



THE TIE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SOUTHERN PINES



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- New BridgePoints
- Operation Christmas Child Information
- Congregational Conversations

THOUGHTS FROM OUR TRANSITIONAL PASTOR

“Be Ye Doers of the Word, and Not Hearers Only” (James 1: 22)

In the BridgePoints class I am privileged to lead on Wednesday nights, we have transitioned from a study of the Sermon on the Mount in the Gospel of Matthew to a study of “Applied Christianity” as presented in the book of James. The Sermon on the Mount gave us the portrait of “the Complete Christian.” Now, based on this portrait, we are seeking to learn specifics of applying this portrait to our daily lives.

Enter the book of James. James is a “faith -in-action” book. Of its 108 verses, 60 of these verses stress the importance of “being a doer of the Word, and not a hearer only.” Of particular interest to James is the challenge of being distinctively Christian in a culture where Christians are a minority and where Christian values are not as welcome as secular values. Thus, he writes to all Christians “scattered across the dispersion (1:1),” meaning the words are intended for believers wherever they are. This is a reason why James is considered a “general epistle,” meaning it is not intended for any one Christian church but for all believers.

We can certainly identify with this concern of James. The values by which we seek to live as “kingdom people” are not necessarily those shared by the common culture. To be sure, no one is seeking war against the church. Nevertheless, we often feel the competition and lack of encouragement for the values we prize so highly.

Elsa Tamez, a New Testament scholar, has gleaned the

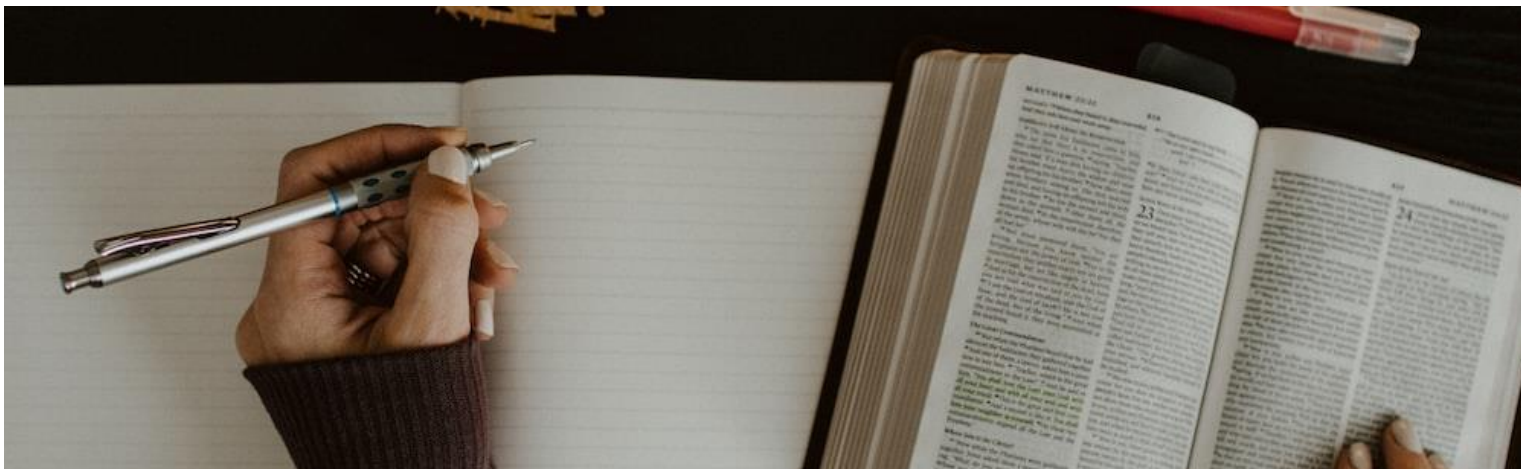
following teachings from James relative to seeking to be distinctively Christian in the times in which we live. They are worth noting and following.

1. Seek to strengthen the faith of those you know who are suffering. Help them not to drown in their sorrows. Encourage their reflections upon the spiritual sides of their hurts.
2. Do not capitulate to the values of the society of which you are a part. Seek to be a “kingdom of God Christian” and live daily out of this vision.
3. Be authentic and pure of heart. Be a “friend of God”, and not of the world. Let this witness be evident in your life.
4. Be in solidarity with those in need. Be part of mission projects and ministries to others. You will receive the largest blessings.
5. Know how to control the tongue. Use the gift of words and speech to voice blessings for others, not curses,
6. Always pray. *

A popular song says, “What the world needs now is love, sweet love.” No doubt this is true. But I think James offers us greater help “to put that love into action.” The Christian who truly becomes a “doer of the Word” will be God’s servant in a needy world. As Paul would say, “Do not grow weary in well-doing.” (I Cor 15:58)

Michael G. Cogdill
Transitional Pastor

*Elsa Tamez, “James: A Circular Letter for Immigrants,” Review and Expositor, Summer 2011, pp.369f.



JOYS, CONCERNS, NOTES

RECENT HOSPITALIZATIONS

- Sybil Littleton
- Tom Allen
- George Griffin

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

- to Jan Clark upon the dying unto Christ of her husband, Dan Clark, 10/6.

NOTES OF GRATITUDE

First Baptist Church of Southern Pines,
Thank you so much for your recent donation for our residents here at Bethesda Halfway House. We sincerely appreciate your loyalty and generosity to our men here. We consider ourselves very fortunate to be a recipient of your giving program. We are sure you whole congregation will be continually blessed for all the times you have shared with us. Sincerely, Glenn Greene, Director

From the Cameron Boys Camp:
We are so grateful here at Cameron Boys Camp to have so much love and support from your church. Thank You!

Dear Dr. Cogdill,
I write to you and your church family on behalf of our organization, Baptist Retirement Homes Foundation. To share a special word of thanks for your congregation's recent monetary gift. Please know these monies have been designated for use via the Baptist Retirement Homes Benevolent Ministry. This funding is used to help underwrite the cost of providing care to older adults living across this state. Your church family's thoughtfulness of this ministry means so much!
Sincerely, Reed Vandersilk, President/CEO

Dear Church Family,
Thank you for the cards, emails, phone calls, and other expressions of sympathy on the occasion of my brother Ty's death. A special note of gratitude to the Ruth Sunday School Class and Sanctuary Choir members for praying diligently with me for his salvation before leaving this earth. I firmly believe he is with the Lord and is no longer suffering.
With much love in Christ, Barbi Smith

Friends,
Thank you so much for your expressions of kindness and concern following my car accident. Beverly and I are grateful for your prayers and visits, as well as for the food, cards, flowers, texts, and cards we received. Your thoughtfulness has meant so much during my recovery. I'm doing really well, thanks in no small part to your care.
With much gratitude,
Tom Allen

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Giving Goals for Oct. 18, 2023	20,257.84
Budget Offerings Received on Oct. 18, 2023	20,536.08
Total Budget Offerings Received in 2023	978,096.24
Giving Goal Thru Oct. 18, 2023	1,021,022.11
Receipts to Date Comparison with Goal:	(42,925.87)

COVID AND FLU AWARENESS STATEMENT

The Diaconate wishes to encourage our church family to remain vigilant relative to the continuing presence of the Covid and/or Flu viruses in our area. While at church, no additional protocols are needed at this time. However, we would encourage everyone to remain at home if you are not feeling well or if you believe that you may be experiencing signs of the Covid virus or flu symptoms. Thank you, The Diaconate

CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATIONS

Mark your calendars!

Our Pastor Search Committee has enlisted the Center for Healthy Churches to lead us in conversation about our past, present and future. Conversations will be held after Wednesday Night Suppers on **Nov. 29 at 6 p.m.**, **January 10 at 6 p.m.** and **February 21 at 6 p.m.** You are invited to join in the conversations in the Fellowship Hall after dinner. Come and help share and prepare the future of our church.

November 29, 2023: "Our Past" (RSVP at bit.ly/ccnov29)
January 10, 2024: "The Present" (RSVP at bit.ly/cc10jan)
February 21, 2024: "Our Future" (RSVP at bit.ly/ccfeb21)



NEWS & NOTES FROM THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION & ADMINISTRATION

FALL BRIDGEPOINTS

“Studies in James: Applied Christianity 101.”

Building upon the Sermon on the Mount, these class sessions, for the next six weeks, will explore topics like trials and temptations; the relationship between faith and works; the stewardship of speech; our struggles against sin; our friendship with the world; the relationship between prayer and healing, and much more! We will use the book of James as a starting point for discussion.

Facilitator: Mike Cogdill
Time: Wednesdays, 6 pm
Location: Room 216
Dates: Oct. 18-Nov. 15



BRIDGEPOINT RECORDINGS INFORMATION

This study is being recorded for those who cannot attend in person. You can find the link to watch at www.fbcsp.org/bridgepointrecordings. Recordings will be posted each week a few days after the study takes place.

Footnotes – Major Lessons from Minor Bible Characters

We hear a lot about some of the “big” names in the Bible...Moses...Mary...Paul. What about those who have a small mention, or whose names are not even known? What might they have to teach us about our faith journey? ‘Footnotes’ is a four-week study that introduces us to four people who are just a blip on the screen of the Bible timeline, just a footnote in the Biblical story, people who could be easily overlooked, but shouldn’t be underestimated. We will explore these people of faith who show us that even minor players can teach major lessons. Lynn suggests bringing your Bible.

Facilitator: Lynn Lambert

Location: Room 208

Dates: Oct. 25 – Nov 15

(*Note:* This study will not meet on Nov. 8)



A Study Not to Be Missed - “The Gospel on the Ground” (contributed by June Vetter)

Kristi McLelland is the author of a Bible Study workbook and seven CD lessons that brings the passion and culture of the early Christian Church to our attention today. The sub-title, “the grit and glory of the early church in ACTS” gives us a glimpse of the strong persecution the disciples faced after the resurrection of Jesus, how they endured it, and how they continued preaching the gospel after being scattered beyond Jerusalem. This is how the gospel began to grow throughout the world.

This study is deep and convicting. It often sent me to my knees and to tears by the rich commitment of how the gospel moved from where it all started, and how it still continues to reach the world as current disciples give their hearts and lives to tell the message of Jesus.

The story ends with the picture of us all as we participate being seated with Jesus at the wedding feast of the Lamb. It is here we are headed! Home! And in our Father’s house – forever!

This BridgePoint ended October 18. If you missed it, the DVDs can be checked out from the church. Please contact Jamie for more information.



FBCSPYG HAPPENINGS



NOV. SCHEDULE

Sunday, Nov. 5	
Sunday School	9:45am - 10:45am
JuBELLation	4:00-4:45pm
Youth Choir (9-12)	5:00-6:00pm
Youth Bible Study (6-8)	5:00-6:00pm
Youth Supper (6-12)	6:00-6:30pm
Youth Choir (6-8)	6:30-7:30pm
Youth Bible Study (9-12)	6:30-7:30pm
* NO Youth Sunday Nights Nov. 12 & Nov. 26 *	
Sunday, Nov. 19	
Youth Crazy Night	4:00-6:00pm
Youth Supper	6:00-6:30pm

FALL RETREATS

Friday, November 10-Sunday, November 12

Due to the number of students that sign up to go to the Fall Retreat, we will do two trips again this year. The Middle School Weekend was in October at Blue Ridge Assembly in Asheville and was open to 6th-8th grades. The High School weekend will be in November at Caswell and is open to 9th-12th grades. These Fall Retreats will fill up fast, so get your deposit in ASAP. The cost of the trip is \$195 for High School.

WINTER RETREATS

Friday, February 2-Sunday February 4, 2024

This year, we will return to the snowy mountains of West Virginia and Winterplace Ski Resort. We will leave at 12 noon on Friday and spend all day Saturday on the ski slopes, finishing up Sunday morning with a time of praise, worship, and reflection before we board the buses to return home. It will be an awesome weekend that you will not want to miss. The trip will be \$255 for skiing and \$275 for snowboarding, which includes transportation, lodging, 3 meals (2 breakfast, 1 dinner), lift tickets and rentals for Saturday morning and evening. Everyone going on this trip will be required to wear a helmet **NO EXCEPTIONS!** A \$50 deposit is due now to hold your spot. The trip is limited to 30 youth, so sign up soon!

2024 RETREATS

COLLEGE MISSION TRIP - ORLANDO!

SUNDAY, MAY 19 - SATURDAY, MAY 25

We plan to return to Orlando from May 14-21 to work with the Orlando Rescue Mission and Second Harvest Food Bank. If you are interested in putting your name on the list, have questions, or would like more information, email me at bmoore@pinehurst.net. A deposit of \$100. will hold your spot. The total cost of the trip is \$450. This will be due by Sunday, May 5. Please let me know if you are interested.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP - NASHVILLE, TN

SATURDAY, JUNE 15 - SUNDAY, JUNE 23

This summer, our youth will be on a mission to Nashville! Our mission will be to share the love of Christ through construction projects, working in community centers, and serving meals. This will be a mission trip only and a good opportunity for our youth to give of themselves to others who are in need. If you are interested in signing up, a \$100 deposit will hold your spot. The total cost of the trip is \$350. A payment schedule for the balance will be sent in Jan/Feb. There are 30 spots for this trip, so sign up soon.

YOUTH OUTREACH PROJECTS

November 8	Wednesday Night Supper - Youth serving. Youth meet at 5:00pm to serve dinner to attending church body.
November 8	Operation Christmas Child - Youth partner with our RAs and GAs to fill shoeboxes full of goodies for kids all over the world.
December 6	Children's Christmas Celebration - Youth will have a party with our children with crafts, games and a movie.
December 10	Empty Stocking Project - Youth will adopt two families in the community and give them Christmas. Each youth is asked to buy a \$25 Walmart or food gift card that will be used to buy Christmas for a needy family.

YOUTH BIBLE STUDIES



Pincrest Boys
Tuesdays
7:45am
@ Chick-Fil-A



Union Pines
Thursdays 7:45am @
Bojangles, Carthage



Pincrest Girls
Wednesdays
7:45am
@ Chick-Fil-A

Thanks for being a part of FBCSPYG!
Bryan



CHILDREN & FAMILIES' MINISTRY



Here's what's coming up for the Children & Families' Ministry at First Baptist Church.

SUNDAY MORNING

Sunday School is provided for all ages beginning at 9:45 on Sunday mornings. During Sunday School, children learn stories from the Bible and how they apply to our lives today.

MUSIC & MISSIONS - WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Join us on Wednesday nights for Music and Missions. We offer programming for kids ages 3 years old to 5th grade. Here's the schedule:

- 5:00-6:00 PM Supper
- 6:00-7:15 PM Music and Missions
- 6:00-7:15 PM Nursery (for children under 3)

TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, October 29 – 4:00-6:00 PM

Join us for trunks, candy, and FUN! Sign up to host a trunk and/or donate candy, and come join us! This year we are excited to partner with Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church for this event.

RA FOOTBALL GAME

Saturday, November 4 (time TBD)

Dads and sons are headed to the RA Football Game to watch the UNC Tarheels take on the Campbell Camels on Saturday, November 4. Kickoff time is TBD. The group will meet at the church before departing for Chapel Hill.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Shoobox Packing - Wednesday, November 8

Children in Grades 1-5 will start with Music in their regular classrooms at 6:00 PM. At 6:30 PM, instead of having RAs and GAs, they will move upstairs to the Youth Room to pack Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes with the youth. We will bring them back downstairs for pickup at 7:15 PM. If you are able, please donate items to fill the shoeboxes. The boxes will be

dedicated in the worship services on Sunday, November 12.

CHILI DINNER AND CHRISMON CRAFT EVENT

Friday, November 17

FBCSP decorates a Chrismon Tree for the Sanctuary every Christmas. Have you wondered about the unique ornaments on this tree? Join us for a church-wide event on Friday, November 17 at 5:00 p.m. as we enjoy a chili dinner together, learn about the Chrismon tree, make a Chrismon craft! Please RSVP (www.bit.ly/chiliandcrafts) by Tuesday, November 14. Dinner will be from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. and the craft portion will start at 6:00 p.m.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Wednesday, December 6 at 6:00PM

The children's choirs will be presenting their Christmas Program Wednesday, December 6 in the sanctuary.

CHILDREN'S ADVENT CELEBRATION

Wednesday, December 13 — 6:00-7:15 PM

Join us from 6:00-7:15pm for the Children's Advent Celebration. Our youth will lead children in a variety of activities to celebrate and prepare for the season of Advent. Three year olds to Kindergarteners will be in their regular classroom, and 1st-5th graders will meet in the youth room.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

Wednesday, November 22: No Wednesday Night Activities

Wednesday, December 13: Last Night of Activities until January!

PARENTS, STAY CONNECTED!

Ms. Lauren sends out a weekly email called "Three Things on Thursday" to keep families in the loop and we also have a private Facebook group for FBCSP Kids – Parent Info (www.facebook.com/groups/fbcspkids).

Praying for you and your family,

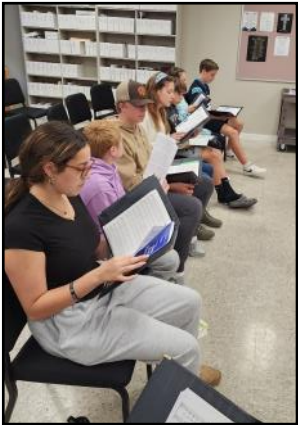
Lauren Craig, Director of Children and Families' Ministry



MUSIC MINISTRY & SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

MUSIC MINISTRY

One Voice and JuBELLation have been rehearsing for the past number of weeks, and we are having a great time. Luke Arno brings his many energetic talents to our youth handbells, and Alison shares her expertise at the helm of One Voice. Polly Lundberg enjoys the fun of accompanying. Quality leadership and relationships fill the afternoon. (One Voice recently sang in worship with the Sanctuary choir on an anthem, “Let Us Talents and Tongues” employ on Fellowship Sunday!)



SENIORS ON THE MOVE

Our Seniors on the Move program for October featured our perennial favorite, The Tenors in concert. They did a wonderful job as they always do singing the gospel favorites they are known for. Those in attendance enjoyed the musical program and the meal. Our meal this month, Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, corn and green beans, and desserts was delicious!



FALL PROGRAMMING

Monday, November 13th—Nixon, Blevins and Gage
Nixon, Blevins & Gage music combines folk, traditional, religious and country in an audience-orientated presentation. Dinner will be at 5:00pm with the show starting at 6:00pm. Sign-ups are on the *Seniors on the Move* Bulletin Board.

Dinner: Lasagna with meatball sauce, Garlic Bread, Peach Cobbler or Banana Pudding and drinks.



Happy Birthday!
Our friend Glen Flinchum just celebrated his 100th birthday on October 3rd! What a milestone! When you see him congratulate him!

-Greg



MISSIONS, SERVING & MORE AT FBCSP

MISSIONS

Mission Action will meet Monday, November 20. The guest speaker will be Melissa Richardson, missionary to Indonesia. We are grateful to have Melissa join us while she is here on furlough. Plan to come and bring a sandwich and a friend.

- Bonnie Elhart, Mission Action Group

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2023



Operation Christmas Child!
Dedication Sunday
November 12.
Collection Week
November 13-20.

Dedication Sunday, November 12
National Collection week, November 13-20

Dedication Sunday and National Collection Week is almost here! Please use this opportunity to help a child in need and to share the good news of Jesus through packing a shoebox! Remember, no liquids, war toys, toothpaste, or candy. The shipping donation is \$10. Shoeboxes, labels, and lists of suggested gift items to include in your box are available near the Missions bulletin board next to the Fellowship Hall.

Dedication Sunday is **November 12**, when we bring our filled shoeboxes to the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services. If you are unable to bring your shoebox then you can drop them off at our OCC table anytime during collection week. The last day of collection week is November 20 at 12:00noon. Please take the time to pack a shoebox and help send as many as we can to children around the world! Thanks, so much for supporting this ministry!
Jim & Pat Dennis



CHILI DINNER AND CHRISMON CRAFT EVENT

Friday, November 17

FBCSP decorates a Chrismon Tree for the Sanctuary every Christmas. Have you wondered about the unique ornaments on this tree? Join us for a church-wide event on Friday, November 17 at 5:00 p.m. as we enjoy a chili dinner together, learn about the Chrismon tree, make a Chrismon craft! Dinner will be from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. and the craft portion will start at 6:00 p.m. Please register on Realm if you are planning to attend.

www.bit.ly/chiliandcrafts

FINANCIAL REPORT

Third Quarter 2023 vs Third Quarter 2022

Our giving goal through the first nine months of the year was \$44,842 more than the \$908,391 received. However, our receipts were \$6,719 more than our expenses through September 30, 2023. Giving through September 2022 was \$92,611 behind the goal and expenses exceeded receipts by \$410.

The balance in the Capital Improvement Fund on September 30, 2023, was \$60,776.

Ministry of Missions Update: During the third quarter of 2023, your dollars helped support Camp Duncan/Cameron Boys Camp, the Coalition for Human Care, Moore County Literacy Council, Life Care Pregnancy Center, and Meals on Wheels. It also provided funding for a divinity scholarship at Campbell University. Thank you for supporting these mission efforts.

Our General Endowment Fund balance on September 30, 2023, was \$413,661, an increase of \$42,701 over September 30th of last year. The Jeannie H. Jordan Memorial Endowment had a balance of \$74,128, an increase of \$8,911 since September 30, 2022. The Memorial Youth Fund had a balance of \$107,964 on September 30, 2023, an increase of \$11,997 over September 30, 2022. If you would like to leave a legacy gift to The First Baptist Church of Southern Pines, supporting either our general endowment, scholarship for Sonshine Learning Center, or the Memorial Youth Fund, please contact Annette Saunders, Financial Administrator 910-692-8750 or asaunders@fbcspp.org

- Annette Saunders



First Baptist Church

www.fbcsp.org

200 EAST NEW YORK AVENUE, SOUTHERN PINES, NC 28387

TELEPHONE: 910-692-8750

FAX: 910-693-1161

SONSHINE LEARNING CENTER: 910-692-7912

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DECEMBER ISSUE OF THE TIE

If you have news/information that you would like to submit for the next issue of The Tie, contact Pat Boland at pboland@fbcsp.org. The deadline for the December TIE Issue is **November 15**.

WORSHIP ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

Sunday School at 9:45am and Worship Service at 8:30am and 11:00am. We will continue Livestream at 11:00am online.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church office hours are 9:00am - 4:30pm on Monday thru Thursday and 9:00am - 12:00pm on Friday.

Reminder: Church office will be closed **November 23 & 24** for Thanksgiving.

CHURCH STAFF

Michael Cogdill, Transitional Pastor - mcogdill@fbcsp.org

Jamie Kipfer, Minister of Education & Administration - jkipfer@fbcsp.org

Greg Lundberg, Minister of Music & Senior Adults - glundberg@fbcsp.org

Bryan Moore, Minister of Youth & Students - bmoore@fbcsp.org

Lauren Craig, Director of Children & Families' Ministry - lcraig@fbcsp.org

Bethany Saburro, Executive Administrative Assistant - bsaburro@fbcsp.org

Annette Saunders, Financial Administrator - asaunders@fbcsp.org

Pat Boland, Financial & Administrative Assistant - pboland@fbcsp.org

Susan Galbreith, Food Services Director - susang@fbcsp.org

Patricia Teague, Food Services Assistant

Cathy Haynes, Organist / Pianist

Luke & Alison Arno, Youth Music Coordinators

Amy Chavis, Director, Sonshine Learning Center - slcamychavis@gmail.com



Dr. Michael Cogdill
Transitional Pastor

Dr. Jamie Kipfer
Minister of Education & Administration

Rev. Bryan Moore
Minister of Youth & Students

Dr. Greg Lundberg
Minister of Music & Senior Adults

Mrs. Lauren Craig
Director of Children and Families' Ministry

October 19, 2023

Dear Church Family:

Greetings from your Senior Pastor Search Team. Since our last communication with you on September 18th, we have continued to meet regularly as a team in the Preliminary Phase (stage one) of our Pastor Search Process. More importantly, these initial meetings have allowed us to continue to each share our faith journeys and to spend more time in prayer together and personally for God's leadership, guidance, and direction. Through these times of prayer, devotion, and personal sharing, we have sensed an experience of growing close together as a team and a clearer sense of discerning God's will for First Baptist Church Southern Pines. We are also glad to report that since our last communication, and thanks to an anonymous donor, we were able to select and contract with The Center for Healthy Churches (CHC) to assist us in the search for our next Senior Pastor.

During the Preliminary Phase, we, as a team, appealed to you to pray fervently, regularly, and specifically on behalf of the Pastor Search Team as we sought to discern God's will. We thank you for those prayers. We have now reached the point where we will transition into the Self-Study Phase (stage two) of our Pastor Search Process, and we want to hear from you. Over the next four (4) months, we will hold three (3) separate and distinct "**Congregational Conversations**" where we seek your input and ask, "What is right about our church, and how can we build upon it?" This will be a time to review our past, examine the present, and dream for our future. Your attendance and participation will be critical as we begin to develop a church and pastoral profile to seek out our next Senior Pastor.

Over the next few weeks, you will hear announcements from the pulpit, and via Realm and email to encourage you to sign up and participate in the **Congregational Conversations**. The **Congregational Conversations** will take place on Wednesday evenings following the Family Supper and will last from 6:00-7:30. All Wednesday night activities will be put on hold for these three Wednesday nights to allow for full congregational participation. A separate reservation will be required for the **Congregational Conversations** so we can better plan for the number of tables and facilitators that will be needed. Reservations can be made on Realm or by calling the church office. The dates of the **Congregational Conversations** are as follows:

November 29, 2023:	"Our Past"	(RSVP at bit.ly/ccnov29)
January 10, 2024:	"The Present"	(RSVP at bit.ly/cc10jan)
February 21, 2024:	"Our Future"	(RSVP at bit.ly/ccfeb21)

Mark your calendars for these particularly important gatherings. We look forward to seeing you there.

May we all be united in seeking God's will for our lives and for the future of First Baptist Church Southern Pines. "Nothing more, nothing less, nothing else."

Dennis Tally, Chair
Senior Pastor Search Team

Anita Alpenfels
Trey Bolton, Vice-Chair
Les Burke
Elise McInnis, Secretary

Bill Purser
Katie Roscoe
Mark Vaughn