



THE BUILDER

The Newsletter of the First Baptist Church of Dunn, N.C.

November 2022 Issue



(Last month while on vacation, Cathy, and I 'sheltered-in-place' during Hurricane Ian. This is from my journal October 1st and 2nd)

The hurricane has passed. Our experience was not harrowing here. I don't want to make light of the event or let this lull into complacency how I look at future storms. Those in other places have not had our experience and I want to acknowledge that before I go further---

Yesterday as Hurricane Ian slammed the coast and the wind howled outside, I thought of Elijah in 1 Kings 19. The fierceness of God was not in the hurricane; God's power cannot be reduced to a single storm or fire. Not one blast of wind can express the might of God, nor can all the winds combined into a single force express the limits of what God can accomplish. God was not in those things because God cannot be diminished to an event. These are the thoughts I had seeing the damage on television and having walked in a strong wind to the end of the walk, rain stinging my uncovered face, to watch the sea roar and foam; seeing dunes washed away and debris in the water.

Yet this morning, as I went out into the stillness of the sunrise, experiencing the calm in the quiet before the day begins, I sensed presence. In the peace, the hope of a new dawn, there was a message of what God wants for us. Not chaos but calm, not destruction but renewal, not division but unity, not judgement but mercy and peace. For Elijah, God was in the silence not because God had nothing to say but because God cannot be described or reduced to words. God was in the stillness, not because God is inactive but because only in complete surrender can God be known to us.

Silence describes God because silence is not limited. Silence is all the words and none of them at the same time. A word, a description, limits all other possibilities. When a word is chosen all other words are eliminated. Only silence includes them all. Only silence is never ending, the perfect description. Only silence in all its fulness is bursting with potential, mystery, and discovery.

The mystics speak of this as apophatic, complete silence, the knowledge that words are inadequate and limited. Talk as we must, kata-phatic, the use of language to describe the indescribable, will always end in silence because God cannot be broken down to words or paragraphs, books, or even volumes. No human language, indeed, all languages combined, cannot describe God in God's fulness and glory. Silence is the best language to express the inexpressible. The silence that enveloped a worried and stressed Elijah was all of God that God wanted known. The silence described it better than anything that could be said. There was more---there will always be more---God has neither beginning nor end. And---God sent God's Son.

What a joy it is for us that God wanted us to know more about God. In revealing Godself to us, **"the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,"** (John 1:14) not as a sentence, not as a definition, but as a person. In John 14:9 Jesus told Philip, **"Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father."** With all that is God---God loves us and wants us to know God. That's why God sent Jesus that **"whosoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life,"** (Jn. 3:16). This should be enough to embrace the silence and to be still and know what we can know by faith that God is God, and we are his handiwork created for God's purposes.

Psalms 139 comes to mind, one verse in particular, **"Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, to lofty for me to attain,"** (v.6). May God continue to reveal to all of us what we need when we need it---always on time! Our journey as Christians is just beginning. *Len*

We will be collecting Operation Christmas Child Boxes. Look for empty boxes available at the church. Fill your boxes and place them on the tree at the front of the church by November 13th!

Soccer ball with pump • Doll • Stuffed animals • Toy cars • Jump ropes • Yo-yos • Toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries) • Toothbrushes (no toothpaste) • Washcloths • Combs • Hairbrushes • Pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, and markers • Notebooks and paper • Coloring and picture books • Solar calculators • Socks • Sunglasses • Jewelry and watches • Flashlights (with extra batteries)



Shoebox Dedication will be November 13th during morning worship!



Pastor's Retirement

And Love Offering



Join us in celebrating Dr. Len Keever's retirement!
Although, we are sad to see him go, we invite you to
celebrate this milestone with the Keever family.
His last Sunday in the pulpit will be November 20th.
Make plans to join us for worship and watch
for information on other events.
A love offering will be presented to Len and Cathy.
If you would like to contribute, please submit to
the church on or before November 13th.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Women's Prayer Group
 (every 3rd Monday)
 Monday November 21st
 10am in the Parlor

Women's Fellowship
 (every 4th Monday)
 Monday, November 28th
 7pm in the Parlor

Feel free to bring a friend!

Contact Sara for information

QUARTERLY Business Meeting

Church conference
 will be November
 16th. The Personnel
 Committee will make

a recommendation for an interim pastor, the 2023 roster of committees will be presented and voted on and the 2023 budget will be presented and discussed. The budget vote will be December 4th at 10:55 prior to the worship service.

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

Budget Update 10-23-22
 Received \$337,702.79
Required \$373,773.63
 Budget Deficit YTD (\$36,073.84)

Online Giving at
www.fbcdunn.com/Click Give.



Sound System

Nov. 6 Ron Dupree
 Nov. 13 Christopher Moore
 Nov. 20 Michael Stephens
 Nov. 27 Mark Dunham

Prayer Coordinator
 Phyllis Turnage

Unlocking/Locking

10/30 & 11/02 Ron Dupree
 11/6 & 11/9 Marshall Hinson
 11/13 & 11/16 Christopher Moore
 11/20 & 11/23 Bo Jones
 11/27 & 11/30 Christ McDaniel

Greeters: Phyllis Turnage
 Rob Jones
 Miranda Moore

Radio Lesson

Nov. 6 Kelly McLamb
 Nov. 13 Bo Jones
 Nov. 20 Chuck Turnage
 Nov. 27 Larry Snipes

Candle Lighter

Nov. 6 Grace Overby
 Nov. 13 James Byrd
 Nov. 20 Hope Wright
 Nov. 27 Carly Jo Barefoot

Children's Church

Nov. 6 None-Family Worship Time
 Nov. 13 Sara Williams & Miranda Moore
 Nov. 20 None-Keever Celebration
 Nov. 27 Melissa Barefoot & Mary Overby

Scripture Reader

Nov. 6 Ella Holland
 Nov. 13 Aubrie Wise
 Nov. 20 Mary Charlotte Pope
 Nov. 27 Ron McLamb

Children's Sunday School

Nov. 6 Angela Jones
 Nov. 13 Miranda Moore
 Nov. 20 Kelly McLamb
 Nov. 27 Angela Jones

Nursery

Nov. 6 Melissa & Julia Scott
 Nov. 13 Jacquelyn Alphin
 Denise Jarrell
 Nov. 20 Lauren Stephens
 Nov. 27 Jessica West

NOVEMBER EVENT & BIRTHDAY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>Regular Activities</u> 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service 6:00 Youth Fellowship			<u>Regular Activities</u> 5:45 Virtual Bible Study 6:30 Kids Club 252 6:30 Youth Bible Study 6:30 Adult Bible Study 7:30 Choir Practice			
 BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP <i>All Saints Day Memorial Service</i>		1 Thomas Bates	2	3 Jesse Wise	4 Jim Kerney	5 Ramona Beasley Jennifer Cannady Jonathan Thornton
6	7	8 Shirley Cannady	9 Gary Norris Joyce Wade Jerry Walker	10 11 12 		Timothy Brown
13 <i>Deacon Election</i> 	14 7:00 Deacon's Meeting James Byrd Joe Godwin	15	16 6:30 Church Conference Wayne Barbour Jon Russell Wise	17 Meredith Holland	18 Marinda Earp Ann Parker Mike Richardson	19
Christmas Box Dedication 	21 Sandra Cobb Angela Jones	22 Barbara Avery Kathy Fennell Matthew Smith	23 Brent Lee Naomi Moore	24 	25 Denise Jarrell	26 Trent Fennell
27  Joyce Brewer Marilyn Poe Ashley White	28 7:00 Women's Fellowship Caleigh Jones Amanda Wise	29	30 Anakin Barfield Elizabeth Major			

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage Paid
Dunn, NC
Permit #51

First Baptist Church of Dunn, Inc.
309 West Broad Street
Dunn, NC 28334
(910) 892-6161
www.fbcdunn.com



Pastor
Minister to Families & Outreach
Minister of Music
Accompanist
Administrative Assistant
Custodian

Dr. Len Keever
Sara Williams
Kathryn Wise
Mary Sue Godwin
Angela Jones
Kevin Snipes

DUNN UNITED
MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION
BIG THANKS GIVE
NOVEMBER 20TH
2PM - 4PM
SHRINE CLUB PARKING LOT
God Bless you for helping us
"Feed Our Neighbors"!

FOOD DRIVE
thank you for your donation

The poster features a background image of a person's hands holding a red cross inside a circular logo. To the right is a cartoon turkey. The text is in various fonts, including bold sans-serif and script.

GIFTS FOR FOSTER CHILDREN

The youth ministry will be shopping for 10 foster Kids on November 20th at 4pm. Help us bless these kids by giving generously. We need \$100 per child.

The poster has a white background with three wrapped gifts in red and white paper at the top, decorated with red berries and greenery. Red leafy branches frame the central text.

Kids Club 252
Ages 3 through 5th Grade
Wednesday nights at 6:30
The kids are practicing for their Christmas program!!

Sunday School
10am Every Sunday

KIDS

fbc KIDS

The poster has a green border. It includes a 'Kids Club 252' logo with a colorful, abstract design and the 'fbc KIDS' logo.

fbc YOUTH

Youth MINISTRY

Sunday Morning Bible Study
10am in the youth room
Wednesday Night Youth Small Groups
6:30-7:30pm in the youth room

November Sunday Night Schedules
6th: First Sunday—No Evening Activities
13th: Fall Retreat
20th: Shop for Foster Kids
Meet at church at 4pm
27th: Thanksgiving Weekend, no evening activities

The poster has a blue border. It features the 'fbc YOUTH' logo and a 'Youth Ministry' logo with a silhouette of a person with arms raised. The text is in bold sans-serif and script fonts.