



First Baptist Church of Mount Holly

THE MESSENGER

September 2026



...I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people.

Jude 3

The road beckons us forward, together.

OUR JOURNEY BEGINS TOGETHER

Some journeys are best faced together — and around a table. That's exactly the spirit behind our upcoming church-wide covered-dish lunch on Sunday, September 13, right after worship.

Since the fire, FBC Mount Holly has learned what it means to rebuild, adapt, and lean on one another. That same spirit is now shaping something new: Journey to Jubilee, a season of renewal for our whole congregation, rooted in Micah 6:8 — to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.

Three words capture what we're hoping for: Recapture, Renew, Revive. We want to recapture the momentum we felt coming through the fire, renew our sense of purpose as a church family, and revive the parts of our life together ready for fresh energy.

**//Three words capture what we're hoping for:
Recapture, Renew, Revive.//**

This September 13 lunch is where the conversation truly begins. You'll get to meet the planning team who've been praying and working behind the scenes since May, hear more about what this journey could look like, and — most importantly — add your own voice. This isn't a plan being handed down from a committee; it's a path we want the whole congregation to help shape.

Our Fellowship Team will provide the main entree and drinks. We ask you bring a side or dessert to share, bring your family, and bring an open heart. Childcare will be provided through 5th grade. Whether you've been part of this church for decades or just walked through our doors for the first time, your perspective matters here.

Please RSVP by Sunday, September 6 through [Realm](#) or contact Rebecca Hope in the church office.

Upcoming Schedule

Sundays

9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
10:30 a.m.	Worship
3:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts*
4:00 p.m.	Handbell Rehearsal
5:00 p.m.	Illumination Student Ministry

* Does not meet each week; see leaders for details

Wednesdays

2:30 p.m.	Afterschool Program
5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Supper
	Children's Choirs
6:15 p.m.	Prayer/Bible Study
7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal

September Events

Sept 7	Church Office Closed (Labor Day)
Sept 9	Wednesday Night Kickoff
Sept 13	Journey to Jubilee Luncheon
Sept 19	FBCJST Event - Narroway
Sept 20	Deacons Meeting
Sept 27	Operation Christmas Child Luncheon



A VIEW FROM MAIN STREET

by Jeff Allen

Pastor

jeff@fbcountholly.org

Do you ever struggle to remember what you had for breakfast, yet somehow recall the most random bit of trivia? Our brains are wired so differently. Some of us can tell you exactly who played third base for the Braves' first World Series win (Eddie Mathews, back when they were the Milwaukee Braves in 1957) but struggle to remember the really important things. That is why God never asked us to remember alone.

"The essentials of our faith are too important to leave to memory alone — they need to be spoken, together, again and again."

Beginning soon, First Baptist will begin a nine-week sermon series called **"We Believe: 9 Essential Truths of Our Faith."** Sunday by Sunday, we will walk together through the historic Apostles' Creed, one of the earliest and most enduring summaries of the Christian faith, line by line.

Now, Baptists are a non-creedal people. We do not



require a formal confession as a test of faith, and rightly so — Scripture alone holds that authority. And yet the Apostles' Creed, spoken by generations of Christians, gives us the gift of a shared voice — one God, Father, Son, and Spirit; the person and work of Jesus; the gift of the church; the forgiveness of sins; and the hope of resurrection and life everlasting. When we speak these words side by side, we remember faith was never meant to be carried alone.

Come and rediscover with us the essentials worth remembering — and worth passing on together.



OCC LUNCHEON

JOIN US
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
11:45 AM

A fundraiser luncheon featuring baked spaghetti and salad! All proceeds will help cover the \$10 shipping and handling cost for each Shoebox

QUESTIONS? ASK AN OCC TEAM MEMBER:
JUDY DENNIS, KEN FORTSCH, MISSI FORTSCH, JULIE HAVER, MARK HAVER, KAY MACINTOSH, JOHNNY ROLLINS, JUDY ROLLINS, PAM SURRATT

Ministry Spotlight

Fellowship Team

Some of the best moments in the life of a church happen around a shared table or a gathering filled with laughter and friendship. Our Fellowship Team is behind many of those moments.

This dedicated group organizes activities throughout the year that build community and deepen relationships across our congregation. Their planning and hospitality help turn a congregation into a family.

Fellowship isn't a side note to the life of the church — it's part of how we love one another and grow together in Christ.

To the team: Thank you — Peggy McGlohon (chair), Pam Miller, Missi and Ken Fortsch, Amanda and Joe Haverty, Linda and Mac Richardson, Luann and Rick Russell, and Judy Dennis — for the warmth and creativity you pour into our church family.

To the congregation: Show up. Bring a friend. Thank a team member when you see one. If you'd like to help plan these moments, reach out to Peggy.



TELLING STORIES

by Tori Freeman
Minister of Youth and Children
tori@fbcmoutholly.org

Together is my favorite place to be... A phrase you have probably heard before. In both church life and in my personal life, I love being with people. It brings me immeasurable joy. This most likely does not come as a surprise to you, but I love telling stories, and more importantly, I love hearing stories. Fellowship is one of my favorite parts of being a church community. Whether at the ice cream social eating calories that NEVER count, or serving alongside someone as we package soup for our food box, I enjoy the time together.

Jesus modeled this for us many times in the Bible as he sat with people, broke bread, and ate many meals with his disciples.

He taught them what it looked like to love each other and to live **together**. So often, we become caught up in the chaos and stress of our lives that we forget we have a community where we can just **be**.

Fellowship begins when we recognize the importance of slowing down, sitting around the table, sharing stories, and if you happen to be eating something, it's that much sweeter.

Enjoy the moments shared together. It is the best place to be.

// Together is my favorite place to be. //



Join us for Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 25th from 5:00-7:00pm!

This year, The Mens Circles will be serving Hot Dogs at our event! There will be plenty of candy to go around, games, and trunks full of prizes!



It might seem far away now, but Christmas will be here before you know it!

The choir is beginning its preparation for our Christmas Cantata each Wednesday evening at 7pm, beginning on September 30th.

If you used to sing in an ensemble, have been thinking about giving choir a try, or just love belting out those Christmas tunes along with the radio, we would love to have you join us!



MUSIC NOTES

by Cole Freeman
Minister of Music
cole@fbcmoutholly.org

Fellowship is defined as a "friendly association sharing mutual interests". Musicians being the special group they are like to take this a step farther and give it a fancy French name: "Ensemble", or, "a group of people that come together to function as a unit". At the beginning of each school year I lecture my students about the importance of regular attendance, as each class period is an ensemble rehearsal. If a student misses a class, not only are they depriving themselves of what they could learn from the group around them, but perhaps more importantly, they are depriving the group of what they as an individual have to offer.

The fellowship of believers is much the same. When we are absent from the church body we both lose communion with our brothers and sisters in Christ, and also deprive the body of a member. Paul reminds us in Romans 12:5 that "in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." The writer of Hebrews also exhorts us to "not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." In short, we are urged to remain in fellowship with like-minded believers, not simply for our own sake, but also for theirs.

NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

July Finances Update

July Receipts	\$45,986
July Expenses	\$45,850
Receipts YTD	\$328,478
Actual Expenses YTD	\$299,108
Budgeted Expenses YTD	\$313,776
Annual Budget	\$537,901

Donations

In Memory of Lauren Crossland by
Charlton Baker to the General
Operating Budget

In Memory of Lauren Crossland by
Linda McLendon to the General
Operating Budget



September OCC

Coins, Checks or Online Donations to
cover \$10/Shoebox shipping cost

- Coins: Fill empty medicine bottles
- Checks: Payable to FBCMH-memo OCC
- Online: Give at onrealm.org/fbcmountholly

Kay MacIntosh: 980-253-7180
KayMacIntosh@hotmail.com

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS ARE BACK! SEPTEMBER 9

5:15	SALAD BAR OPENS
5:15	CHILDREN'S CHOIRS
5:30	DINNER
6:15-7:00	PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY

COME HUNGRY,
STAY FOR FELLOWSHIP!



Farm Share Update

This summer we partnered with the
Mount Holly Farmers Market to
support local families and farmers.

Our people gave money along with
39 volunteers who built, packed, and
delivered 102 boxes holding over
1,750 pounds of fresh food. Behind
those numbers are neighbors
helping neighbors. Thanks to all
who made it possible.



FBCJST Event: Narrowway

The Gospel According
to Tennessee

Saturday, Sept 19 - 10:15 AM

Registration has closed
Please see emails for further details

Called by Name

The Disciples of Jesus

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - MOUNT HOLLY

Join us for Wednesday Night
Prayer and Bible Study
6:15 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Fishermen, a tax collector, a
revolutionary — ordinary people Jesus
called to "follow me." Women who funded
the ministry and never left the cross. A
mother, doubting brothers, a deacon, a
tentmaker. Real names in Scripture, real
faith formed. Join us Wednesday
evenings for **Called by Name**, a thirteen-
week study of the disciples of Jesus.



First Baptist Church of Mount Holly



Contact Information

Address 300 South Main Street
PO Box 385
Mount Holly, NC 28120
Phone (704) 827-2481
Website fbcmountholly.org

Staff

Jeff Allen, Pastor
Cole Freeman, Minister of Music
Tori Freeman, Minister of Youth/Children
Rebecca Hope, Administrative Assistant
Sheila McDaniel, Church Accompanist

Email

jeff@fbcmountholly.org
cole@fbcmountholly.org
tori@fbcmountholly.org
rebecca@fbcmountholly.org

Follow Us!

YouTube [@fbcmountholly](https://www.youtube.com/fbcmountholly)
Facebook [fbcmountholly](https://www.facebook.com/fbcmountholly)
Instagram [fbcmountholly](https://www.instagram.com/fbcmountholly)

Office Hours

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

Follow Us!

[fbcmountholly](http://fbcmountholly.org)