

THE

# MESSENGER

201 SOUTH BROADWAY  
FOREST CITY, NC 28043  
828-245-5411

## Worship Sunday, November 22!

8:45 (Gym) 10:00 (Gym)

## Sunday, November 29!

8:45 (Gym) 10:00 (Gym) 11:00 (Sanctuary)  
10:00 Sunday School



## Finding Advent!

**November 29** "Finding Grace (When Everything seems Shut Down and Cancelled)"-Tonya Garrison

**December 6** "Finding Joy (When It Seems to Have Disappeared)"-David Cox

**December 13** "Finding Love (By Fueling Your Heart With Thanks)"-Bobby Gantt

**Christmas Cantata-Glory Touching Earth**  
(8:45 and 10:00 Gym; 11:00 Sanctuary)

**"A G.L.O.W. Christmas with Children's Choir"**  
6:00 p.m.- LEC Gym

**December 20** "Finding Peace (By Turning Off Your Phone)"-  
Scott Haynes

**Monologue-The Shepherd's Story**  
(8:45 and 10:00 Gym; 11:00 Sanctuary)

**December 24 Christmas Eve Drop In Communion**  
4:00-5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Live Stream / 11:00 a.m. Service  
[www.florencechurch.net](http://www.florencechurch.net)  
[Facebook.com/FlorenceForestCity](https://www.facebook.com/FlorenceForestCity)

### Church Staff

**Dr. Bobby Gantt** Pastor

Home Phone: 828-429-3893  
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**Rev. Scott Haynes** Minister of Music

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**Tonya Garrison** Minister of Children &  
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children@florencechurch.net

**Rev. David Cox** Minister of Youth &  
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Home Phone: 828-748-2905  
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**Teresa Skinner** Office Manager

Church Office: 828-245-5411  
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**Tommy Wilson** Custodian

Home Phone: 828-429-2639

**Carrol Calhoun** Custodial Assistant

### HOMEBOUND MEMBER OF THE WEEK

Evelyn Shows  
149 Fairhaven Dr. RM # A1  
Bostic, NC 28018



The Jean Sanders Family,  
Mother of Tina Tarlton

### **WELCOME** *New Members*

David Butler-Statement of Faith  
Melony Butler-Transfer of Letter  
Ryan Butler-Transfer of Letter  
Matthew Butler-Transfer of Letter  
Wesley Butler-Statement of Faith  
Hazel Haynes-Transfer of Letter  
Diane Teague-Transfer of Letter

## PREACHER B'S BE-ATTITUDES

Most of you are aware by now that we had someone who attended the 11:00 service on November 8 that tested positive for Covid 19 last week. When this happens our current policy is that we will cancel that specific worship service (11:00) for two Sundays, November 15 and 22. The staff has attempted to contact everyone that attended the 11:00 service on November 8 to make you aware of the situation and to ask you to worship via live stream for two weeks. We also look at programs where the individual or family might have been involved. In this case, it means we cancelled Sunday School this past Sunday, November 15, and we will cancel Sunday School this coming Sunday, November 22.

We were supposed to have a Church Conference this past Sunday, November 15 to vote on the following two recommendations:

*The Staff Committee, the Budget and Finance Committee and Deacons recommend the adoption of the 2021 Budget as printed.*

*The Deacons of Florence Baptist Church unanimously recommend Tonya Garrison for Ordination to the Gospel Ministry.*

I have talked to Butch Moore, Chairperson of Deacons, about how to proceed on these. This makes the third consecutive week they have appeared in The Messenger. If anyone has any concerns about either recommendation, please let us know. We will be glad to talk with you. Otherwise we are going to proceed as if both recommendations have been adopted by the church. These are unusual times that call for us to do things in something of a different manner, but we can still work together to accomplish great things for the Kingdom of God. We had announced Tonya's ordination service for November 22 at 11:00. We are now projecting the ordination service for November 29 at 11:00 a.m.

With all of this said, please note the Advent Schedule on the front cover of The Messenger. This has been a year like no other in recent memory, and Advent might be different for all of us this year, but one thing remains the same. You and I want to celebrate the greatest event ever, the coming of Jesus Christ into this world and into our lives. You and I want to celebrate the birth of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Our theme is "Finding Advent," and we might have to search high and low this year, but God's Word promises that if we seek Him, we will find Him. Jeremiah 29:13 reads, "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." We as a staff will do our very best to make Advent special in 2020. We hope you and yours will worship with us in person or via live stream. Let's wear our masks, wash our hands, and wait six feet apart, and guess what! We can still have a wonderful Advent season!

Preacher B

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2020

General Fund	\$20,686.89
Lightshine/Bldg Fund	\$3,269.00
Back Pack	\$75.00
Samaritan's Purse	\$627.00
Lottie Moon	\$200.00
NC Missions Offering	\$200.00

### GIFTS TO THE BUILDING FUND

#### IN MEMORY OF:

**Earleen Douglas**

Hugh & Mary Rachel Moore, James & Beth Harmon

**Juanita Hoy**

James & Beth Harmon, Dean & Mary Cole

**Mary Quinn Kiser** - Dean & Mary Cole

**Dalton Smart** - (Brother of Mary Lib Henson)

James & Beth Harmon, Paul Tim & Nora Jones

Hey Florence Family,

I hope you are well. I can't wait for Thanksgiving, can you? Thanksgiving is one of my favorite times of year and always my favorite meal. It is one of the times during the year that the entire family gets together. Our family is probably a lot like yours where Thanksgiving and Christmas are the only two times of the year that we all get together.

I remember the first Thanksgiving that Ann came to our house. We were sixteen years old and until then, momma had been the only female in the house. Needless to say it was a learning experience for all. Ann had never sat at a table with five males. Daddy would say the blessing and then it was game on. Four teenage boys can put away some food. She was scared to reach for the food, as it passed around the table, for fear of being stabbed by a fork. As the years have gone by and the family has grown, we have all become accustomed to our family's different dynamic.

Each Thanksgiving, we try to express our appreciation and thanks for the blessings of the year. This year our family has chosen not to gather as a whole, due to Covid 19. This doesn't mean we are not thankful. God has blessed us this year; just as much or more than in the past. I am thankful for the memories of all the Thanksgivings where we did gather and the Thanksgivings that will come, by the grace of God.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." 1 Chronicles 16:34

I hope you and your family have a great Thanksgiving, regardless if you are together or apart.

Scott

## NOVEMBER

Birthdays

## DECEMBER

Birthdays

- 11/22 Tyler Flack, Betsy King  
11/23 Cheryl Cole, Anna Haynes, Ralph Lewis,  
Gary McKinney, Kay Searcy  
11/24 Natalie Boone, Garrett Bridges, Steve Butler  
11/25 Brad Farrar, Glen Graham, Amanda Hutchins  
11/26 Sharon Marshall, Ashton Owens, Barbara White  
11/27 Leyton Blalock, Russell Cudd, Patsy Weast,  
Anna Yelton  
11/28 Lukas Hines, Joyce Lynch, Austin Street, Will Yelton  
11/29 Mason Fenner, Holly Moore  
11/30 David Hunt, Debbie Womick  
12/01 Frieda Chapa, Gerald Richards  
12/02 Chuck Arrowood, Ezekial Lynch, John Moore,  
Hugh Moore, Chasity Sims  
12/03 Jennifer Bennett, Tyler Bridges, Walter Bridwell,  
Mara Davis, Johnny Mayse, Karen Moore,  
Reese Suttle  
12/04 Kaylee Camp, Angela Dufford, Fisher Shamblin  
12/05 James Adams, Angela Archer, Courtney Atkins,  
Steven Edwards, Ian Gill, Wren Wilson

## NOVEMBER

Anniversaries

## DECEMBER

Anniversaries

- 11/22 Ken & Patti Hardin  
11/23 Rick & Janet Mason  
11/27 Tommy & Ginny Pitman  
11/29 Tim & Kim Francis  
12/05 Ben & Linda Bridges, Chad & Leslie Sneed



Cards for the Homebound

### RA/GA Post Office

This year we have decided to only collect Christmas cards for the Homebound and those in Nursing Homes and Rest Homes. Collection boxes will be placed in LEC Lobby and Connector. Please have cards to the church by Sunday, December 13th. We will sort and beautifully bound the cards and deliver in time for Christmas. Our Homebound and NH/RH residents will enjoy hearing from you as they have been the most vulnerable and isolated during this time. Please make every effort to send some Christmas cheer through a card or letter. A list of names will be available November 29th.

Hello church family!

I heard someone say one time that God's address is at the end of your rope. What does that statement mean to you? It could mean that when you can no longer handle something on your own or you have tried everything in your own power but failed that God will be there. Yes, that is true, but I think that statement means God is at the finish line. He is at the end, guiding you towards Him, cheering you on! He wants us to seek Him. He wants us to succeed. He wants us to finish what we start, but He wants to be included in it. So, if you feel you are at the end of your rope, and you have lost the motivation to go on, do not give up. Keep your eyes focused on God. He is holding the end of the rope and will celebrate with you when you cross the finish line of the task at hand.

Tonya

Florence Family,

We are quickly approaching the Christmas season and for many people this means family dinners, presents, and (most importantly) celebrating the birth of Jesus. However, this is also the time that Southern Baptists support and give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Lottie Moon was a pioneer missionary to China in the 19th century and spent 40 years taking the gospel to the people of China. She began a letter writing campaign during her time in China asking for local churches to support missionaries on the field and this sparked incredible giving and her impact on missions is still felt today!

Currently, the IMB employs 3,535 missionaries all over the world who are taking the gospel to those who have never heard. As many of you know, Katie and I were missionaries in India for two years and we were fully supported by the IMB. What this means is that the IMB paid for our rent, travel, ministry expenses and other living expenses during our time. This was an incredible blessing because we did not have to fundraise or worry about coming home because of lack of funds. We were able to fully devote ourselves to the mission God had called us to because of the resources given to the IMB.

When you give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, 100 percent of the funds go to support IMB missionaries. This is so important because there are so many people around the world who have never heard the good news of Jesus. By giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, you are enabling missionaries to go to hard and unreached places so they can shine a light in the darkness! This year our church goal for the LMCO is \$10,000.00. We ask that you begin now to prayerfully consider how you might contribute to this goal.

Thank you,

David

### Food Boxes

They are coming back this week! Wednesday is the day! 10:00 a.m. is the time! Distribution will be under the Broadway Street Canopy. The dates are Wednesdays, November 18, and December 2, 9, 16 and 30. We will have 70 boxes this time to give out on a first come, first serve basis. The boxes contain produce, milk, meat, cheese and butter.



It's fun to make an acrostic. An acrostic is a type of writing in which one letter in each line makes a word. Here is the word faith written as an acrostic.

F - forgiven  
A - amazing  
I - inspire  
T - trust  
H - honor

See if you can do one with the word TRUST. Have fun!





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Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
[www.florencechurch.net](http://www.florencechurch.net)

Or Current Resident

### Bible Studies for Life: Senior Adult

#### Committed to Pray

#### Colossians 1:3-12

Today in the technology era, almost everyone has a phone. We can call or text anyone, anytime. Do you know God's phone number? It's Jeremiah 33:3 "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know." Prayer is the direct line to the sovereign, all-powerful God and Creator of the universe. Don't take this connection for granted. God calls us to talk to Him. Prayer is a wonderful, beautiful privilege.

Live it out:

1. Morning prayer. Prayer is like a muscle; if you don't use it, it gets weak.
2. Deeper prayer. Commit to a regular time of prayer each day that is not rushed or hurried.
3. Focused prayer. Create a detailed list of specific requests you want to pray for.



**We will not print The Messenger  
November 23rd.**

**The Church Office will be closed  
November 26 - 27**



### Explore the Bible

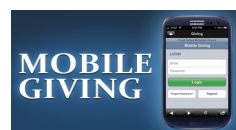
#### God Justifies

#### Isaiah 53:1-12

Society places the names of public servants who died while on duty on bridges and buildings. We commemorate the sacrifice paid by soldiers who fought and died in battle. Most of us celebrate the sacrifices made by a person that benefited us or our children. Isaiah tells of a servant who would make the ultimate sacrifice. During this time, Isaiah was telling everyone of a future servant who would bring us peace with God. Placing faith in this servant means forgiveness and restoration. Today we know who this servant is! Jesus!!! As you read this passage, be joyful in the accuracy of Isaiah's prophetic words and remind yourself what the servant did for you!

Apply the text:

- ◆ The servant faced rejection to secure our salvation.
- ◆ The servant bore our sin, taking the judgment in our place.
- ◆ The servant willingly paid the price for our sin and provided salvation to all who accept His sacrifice.



**TEXT [florencebc](tel:82824573256)  
to 73256  
and give using  
your smart phone!**