

## Fellowship Baptist Church

### Church and Community Profile

**Who we are:** Fellowship Baptist Church is a Southern Baptist Church founded in 1963. The prayer of our charter members was to be a *“light on the hill.”* We, as a church, seek to *“Exalt God’s Greatness, Evangelize the World, and Equip the Saints for Service.”* Today, our prayer is that we will continue to shine the light of Christ into our city, region, and world. We strive to be a welcoming, loving, and caring body of believers.

**What we do:** Fellowship Baptist seeks to serve in many different areas. We are actively involved with our local Mountain State Baptist Association, and we have members who serve on various committees within the association. Other members are also involved in individual ministries in our community such as Mercer Street Ministry, Amy’s House of Hope, and Good News Club. In years past, our church has been a part of various short-term mission trips. We also maintain a relationship with Heaven Sent Ministries and continue to enjoy being a part of food packing events from time to time. We seek to increase and improve discipleship and outreach through the following ministries:

- Sunday School: Children and adult Sunday School classes are offered. Currently, we use “Bible Studies for Life” by LifeWay. Our teachers are faithful to prepare weekly lessons to help disciple the attendees. Nursery is also provided during Sunday School so mom and dad can attend Sunday School class too.
- Worship: The goal of the worship services at Fellowship is to point everyone in attendance to Christ – to worship Him in Spirit and Truth. We include a variety of elements in our weekly worship services. Prayer, scripture lessons, mission lessons, tithes and offerings, and the Word. We strive to offer a cohesive worship experience from beginning to end, where there is freedom to enjoy the Holy Spirit and exalt our Lord. Our congregation appreciates a variety of musical styles from classical to modern. Congregational singing, choir, small groups, and solos are all a part of the music ministry of our church. The church holds a number of pieces in our musical

library for choral work, and we use the 2008 Baptist Hymnal. The instruments on site include: a baby grand piano, an electric keyboard, and a Hammond chapel organ in the sanctuary. We also have an upright piano in the fellowship hall. PowerPoints are used to help facilitate congregational singing.

- Children's Worship: We offer Children's Church every Sunday for children in grades K-4, where they hear an applicable bible lesson appropriate for their level of understanding.
- Nursery: We offer nursery services each Sunday during worship. Our nursery is just off the sanctuary, so baby is never too far away from mom and dad.
- Wednesday Adult Studies: Fellowship offers a variety of mid-week studies. Currently, our adult study is being led by our Chairman of Deacons, Bill Bird. Studies include formal book studies, general bible study, or prayer meetings. Recently, we completed the "Experiencing God" series during Wednesday evening.
- Wednesday Youth Studies: The youth group studies topical bible lessons to facilitate discipleship and decision-making applicable to their culture today. Christ's sacrifice and the need for salvation is regularly emphasized during the study.
- Wednesday Children's Studies: Children are invited to learn the bible through games, music, and hands-on activities in an age-appropriate setting in their own space.
- Women's Missionary Union (WMU): Fellowship has a vibrant WMU led by Jessica Garrett. The WMU promotes North American, International, and local missions. Our WMU helps feed children during school breaks by partnering with a local school as well as ministering where needs arise. In December, we provide food boxes for different families in our community and the WMU invites the entire church to be involved with that event. The WMU meets monthly.

- Child Evangelism Fellowship: Our church is actively involved in Child Evangelism Fellowship and Good News Clubs in Princeton's Public Schools. This ministry has seen 31 salvations in 2025, including Jumping Branch Elementary school. Robin Campbell is a local director and several church members volunteer in various roles.
- Men's Breakfast: The men of Fellowship set aside the last Saturday of the month to come together for fellowship and breakfast. In this informal setting, we may bear one another's burdens, have a devotion, or utilize time to accomplish church work together.
- Monthly Fellowship Dinner: Monthly we come together as a family and sit down to enjoy a potluck meal together. We honor birthdays and anniversaries for that month and have a good time fellowshiping with one another.
- Prayer Focus: Our church has an active and open line of communication for prayer. Technology has expedited the prayer chain, and we know in real time what the prayer needs are.
- VBS: Fellowship holds an annual Vacation Bible School. As one of our biggest outreach events during the year, everyone in the church is invested. Whether by praying, giving, teaching, or helping, we approach it as a churchwide ministry opportunity. We use the current year's curriculum published by LifeWay. In 2024, we implemented a promotional outreach event for VBS.
- Youth Camp: At least once a year, we send our youth to Camp Evangel Youth Camp in nearby Pounding Mill.
- Operation Christmas Child: Fellowship Baptist holds an OCC Shoebox Packing event every year headed up by Sonya Shrewsberry. We pack a number of shoeboxes for all age ranges to be distributed to points across the globe. We include necessities, hand-made items, and more, including a note from our church. Our prayer is that the child will come to know Jesus through the gifts in the shoebox.

***Where we are:***

Fellowship Baptist Church is located in Princeton, WV in the “Heart of Mercer County” at the crossroads of I-77 and US 460. Nestled in Southern West Virginia, this small town with a strong sense of community offers a plethora of activities and ministry opportunities. Our unique geographical position brings many people from different walks of life into our area whether for cultural activities, events, tourist attractions, or rest. Princeton and Mercer County offers a wide range of activities. Downtown Princeton has become a vibrant area with a coffee shop, special interest stores, salons, and restaurants. Princeton is home to the Chuck Mathena Center for the Performing Arts, with roughly 1,000 seats, it offers experiences stretching across many genres of entertainment. Cultural, local heritage, and historical events are held regularly in Princeton and Mercer County. Historical attractions such as the Robert McNutt House, railroad museum, and the military museum are all found in the city of Princeton. Bramwell, and the homes of the coal mining millionaires, is located at the southern end of Mercer County. Mercer County is home to several local parks and three state parks for boating, fishing, swimming, splash parks, zip-lining, golfing, disk golfing, and hiking. More parks such as Grandview, with the famed “Hatfield’s and McCoy’s and “Honey in the Rock” musicals, and the New River Gorge for whitewater rafting are just outside of Mercer County. If you love winter outdoor activities, there is skiing and tubing at Winterplace Ski Resort just north of us in Raleigh County. And, of course, we’re the home of those famous Hatfield and McCoy ATV riding trails for everyone from sightseers to thrill seekers among the beautiful Appalachian Mountain Scenery. In 2024, Mercer County was named by Southern Living magazine as one of “The 10 Most Underrated Summertime Destinations in the South.” Princeton’s location on the map makes it easy to reach other destinations with just a short drive. The Tamarack, Fincastle Golf Club, Fountain Springs Golf Club, and Glade Springs are located just outside of Mercer County. Christiansburg, Roanoke, and Charleston are just a short drive away, and we are just a few hours’ drive from Charlotte. Living in Princeton may offer more than expected. The housing costs are lower than the national average and we offer excellent public and private Christian schools. Two accredited Universities, Bluefield State University and Concord University are native to Mercer County, and in the past have both been ranked among the top schools in the South, public and regional, respectively. Bluefield University (formerly Bluefield College, a Baptist college) is just next door in Tazewell County. Mercer County also boasts a superior technical trade school, MCTECH, that serves all county high schools and offers night

classes as well. Princeton has several active civic organizations, an active public library, and presents the largest annual Christmas Parade in West Virginia. From local cuisine to a performance by a Country Music legend, it can be found in Princeton. Mercer County is one of the most diverse areas in Southern West Virginia that includes many Filipino, Middle Eastern, and Hispanic families. Many are from the medical community and serve at Princeton Community Hospital. With many SBC churches in our community, we still see a vast number of friends and neighbors who are unchurched. Not only is Princeton a great place to live, but a great place to do ministry as well.