



THE MESSENGER

June 2026



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You are my God, and I will praise you; you are my God, and I will exalt you. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Psalm 118:28-29

Loving our community, honoring our history, and growing together.

A SUMMER OF COMMUNITY

Being a "downtown" church gives us a unique opportunity to minister to our community. We are visible from Main Street, and we will be hosting many summer events that allow us to be together.

“Many of these events give us the opportunity to invite our community to be a part of that fellowship.”

Summer is full for us this year. Kingdom Kids will be heading to Wildwood Park and Rivers Park for picnic fun. Our teenagers will gather for a lock-in, head to youth camp, visit Carrigan Farms, and even spend an afternoon bowling together. Vacation Bible School arrives in July, filling our building with the sounds of children learning and celebrating – and we will share that celebration together in worship on July 12.

We will also have a chance to serve our neighbors together through the Mount Holly Farmers Market "Farm Share" program, packing boxes of fresh food from local vendors to distribute to individuals and families around our community.

And at the end of each summer month, we invite everyone – church folks, neighbors, and friends – to join us for a Church-wide Ice Cream Social, gathering to share good conversation and enjoy calories that certainly do not count.

Whether you are serving, playing, worshipping, or simply showing up for ice cream, you are doing something important. You are being community. We hope to see you this summer.

Upcoming Schedule

Sundays

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

June Events

June 8 Kingdom Kids Wildwoods Park @ WWC
June 12 Illumination Escape Room
June 13 Poet Voices Gospel Concert
June 15 Kingdom Kids Park, Picnic & Pelicans
June 20 Donuts with Dad
June 22-26 Illumination Trip - Garden City
June 28 Ice Cream Social

July Events

July 6-9 Vacation Bible School
July 11 Farm Share
July 12 VBS Celebration in Worship
July 19 "Remembering the Fire" in Worship
July 20 Illumination Carrigan Farms
July 26 Ice Cream Social
July 27 Illumination Lunch and Bowl



A VIEW FROM MAIN STREET

by Jeff Allen
Pastor
jeff@fbcmoutholly.org

I was building a shelf in my shed, planning to do it on my own. But once I started wrestling with the wood, I realized how awkward and heavy it really was. I swallowed my pride and asked Matthew to help. The moment his hands took the other end, what had felt impossible became simple. Some loads were never meant to be carried alone.

“The life Jesus calls us to was never meant to be lived alone — it was meant to be lived together. ”

We are wrapping up our Unstoppable Kingdom series this season, having celebrated together how God is making all things new. But the next step on the journey is just as important: learning how kingdom people live with one another. On June 28, we begin a new eight-week sermon series called Summer on the Mount, walking slowly through Jesus's Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7.

Notice how Matthew paints the scene. Jesus climbs



the mountainside, sits down, and his disciples gather around him. He did not pull one aside for a private lesson — he gathered a community. The Beatitudes, the call to be salt and light, the teaching on prayer and worry and forgiveness — none of it was meant for the lone hiker. It was meant for a people learning to climb together.

This is what community is for. We help each other up the steeper paths, remind one another of the view, and rest in the shade together. So join us on the mountain this summer — because the climb is good, the company is better, and the One who calls us up never meant for us to go alone.



July 6th-9th
9am-Noon

Volunteers Needed (Contact Tori)



Faith comes alive when it's put into action — and that's what the women of **Circle of Faith** do. This faithful group serves in tangible ways: preparing meals at Catherine's House, supporting staff at Stanley Middle School, and assembling hygiene kits for East Gaston High School this fall, among others.

"The hygiene kits have made a meaningful impact at East Gaston by ensuring students have access to essential personal care items they may not otherwise have," shares Jordan Johnson, a counselor at East.

To the team: Thank you for living out your faith with such quiet faithfulness. Your hands carry Christ's love into places we might never reach on our own.

To the congregation: Thank a **Circle of Faith** member when you see one. To join them, reach out to Pam Miller to learn more.



TELLING STORIES

by Tori Freeman
Minister of Youth and Children
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Psalms 133:1 says, "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"

I love living in the community that I grew up in. I feel connected because, as they say, "my roots run deep". For 30 years, (minus my four years in college), I have been able to connect with the community that was influential in my childhood and teenage years. I love showing my boys different places in our community and making memories with them doing the same things I did when I was little.

God desires for us to live in community with one another, to be unified as His people.

I often think about those who did not grow up here. Cole is a perfect

example of that. When he moved here after college, I was a little worried about how he would feel living in a new place. Specifically, a place that I am so deeply connected to.

"The best thing about our community? There's an unspoken rule that you take care of your own."

You lift each other up, you lend a hand when needed, you know someone who knows someone who can help, and you join together just like Jesus asked us to do.

Find ways this summer to embrace our community, engage with new friends, invite people to our summer events. Live out the community God desires us to be.

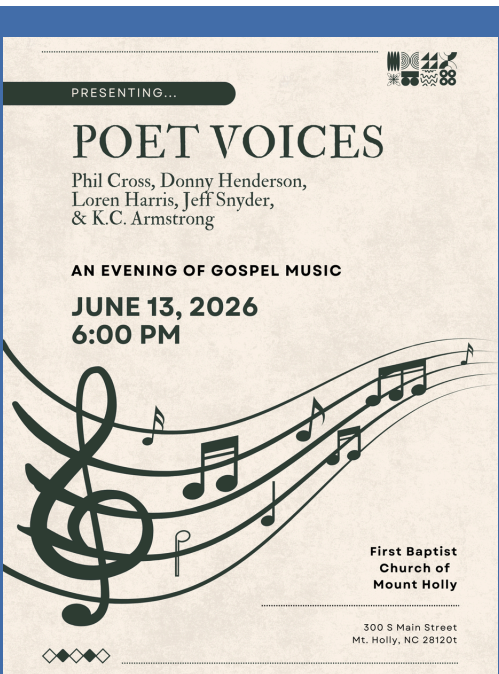


Saturday, June 20th
From 9:30-10:30 am

Donuts with Dads

June 20th
9:30am-10:30am

This is for all children, teenagers, and their dads or other fatherly figures!



Join us for an amazing evening of worship through song with the Poet Voices, including our very own K.C. Armstrong, free of charge at 6pm on 6/13!



MUSIC NOTES

by Cole Freeman
Minister of Music
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After each school orchestra concert I conduct, I have a reflection time with my students. The first question is always "rate your personal performance at the concert on a scale of 1-10". This is immediately followed by "rate your assessment of the orchestra's performance on a scale of 1-10". Almost without fail, the average score of the latter (the ensemble as a whole) is 1-2 points higher than the former (that of the individuals).

"The results of the group are exponentially greater than the sum of its individuals."

Many things in life follow the same pattern, where the results of a group are exponentially greater than the sum of its individuals: sports teams, corporations, clubs, even church. This is evidence of us being communal creatures, made to be in community with each other for God's glory. Here at First Baptist we have so many opportunities to serve alongside others in the church; from handbells to choir, youth mentors to VBS, Circle of Faith to Thanksgiving, and so many more. What community is God calling you to be a part of in the church?

NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

June OCC Item

GOAL

**150 NEW Small Trucks &
150 NEW Small Dolls**

Ages 5 - 14



Kay Macintosh: 980-253-7180
Kaymacintosh@hotmail.com

Church-wide Summer Fellowship

HOMEMADE ICE CREAM SOCIALS

All are invited to bring homemade churns of ice cream, cake, and/or cookies. Drinks will be provided

JUNE 28
JULY 26
AUGUST 23

On the Front Lawn
(weather permitting)
or Fellowship Hall

6:00 PM

Thanks to our Deacons for organizing this time together!



April Finances Update

April Receipts	\$45,890
April Expenses	\$38,256
Receipts YTD	\$207,412
Actual Expenses YTD	\$180,491
Budgeted Expenses YTD	\$179,300
Annual Budget	\$537,901

Donations

In memory of Luann Thomas by Verna Jo Ellis to the Children's Ministry.

In memory of Luann Thomas by Michael & Delorise Kinlaw to the Operating Budget.



First Baptist Church of Mount Holly



Contact Information

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Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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