



**Thrive Thread - 03/01/26**  
**Helping People Thrive in God's Abundant Life**

### **Lenten Vespers**

We will begin our weekly Vespers services the week after Ash Wednesday. We will have a meal together at 5:15pm in the Fellowship Hall (you must register for these beforehand) and then a Vespers service at 6pm. Children will also meet from 6-7pm.

Registration for the meals will begin soon. Be on the lookout! Here is the current meal schedule:

- March 4th: Beef Tips and Rice
- March 11th: Chicken Pie and Green Beans
- March 18th: BBQ
- March 25th: Easter Meal

### **Upcoming Events/Special Services**

We have several special services/events coming up in our church calendar. Please mark down these dates!

- Sunday March 1: Baby Dedication

### **Annual Giving Statements**

You should have recently received your Annual Giving Statement via email. If you did not receive one, or you have any questions, please contact our Financial Administrator, Julie Smithey, at [finance@firstbaptistburlington.com](mailto:finance@firstbaptistburlington.com).

### **Spring Sermon Series—Rooted: Practices That Help Us Thrive**

You're invited to join us for our sermon series entitled, "Rooted: Practices That Help Us Thrive." Each week, we'll explore a different spiritual discipline. We'll discover ways to include these practices in our daily routines, helping us cultivate a life of spiritual discipline. You'll gain tools to help you connect with God more deeply and experience the joy of community with fellow believers.

This isn't just about learning; it's about doing—finding joy in the process and inviting God into every area of your life. So, come as you are, and be ready to embark on a path of spiritual growth that promises not only to enrich your faith but also enliven your everyday experiences. Let's experience this journey together!



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**Update from Ad-Hoc Committee**

We want to share an important update regarding the potential collaboration with Faith Christian Academy (FCA) to use a portion of our church facility for a school.

Over a focused 4–6 week period, a dedicated Ad-Hoc Team of ten FBC members conducted a thorough feasibility review, including site assessments, input from FCA, and discussions with city and regulatory partners. The team, with support from architectural and engineering professionals, identified several needs and evaluated the practicalities of a potential FCA-operated school on our campus.

*Key findings and considerations:*

- A formal commitment between FBC and FCA would need to be secured by February 2026.
- Any construction to enable FCA operations would have to be completed in under 6 months for an August 2026 start, which proved highly ambitious.
- FCA would be responsible for the cost of all building improvements and would also cover a market-based lease/rent for 10,000–14,000 square feet on a long-term basis.
- After a recent meeting (12-18-25), FCA indicated it did not have the immediate financial resources to invest up to or beyond \$1 million in renovations while also paying ongoing lease costs. The timeline for completion was not realistic for an August 2026 opening.
- Given these realities, the Ad-Hoc Team and FCA concluded that moving forward with the school project is not feasible at this time. We also recognize the importance of addressing existing facility needs, notably roof repairs on the 1940s wing, as a priority before considering future options. Once roof work progresses and conditions permit, we can stay connected with FCA and explore alternatives as appropriate.

We are grateful for the diligent work of the Ad-Hoc Team and for the guidance of the Board of Deacons throughout this process. The insights gained will continue to benefit FBC Burlington as we seek God's direction for our campus and ministry.

Thank you for your continued prayers and involvement in our church family.