

## pastor's perspective



I've always loved January because it is an opportunity to reset, refocus, and renew personally, but in church as well. In worship I've shared my vision and goals for our church while also reflecting on God's vision for His Church. I hope those messages have been encouraging.

2026 is an invitation to lean more fully into the life we share as a church. From worship and Bible study to Wednesday nights and service opportunities, God has given us many ways to connect, grow, and serve together. My hope is that each of us will find a place to belong, to be encouraged, and to build meaningful relationships within our church family.

Finally, as grateful pastor, I want to share one more word of celebration and gratitude. In my last letter, I challenged us to faithfully work toward paying off our building loan. If you haven't heard yet - we are debt-free! We even ended the year with a healthy budget surplus that will allow us to continue caring for our facilities without the need to take on additional debt.

Of course, it's not just about finances. You have faithfully given your time, energy, and hearts to the ministries and mission of our church, and for that I am truly thankful. It is a joy and an honor to serve as your pastor. I truly believe this is going to be a great year.

*Walker McWilliam*

## deacon notes

In every worship bulletin and every FBC newsletter, we list for the church body the names and contact information for the Deacons of the Month. Some new members and even some long-time members have asked what service the Deacons of the Month provide. So, at the start of the year we wanted to explain the purpose and the intent of introducing the monthly Deacons of the Month.

The FBC Deacons work to help in ministry with the staff and in service to the church fellowship. While this is often obvious and visible, sometimes the work is behind the scenes and unknown. You may see Deacons assisting in the Lord's Supper or in greeting members. The Deacons purchased a cart to assist members from the parking lots. You have seen Deacons providing hot chocolate at the Christmas Parade or serving meals at church events or preparing food for the Church picnic. But you may not see the Deacons providing or organizing bereavement arrangements for families of deceased members. In the past, the Deacons have assisted in providing communion to the homebound. The Deacons send out cards, notes and telephone calls to let our homebound members know that they are remembered, cherished and loved. We are working to reinstitute the hospital visitation for members that want visitation.

So, what is the purpose of the Deacons of the Month? We are here to be the hands and feet of Christ to our church body. When there is a need - the loss of a family member, a request for prayer, a period of illness, a specific need that the church can fulfill - these men and women are available for you to call. It may only be to let the Church know of some specific concern that is affecting you or someone that you know, but the role of the Deacons, and the spiritual desire of each of the Deacon members is to be available to serve God's Grace to you.

# VALLEY HOME BUILD 2026

## IN-TOWN WORK DAYS

Saturdays at 9:00am  
January 24 - February 28  
Church parking lot

Contact Walker or David Sanders for more info or go to [fbclufkin.org/valley](http://fbclufkin.org/valley)

## BUILD IN THE VALLEY

Foundation Build: February 19-22  
Spring Break 2026  
March 6-14  
Penitas, Tx

## 2025 Finance Review

To GOD be the Glory!  
You were so faithful in your stewardship and giving of tithes and offerings in 2025.

2025 Budget Receipts  
\$1,871,312  
2025 Budget Expenditures  
\$1,518,426  
Year End Surplus  
\$352,886  
2025 Building Fund Receipts  
\$410,965  
Building Debt YE 2025 \$77,502  
(Building Debt YE 2024 \$749,167)

## memorials & honorariums

Memorial & Honorarium Gifts have been given to the following Funds & Ministries of FBC:

### Building Fund

#### In Memory of:

Jo Ann Vincent  
Jack Bresie  
Ted Hancock  
Mack Carnes

Delbert Richardson

Gip Friesen

John Henry Tatum

Franklin Spruill

Bill Gibbs

June Clement

Sarah Rich

Jesse Walker

George Chandler

Dick McKay

Reece Hubbard

Marguerite Garrett

Bill Simpson

Delbert Parrott

Liz Wilkins

Elven McAdams

Sue Sessions

Ann Maxwell

Jimmy Lawrence

Keith Green

Kathleen Shelton

Lexie Hall

### Building Fund

#### In Honor of:

Walker & Katelyn McWilliams

### Preschool Ministry

#### In Honor of:

Bob Sowell

### Valley Build Missions Fund

#### In Memory of:

Garland McWilliams

### FBC Missions Fund

#### In Memory of:

Edwin Aldredge

Angela Aldredge

Kenny Baker

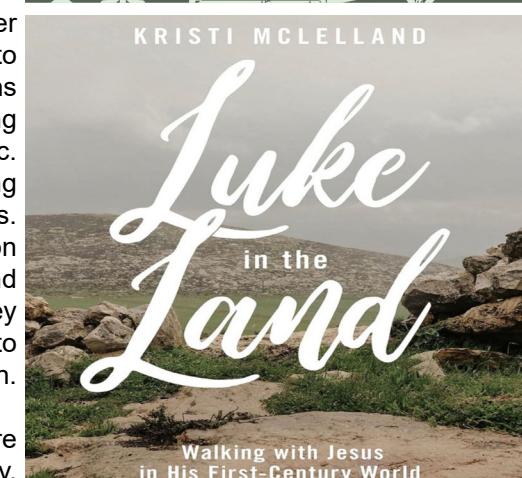
Bernice & Bobby Couch

Douglas & Ina Aldredge

### Global Missions

#### In Memory of:

Lexie Hall



KRISTI MCLELLAND  
*Luke in the Land*  
Walking with Jesus  
in His First-Century World

Ladies Bible Study  
Wednesday Mornings  
February 4 (8-week study)  
11 a.m. // Parlor  
Books \$20

Follow Jesus in the places he walked.  
See how Jesus brought his Kingdom to earth  
for everybody.

Deacons for the month of February

Max Alvis: 936-366-7976 (cell)  
Jimmy Ford: 936-635-6696 (cell)  
Hall Henderson: 936-465-2240 (cell)  
Steve Hogue: 936-465-8598 (cell)

Church Conference  
January 21  
at 6:15 PM in the FLC

The agenda will include:

- Approval of church minutes
- Membership reports
- 2025 Year End Finance Report



Return Service Requested

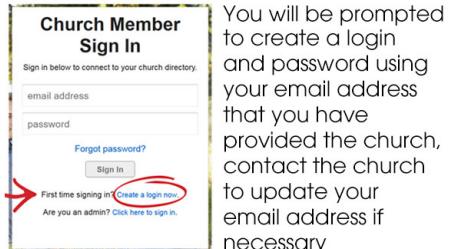
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(936) 634-3386 / [www.fbclufkin.org](http://www.fbclufkin.org)

Did you know we have a  
CHURCH DIRECTORY ONLINE?

You may access it by  
visiting this website:

[members.instantchurchdirectory.com](http://members.instantchurchdirectory.com)



You may also download  
the app to your smart phone:



1. Go to your device's App store.
2. Search for "instant church directory."
3. Enter your email address that you have provided the church.
4. Follow the directions on screen to complete the login process.

### Sympathy to

Hall and Becca Henderson  
and family in the loss of his  
grandfather, Mack Carnes.

Elizabeth and David Perkins  
in the loss of her sister,  
Jo Ann Vincent.

Susanne and David Lively in  
the loss of her father,  
Jack Bresie.

David and Melissa Handley  
and family in the loss of his  
mother, Marilyn Handley.

### Church Office Hours

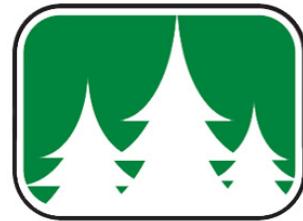
M - Th: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Closed during the lunch hour  
(12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.)  
Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

### Financial Report Year to Date

Budget Needs	\$68,243.58
Budget Receipts	\$42,019.39
Building Fund	\$720.00
Other Designations	\$7,035.00
Other Receipts	\$5,320.00

### Staff

Walker McWilliams, Senior Pastor  
Katie Baker,  
Minister to Preschool & Children  
Tate Ashby, Music Coordinator  
Truett Newton, Minister to Students



firstconnection  
FBC LUFKIN NEWSLETTER

January 15, 2026— Volume 55, No. 1

*Kickoff*

# WEDNESDAYS@FIRST SPRING 2026

**JANUARY 21 @ 5:30**

**FREE NACHO BAR 5:30**

**CHURCH CONFERENCE // KICKOFF 6:15**

**YOUTH, CHILDREN, CHOIR 6:15**