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SOUTH RIVER
BAPTIST CHURCH

2659 South Chipley Ford Rd.
Statesville, NC 28625-8712

SouthRiverBaptist.com

Periodical

OCTOBER 2025

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Chris Thompson, Senior Pastor	704-876-1520
Rev. Scott Townsell, Pastor for Missions & Families	980-829-3163
Rev. Tony Craver, Church Administrator	704-397-6965
Dr. Alton Cook, Pastor for Congregational Health	336-707-2886
Timothy Clendenin, Children's Ministry Associate	704-928-9882
Kim Williams, IT Support & Headwaters Administrator	704-881-1459
Heather Melton, Ministry Assistant	704-876-1520
Carole Ireland, Financial Secretary	704-876-1520

EACH SUNDAY

8:15 AM	Morning Worship
9:30 AM	Sunday School
10:45 AM	Morning Worship
5:30 PM	GROW Students/Kids
6:00 PM	Evening Worship

EACH WEDNESDAY

6:40 PM	GROW Students/Kids
7:00 PM	Prayer Service/GROW

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SOUTH RIVER
BAPTIST CHURCH

Volume 26, Number 2

CURRENTS

October 2025

SOUTH RIVER
BAPTIST CHURCH



Bring your family and join us for fun and fellowship

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

FROM 11-2PM

SCAN TO REGISTER



▶ Carnival Games, Food, Inflatables, Hay Rides, Family Fun & More!

▶ 2659 South Chipley Ford Rd., Statesville, NC 28625
Phone: (704) 876-1520

▶ SouthRiverBaptist.com

SouthRiverBaptist.com

2659 S. Chipley Ford Road, Statesville NC 28625 | Phone (704) 876-1520

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear South River Family,

Every Fall we are privileged to behold wonderful masterpieces in nature as God paints a new picture every day. The stunning beauty of nature's change is something that we want to witness also in the lives of people around us, and it too is a work of God! We have an opportunity to engage our community with the good news of God's love at our annual Fall Festival. There are three ways you can join in this effort to see lives made new!

First, this is designed as a church-wide family-friendly event. For the children there will be games, candy, and bounce houses. We will have hayrides for families and there will be food, fellowship, and a few other surprises. Please mark your calendar now to join us on that Saturday.

Second, invite others to experience our South River church family. Pray now and invite those in your area of influence to the event. We can introduce them to our church's location, our church family, and our love for Christ. Bring those you are praying for with you that day!

Third, find a place of service during the event. There are many ways that you can serve: at information booths, setting up and tearing down, as well as directing traffic for parking. We are asking each Sunday School class to identify how they will facilitate game booths or other elements of the event. Let us all do our part in making this enjoyable for everyone.

Thank you for the privilege to serve as your pastor and witness your hunger to grow in Christ and to reach our community for Him. May God continue to bless our efforts to make Him known to everyone around us.

Blessings,

Pastor Chris

PRE-SCHOOL

OCTOBER 5TH **8:15 AM Worship**

Salem Grace Lyles
Kelly Hill

10:45 AM Worship

Heather Melton
Chely Mahler

6:00 PM Worship

Cricket Barnette
Patsy Burnette

OCTOBER 12TH **8:15 AM Worship**

Terry Aiken
Sharon Hobbs

10:45 AM Worship

Rebecca Thorpe
Taylor Hedrick

6:00 PM Worship

Cyndi Cook
Mary Jo Frye

OCTOBER 19TH **8:15 AM Worship**

Debbie Sloan
Karli Townsell

10:45 AM Worship

Liz Deal
Cheri Horner

6:00 PM Worship

Brenna Pence
Robin Stewart

OCTOBER 26TH **8:15 AM Worship**

Melanie Townsell
Molly Townsell

10:45 AM Worship

Keri Mankos
Amelia Fox

6:00 PM Worship

April Thompson
Daphne Jensen

OCTOBER 1ST

Elizabeth Griffin
Anita Long

OCTOBER 8TH

Heather Cannon
Donna Lyons

OCTOBER 15TH

Tara Beatty
Nicky Robertson

OCTOBER 22ND

Maritza Anderson
Amanda Meadows

OCTOBER 29TH

Heather Melton
Tara Beatty

GREETERS

OCTOBER 5TH **8:00 AM**

Martha M. - SP
Carol S. - FD

10:30 AM

Jenna S. - FD
Kate D. - SP

OCTOBER 12TH **8:00 AM**

Martha M. - FD
Cindy H. - SP

10:30 AM

Bridget M. - FD
Abigail K. - SP

OCTOBER 19TH **8:00 AM**

Brenda R. - FD
Carole S. - SP

10:30 AM

Alyssa L. - FD
Carole B. - SP

OCTOBER 26TH **8:00 AM**

Kate D. - FD
Bonnie W. - SP

10:30 AM

Mary K. - FD
Kimberly S. - SP

GRIEF SHARE MINISTRY

GriefShare Class
Aug 17th - Nov 9th
Sundays @ 3 pm in FLC 6

Please contact
Steve Jenkins at
(980) 263-4134



UPDATED PODCAST

The following podcasts are available on the platforms pictured below (new ones are in bold):

No Sacred Cows

Seasons of Parenting - A Christian Perspective

Path To Purpose - Ecclesiastes Study

A Faith That Endures

Grow Or Die

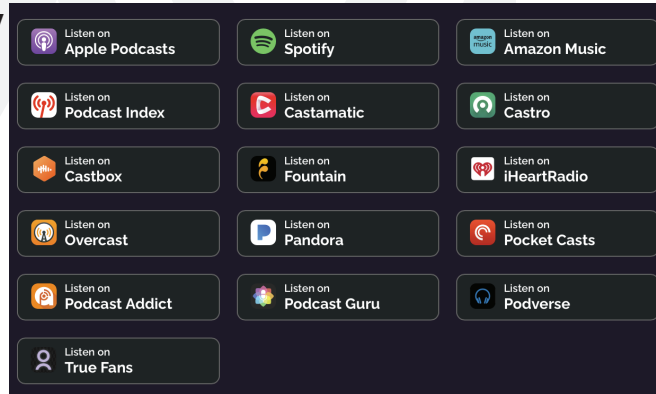
What Does God's Word Say?

Grasping God's Word

Key's To Spiritual Growth

Forgiveness

Economics For Everybody



2025/26 MINISTRY BUDGET

YTD BUDGET GOALS	\$ 79,820.00
TOTAL GIVING TO DATE	\$ 74,294.34

PASTOR FOR MISSIONS & FAMILIES

One Year of Serving in the Mountains

Church Family,

September 27th marked one year since Hurricane Helene struck the mountains. Our church committed to serving there for a full year, and as we reach this anniversary, we give thanks to God for His faithfulness and to you for your prayers, giving, and service.

In the first three months, October through December, we focused on feeding families in hard-to-reach areas where roads were washed out. Using the smaller cookers that we have, we prepared and delivered nearly 12,000 hot meals in communities such as Hendersonville, Fairview, Lansing, and Creston. Sometimes in areas we were unaware of because meals were loaded onto side-by-sides to reach isolated families/communities. To date we have cooked and served nearly 20,000 meals this past year.

By November, our focus began to shift from feeding to construction as families were able to return to work. Partnering with High Country Caregivers in Banner Elk, which supports over 400 children and 300 kinship caregivers (mostly grandparents), we helped repair and restore homes. So far, we have refurbished two mobile homes, assisted in setting five more, and built decks to make them livable, with most of the materials generously provided by High Country Caregivers. While construction has remained our main focus, we also responded to ongoing food needs most recently in August, when we delivered 150 casseroles and pre-cooked chicken, donated by Mountaire Chicken, to the Bat Cave area, which continues to be in great need.

This work has come with challenges, but God has continually supplied what was needed. On September 27, we joined a community celebration in Elk Park called Because Our God is a Provider. There we cooked and distributed 1,000 meals and shared the hope of the gospel.

Thank you, church, for standing with us. God has truly shown Himself to be Provider not only in meeting physical needs, but in opening doors for the gospel. Pray with us as we continue serving and glorifying Him in the mountains.

Pastor Scott Townsell - Pastor for Missions & Families



DEEP & WIDE YOUTH MINISTRY

As we step into this new year, I'm filled with excitement for all that God is doing in our student ministry. We have some incredible opportunities ahead for students to grow deep in the Word of God and to reach wide with His love.

Wednesday Nights – Walking Through 1 John

On Wednesday nights, we have a meal each night that starts at 6pm in the RiverHut. At 7pm we worship and open The WORD of God. We are just starting a study in the book of 1 John. The heart behind this study is assurance, God does not want His children living in constant uncertainty about their salvation. In 1 John, the word know appears 22+ times, and in the Greek, it carries two rich meanings: one rooted in truth and one rooted in relationship. Together, these truths teach us that we can have full confidence in Christ through His Word and through our relationship with Him. Parents, I want to encourage you to bring your students each week as we take this journey. Our goal is not just to fill heads with knowledge, but to grow hearts that live out His love.



Sunday Nights – The Attributes of God - GROW

On Sunday nights, we're walking through the attributes of God. There is no greater pursuit for believers than to know who God is, and He has revealed Himself clearly through His Word. Each week, we dive into one attribute and pair it with a hymn that highlights that truth, helping students grow deeper in their relationship with Him.

If you'd like to see what's coming up next in this study, download the South River app click on the Grow logo, and you'll find the lesson schedule along with the hymn tied to each attribute. (Password: srbcgrow, all lowercase.)



This year promises to be one where our students not only learn deep truths but also live them out in wide-reaching ways. I'm excited to see how God will use these moments to shape their faith and strengthen their walk with Him!

BIRTHDAYS

OCTOBER

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 3 | Kalyn Melendez-Lindly | 17 | Samuel Thompson |
| 4 | Lesley Colvert | 18 | Steve Jenkins
Doris Marsh |
| 5 | Mandy Pittman | | Laura Waddill |
| 6 | Billie Haithcox
Chris Keever
Michael Lyon
Daryl Martin | 19 | Bryce Weston |
| 7 | Dennis Stewart
John Wilson | 20 | Tonda Lowman
Carson Weston |
| 8 | Cambrie Hobbs
Jerry Long
Dylan Mankos
Matthew Pence
Kaylie Robertson | 21 | Libby Campbell |
| 9 | Cassandra Chege | 25 | Evy Wenzel
Addy Wenzel
Ellen Pope |
| 10 | Salem Estes
Riley Fernandez
Emily Fisher
Brittney Griffin
Toyie Templeton | 27 | Teddy Campbell
Jeff Fox
Jennifer Hedrick
Linda Hermoso
Tony Smith |
| 11 | Ty Jensen
Carolyn Sprinkle | 29 | Walter Chrastina
Sherri Oliver |
| 12 | Ethan Barnes
Benjamin Dowdle | 30 | Tammy Davidson
Lydia Thorpe |
| 13 | Robbie Taylor | | |
| 15 | Molly Townsell | | |

ANNIVERSARIES

OCTOBER

- | | |
|----|---|
| 2 | Joe & Mary Kirkpatrick |
| 3 | Brandon & Hanna Lefever |
| 5 | Larry & Cathy Johnson
Josh & Jen Wall |
| 6 | Tyler & Anna-Lisa Goodman |
| 7 | Walter & Marie Chrastina |
| 8 | Gene & Mary Dellinger |
| 10 | Elijah & Eli Pope |
| 14 | Canaan & Alyssa LeVan |
| 15 | Jerry & Peggy Koch
Dave & Nancy Snyder |
| 17 | Howard & Julie Martin |
| 23 | Michael & Stephanie Wilhelm |
| 24 | Charles & Almedia Campbell |
| 25 | Robert & Lesley Colvert |

RIPPLEKIDZ MINISTRY

The Clarity That Hell Affords

I know I quoted C.S. Lewis last month, but I wish to share another excerpt I read recently from his work, The Screwtape Letters:

Keep everything hazy in his mind now, and you will have all eternity wherein to amuse yourself by producing in him the peculiar kind of clarity which Hell affords.

Reading this made me pause and write what you are reading here. What an incredible insight on the part of Lewis! Most of you know the Screwtape Letters are a fictional conversation between the older tempter Screwtape and his nephew. This is the portion of advice given to his nephew, whose patient (the person he attempts to influence) has become a Christian.

The kind of clarity that Hell affords is simple yet profound: The God of the universe is real, and I am separated from Him forever because of my pride!

It's no stretch to say that lost souls will spend all of eternity seeing clearly the truth of what was said by the Christian Church. And I am convinced that those who spend eternity in Hell will have in their mind replaying each time they heard the Gospel, knowing that they were wrong, that believers tried to warn them, and that it is all much too late to be saved!

Indeed, Hell affords a peculiar kind of clarity, the kind that makes one realize they are damned forever, and that they can never be redeemed. Perhaps the worst part of it is that they will all remember how close they were to tasting salvation, but are without it. Let us examine ourselves, church. Because we don't want to have the type of clarity that Hell affords, we are striving for the kind of clarity that Heaven reveals; that we once were lost, but now we are found, we were blind, but praise God we see!

Timothy Clendendin, Children's Ministry Associate

WORSHIP MINISTRY

RIVER WORSHIP CHOIR

5th AM If You Never
12th AM Oh Lord, Our King Rejoices
19th AM Long As I Got King Jesus
26th AM At The Name Of Jesus

PM Living By Faith
PM Bound For Glory
PM Let The Church
PM No Choir (Business Mtg)

SPECIAL MUSIC

5th AM Sherwin
12th AM Praise Team
19th AM Lydia Thorpe
26th AM South River Gospel Quartet

PM Jimmy Williams
PM Belle Craver
PM River Choir
PM Women's Chorus

RADIO MINISTRY SCHEDULE Mon-Fri Programming

5am & 12pm (5min) Reading By The River
6:30am Love Worth Finding - Dr. Adrian Rogers
8am Running To Win - Dr. Ervin Lutzer
6pm Grace To You - Dr. John MacArthur
8pm Turning Point Daily - Dr. David Jeremiah
10pm Wretched Radio Daily - Todd Friel

Weekend Programming

Sat @ 12pm Washington Watch Weekly
Sun @ 7am Turning Point Weekend - Dr. David Jeremiah
Sun @ 8am Love Worth Finding Weekend - Dr. Adrian Rogers
Sun @ 12pm & 7pm South River Baptist Church
Sun @ 5pm Grace To You Weekend - Dr. John MacArthur

Music Genre Schedule

12am - 3am Contemporary Christian
3am - 7am Gospel
7am - 6pm Contemporary & Gospel Mix
6pm - 9pm Gospel
9pm - 12am Contemporary Christian



GROW CLASSES



GROW Year 3 Begins

Parenting
Led by Pastor Scott
Sundays at 6pm

Ecclesiastes Bible Study
Wednesdays 7pm

Men in Choir Room & Women in FLC-6

GROW for Youth & Kids
Sundays 5:30pm (games begin) &
Wednesdays 6:40pm

SAVE THE DATE



Mark Your Calendars

November

- 1st - Conceal Carry Class**
- 22nd - Thanksgiving for Thousands**
- 23rd - Concert & Fellowship Meal**

HEADWATERS ACADEMY



HEADWATERS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
PATRIOTS

We have openings in some classes for the 2025-2026 School Year
We offer 3 day (Tue-Thu) and 5 day Pre-K (7:45 am to 11:30 am) and K-12th grade
See details online @ headwaters-academy.com

Please call if you would like additional information or to set up a tour and family interview
New students should use this link > <https://headwaters-academy.com/register-new/>

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THIS MINISTRY! We need help in the lunchroom, cleanup crew, teacher assistants, tutors, library, recess monitoring

If you can volunteer between 8am and 2pm Mon – Fri, we can find a place for you to serve!
Please fill out a volunteer form or contact me let us know of your interest. One or two days per week will go far to help this ministry of South River Baptist Church.

Scan to apply or contact Kim Williams for more details
at 704-881-1459 kim@southernbaptist.com; <https://headwaters-academy.com/volunteer/>



Other ways you can help support Headwaters:

>>> Download the Box Tops app and select Headwaters Christian Academy in Statesville, NC as your school, then scan your grocery receipts

>>> RaiseRight is another way to support Headwaters by purchasing gift cards that you would normally buy in stores. You can use this link to get started > <https://www.raiseright.com/enroll?enrollCode=SM4GPS3BTGJ5>

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY



**Come & Worship:
A Study of 1st Peter**

with
Pastor Chris

**Wednesdays
@ 7:00 pm**

WOMEN'S MINISTRY UPDATE



Women's Ministry

Ladies Prayer Groups

We would like to invite all ladies to join a monthly prayer group.

Please see the signup sheet in the main hall & choose which day works best for your schedule. One of the group leaders will be reaching out to you with information and to invite you to attend their October prayer meeting. Our ministry team is excited for the ladies in our church to participate in this unique opportunity for prayer & encouragement.



Growing Together

September 10- November 19
Wednesday Night @ 7:pm
Ladies Bible Study

Path To Purpose- Study on the Book of Ecclesiastes



If you would like to join in on the Secret Sister Fun, Please see Robin Stewart to get the information.



Christmas PARTY



**Dec. 12
6:30-8:00**

741 Whites Farm Rd. Statesville

2025

OCTOBER

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

			6:40 pm GROW Week 3 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm Bible Studies in Choir Rm & FLC 6 1		6:00 pm Youth Girls Event 3	Auction & Pancake Breakfast 6 am 4
3:00 pm GriefShare 5:45 pm GROW Week 4 6:00 pm Parenting Bible Study in Choir Rm 5			6:40 pm GROW Week 4 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm Bible Studies in Choir Rm & FLC 6 8:00 pm Stewardship Mtg 8	Ebenezer in North Wilkesboro w/ Pastor ScottVolor simus, 9		Youth Paint Ball Event 11
3:00 pm GriefShare 5:45 pm GROW Week 5 6:00 pm Parenting Bible Study in Choir Rm 12			6:40 pm GROW Week 5 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm Bible Studies in Choir Rm & FLC 6 15			
3:00 pm GriefShare GROW at Home Week 6 6:00 pm Business Mtg 19		3:00 pm Senior Adult Food Boxes 21	6:40 pm GROW Week 6 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm Bible Studies in Choir Rm & FLC 6 22			Fall Festival 11 am-2 pm 25
3:00 pm GriefShare 5:45 pm GROW Week 7 6:00 pm Parenting Bible Study in Choir Rm 26			6:40 pm GROW Week 7 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm Bible Studies in Choir Rm & FLC 6 29			