

First Baptist Church Hillsborough

201 W. King Street, Hillsborough, NC 27278



The Messenger September 2026

Sundays

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

In-Person Worship Attendance

August 2	120
August 9	118
August 16	110
August 23	116
August 30	103

YouTube Views

127
117
118
99
79

Bible Fellowship Group Attendance

August 2	66
August 9	59
August 16	61
August 23	63
August 30	59

For any ministerial needs, please contact the Pastor, the Church Office or any Deacon.

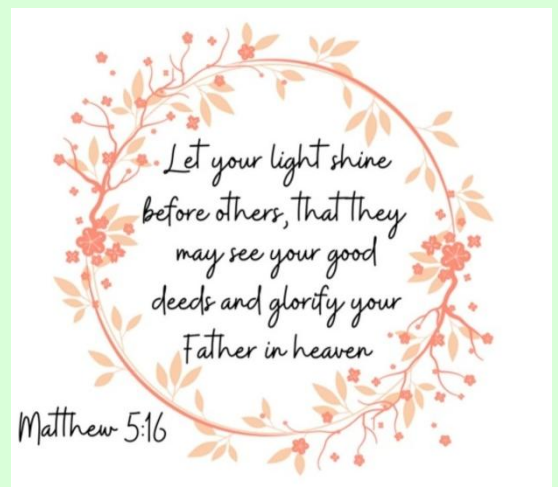
Pastor: Rev. David Morton
dmorton@fbchillsborough.org

Administrative Assistant
Crystal Swisher
office@fbchillsborough.org
(919)732-8174

Music Director
Aaron Pickard

FBC Website
www.fbchillsborough.org

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Give Online



The People We Are Becoming

Dear Friends and Family at FBC Hillsborough,

We are all called to witness ...

When we welcome new members, we renew our vows to support the church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. We may understand the first four, but what does it mean to witness? Is it sharing our faith—and what is faith?

In his letters to the early church, the Apostle Paul often describes faith as the means by which we receive God's grace (Romans 3:28). He also places faith alongside hope and love as virtues that shape our relationship with God through Christ Jesus (1 Corinthians 13:13), with love as the greatest of these. Hebrews 11:1 defines faith as "the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Faith, then, is deep trust in the ultimate reign of God's goodness and love on earth.

With this understanding, how might we be witnesses to our faith? Here are some examples:

- We can be a source of hope to others in worrying times;
- Be of comfort to someone in distress;
- Invite a friend or neighbor to join us at church; and
- Welcome someone we do not recognize in the church pew near us and invite them to join us during and after worship.

John Wesley once said that "religion is not solitary; it is lived in society." This is what Jesus spoke when he admonished us to be the light of the world through His Spirit.

I love this congregation. I love the full range of people who walk through our doors. Let's stand and stay at the altar together, pray together, keep reading Scripture together and keep asking challenging questions together. We know that is what a mature and growing community of faith does. This prophetic tradition is not new. It is as old as Amos and Isaiah and as urgent as the Sermon on the Mount. We did not invent it. It is our hope to simply try to be faithful to it.

I am grateful, always, to do that work here, with you.

With Sunday coming, and all the days between,

David Morton, Pastor
FBC Hillsborough



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!

September 6



BE ON YOUR GUARD;
STAND FIRM IN THE
FAITH; BE COURAGEOUS;
BE STRONG.

-1 CORINTHIANS 16:13

September 13



THE FEAR OF THE LORD
IS THE BEGINNING OF
KNOWLEDGE.

-PROVERBS 1:7

September 20



WHERE YOU GO I WILL GO,
WHERE YOU STAY I WILL
STAY. YOUR PEOPLE WILL BE
MY PEOPLE AND YOUR GOD
MY GOD.

-RUTH 1:16

September 27



CREATE IN ME A PURE
HEART, O GOD, AND
RENEW A STEADFAST
SPIRIT WITHIN ME.

-PSALM 51:10

Thank you for allowing us to serve your children!

Children's Ministry September Update

We are so thankful for the opportunity to serve and minister to our children. August was filled with opportunities for our children to learn and grow in their faith, and we are grateful for the continued prayers and support of our congregation.



What We've Been Learning

On Sunday mornings this month, our children explored lessons from Luke and Acts, learning that God calls His followers to witness faithfully to Jesus through their words, actions, and courage—even amid fear, opposition, or suffering.

During two fun-filled days of VBS, our children played, danced, sang, created crafts, shared meals, and learned about the Armor of God in Ephesians 6:10–18. Each piece taught an important truth: the belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, shoes of the gospel of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, and sword of the Spirit—the Word of God. They learned that putting on God's armor means trusting Him, knowing His Word, choosing what is right, standing firm in faith, and sharing His love. VBS reminded them that following Jesus is an adventure they never face alone: God is with them, equips them, and helps them stand strong!

We hope these lessons will shape our children's faith throughout the week and deepen their relationship with Jesus.



Coming Up

Remember the survey we completed in 2023? A clear, recurring message was the need to renew our focus on children's and youth ministries and bring back former programs. **WE HEARD YOU!**

CHILDREN'S CHURCH IS BACK!

Beginning Sunday, October 4, children in kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to Children's Church! They will worship with the congregation during the first part of the service, participate in the Children's Sermon, and then gather in the Children's Classroom at the end of the upstairs hall for their own worship service! More details will be shared in the coming weeks.

WE NEED YOU!

Children's Church needs volunteers to lead music, teach lessons, and help with crafts, games, and activities. God has blessed us with families and children to serve and has equipped each of us with gifts for this ministry. Our children deserve this special time of worship, so please prayerfully consider how you can help.

Contact Lauren Dickerson to respond to the call – lauren.dickerson@dickersonpa.com or 919-740-3094.



UPCOMING EVENT

Pumpkin Patch/Corn Maze Family Fun Day!
Sunday, October 18
After Worship
Lunch Provided



How You Can Pray

Please join us in praying for our children and families.

Pray that:

- Our children will deepen their love for Jesus and His Word.
- Families will find opportunities to discuss faith at home.
- Our teachers and volunteers will serve with wisdom, patience, and joy.
- Children who are new to our church will feel welcome and connected.
- God will use our children's ministry to help the next generation know and follow Christ.



Thank You, Church Family!

Children's ministry belongs to the whole church, and we are grateful to everyone who supports it. Thank you to our teachers, helpers, volunteers, parents, grandparents, and congregation for faithfully investing in our children. Your prayers, encouragement, generosity, and service make a lasting impact. Together, we are helping the next generation know God, love His Word, and live out their faith.

With gratitude,
Lauren Dickerson
Children's Ministry Chair

From Your Deacon Team

September 2026

Focus on Unity & Trust

Encouragement from the Deacon Ministry: Faith Over Fear

Dear Church Family,

As your deacons, our hearts are here to serve you and lift you up in prayer. Life frequently brings unexpected storms that test our resolve. During these moments, human understanding falls short. That is when our faith must take over.

Faith is the foundational bedrock of our Baptist heritage and our daily Christian walk. It means trusting God's heart even when we cannot trace His hand. Let us remain unified in spirit, steadfast in prayer, and anchored in the unchanging Word of God.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." – Proverbs 3:5-6

If you need prayer or support, your deacons are always here for you. We will faithfully pray for you through every season and whenever there is a need in your life.

**Blessings,
*Sharon Bass***



FBC Summer/Fall 2026 Happenings

VBS August 7-8, 2026



Thank You from the VBS Team!

A heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who made this year's "Armor of God" Vacation Bible School at FBC Hillsborough a success!

Seventeen (17) wonderful children joined us to learn how to stand firm in their faith. Recently, my nephew, Chase, and I discussed the events he organizes for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) at his high school. He shared a meaningful analogy: a church event needs both "bones" and "breath" to come alive. • The Bones: Thank you to our coordinators, decorators, skit performers, AV team, dance teachers, escorts, group leaders, station masters and kitchen crew. Your planning and hard work gave our VBS a strong foundation. You created a safe, organized place where children could learn to take up the shield of faith and the sword of the spirit. • The Breath: Thank you to everyone who prayed for us—and above all, to the Holy Spirit for bringing our plans to life. The Spirit filled our building with energy, transformation, joyful worship and love. Your planning provided the bones; the Spirit supplied the breath. Together, God used your hands and hearts to create a vibrant weekend of ministry. We are deeply grateful for our church family!

With Deep Gratitude,

Lauren Dickerson

On Behalf of The VBS Team

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Weekly Events at FBC Hillsborough

Sunday

Community Grounds – 9:00 a.m.

Bible Study - 9:45 a.m.

Worship - 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday

Virtual Bible Study - 10:30 a.m.

Choir Practice - 6:30 p.m.

Bible Study – 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.



Claiming the Blessings of Relationships

Last month we shared how we are experiencing blessings from relationships. We continue with this September Messenger. The effort here is to help us to become more intentional in how our sense of God and others is heightened and broadened when we pay attention to what happens in relationships. Pastor David has encouraged us to understand the holy aspect of how we are a people, God's people, who are becoming. One way this continues is pausing to reflect on this aspect of relationship.

In many ways our becoming is closely tied in relationships. It is in relationships that we often tangibly experience grace, mercy, and forgiveness. This is in both offering and receiving.

So look at this list of of experiences that has been offered. Reflect upon it for similar things you have noticed and/or felt in your own journey with others. As you do, jot those things down, perhaps on your calendar, to help you recall, offer praise, and possibly share.

Blessings to you all.

*Grace and Peace,
Stephen Durham*



Blessings in Relationships

September 2026

Relationships matter. In many ways, it is a clear way that we see Christ in the world today. Sometimes it is reflected by others. Sometimes in our own amazement and praise, we notice Christ working through us. Perhaps that is the Holy Spirit helping us to see more of God in others and in ourselves.

Relationships are celebrated across the scriptures. We are taught these many stories from beginnings in Sunday schools to vacation bible schools to the lessons and sermons we hear as adults. This request for items of blessings through relationships is to recall this. God is all about relationships, from Genesis to Revelations. The Gospel is filled with how relationships can be. We should notice!

So, this list is about what has been noticed. It has praises embedded all through it. It presents an opportunity for me, for you, for us all to notice just how powerful positive relationships are in God's Kingdom and in our lives. May we notice this more. Let these guide your own thoughts, praises, prayers, actions and observations. May we become more of this to each other and to those we have not met yet.

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**The depths of faith we explore when facing a life event that sweeps us off our feet --CSS*

** Hearing the comfort in others as new friends are being found, partners in activities are discovered and the joy in sharing stories of life are made possible. - SD*

** Having a person unexpectedly and pleasantly join in sitting on a wall in a way that is warm, accepting and open. Then they ask how you are and patiently wait, expectantly encourage and then listening to the response without judgement to your answer. - SD*

** Sharing with a friend that is so open and accepting you are willing to share things in life without worry of judgement and acceptance. - SD*

** Taking with a friend and sharing about the thrill of success, the disappointments of less than success, then receiving affirmation and encouragement in this, experiencing moments of life things together.*

** Getting the blessing from an adult child of love and appreciation for being their parent.*

** Being able to tell stories of childhood and listen to theirs. Realizing that so much is similar and also that so much is different, then being about to share laughter and hardships.*

** Celebrating an anniversary counted in decades and still feeling the joys and love of the first year and seeking to grow and be joyful for more years.*

Feeling great sadness about the death of one that was a part of my becoming even while celebrating the depth of many blessings received and given from this relationship.

** Seeing such warm smiles, bright eyes, and friendly gestures in sharing an experience with those who are not like me in language, age, and looks while welcoming and accepting each other.*

A photograph of a weathered, reddish-brown brick wall. The words "GOOD IS LOVE!" are cut out of the center of the wall in a large, bold, sans-serif font. The letters are white and appear to be made of a different material, possibly wood or plaster, which is slightly weathered and peeling. The background of the wall is a mix of red and orange bricks with grey mortar. The overall image has a soft, slightly blurred quality, giving it a warm and artistic feel.

GOOD
IS
LOVE!

WYLDLIFE RETURNS!



Wyldlife, the middle school ministry of its parent organization Young Life (hence the spelling of w-YLdlife), will resume this month for 2 Hillsborough middle schools with programs hosted at FBCH.

Wyldlife is a relational ministry in which college-age leaders trained by Young Life staff work in teams to provide students from participating schools with weekly opportunities to socialize, hear the gospel of Jesus, and explore God's Word in greater depth. Leaders engage kids by:

- showing up for genuine relationships with middle school students;
- hanging out together in students' environments to support them and share God's Word;
- listening and meeting every kid's need to be seen and heard; and
- modeling a relationship with Jesus in today's world.

The following ministry events are planned for hosting at FBCH:

Orange Middle School Wyldlife Schedule

Mondays at 7:00 a.m.: GIRLS Bible Study in Community Grounds

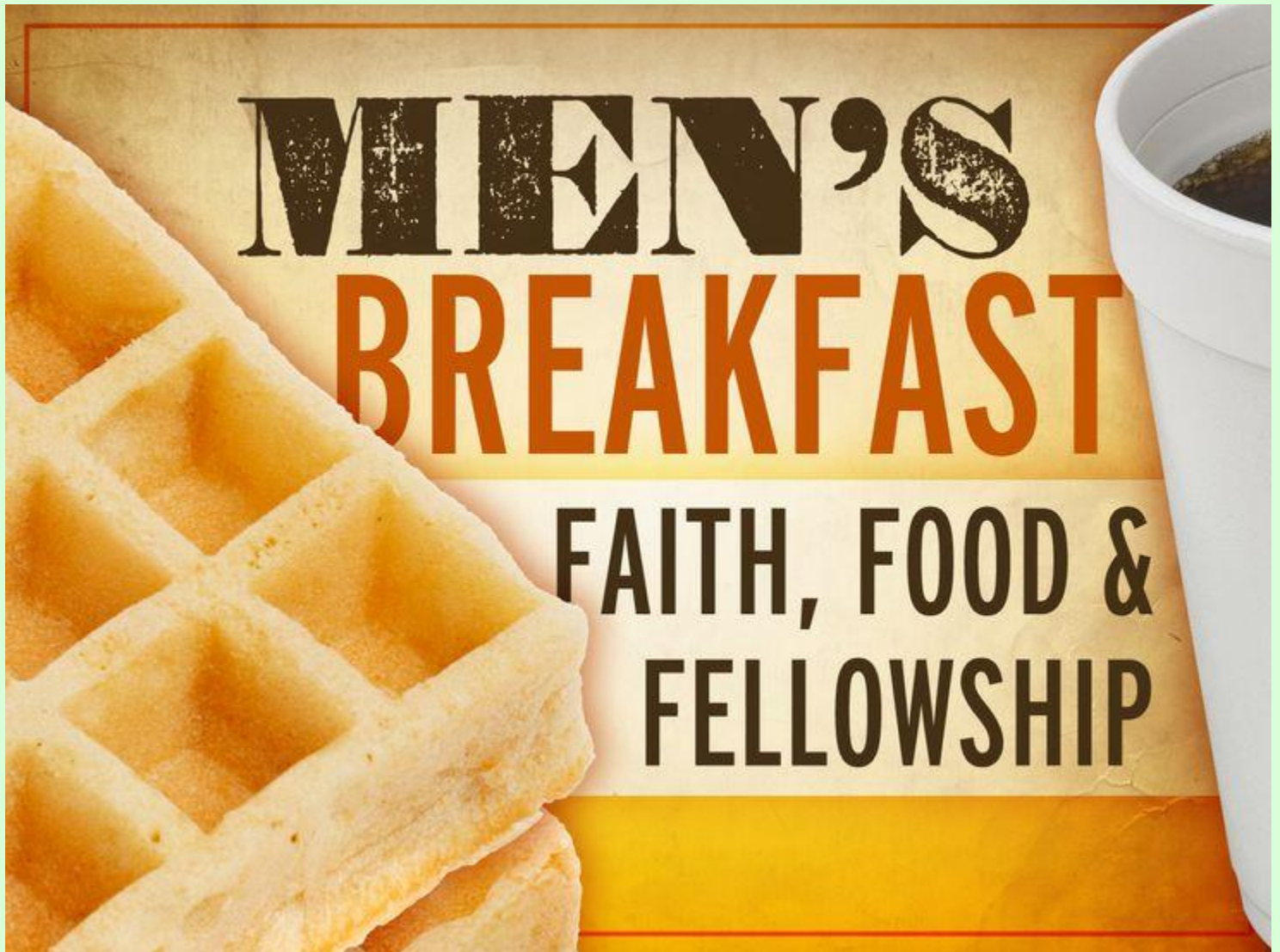
Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.: BOYS Bible Study in Community Grounds

Fridays at 7:30 p.m.: Wyldlife Club (all middle schoolers welcome)

Eno River Academy Wyldlife Schedule

Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.: Wyldlife Club (all Middle Schoolers Welcome)

The FBCH Young Life Mission Team invites you to join us in plans to support Wyldlife teams, their student friends and student families with hospitality and build relationships with the church. Contact ANNE BRINKLEY (919-636-8136) or MANDY DICKERSON (919-616-2648) to help us reach more Hillsborough youth with God's love through Wyldlife.



2026 MEN'S MINISTRY

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Sunday, September 20, 2026

8:30 a.m.

Fellowship Hall

Bring a Favorite Dish and a Favorite Friend!



Good News Club Happenings

The Good News Club will resume on Wednesday, September 23, 2026, at 2:30 p.m., at Mebane's Chapel UHC. We welcome elementary-aged students to Good News Club at Mebane's Chapel UHC. This is across the street from Hillsborough Elementary, so students from both Central Elementary and Hillsborough Elementary School can walk to the Good News Club (escorted by Club volunteers).

We will meet on Wednesdays, beginning September 23, 2026, at 2:30 p.m. We start with a snack and games, so students will have time to get there before we begin our actual teaching time at 3:00 p.m. We meet on days that traditional school is held up until April 28, 2027.

We sing songs, have a lesson, learn scripture, pray, have a snack and play games.

Vetted CEF volunteers lead the Club. Visitors are welcome. Come check it out. Volunteers are always welcome. We will have a training session in September. Donations of snacks are greatly appreciated (individually packaged items and waters only - we avoid nut products).

We ask to pray that we can return to meeting at the schools right after school without a custodial fee added to our base fees. Please pray for our students, families and volunteers.

(Cont'd)

Thank you for sponsoring our club. If you would like to be one of our Prayer Warriors, let Millie Hannaman know.

*Please contact Millie Hannaman for further information:
919-563-6359, hannaman@mebtel.net*

Thanks.

Millie Hannaman – hannaman@mebtel.net

You may pick up a registration form at FBC Hillsborough down by the back door elevator or call the Church Office at 919-732-8174 to request a form.



Notes of Interest to the FBC Community

175th FBC Anniversary Planning *Formation of the FBC 175th Anniversary Committee*

We invite all church members to be active participants in the planning of upcoming events related to our 175th anniversary. We are overjoyed to announce that FBC Hillsborough will be celebrating its 175th Anniversary in 2028 — a remarkable milestone of God’s faithfulness, community love and shared mission. From our humble beginnings in 1853 to the vibrant ministry we share today, this journey has been filled with answered prayers, transformed lives and a steadfast commitment to serving Christ within our community and throughout the world. We hope to offer special worship services, guest speakers, music and share fellowship meals. We’ll look back at our rich history and envision our future in ministry together.

Please join us in giving thanks for the past, celebrating the present and looking forward to the future that God has prepared for us. “To God be the glory, great things He has done!” You are encouraged to take part in planning this joyous and historic event! Please put these dates on your calendars. Contact REGGIE CARTER with questions or input of ideas.

Date: **November 18-19, 2028**

Location: 201 West King Street, Hillsborough, NC 27278

First Planning Meeting: Wednesday, June 10th (Clayton Classroom) 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

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Summer Reading Opportunities

You’re Invited: A Summer of Reading, Faith, and Conversation

Summer is here, bringing with it all the familiar rhythms of the season—busy calendars, family plans, trips to the mountains or the beach and those ever-present conversations about the heat (and whether it will ever rain!). June bugs will find the roses, grocery shelves will empty of hot dog and hamburger buns, calendars will be marked up with sports times, travel, meeting friends, cookouts and church lawns will begin to fill with VBS signs. In the midst of all that summer brings, we’d love to invite you into something meaningful and refreshing. For the eleventh summer, we’ll be gathering for a **Summer Reading and Discussion Group**—a simple, welcoming space to grow in faith and community. The format is easy and relaxed: We read, we gather, we talk—agreeing, questioning, learning, and then we do it again the next week. Along the way, something special always happens. We discover more about ourselves, about each other and often how much we share in common, even in our differences.

The weekly reading is very manageable (about 30 pages), allowing us to move through one thoughtfully chosen book over the course of the summer. Together, we explore how God’s Word shapes our faith, how our faith shapes our lives and how our lives, in turn, touch those around us. You might think of it as the merging of the Gospel road and the everyday road of Life.

Our book for this summer is currently being selected and will be announced soon. Over the years, our reading list has included a wide range of meaningful and engaging titles recommended by pastors, Christian leaders and participants just like you. Each selection is chosen with care—offering depth, inspiration and just enough challenge to spark thoughtful conversation.

(Cont'd)

Details:

- **When:** Saturdays at 8:30 AM (about one hour)
- **Where:** Via Zoom
- **Start Date:** June 6

We've chosen Zoom to make it easier for everyone to participate, wherever summer may take you. Whether you're at home, traveling, or visiting family, you can still join in—from Hillsborough to Myrtle Beach to Maine and beyond (perhaps even while waiting for a plane).

If you feel even a small nudge to be part of this, we'd love to have you. You can sign up through the Church Office or reach out directly to Stephen Durham (stephen_m_durham at yahoo, (919) 906-3783).

Can't start the first week? That's okay. Need to miss a few sessions? That's expected. You're welcome whenever you can join us. Watch for the announcement of the title selected and the ZOOM information in late May.

And one more thing—**books will be provided.** We hope you'll consider being part of this meaningful summer tradition. It's a simple invitation... but one that often leads to rich conversation, deeper faith, and lasting connection.

As a point of illustration, below is the list of books read over these years. This is a fine list of books to consider for your own shelf if you are wondering what you should read.

Grace and Peace in your life today.

Stephen Durham

2016a Summer: **Worship For the Whole People of God**, Ruth Duck

2016b Summer: **New Kind of Christianity**, Brian McLaren

2017a Summer: **Altars Where We Worship**, Floyd-Thomas

2017b Summer: **The Hole in Our Gospel**, Richard Stearns

2018a Summer: **Way of Love, Recovering the Heart of Christianity**, Norman Wirzba

2018b Summer: **Onward, Engaging the Culture Without Losing the Gospel**, Russell Moore

2019a Summer: **The Storm Tossed Family**, Moore

2019b Summer: **Instruments in the Redeemers Hands**, Paul David Tripp

2020a Summer: **The Wounded Healer**, Henri Nouwen

2020b Summer: **Changing Our Minds**, David Goushee

2021 Lent, Concurrent Book Readings

- **Art in Faith**, Makoto Fujimura

- **Who Will Be A Witness**, Drew G I Hart.

2021a Summer: **Lens of Love**, Jonathan Walton

2021b Summer **Surprised By Hope**, N T Wright

2022 Lent Concurrent

- **Insider Outsider, My Journey as a Stranger in White Evangelicalism and My Hope for Us All** Bryan

Loritts.

- **Coloring Lent: An Adult Coloring Book for the Journey to Resurrection** by Christopher D. Rodkey and

Jesse & Natalie Turri

- **Witness at the Cross**, Levine.

- **Grace and Free Will**, St Augustine of Hippo

2022a Summer: **If God Is Love, Don't Be A Jerk**, Pavlovitz

2022b Summer: **Reconciliation, Healing, and Hope: Sermons from Washington National Cathedral**, Jan Naylor

Cope

(Cont'd)

2023 Lent Concurrent

- **This Sacred Life**, Norman Wirzba

- **The Word in Color Coloring Book**. Chirstian Art Publishers.

2023a Summer: **The Book of Forgiving** , Demond Tutu and Mpho Tutu

2023b Summer **Called to Reconciliation**, Jonathan C Augustine

2024 Lent: **“Faith after Doubt: Why Your Beliefs Stopped Working and What to do About It”**, Brian McLaren

2024 Summer **Love is the Way**, Michael Curry

2025 Lent **Make Me Like Jesus** M Phillips

2025 Summer: **Baptizing America: How Mainline Protestants Helped Build Christian Nationalism**, Kaylor and Underwood

2025 Advent, Various Articles on Hope, Joy, Peace for Three Saturdays.

2026 Lent **Learning to Walk in the Dark, Because Sometimes God Shows Up at Night**, Barbara Brown Taylor

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The Book Choice for This Summer’s Discussion Has Been Made

Past participants in the Summer Reading Group have looked through a number of wonderful titles and topics and have now made the choice for this summer’s read. There were many thoughtful and popular suggestions, but the selection that rose to the top was by Richard Rohr:

The Universal Christ: How a Forgotten Reality Can Change Everything We See, Hope For, and Believe.

Below you will find the publisher’s description of the book. Take a moment to read it and see what you think.

This summer’s Reading and Discussion Group will begin June 6. As in previous years, we will gather by Zoom at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday mornings throughout the summer. Zoom details will be shared as you indicate your interest. One of the gifts of meeting this way is the ability to participate from many different places and schedules.

And, of course, summer life happens - vacations, family events, travels and unexpected moments will mean that some Saturdays may be missed. There is absolutely no guilt in that. Simply continue reading and join back in whenever you can.

We read for discussion, not for agreement. Yet, year after year, it has been remarkable to discover how much richer our shared understandings become through open conversation. Different views are welcomed and respected without pressure to conform. In that grace-filled space of discussion, we often discover the wonderful unity of being fellow seekers — looking for a deeper relationship with God, exploring what it means to follow Jesus in both new and familiar ways and learning again that a community of faith does not require us all to be exactly alike.

If that sounds meaningful or inviting to you, we would love for you to join us.

Books will be ordered soon, so please let me know if you are interested so that a copy can be reserved and provided for you. And even if you cannot begin right at the start, you are still welcome to join in and begin whenever you are able.

Contact: Stephen Durham Stephen_m_durham@yahoo.com (919-906-3783)

The Universal Christ: How a Forgotten Reality Can Change Everything We See, Hope for, and Believe, Richard Rohr
“Anyone who strives to put their faith into action will find encouragement and inspiration in the pages of this book.”—Melinda Gates

In his decades as a globally recognized teacher, Richard Rohr has helped millions realize what is at stake in matters of faith and spirituality. Yet Rohr has never written on the most perennially talked about topic in Christianity: Jesus. Most know who Jesus was, but who was Christ? Is the word simply Jesus’s last name? Too often, Rohr writes, our understandings have been limited by culture, religious debate, and the human tendency to put ourselves at the center.

Drawing on scripture, history, and spiritual practice, Rohr articulates a transformative view of Jesus Christ as a portrait of God’s constant, unfolding work in the world. “God loves things by becoming them,” he writes, and Jesus’s life was meant to declare that humanity has never been separate from God—except by its own negative choice. When we recover this

(Cont'd)

fundamental truth, faith becomes less about proving Jesus was God and more about learning to recognize the Creator's presence all around us and in everyone we meet.

Thought-provoking, practical and full of deep hope and vision, *The Universal Christ* is a landmark book from one of our most beloved spiritual writers, and an invitation to contemplate how God liberates and loves all that is.



Last Update from FBC “Welcome House”

As our Welcome House ministry has now officially ended due to closures of refugee resettlement programs, we wanted to share information about the last family who lived in the annex - the Alhajis from Syria. The Alhajis were also our largest family (11) and they lived there the longest time – almost (7) months, arriving on January 17, 2025, three (3) days before everything closed down.

The (7) school-aged children have all excelled in school. The (2) oldest boys received the highest math and science awards in their classes at end-of-year graduation ceremonies. Mom and the (2) preschool girls are playing “school” and having tea parties, as well as picking up English from the other kids. Dad continues to work for a painting contractor and drives Uber Eats on the weekend. His earnings cover the house rent (\$2000), utilities, gas, phones and a bit more. Unfortunately, food assistance for the family was cut off in July. The SNAP benefits for refugees was halted for those without green cards (even if in the process of getting one) as this family is. Processing green cards has been very slow. Even with their large vegetable garden and (20) chickens, this unfortunate situation has left them financially strained for food needs. Ellen and Andy Collins (WHH team members) home church, New Hope Presbyterian, has graciously set up a “Welcome House Refugee Fund” to assist this family. If you feel called to help through this fund, your tax-deductible checks can be made out to:

New Hope Presbyterian Church
4701 NC 86
Chapel Hill NC 27514

(Please be sure to put “***Welcome House Refugee Fund***” on the *Memo* line.)

Since October 2021, the Church Annex has been a temporary home for (27) families and (4) single males –a total of (171) people. from (10) different countries. We laughed and cried, sang songs and danced, played games, went swimming, rode bicycles, hiked the Eno Mountain, watched fireworks, picked strawberries, ate ice cream, we baked cookies, made pizza, shared meals and drank lots of hot tea. We shared many conversations with words (thank goodness for Google Translate) and when we couldn’t understand, our smiles, eyes, nods, and hand gestures spoke for us.

Jesus calls us to share hospitality, kindness, compassion and generosity to all. We are to be His hands and feet in our actions to others. We are to welcome the foreigners and strangers into our land. Jesus commands us to love one another as He has loved us. This is what the WH Ministry is/was all about. What a privilege for our Church to have been involved. Currently, the Annex is closed for much needed repairs, but we are looking forward to seeing where God leads us in future opportunities for its use.

WH Ministry Team
(Joanne Berg)



MINISTRY PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

Bonnie Murphy, Bubba Whitehurst, Garrett Compton

PLACEMENT COMMITTEE Updates:

We have a new couple interested in serving on the Ordinance Committee. If any current member might enjoy serving on a different committee, please contact Bonnie (315-709-1150) or Carolyn (919-215-2777). Thank you.

* MISSIONS COMMITTEE has several sub-committees that watch over our outreach through Missions. We need someone to oversee and report to the Church Council how these chairpersons are doing. Perhaps they have needs that can be fulfilled and the Council can be informed of such. Please pray if it is an area in which you would enjoy serving.

CHURCH COUNCIL.....This Committee consists of various chairpersons coming together quarterly to review any Committee updates, support and where any help may be needed. They discuss new ideas and generally feel a sense of unity in serving.

- **SAMARTIAN'S CHRISTMAS BOX Program**

We have Cristy Faircloth agreeing to lead FBCH in supporting this wonderful ministry for children around the world at Christmastime.

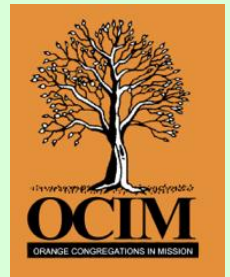
REMINDER – If you have any changes/corrections/updates to the Ministry Placement Committees, kindly report this information to Chairperson BONNIE MURPHY (315) 709-1150 or via email at bonnie7murphy@gmail.com. This will help with continuity to all of the committees, their needs and changes. You are also reminded of the quarterly Church Council meetings with Rev. Morton. Please consult the Church Calendar for our next meeting. Thank you for your dedication to your committees.

OCIM - ORANGE CONGREGATIONS IN MISSION

Bob Maddry faithfully delivers the collected food items to OCIM each week. OCIM's record-keeping is done by poundage. We are making a real difference for our community this year.

Thank you to everyone SO MUCH for your continued faithfulness in helping those in need. You may place food items in the blue barrels in the downstairs hallway OR 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 welcomed, as well.

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



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Operation Christmas Child

Begins: July 2026 Kickoff

Ends: October 2026 -Churchwide Packing Party

FBC GOAL: 200 BOXES

WHAT IS Operation Christmas Child?

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. Our mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. We ship these simple gifts outside the United States to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease. [*Samaritan's Purse Frequently Asked Questions*](#)

WHAT IS THE \$10 SUGGESTED DONATION PER BOX?

The \$10 per shoebox is a suggested donation. This amount is critical to cover project costs involved in collecting, processing, and shipping your shoebox gifts to over 175 countries and territories. It also provides for ministry materials such as *The Greatest Gift* Gospel Booklet and The Ministry Partner Guide. We encourage those who are unable to include \$10 per box to consider asking a group in their church or a family member to sponsor this part of the shoebox gift. [*Samaritan's Purse Frequently Asked Questions*](#)

HOW CAN I PARTNER WITH *First Baptist Church Hillsborough* IN THIS MINISTRY?

*bring items to church weekly/monthly and place in collection bin located in the Pathways Classroom upstairs

*place monetary donations in the offering plate noting "OCC Donation" and items will be purchased for you

*obtain a box and label from Cristy Faircloth to pack your own box and bring packed box to the Churchwide Packing Party

*donate directly to Samaritan's Purse and they will pack your box for you (go [here](#) and scroll down to "Build A Shoebox Online")



Click [Amazon storefront](#) or scan QR code for for gift ideas (built by Samaritan's Purse)



Click "[What Goes in my Shoebox?](#)" or scan QR code for gift ideas

July 2026 (School Supplies and Clothing & Accessories)

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pencils and sharpener
- Pencil case
- Erasers
- Pens
- Crayons
- Markers
- Notebooks
- Index cards
- Calculator
- Scissors
- Small Ruler
- Glue stick
- Small sticky tape

**CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES**

- Clothing and undergarments
- Shoes
- Cold weather items
- Sunglasses
- Bags or backpacks
- Hats
- Wristwatch
- Flashlight with extra packaged batteries

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

- Pencils, sharpener, and erasers
- Pencil container
- Pens
- Crayons
- Colored pencils
- Markers
- Notebooks
- Index cards
- Calculator
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Glue stick
- Small adhesive tape
- Drawstring bag

**CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES**

- Flip-flops or shoes
- Sunglasses
- Hat
- Wristwatch
- Costume jewelry
- Hair accessories
- Clothing and undergarments
- Winter cap, scarf, and mittens



Do Not Include

Soap is no longer allowed in shoebox gifts because of the complications it causes in customs in some nations.

SOAP; candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.



Click [Amazon storefront](#) or scan QR code for for gift ideas (built by Samaritan's Purse)



Click "[What Goes in my Shoebox?](#)" or scan QR code for gift ideas



Greetings from the Finance Ministry Team!

As summer days get shorter and we look ahead toward Fall, the Finance team is getting ready for the 2027 Budget preparation season. Our 2027 Budget Calendar is set. We have a new *Budget Request Form* to introduce and some important dates for everyone to consider. If you missed the August Church Conference, you may not know that requests for Budget funding in 2027 will be submitted by using the new *Budget Request Form*. It is an exciting time to be part of the FBCH family and our goal is to provide a simplified and consistent experience for everyone.

If you need a copy of a *Budget Request Form*, these can be found outside the Church Office. *Budget Request Forms* are also available by e-mail to print or fill out electronically and return. Please contact any member of the Finance Team or the Church Office if you need a 2027 *Budget Request Form*.

Here are Some Dates for Your Calendar:

October 4 – All 2027 *Budget Request Forms* are due;

November 11 – Budget Presentation, Open Information Q & A Session at 6:30 p.m.

November 12 – Budget Presentation, Open Information Q & A Sessions at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

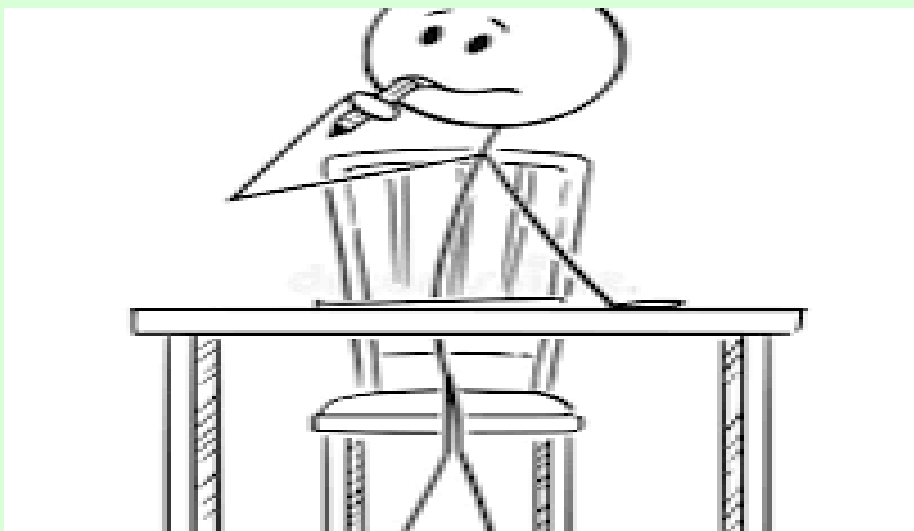
November 20 – Suggested revisions are due in writing;

December 2 – Final Budget Proposal is available;

December 6 – Called Church Conference to vote on 2027 Budget;

Note that all Open Information Q & A Sessions are identical in format and content; therefore, please plan to attend only one. We are grateful to God for many blessings and the opportunities before us and we also pray that you will be encouraged! We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Sue Bulfin, Don Dickerson, Kim Crispin, Diane Martin, Robert Mills, Greg Royal



SENIORS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Is God is calling you to serve by visiting and enjoying some time with our seniors? What a joy it is to be in their presence. Check the list below for a few locations of nursing homes and senior living facilities. Also, remember some of our seniors are still in their homes. Addresses are in our FBC online directory. If you can't find an address, give Jan Irwin a call.

"What fun several of us had in August visiting at Villine's Nursing Home here in Hillsborough. We shared life stories, laughed and fellowshiped with one another. We played BINGO, colored pictures and sang some requested songs of joy. Everyone was sharing in God's love. Please join us next time."

Anyone who would like 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 JACKOLA** at 919-632-7091 (text or call) or dhjackola@gmail.com. It is certainly an uplifting time for all.

Contact **JAN IRWIN** (919) 451-9744 with any questions, ideas or prayers. Thank you for serving however 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	Nancy Baity/Room 117 Joyce Rippy/Room 200
<u>Adorable Senior Living</u> (*Villines Rest Home) 401 W. Queen St. Hillsborough, NC 27278	All Residents	<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	Joyce Bateman (Memory Care Unit)	<u>Durham Nursing & Rehab</u> 411 S. LaSalle St. Durham, NC 27705	Mark Bullock
<u>Terra Bella (Carillon)</u> 1911 Orange Grove Road Hillsborough, NC 27278		Azalea Estates 700 N. Estes Drive Chapel Hill, NC 27514	Ann Stubbs Room 212
<u>Hillcrest Rehab and Asst Living</u> 1417 W. Pettigrew St. Durham, NC 27705			
<u>Rose Manor Rehab</u> <u>4230 N. Roxboro Rd. Rm 51</u> <u>Durham, NC</u>			



PRAYER REQUESTS and CONCERNS

If you have an ongoing or urgent prayer concern 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 our Prayer List.

Regular Church 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 or please contact Rev. David Morton at dmorton@fbchillsborough.org.

***Please continue to remember and pray for ROSE MORRISON and her family as she continues to recover and rehab at home now. She had another surgery on August 7th and is progressing at home very well! Crissy Wells provided a meal train link for those who wished to assist with meals during this time. We all pray for and wish our sweet Rose a full and fast recovery according to the will of our Great Physician and Healer.*

*New Contact Info – Ann Stubbs: Azalea Estates, 700 N. Estes Drive, Room 212
Chapel Hill, NC 27514 (860) 710-2883;
Iamstubb37@nc.rr.com*



September 2026 Birthdays



09-01-26 Sydney Liner	09-15-26 Linda Gowing
09-02-26 Steve Roberts	09-17-26 Madison Wagner
09-04-26 Ron Colville	09-17-26 Kayenna* Miguel-Morris
09-04-26 Betty Ann Dickerson	09-18-26 Mike* Parker
09-04-26 Pearson Harper	09-18-26 Jordan Skinner
09-04-26 Joyce Ward	09-21-26 Luke Hall
09-06-26 Kerry Miguel-Morris	09-22-26 Rose Morrison
09-08-26 Carol Durham	09-23-26 Cameron McLendon
09-10-26 Dee Jackola	09-24-26 Larry McGlothlin
09-11-26 Oliver Roberts	09-26-26 Daniella Morrison
09-11-26 Sandra Carter	09-28-26 Wanda* Richardson
09-11-26 Stephenie Rice	09-29-26 Kimberly Marks
09-12-26 Samantha Merritt	09-29-26 Jeanette Wagoner
09-13-26 Bentley O'Keefe	09-30-26 Chandler Compton
09-14-26 Paula Alford	
09-14-26 Ryan O'Keefe	

