

THE

MESSENGER

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

Sunday Worship, March 29, 2020

Live Stream at 11:00 a.m.

www.florencechurch.net

Click on Live Stream

[Facebook.com/FlorenceForestCity](https://www.facebook.com/FlorenceForestCity)



No Sunday Worship or Activities:
March 29th and April 5th

No Wednesday
Fellowship Suppers or Activities:
April 1st and April 8th

(The staff will evaluate this every two weeks.)

Church Staff

- | | |
|---|---|
| Dr. Bobby Gantt | Pastor |
| Home Phone: 828-429-3893
pastor@florencechurch.net | |
| Rev. Scott Haynes | Minister of Music |
| Home Phone: 828-289-8362
music@florencechurch.net | |
| Tonya Garrison | Minister of Children & Christian Education |
| Home Phone: 828-380-9761
children@florencechurch.net | |
| Rev. David Cox | Minister of Youth & Instructional Technology |
| Home Phone: 828-748-2905
youth@florencechurch.net | |
| Teresa Skinner | Office Manager |
| Church Office: 828-245-5411
secretary@florencechurch.net | |
| Tommy Wilson | Custodian |
| Home Phone: 828-429-2639 | |
| Ashlee Kallay | Church Hostess |
| Home Phone: 828-980-4776 | |
| Carrol Calhoun | Custodial Assistant |

HOMEBOUND MEMBER OF THE WEEK

Frances Toney
Fair Haven Forest City
830 Bethany Church Road
Room # 156
Forest City, NC 28043

Social Distancing

The church staff is practicing social distancing. Currently we are only meeting on Mondays at 9:30 for prayer and to plan. Even then we stay 6 feet apart. Other days we stop wherever we are and pray at 9:30 and work from our individual offices when at church. For the most part, we are encouraging staff to work from home. Teresa and Bobby are alternating days in the main Church Office.

PREACHER B'S BE-ATTITUDES

As we continue to make our way through these difficult times, our staff met this morning to assess where we are as a church and what we need to do.

In consultation with Mack McKeithan, Chairperson of Deacons, we have decided to not have Sunday services March 29 and April 5. We will also not have Wednesday services April 1 and 8. All of this is because of the Coronavirus Covid 19 Pandemic. As a staff, we have decided to evaluate this situation every two weeks.

We will continue to Live Stream a worship service at 11:00 on Sundays, and we certainly hope you will join us. Many of you have tuned in, and we are grateful to you for doing this. Many of you have sent texts, emails, and Facebook posts giving us feedback, and we appreciate it.

As a staff we miss all of you! And we know that you love your church, and you want to be here. But aren't we grateful that we have the capability to Live Stream, and we have the staff to make it happen? Even under difficult circumstances for everyone, we recognize that we are so blessed.

On Sunday our topic is "Be Patient" based on Isaiah 40:28-31. Verse 31 reads, "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." (KJV)

Over these last two weeks as we have live streamed, we have talked about "Be Encouraged" from Philippians 4:4-9, 13, and 19, and we have looked at "Be Brave" based on 2 Timothy 1:7. Please join us via Live Stream this Sunday, March 29, as we look at "Be Patient" based on the great verse Isaiah 40:31. In fact, we invite you to read Isaiah 40 in its entirety. A great, great chapter of the Bible!

These are times like we have never known before, but God is on His throne, and He is guiding, leading and protecting all the way. Thank you for being the people called Florence! Thank you for your prayers and for your faithfulness to God and His church each and every day. Thank you for your faithfulness in giving your tithes and offerings. You are the best, and we love you and thank God for you.

On a personal note, many of you have asked about Ronda and Alison. Thank you for asking. All of us are doing well. We are staying at home except when I come to the office and when we Live Stream. We are reading a lot of books and playing games. Alison is the Uno Champion right now! Ronda and Alison are also crocheting and knitting. I got left out in that department. We haven't seen the grandsons, and we miss them and Brandon and Ashley and Lance and Amber, but we text daily, and we Face Time. They are all doing well.

So in closing, we miss you, and we miss worshipping together. We are a family at Florence, and families enjoy being together. Always know I and your staff are available to you. Please don't hesitate to call, text or email. We will talk, listen and pray for each other. Again, we love all of you with the agape love of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Preacher B

SUNDAY, March 15, 2020

General Fund	\$13,383.06
Lightshine/Bldg Fund	\$2,341.00
BackPack	\$1,000.00
Lottie Moon	\$100.00

GIFTS TO THE BUILDING FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Cary McFarland - (Date of Birth March 24)
Mary Jane Hinkle, Martha Jean McFarland

Bobby Hill - (Husband of Trinh Hill)
Patsy Champion, Terry & Tracy Self

Susie Huntley - (Mother of Christy Teague)
Terry & Tracy Self

Sara Koonce
Terry & Tracy Self

Verlie Leatherwood - (Sister of Carolyn Wood)
Martha Jean McFarland

Lucille Nanney
Terry & Tracy Self

Ken Wiig - (Father of Brian Wiig)
Terry & Tracy Self

IN HONOR OF:

Sharon Haulk
Adult Choir

Think about this for a moment: In three short weeks everything we as a nation worship has been affected. We worship athletes; the stadiums have now been shut down. We worship musicians; civic centers and concerts shut down. We worship actors; theaters and movie production shut down. We worship money; the economy and the stock market are taking a nose dive. We don't go to church and worship because of ball games and travel ball, now we can't go to church.

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

Maybe we don't need a vaccine. Maybe we need to take this time of isolation from the distractions of the world and have a personal revival where we focus on the ONLY thing in the world that really matters, JESUS.

It's time for our Nation to turn their heart's back to Jesus and pray.

(Adapted by Tonya Garrison from a Facebook post with unknown author)

Tonya



- 03/29 Sam Roller
- 03/30 Karsyn Brock, Tony Harrill,
Glenda Hermansen, Jerry Lynch,
Kay Whittemore
- 03/31 Margaret Flack, Angela Stewart,
Brad Teague



- 04/01 Kynlee Butler, T.J Francis, Drew Greene,
Marina Mace
- 04/02 Shirley Blanton, Emily Hutchins,
Laura Kate Lovelace, Priscilla Marshall
- 04/03 Bryan Holland
- 04/04 Debbie Burns, Jessica Butler,
Peyton Graham, Grant Haynes,
Rhonda Hollifield, Layla Wolfcale



- 03/31 Chuck & Denise Arrowood



- 04/02 Eddie & Becky Jolley
Mickey & Glenna Warlick

Hi Florence family. I wanted to take a moment and thank you for joining us in worship via Livestream on Sunday mornings. Even though this is different, we still feel connected as we worship. Let me encourage you to take this time at home to reach out to friends and family through phone calls, text, FaceTime or a handwritten card/letter etc.

Are you still singing? Why not take a few minutes each day and sing. Turn off the tv and sing. Make a joyful noise to the Lord. I tease with some of you about making a joyful racket. Either way sing. Ann and I have the privilege of keeping our grandson Mac as our son Grant and his wife Anna are still working. We sing to him all the time and he loves making a joyful racket. Our daughter Katlyn and her fiancé Nicholas are working as well. Since we no longer can meet in large groups, they have rescheduled their wedding for the fall.

Let me end by saying, I miss each of you. Each week I get to play and sing with the best praise band around. I get to lead the best choirs around and I get to stand before the best singing congregation. What a glorious day when we get back together and rejoice in the Lord by singing together.

Blessings on you and your families,

Scott



Florence Youth - Weekly Zoom Meetings

- High Schoolers - 6:00 P.M. on Sunday Nights
- Middle Schoolers - 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday Nights

Hey Florence Family! I hope you're all doing well. Even though we can't meet in person, I still want to connect with each of our youth by using the Zoom conferencing app. It's easy to use, and I have links to download the app and tutorials on our website, [Florence church.net/youth](http://Florence.church.net/youth). Each week I'll post a link to join our meetings on social media and our website.

Also, I'll post a video each week with some thoughts from the book of Philippians. Then on Sundays and Wednesdays, I'll be available on Zoom to talk about the Bible Study and connect with our students.

My prayer is that we'll be an encouragement to each other, and we'll lean on each other during this time of isolation. I love our students and am always here for them! Please reach out if you need anything or just want to talk.

Thank you

David

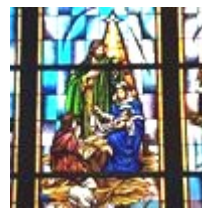
Take a moment to reflect:

Peter walked on water! It was at the moment Peter focused on the storm brewing around him that he began to sink.

Jesus will reach his hand out to us during this time. It's up to us to have the faith to take it. It's when you are holding Jesus' hand closely that you clearly see what He does with his other one!

Tonya

Ways to stay connected:



Join the Florence Baptist Church Forest City Facebook group. This is a special church members only page. In this FB group you will find access to our Explore the Bible and Bible Studies for Life Sunday School curriculum which Tonya posted Sunday. Once registered Tonya will link you to the SS curriculum sessions and you can access a new one each week. If you have questions, please call or text Tonya.



A Florence Kids Facebook page has recently been set up.

Tonya has provided details for parents on how to access preschool- 6th grade Sunday School curriculum. Access will provide a weekly video message as well as downloadable activity sheets from Lifeway. In addition, Tonya is posting weekly videos containing fun object lessons for the kids! Questions? Call or text Tonya.



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Church Office Hours:
Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
www.florencechurch.net

Or Current Resident

OPPORTUNITIES FOR - March 29

SUNDAY:

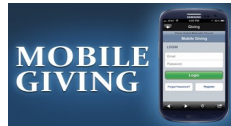


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Our Ministry by Giving Online

Please use the link below to support
Florence Baptist Church

<https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?>

Text Giving



TEXT **florencebc**
to 73256
and give using
your smart phone!

Please stay safe during this time and follow the recommendations from the Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control. You can find out more from the links below:

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-response-north-carolina>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

**"BE
STRONG AND
BOLD...
THE LORD YOUR GOD...
WILL NOT FAIL YOU OR
FORSAKE YOU."**

Deuteronomy 31:6

