

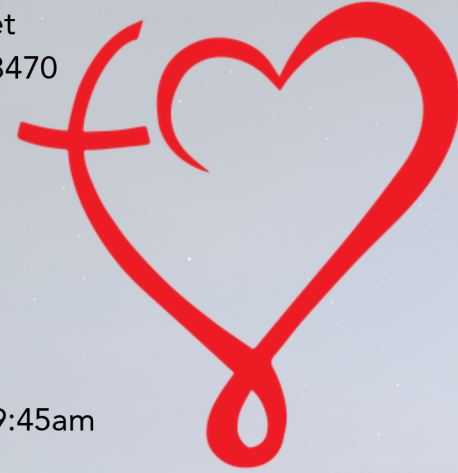
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SHALLOTTE

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



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Shallotte, NC

Or Current Resident

the Vision

Monthly Newsletter of First Baptist Church of Shallotte | April 2026

EASTER

APRIL 5 *Sunday*

SONRISE SERVICE AT 7AM
FREE BREAKFAST
BIBLE STUDY CLASSES FOR ALL AGES
AT 9:45AM
WORSHIP AT 11AM

APRIL SCHEDULE

APRIL 6 | CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
For Easter Holiday

APRIL 6-10 | CREATION TRIP
Youth

APRIL 11 | CARS & COFFEE 8 AM - 10 AM
—————
SPRING FUN DAY 11 AM - 1 PM

APRIL 12 | WORSHIP 11AM
Speaker Wayne Turnage
—————
QUARTERLY MINISTRY MEETING 6PM

APRIL 13 | LADIES MINISTRY MEETING 6:30 PM
Dinner Provided

APRIL 16 | BAGS OF HOPE PACKING 10:30 AM

APRIL 18 | BAGS OF HOPE DISTRIBUTION 10:30 AM

APRIL 19 | WORSHIP 11AM
Speaker Wayne Turnage
Compassion Sunday

APRIL 20 | MEN'S MINISTRY MEETING
Speaker William Burriola
Dinner provided

APRIL 26 | WORSHIP 11AM
Speaker Richard Blackaby

VAL KILMER, CHRISTIAN SCIENCE, AND WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT YOUR BODY



Actor Val Kilmer was known for popular standout characters in films like Top Gun, Tombstone, and The Ghost and the Darkness.

Then in 2015, Kilmer started having trouble speaking. He discovered a lump in his throat and was diagnosed with throat cancer. After a long battle with the disease, Kilmer was declared “cancer free” in 2021. But the treatments had taken a toll on his health. Kilmer passed away April 1, 2025, from pneumonia.

When Kilmer was diagnosed with cancer, he refused to affirm the reality of the disease. Instead, he referred to his diagnosis as the “suggestion of throat cancer” but said he did not really “possess it.” Why would he make that assertion?

Because, as a practitioner of Christian Science, that’s what he believed.

What is Christian Science?

Throughout his life, Kilmer devoted himself to the practice of Christian Science.

Christian Science is a metaphysical philosophy and not biblical faith. And, following its founder, Mary Baker Eddy, Christian Science adherents affirm the existence of “God,” but not the existence of the material world.

To them, “God” is the immaterial, bodyless Mind of the universe. So when people are properly aligned with this Mind, they can escape the confines of the material world. That is to say, the mind is the problem, not the body, because the body doesn’t actually exist.

That means, in Christian Science, disease and suffering are illusions. A person can overcome this illusion by realigning his mind with the universal Mind. That’s why Kilmer said that his illness was “a suggestion of cancer.” Not real. Just a mental suggestion that could be overcome with a corrected mindset.

When pop culture depicts Christian Science practitioners refusing medicine in favor of “prayer” for healing, it misrepresents the reality. In Christian Science “prayer” is devotion to self. They say they are praying to “God,” but they are really just meditating to affirm their belief in an ill-conceived metaphysics.

So how did Kilmer beat his cancer? His children, who are not devoted to Christian Science, insisted that he accept medical intervention. But he said he only did it for them because their mindset was being overcome with fear. He always claimed that the treatment was worse than the “suggestion of cancer” because it attacked the “illusion” of his physical reality.

Wrong about both the body and the mind

Christian Science is a metaphysical cult. Frankly, it’s neither “Christian” nor “Science.” It reinterprets Christianity in a way that barely resembles what the Bible teaches. Christian Science is wrong about both the body and the mind. So what is a biblical view of the body, and why does it matter that we get this right?

A biblical view of the body is about more than just physical or mental human nature. It’s about what it means to be human, and it’s about having a sound biblical theology of the cross and the resurrection. The whole redemption story, from Eden to Revelation, assumes that our material bodies are part of God’s creation.

That’s why a biblical view of the body is crucial for a sound Christian theology and a healthy view of yourself. Here are six biblical teachings that require a material body and a real, physical world.

• Creation and the body

God created a material world, and He made people with physical bodies so we could interact with that world. God designed human beings to have material bodies that are unique to humanity. Human beings have a soul and a spirit housed in a physical, material body (1 Thess. 5:23). God designed this physicality of the human body to interact with His creation and to procreate, so our identity is uniquely associated with our physical bodies (Gen. 1:27, 5:2).

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7....



DEACON OF THE WEEK

4/5-4/11
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...CONTINUED VAL KILMER, CHRISTIAN SCIENCE, AND WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT YOUR BODY

In other words, our very identity as human beings hinges on the reality of our material bodies. Without a physical body, which is always either male or female, we are not fully human.

• Sin and the body

Suffering and death entered the world with sin. To deny physical suffering is to deny sin (Rom. 8:22). The Bible teaches that sin, death, and suffering go together. We suffer because of sin (Rom. 5:12, Eph. 2:1).

If the physical body is not real, then neither are death and sin. This lie denies the need for salvation because if sin is not real, there is no need to be saved (1 John 1:10).

• Incarnation and the body

And because sin and death are realities of our material existence, God, who is Spirit (John 4:24), came in a physical body to save us from our sin.

Far from biblical Christianity, Christian Science renews the heresy of Gnosticism that denied that Jesus was God in bodily form. The earliest Christians confronted this heresy with a clear declaration of their experience of God in human flesh (1 John 1:1-5).

To deny the reality of a physical body is to deny the incarnation of Jesus Christ. Christians have always declared that this is a false teaching.

• Crucifixion and the body

And because Jesus was God incarnate, He could die for our sins. He suffered physically, and therefore He died in a physical body.

This is an essential truth of Christianity. It’s not a passing tangent or an interesting idea. The reason you can be forgiven of your sins and cleansed of unrighteousness is that Jesus died in your place, shedding His real, human blood, and sacrificing Himself for your sins. His death could not be imaginary, metaphorical, or immaterial. To fulfill God’s plan, Jesus had to die in a real, physical, human body for you.

Without the shedding of His actual, real, material, human blood, there is no forgiveness of sins (Heb 9:22).

• Resurrection and the body

In the same way, His resurrection was a real, bodily resurrection (John 20:24-29). Christian Science, Jehovah’s Witnesses, and similar cults deny the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ, claiming that it was either a myth or only a spiritual event.

But the Bible teaches that Jesus rose from grave in a new physical body. By this, He is the prototype of the new man in a new body. Our bodily resurrection depends on His bodily resurrection (Rom. 8:11). So, to deny His resurrection is to deny our own resurrection (1 Cor. 15:12-13).

• Heaven, hope, and the body

Finally, our hope and the hope of all creation rests in the bodily resurrection of Christ from the dead. This material world is not imaginary or an illusion. It is a real, material world that one day will be transformed into a new material world, free from sin and death. This includes the “redemption of our bodies” from the curse of sin (Rom. 8:18-23).

So, as you can see, a biblical theology of the human body matters. God designed us for a physical world, but not this fallen, sinful world. This world suffers presently from sin and death, but one day we will be renewed and redeemed in the body.

With love in Christ,
Pastor Bob

PASTOR BOB'S SABBATICAL: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

April 6-May 31, Pastor Bob and Kim will be on sabbatical. The purpose of this sabbatical is for Pastor Bob to focus on rest, reflection, and respite, to invest in spiritual growth and family time, especially time with Kim, and to spend time writing and studying. Here are a few ways you can facilitate his sabbatical:

- Pray for Pastor Bob and Kim daily. Ask God to refresh them in ministry, strengthen their relationship, and revive them spiritually.
- Squelch the urge to contact them. Yes, that will be hard. But do not call, text, or email Pastor Bob during his sabbatical. All questions or concerns can be directed to Pastor Kevin, the church staff, or the Deacons. Use this plan:
 - o During office hours, contact the church office 9AM-3PM Monday-Thursday at 910-754-4048 or admin@thefbcs.com.
 - o After hours, for matters related to the church office, administration or finances, contact Kristy Couch at finance@thefbcs.com.
 - o In the event of an emergency or a ministry need, contact Pastor Kevin at pastorkevin@thefbcs.com, Deacon Chairman Doug Ward at dward@atmc.net, or the Deacon of the Week.
 - o For matters pertaining to Building and Grounds, or opening/closing the building after hours, contact Greg Norris at maintenance@thefbcs.com
- Respect his return. Pastor Bob will return to ministry on June 1, but he will need to some space to transition back into the routines of ministry. He plans to share about his sabbatical one Sunday evening in June.

We will have special guests preaching in Pastor Bob's absence!

- April 12, Pastor Wayne Turnage
- April 19, Pastor Wayne Turnage; Compassion Sunday
- April 26, Dr. Richard Blackaby, President of Blackaby Ministries International and author or co-author of more than 40 books, including *Experiencing God*, *Putting a Face on Grace*, and *The Seasons of God*.
- May 3, Pastor Kevin Gore
- May 10, Pastor Kevin Gore; Mother's Day
- May 17, Pastor Quintell Hill, International Mission Board, African American Church Mobilization Strategist
- May 24, Pastor Kevin Gore
- May 31, Pastor Kevin Gore

Thank you for praying for Pastor Bob and Kim!

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY



GOING TO REACH OUR NEIGHBORS

Maybe you went to Kenya last year with our mission team to share the good news of Jesus. Bless you if you volunteered to GO on a mission trip with Baptist on Mission to be the hands and feet of Jesus to those in distress. But have you been to Shallotte, Ocean Isle Beach, Supply, or Sunset Beach to tell the lost about heaven??

Sixty percent of those living in our nearby communities are lost, that means they either haven't accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior or have heard about Jesus but don't understand why their hearts crave to have a personal relationship with Him.

God is now giving the family of Christ at FBCS multiple opportunities to make His Son known in the communities surrounding FBCS. First, each month we have between 135 to 280 new families relocating here to be our neighbors. Each month members of the Community Connections Team send a personal note to these families to welcome them and invite them to join our family. To carry out this mission we need additional volunteers to help with the welcome notes.

A major opportunity to GO is coming Saturday, April 25th, and Sunday, April 26th. FBCS will be participating in the Days @ the Dock Festival at Holden Beach. Throughout the month of April, you will be able to register to volunteer either through the church website or in person prior to and after church worship on Sunday, April 19th. This is not only a chance to be a witness for Jesus, it is also a lot of fun for all ages!!

If you can, take a few moments to reread Matthew 9:35-38 and as it soaks in, think about you being a harvester for the harvest.

Don Evans
Community Connections Team Leader

“ 35 Jesus continued going around to all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness. 36 When he saw the crowds, he felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. 38 Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest.” ”