

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SHALLOTTE

LOVE GOD. LOVE ONE ANOTHER. LOVE THE WORLD.

4486 Main Street
Shallotte, NC 28470
910.754.4048
thefbcs.com

Office Hours:
M-Th 9am-3pm
Closed Monday

Sunday School-9:45am
Worship-11am



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No 318
Shallotte, NC

Or Current Resident

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY



the Vision

Monthly Newsletter of First Baptist Church of Shallotte | March 2026

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Raised,
\$337,799

Remainder,
\$812,201

Goal \$1,150,000

thefbcs.com/tree-of-life

Or

Give directly to the Capital/Debt Retirement Fund



Ways to participate in retiring the debt of our recent property purchase:

- Prayer, encouragement, time and service
- Tree of Life Program
- Single or recurring gifts to the Capital Fund
- Stock donations
- Tax-free IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions for those at least 70 ½ years of age
- ALL participation is highly valued and appreciated

Financial donations/gifts should be above regular tithes and offerings and are handled with discretion in keeping with our financial policies

Future fundraising events are being planned. Stay tuned!

Capital Campaign Committee
Jeff Bradshaw, Lisa Robinson, Kelly Holden,
Elaine Van Dyke

Kristy Couch, Church Promotions and Financial Manager

Hello March

Church Events

- Mar 8th @ 11a - Baptism
- Mar 9th 6:30-8:30p - Ladies' Ministry Meeting; Dinner Provided; Speaker Michele DiSprito 
- Mar 14th @ 8a - Cars & Coffee
- Mar 15th @ 11a - First Kids Easter Program
- Mar 16th 6:30-8:30p Men's Ministry Meeting; Dinner Provided; Speaker Tom Pozzo 
- Mar 19th @ 10:30a - Bags of Hope Packing
- Mar 21st @ 10:30a - Bags of Hope Distribution
- Mar 22nd @ 11a - Lord's Supper
- Mar 29th @ 11a - Celebration Choir Easter Cantata
- Mar 29th Following 11a - Worship - Palm Sunday Easter Pot Luck Lunch

THE PRIMARY ELECTION AND WHY IT MATTERS THAT YOU VOTE

In this month's primary election, we will determine who we select in the general election.

But because it seems like we are constantly in the middle of some election cycle, we can easily grow numb to the privilege of voting. We get apathetic or dismiss elections as unimportant. Or, if we don't feel like we have a candidate that outshines the rest, we may simply decide not to vote at all.

Maybe that's happening. As of February 21, of the 7,712,259 registered voters in NC, only 323,992 had cast ballots in early voting. Maybe you are among those who voted early. Maybe not.

But, in the absence of a clear reason not to, such as choices that result in violating our walk with Christ or disobeying God's clear commands, or a change in the American political system that makes voting actually detrimental to the Church, I believe that Christians in America should vote.

Here's why:

- **Voting is a matter of citizenship.**

By virtue of being born again in Christ, every Christian is a citizen of heaven (Phil. 3:20). But when Jesus told His followers to "give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's" (Luke 20:20-26), He connected serving God with serving the country of our earthly citizenship. And the right to vote our conscience is a specific privilege of citizenship in this country of our earthly residence.

In addition, the Bible assumes that Christians will not only be good citizens, but that they would be the best citizens (1 Peter 2:17). Applying Christian values to the community of our residence is not only good for the community, it also benefits Christians who live in that community. As Paul said, Christian works are "good and profitable to everyone" (Titus 3:8, Jer. 29:7).

Refusing, abstaining, or just neglecting to vote is an overt rejection of this particular privilege of citizenship in America. To put a fine point on it, America gives its citizens the privilege to vote, and for Christians, voting is a chance to exercise Christian citizenship and express Christian values.

- **Voting is a matter of stewardship.**

Stewardship refers to an opportunity, a possession, or a privilege that has been entrusted to you. Christians should be especially concerned that we are judicious stewards of the political processes that have been passed along to us as American citizens. This stewardship is reflected in two ways.

First, our stewardship reflects our values. Your commitment to Christ always takes precedence over your politics. So, all of your decisions, including political decisions, should be informed by your relationship with Christ.

For instance, human life is precious in a biblical worldview (Gen. 1:27, Ex. 20:13). This is simply non-negotiable. Therefore, support for the elective killing of unborn babies, the euthanasia of the infirm, or any other killing out of convenience is incompatible with a believer's walk with Christ.

And second, our stewardship sustains our freedoms. Our freedom to practice our faith depends on it. We cannot fight the moral battles of our time, or of the next generation, if we lose the first-order freedoms bequeathed to us by our Founders. Those founding principles are preserved by participating in the electoral process, and few people should be more concerned to preserve them than Christians. We cannot speak out against abortion or other moral evils if we lose religious liberty, freedom of the press, or freedom of speech.

Christians are called to be the conscience of the nation. In America the founding principles uniquely provide us the means to do that. If we throw away our vote, we risk losing the very freedoms that make it possible for us to do what God wants us to do. Our founding principles provide us the freedom to evangelize, worship, and battle moral evil.

If you tend to dismiss the gravity of this stewardship, think about this: New York City just elected a Muslim Marxist who is a practicing Socialist as its Mayor. In every respect, his values contradict Christian values and the American system of government.

- **Voting is a matter of faith.**

If you are a follower of Christ, you serve Him. You are accountable to Him for your decisions, including whether you vote and how you vote.

Your voting is an exercise of your faith (Col. 3:17). If you neglect to vote out of fear of the future, you are showing a lack of faith (Heb. 11:6). If you refuse to vote because you don't think you will get what you want, or you assume your vote doesn't matter, you are ignoring God's sovereignty over all nations and governments (Rom. 13:10).

You are not seeking the perfect candidate. Human beings are flawed sinners, and the political arena often unleashes the worst sinful inclinations of people. Politics is power, and power can corrupt.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...



D E A C O N O F T H E W E E K

3/1-3/7
BOBBY DAVIS
910-540-2686
GRITSTER2016@OUTLOOK.COM



3/15-3/21
FORREST TAYLOR
910-443-1054
FISHINBUILDER@YAHOO.COM



3/29-4/4
DREW SELLERS
910-619-1819
NDSSELLERS@GMAIL.COM



3/8-3/14
JACE MYERS
910-603-3501
JACE_MYERS@HOTMAIL.COM



3/22-3/28
JEFF HOPKINS
828-964-3904
MRHOPJ88@GMAIL.COM



...CONTINUED THE PRIMARY ELECTION AND WHY IT MATTERS THAT YOU VOTE

You vote knowing that no candidates are perfect, so when you vote you are showing your trust in God for the future. He is sovereign. He alone knows the outcome and the ways today's election will shape the future. So, to be clear, the person you vote for should be the person you believe God wants in office. Then, in ways we cannot always foresee or understand, God will use our choices, including our votes, to advance His greater purposes.

Before you vote

So, vote. But before you vote, do some research. You can best know your candidates' perspective on various issues by researching their voting records. One good place to do that is ivoterguide.com.

When it comes down to it, Christians have one obligation—to serve Christ. And we trust Him for the future of our community, our state, and our nation.

So, go vote. But choose wisely. And be faithful to Christ.

In His grace,
Pastor Bob

Your generosity fuels a movement that's transforming North America.

God can do far more abundantly than all we ask or imagine, and He's doing it through you.

When you pray and give to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, your generosity joins with thousands of other churches to send and support missionaries across North America.

You're helping plant churches where none existed. You're meeting real needs in hard-to-reach places. You're sharing the hope of the gospel with people in communities that desperately need it.

That's why your gift to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is more than a gift—it's a lifeline of hope.

YOUR GIFTS TO THE ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING:

- Support more than 3,000 missionaries and their families.
- Enable hundreds of churches to be planted and thousands of disciples to be made every year.
- Continue the SBC's 181-year commitment to North American missions.

100% of your Annie Armstrong Easter Offering gifts support thousands of missionaries serving in church planting and compassion ministry.




THE MISSION FIELD

The North American Mission Board serves a diverse and complex region comprised of the United States, Canada, and their territories.

Population: **386 million**
Languages: **378**
Estimated Lost: **291 million**
Unreached People Groups: **161**



2026 OFFERING GOAL:
\$9,000