saving Time



***DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS
SUNDAY MARCH 8TH - 2 A.M.***

***REMEMBER TO
TURN YOUR CLOCK UP (1) HOUR!***

DON'T BE LATE FOR CHURCH!!



Bring Flowers from your Garden on Easter Sunday

The cross stands at the center of the Christian faith as a symbol of both life and death.

Flowering of the cross is an Easter Sunday tradition at FBC, that invites everyone to participate in converting a barren cross into one covered in flowers, representing our hope in eternal life.

Easter Happenings!

Save the Date!



2026 MEN'S MINISTRY
Men's Prayer Breakfast
Sunday, March 15, 2026 at 8:30 a.m.

Come Enjoy Good Food and Faithful Fellowship!
Bring a Favorite Friend and a Favorite Dish!

“Welcome House” Update – 2026

On Thursday, January 15, 2026, our first guest of 2026 arrived from South Africa and is staying at Welcome House until permanent housing becomes available through World Relief. We are very happy that he worshipped with us on his first Sunday in America, attending both a men’s Sunday School class and worship service. After church, he was invited by the “Bojangles Crew” for lunch and a trip to Wal-Mart. He was most appreciative of all the hospitality shown to him. Please continue to reach out to Richard if you see him at church. Pray for him as he adjusts to a new way of life in the United States.

We have welcomed a second South African guest to the Welcome House. His name is Justin and he comes from north of Johannesburg. Both Richard and Justin have been attending our Sunday worship service and seem to enjoy the fellowship and hospitality of our Church family.

We continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus by showing compassion and generosity to them as they learn to assimilate into a new culture and environment.

We are looking for new team members to be part of this ministry. If you are interested in finding out more about what the Welcome House ministry involves, please get in touch with a core team member – Bill Bulfin, Steve Lopez, Jan Irwin or Joanne Berg.

May we continue to be the hands and feet of Christ and show love and compassion to those who find themselves strangers in a foreign land.





The Shed-o-Plenty is Still in Need!

Thank you for your continued contributions to The Shed. It continues to meet the needs of families in Orange County—through large items and small!

Thank you again to all for your support and for the work of the Kingdom!

Below is a current list of the most needed items.

NOTE: Other items needed to help set up a small apartment are still welcomed.

Currently most needed:

- ⇒ Dressers or chests of drawers
- ⇒ Full and twin bed frames (or platforms)
- ⇒ Living room furniture (for smaller apartments)
- ⇒ Small kitchen tables and chairs
- ⇒ Twin comforters or spreads
- ⇒ Twin sheets
- ⇒ Drinking glasses (for families with children)

I wanted to share how the shed continues to assist our community. Thank you so much!

From an Alliance for Success case worker



Contact Sharon Richardson if you have questions about donations or ways to assist the families that use the Shed.
919- 636-1699 or sharonr3711@gmail.com

NOTES OF INTEREST
to FBC Family and Friends

A Note of Thanks!

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers, meals, calls, visits and thoughtful texts during Betty Ann's recent medical challenges and treatment. Your love, support, and encouragement meant more to our family than words can express.

We truly felt surrounded by your care and lifted up in prayer during a difficult time.

We are so grateful to be part of such a compassionate and faithful church family.

With heartfelt thanks,

The Dickerson Family

******Men's Breakfast – Third Wednesday of Each Month at Mebane Cracker Barrel**
– Begins at 8:00 a.m.*****

GOOD NEWS CLUB

Good News Club will be held February 25 - April 29, 2026 at Mebane's Chapel UHC.

Please contact Mildred Hannaman at (919) 563-6349 for more information – it is also on the Registration Form downstairs by the elevator at FBC Hillsborough.

Mebane's Chapel is walking distance from Central Elementary and across the street from Hillsborough Elementary.

Please pray we have students attend - they need the Good News.

MINISTRY PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

We are updating all the committees, chair and co- chair persons and members. The listings will be on our website and available in handout.

The FLOWER COMMITTEE is in need of (3) members to help in the Rose Garden.

We have (2) new committees being formed. They are the Worship Committee and Church Consul.

Thank you to each for your dedicated service to church and God.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

As we go forward in 2026, please decide if you prefer to remain a member of the Ordinance Committee. You may e-mail or text BONNIE MURPHY at 315-709-1150 should you choose to serve elsewhere.

OCIM - ORANGE CONGREGATIONS IN MISSION

MARCH MADNESS!!

It's HERE!!! MARCH MADNESS for OCIM...

COLLEGE BASKETBALL...YAY!!

NC State/Wake Forest/Clemson/UNC/Duke teams this year.

This effort can raise over 1,000 pounds for the hungry. It's fun, challenging and rewarding to the winner. More importantly – it is REWARDING to OCIM and to the many people who receive the blessing of food. Let's ALL Give for Our Favorite TEAM -- for OCIM and for our COMMUNITY!! Please contact BONNIE MURPHY at 315-709-1150 (text or call) with questions/concerns. Thank you!



Our blessed congregant, BOB MADDRY, faithfully delivers the collected food items to OCIM each week. OCIM's record-keeping is done by poundage. Let's look forward to what 2025 yielded as we do greater things in 2026.

LET'S DO MORE IN 2026! Thank you SO MUCH for your faithfulness in helping those in need. You may place food items in the blue barrels in the downstairs hallway OR you may use the baskets in the Bible Fellowship rooms. Items needed on the regular include cereal, peanut butter, canned vegetables, soups and canned fruits. Also, toothbrushes, bar soap and deodorants or other hygiene products are always welcomed.

PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE IN NEED EVERY DAY – NOT JUST ON HOLIDAYS! Thank you!

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FINANCE NEWS

More Tellers Needed



Among the many opportunities available to serve at FBCH, the need has recently surfaced for additional tellers. Tellers serve in pairs once every (4) to (6) weeks for about an hour at the conclusion of the worship service to count and record the weekly tithes and offerings of the church. No experience is necessary; however, the teller team is one of our Foundational Committees or ministry teams which requires church membership and approval for service. If you would like to know more, please contact Sue Bulfin at 919-605-5645 or email at srbulfin@gmail.com. Sue can arrange for you to sit with the tellers any Sunday to better understand this important ministry of our church.





Lent

An Invitation to Walk Together Through Lent

Friends,

The Christian calendar gently guides us through seasons that help shape our faith and our lives. We begin each year with Advent, the Birth of Jesus, and Epiphany—events we have just celebrated together. From there, the calendar carries us through Ash Wednesday, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost.

We are currently in this meaningful stretch of the church year, moving from Epiphany toward Ash Wednesday, which begins Lent on February 18. Each season carries its own emphasis, and Lent—those forty days (not counting Sundays)—has long been understood as a time of preparation, reflection, endurance, and sacrifice. It echoes Jesus' forty days in the wilderness, facing temptation and clarifying his call. The Church has observed this season since the second century, formalized at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD, and Christians have continued this practice for nearly 1,900 years as a way of preparing hearts for Easter.

Once again, we are inviting you to take part in a shared Lenten journey through reading and conversation. This practice began during Lent of 2021, as we learned new ways to stay connected during COVID, and it has become a meaningful and life-giving rhythm. Each week we read individually, then gather face to face—via Zoom—to reflect together. Though we may not be in the same physical space, the conversations are thoughtful, dynamic, and deeply connected. It is also a wonderful way to extend our church walls to include those who join us from beyond our campus.

We are currently beginning the process of selecting our Lenten reading. If you would like to have a voice in choosing the material, I would love to hear from you—just reach out to me at Stephen_m_durham@yahoo.com. If you'd prefer to wait and see what the group selects, that's perfectly fine, as well; the final selection will be shared by mid-February. Books will be provided at no cost/ Just let me know if you would like one.

Our gatherings will take place on **Saturday mornings at 8:30 a.m.**, meeting for one hour via Zoom, beginning **February 21st and continuing through April 4th**. Zoom details will be shared closer to our start date.

I hope you will consider joining us as we walk together through this sacred season of Lent.

Grace and Peace,

Stephen Durham



FEBRUARY'S FRUIT

As a host site for program events of WyldLife (WL) and Young Life (YL) Ministries in Hillsborough, FBCH may see Orange Middle School students and Cedar Ridge High School students assemble throughout the week with their WL or YL leaders to enjoy time together in fun and discovery of the Gospel of Christ.

These programs are producing fruit that may not be as visible in the church as the kids are each week, yet they are a testament to the movement of God in and through these community-based ministries for adolescents. Here is a list of the PRAISES that you should know from Hillsborough Young Life ministries for February:

- WyldLife leaders for Eno River Academy middle school girls were allowed to start a Bible study in the school gym before school. Prior to this year, school policy restricted WL leaders from conducting any events within the school. School access at Eno River was a prayer request shared last fall in a previous Messenger article! Thanks be to God for His answer.**
- Orange Middle School WyldLife had (14) students and (3) leaders attending the Winter Weekend Camp at Carolina Point, a Young Life camp in Brevard, NC. This is a large increase in WL camp enrollment from Hillsborough in comparison to previous years. Camp is a transformational time for leaders and students to grow together in their faith and begin Christ-like relationships with one another that last beyond a student's adolescent years.**
- The McBane class is faithfully volunteering weekly snacks for Cedar Ridge's YL club meetings on Monday nights as a way to welcome the students and leaders who attend and show them that the Church is glad they come.**
- New leaders who completed training in Young Life's College program at UNC were selected for placement on Hillsborough YL and WL teams and will begin serving with their teams next month. Praise God for providing new volunteers to sustain these growing ministries in Hillsborough.**

Contact Anne Brinkley (919-636-8136) for more information about Hillsborough Young Life Ministries.

SENIORS IN OUR COMMUNITY

We're in a new year. How is God calling you to serve? Could it be visiting and enjoying some time with our seniors? Check the list below for a few locations of nursing homes and senior living facilities for that visit. Also, remember our seniors who remain in their homes. Addresses are in our FBC online directory.

We enjoyed a fun morning at Adorable Senior Living. Carlene, Gerry, Ellen, Dee and Jan all gathered for bingo, singing and coloring pictures for residents' doors. We praised God together with our precious friends. It was a joyous time for all. We are planning another visit in March. Come join us.

Anyone wishing to join us at **2:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday** of the month for a Hymn Sing at **Brookshire**, we invite you to do so. This is held in the dining hall for a time of singing and sharing with the residents. We have printed song lyrics available each time. Contact **DEE JACOLA** at 919-632-7091 (text or call) or dhjackola@gmail.com. It is certainly an uplifting time for all.

Contact **JAN IRWIN** with any questions, ideas or prayers. Thank you for serving in any way that God calls you.

<u>Parkview Health/Rehab Center</u> 1716 Legion Road Chapel Hill, NC 27517		<u>Brookdale</u> 4434 Ben Franklin Blvd. Durham, NC 27704	<u>Nancy Baity/Room 117</u> <u>Joyce Rippy/Room 200</u>
<u>Adorable Senior Living</u> (*Villines Rest Home) 401 W. Queen St. Hillsborough, NC 27278	<u>All Residents</u>	<u>Croasdaile Village</u> 2600 Croasdaile Pkwy/Pavillion Durham, NC 27705	
<u>Mebane Ridge Nursing Home</u> 1999 S NC Hwy 119 Mebane, NC 27302	<u>Joyce Bateman</u> <u>(Memory Care Unit)</u>	<u>Durham Nursing & Rehab</u> 411 S. LaSalle St. Durham, NC 27705	<u>Mark Bullock</u>
<u>Terra Bella (Carillon)</u> 1911 Orange Grove Road Hillsborough, NC 27278	<u>Virginia "Pauline"</u> <u>McClard – Rm A18</u>		
<u>Hillcrest Rehab and Asst Living</u> 1417 W. Pettigrew St. Durham, NC 27705			



PRAYER REQUESTS and CONCERNS

If you have an ongoing prayer concern this month or an urgent prayer request and would like to share it with the FBC Hillsborough congregation and/or post it in our monthly Messenger, please contact the office by telephone at (919) 732-8174 or via e-mail at office@fbchillsborough.org so that it may be added to the Prayer List.

You may contact Rev. David Morton at (919) 732-8174 or contact the Church Office. The office hours are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. If you call outside of office hours, please leave a message so that your concern may be addressed when the office re-opens.

******Please pray for Cathy Gage (and husband Glenn) on the passing of Cathy's mother this last week.***

******Please pray for Bob Maddry on the passing of his uncle this past week.***



March 2026 Birthdays



03-01-26 Steve Poovey	03-18-26 Chip Liner
03-02-26 Joanne Berg	03-20-26 Chase Dickerson
03-03-26 Lynne Laws	03-20-26 Bonnie Ellis
03-04-26 Rev. David Morton	03-25-26 Bonnie Murphy
03-05-26 MacKenzie Sloan	03-26-26 Barry Baity
03-06-26 Donna Hall	03-29-26 Teresa Church
03-10-26 Janet Marks	00-29-26 Mary Dodson
03-13-26 Tom Ward	03-31-26 Julie McGlothlin
03-14-26 Al DeLancy	

