



# The Messenger

A Monthly Publication of First Baptist Church

March 2026

Volume 51, Issue 3



## Worship With Us During...

# LENT

— 40 Days Of Renewal —

3653 East Wilson St.

P.O. Box 34

Farmville, NC 27828

(252)753-3370

[www.firstbaptistfarmville.org](http://www.firstbaptistfarmville.org)

## Church Staff

*REV. GRAHAM BYRUM*  
SENIOR PASTOR

*BETH OUTLAND*  
MINNISTER WITH YOURH

*LINDA SITTON*  
MINISTER WITH CHILDREN  
& FAMILIES

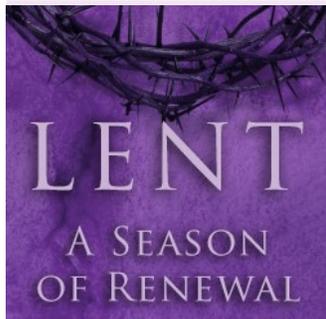
*KATHRYN SAULS*  
CHOIR DIRECTOR

*JONATHAN SITTON*  
ORGANIST/PIANIST

*NELL GODLEY*  
ADMINISTRATIVE  
ASSISTANT

- ✝ *March 1, 2026 ~ 2nd Sunday of Lent*
- ✝ *March 8, 2026 ~ 3rd Sunday of Lent ~ Daylight Savings Time Begins*
- ✝ *March 15, 2026 ~ 4th Sunday of Lent*
- ✝ *March 22, 2026 ~ 5th Sunday of Lent*
- ✝ *March 29, 2026 ~ Palm Sunday/Children's Sunday/ Luncheon & Easter Egg Hunt for children & Families*
- ✝ *March 30, 2026 ~ Community Noon Lenten Service @ First Christian Church ~ Rocky Stone, speaker*
- ✝ *March 31, 2026 ~ Community Noon Lenten Service @ Farmville Presbyterian Church ~ Graham Byrum, speaker*
- ✝ *April 1, 2026 ~ Community Noon Lenten Service @ First Baptist Church, ~ Malinda Fillingim, speaker*
- ✝ *April 2, 2026 ~ Maundy Thursday Communion Service @ First Baptist Church @ 6:30 pm*
- ✝ *April 5, 2026 ~ Easter Sunrise Service @ 6:30 am at Farmville Methodist Church ~ Shannon Marie Berry, speaker*
- ✝ *April 5, 2026 ~ Easter Sunday Service at First Baptist Church @ 10:30 am ~ Easter Cantata ~ "The Rose of Calvary" by the Adult Choir*





**Dear First Baptist Church Family,**

As we enter the month of March, we also step more deeply into the sacred journey of Lent together. Lent is not simply a season on the calendar; it is an

invitation. It is an invitation to slow down, to examine our hearts, and to draw nearer to Christ through **prayer, repentance, and fasting.**

Fasting, in particular, is often misunderstood. It is not about proving our spiritual strength or earning God's favor. Rather, it is about making room — creating space in our lives to hunger more fully for God. When we set something aside, whether a meal, a habit, or a distraction, we remind ourselves that Christ is our true sustenance.

The prophet Joel offers this call from the Lord in the book that bears his name: ***"Yet even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments."*** (Joel 2:12-13)

Notice that God desires not outward performance, but inward transformation. Lent is about the heart. It is about returning — again and again — to the One who is gracious and merciful.

Spiritual growth rarely happens in dramatic leaps. More often, it unfolds through quiet faithfulness: ***daily prayer, honest confession, simple obedience.*** As we walk this Lenten path, we do so knowing that it leads us toward the hope of Easter. The cross comes before the resurrection, but resurrection always comes.

***May this season be one of renewal for each of us. May our fasting deepen our dependence on Christ, and may our hearts be softened by His grace. Let us journey together with expectation, trusting that God is at work within us.***

***In Christ's Great Love,  
Pastor Graham***



**FBC Redeemed Youth Events**

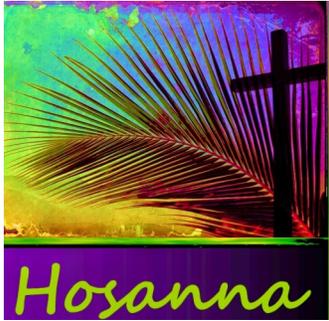


**The Youth will lead our worship service on April 13 at 10:30 am. After worship there will be a Fundraiser Luncheon to help raise money for camp in the fellowship hall. More information will be coming soon!**

**Please mark your calendars and plan to be here to support our youth!!**

# March 29, 2026

**CHILDREN'S**  
**MINISTRY**



**PALM SUNDAY**

*Hosanna*

**Children's Sunday**



**EASTER EGG HUNT**



The children will be singing and participating in the service on Palm Sunday at 10:30 am. We are practicing music on Wed. nights @ 6:45 pm. After worship on Sunday, there will be a luncheon for the children & their families in the fellowship hall and an Easter Egg Hunt.

**The Children's Committee**  
**will meet on March 12 at 6 pm**

## MARCH

### Nursery Volunteers

- March 1 ~Amanda & Avery Johnston
- March 8~ Ben & Emily Adams
- March 15~ Skylar Daniels & Ricardo Ahumada
- March 22 ~ Chase & Abby Smith
- March 29~ Beth & Hailey Outland

## Missions Corner



*Women's Ministry*

*connecting, equipping and inspiring women*

**Roundtable Meeting on**  
**March 16, 2026 at 10:30 am**  
**in the fellowship hall.**

**Men's Breakfast Fellowship**

**MARCH 14, 2026 @ 8:00 am**

**FBC Fellowship Hall**

**March 18, 2026 @ 6:15 pm**

**CHURCH**  
CONFERENCE

**Big Thanks**

*Thanks to all Roundtable members who donated snacks and drinks for the teachers at Bundy & Sugg.*



**DEMENTIA ALLIANCE**

of North Carolina

A STATE OF CARING

**Alzheimer's & Dementia Support Group**

**March 9, 2026 at 10:00 am**

**Farmville Public Library, Room 209**

**BACKPACK PALS**



**Back Pack Pal Sponsorships**  
**due March 30, 2026.**



**April 23-26, 2026**

Continue praying for the Dogwood Festival Ministry for new leaders for this mission. If you are interested contact Elaine Craft or Graham. Thank you for considering! Workers look for sign-up sheets later in March. Let's continue this great ministry!

**MARCH**

1. 2nd Sunday of Lent ~ SS @ 9:30/Worship @ 10:30 am/Youth @ 6:00 pm
3. Bible Study @ 9:30 am at Frankie Moye's
4. Wed. Night Activities ~Supper @ 5:30 pm/Children/Youth & Adults @ 6:15 pm/  
Children's Choirs @ 6:45 pm/ Adult Choir Practice @ 7:15 pm
5. Men's Bible Study @ 7 pm in fellowship Hall
8. Daylight Savings time begins /3rd Sunday of Lent ~ SS @ 9:30 am/ Worship @ 10:30 am /Home Connections @ 5pm/ Youth @ 6 pm/Deacons @ 6:00 pm
9. Alzheimer's Support Gr. @ 10 am at Library, room 209
10. Bible Study @ 9:30 am at Frankie Moye's/ Trustees @ 7:00 pm
11. Wed. Night Activities ~Supper @ 5:30 pm/Children/Youth & Adults @ 6:15 pm/  
Children's Choir @ 6:45 pm/ Adult choir practice @ 7:15 pm
12. Children's Committee @ 6 pm/Men's Bible Study @ 7:00 pm in fellowship hall
14. Men's Fellowship Breakfast @ 8 am in fellowship hall
15. 4th Sunday in Lent ~SS @ 9:30 am/ Worship @ 10:30 am/ /Youth @ 6 pm
16. Roundtable Meeting @ 10:30 am in FELLOWSHIP HALL
17. Bible Study @ 9:30 am in Frankie Moye's
18. Wed. Night Activities —Supper @ 5:30 pm Children /Youth /Quarterly Church Conf. @ 6:15 pm/Children's Choir @ 6:45 pm/Adult choir @ 7:15 pm
19. Men's Bible Study @ 7 pm in fellowship hall
22. 5th Sunday of Lent/ SS @ 9:30 am/Worship @ 10:30 am/ Youth @6:00 pm
25. Last Wed. Night activities until Sept.—Supper @ 5:30 pm/ /Children/Youth & Adults @ 6:15 pm/Children's Choir's @ 6:45 pm/Adult choir practice @ 7:15 pm
26. Men's Bible Study @ 7 pm
29. PALM SUNDAY/SS @ 9:30 am/Worship @ 10:30 am ~ CHILDREN'S SUNDAY/  
CHILDREN'S LUNCHEON & EGG HUNT AFTER WORSHIP
30. Community Lenten Service @ 12 Noon @ First Christian Church/Rocky Stone, speaker
31. Bible Study @ 9:30 am at Frankie Moyes/ Community Lenten Service @ 12 noon @ Presbyterian Church ~ Graham Byrum, speaker

**March Birthdays**

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Levi Byrum    | 17. Edward Spruill   |
| 5. Deena Johnson | 18. Sandra Parker    |
| Jeff Strayer     | Laura Powell         |
| 7. Niki Evans    | Hunter Toler         |
| 8. Sloan Godley  | 19. Kelcey Bonner    |
| Dan Wilder       | Anna Tyson           |
| 9. Brett Cash    | 20. Linda Sitton     |
| Zack Cash        | 21. Ella Woolard     |
| 10. Bill Flowers | 22. Taylor Oakey     |
| 12. Tyler Gay    | 24. Jay Tyson        |
| Noah Stallings   | 25. Eddie Tew        |
| 13. Angie Creech | 26. Paul Ellis       |
|                  | 31. Caroline Kinkton |

**STAFF BIRTHDAY**



*To Linda Sitton on March 20*

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Daylight Savings Time Begins  
**Spring Forward**  
**March 8, 2026**  
Set your clocks 1 hr.  
ahead on Sat. night

**HOME CONNECTIONS  
MINISTRY**  
**MARCH 8, 2026 @ 5:00 PM**

**March 8, 2026**  
**@ 6:00 pm**  
*Deacons  
Meeting*

**March 10, 2026**  
**@ 7:00 pm**  
**TRUSTEES**