



Minister of Children Melissa Wilson shows some love to Micah and Damon Spearman at the Memorial Day Picnic Sunday, May 24, 2015.



# THE INTERIM

Volume 72 Issue 11

May 31, 2015

## A Message From Dr. Roger Gilbert

■ **Roger Gilbert**  
*Interim Pastor*

This past Sunday, May 24, was a very special day at First Baptist. On the Christian calendar it was Pentecost Sunday and the order of worship gave focus to this very special day in the history of the church. It was also Memorial Day weekend and there was attention given to honor those who gave their lives in the service of our country. The Memorial Day Picnic which followed worship was a wonderful time of fellowship, delicious food, and a continued expression of respect and gratitude for those who have sacrificed for the freedom that we enjoy. I am well aware that such an event as the picnic does not just happen. There are probably a thousand little details that have to be taken care of in advance for this to go smoothly. Thank you to all who planned the event and devoted so much time and energy to making it a very successful and meaningful event. My family and I are very grateful for the opportunity to be a part of that very good day. I was also very pleased to see the participation of a number of guests from the wider community. That speaks well for the church. Thank you.

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This coming Sunday I will be preaching on the sixth "I Am" saying of Jesus, "I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life" (John 14:1-14). The setting for this saying is Jesus and the twelve disciples in the Upper Room. Jesus knows that this will be the last time they will eat a meal together before his crucifixion and he wants it to be a special time with them. At the same time he wants to prepare them for what is to follow: he will be arrested, tried, and the next day crucified. In the conversation that follows he shares with them three very disturbing facts.

First, he is going away and they can't at this time go where he is going. Second, one of them will betray him. Third, Peter will deny him three

times before the breaking of the next day. They are left in a state of shock and confusion. Their hearts are very troubled. This fact gives new meaning to the opening verses of the chapter that begins with "Let not your hearts be troubled..." When Jesus tells them that they know the way to where he is going, it is Thomas who voices the question, "Lord, we do not know where you are going, how can we know the way?" It is then that Jesus responds with "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life." Give some attention to studying and reflecting on this passage for Sunday.

I will be away on Sunday, June 7, and one of your own will be preaching. He is Rob Lee, who has recently joined the staff of First Baptist Church of West Jefferson, NC. Make a special effort to be present for worship and to support and encourage Rob Lee.

On Sunday, June 14, I will preach on the last of the seven "I Am" sayings of Jesus. It is "I Am the Vine," John 15:1-11. The grape vine was the symbol for Israel and was often referred to as a vine plucked from Egypt and planted in the promised land of Canaan. It had been rescued from the foreign domination and had great and wonderful potential in the new land. In the Old Testament, however, there are numerous references to the vine that has become degenerate. The religious establishment and leaders have failed to fulfill the hope and promise. Jesus then declares that he is the true vine. In him God's plan for Israel can be fulfilled. He warns them and us that it is critically important for branches to remain connected to the vine. Branches that are severed from the vine will only wither and die. Prayerfully reflect on this passage in preparation for worship on Sunday, June 14.

It is a joy and honor to serve you as interim pastor and I thank you for your support and encouragement.

*It was you who set the boundaries of the earth: you made both summer and winter.*

*Psalm 74:17*



## Schedule

### Sunday, May 31 ~ Numbers 16-17

- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship - FLC
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
- 10:55 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

### Monday, June 1 ~ Numbers 18-20

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Sewing Group
- 12:00 p.m. Line Dancers - Gym

### Tuesday, June 2 ~ Numbers 21-22

- 6:00 p.m. Yoga - FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Faithful Steps - FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball - Gym

### Wednesday, June 3 ~ Numbers 23-25

- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal
- 5:45 p.m. Preschool Choir Program / Adult Bible Study
- 5:45 p.m. Activities for Children & Students
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

### Thursday, June 4 ~ Numbers 26-27

- 8:00 p.m. Senior Basketball - Gym

### Friday, June 5 ~ Numbers 28-30

- 12:00 p.m. Line Dancers - Gym

### Saturday, June 6 ~ Numbers 31-32

### Sunday, June 7 ~ Numbers 33-34

### Graduation Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship - FLC
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
- 10:55 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

### Monday, June 8 ~ Numbers 35-36

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Sewing Group
- 12:00 p.m. Line Dancers - Gym

### Tuesday, June 9 ~ Deuteronomy 1-2

- 6:00 p.m. Yoga - FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Faithful Steps - FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball - Gym

### Wednesday, June 10 ~ Deuteronomy 3-4

- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal
- 5:45 p.m. Adult Bible Study
- 5:45 p.m. Activities for Children & Students
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

### Thursday, June 11 ~ Deuteronomy 5-7

- 8:00 p.m. Senior Basketball - Gym

### Friday, June 12 ~ Deuteronomy 8-10

- 12:00 p.m. Line Dancers - Gym

### Saturday, June 13 ~ Deuteronomy 11-13

### Recent College Graduates

If you have a recent college graduate in your family, please contact the church office at 704-873-7231. Please give us their name, degree, and college attended. We will recognize them in the Interim.

## Spiritual Statistics

### Weeks of May 10, 17, & 24, 2015

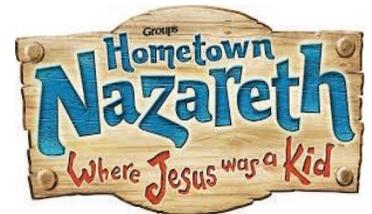
	5/10	5/17	5/24
Church in Bible Study	97	93	69
Church in Worship	234	206	290
8:30 a.m. service	79	61	
10:55 a.m. service	155	145	290

## Financial Statistics

### Weeks of May 10, 17, & 24, 2015

	5/10	5/17	5/24
Budget - Received	\$9,821.71	\$33,376.44	\$7,052.75
Alms	0.00	0.00	75.00
Designated - Received	1,185.00	5,152.00	549.25
Building Reserve - Received	0.00	75.00	25.00
<b>TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 5/10/15</b>			11,006.71
<b>TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 5/17/15</b>			38,603.44
<b>TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 5/24/15</b>			7,702.00
Budget for 2014-2015			865,070.00
Budget Received-Year to Date			571,263.26
Remaining in Budget - Unfunded			293,806.74
Designated Funds Received-Year to Date			60,009.39
Alms Received-Year to Date			4,955.50
Building Reserve-Year to Date			8,847.00
Total Giving-Year to Date			645,075.15

Save The Date  
for VBS!



July 27 - 31

### Church Staff Directory

Dr. Roger Gilbert.....Interim Pastor  
Mr. James Martin.....Minister of Music & Worship  
Ms. Melissa Wilson.....Minister of Children & Families  
Mr. Eddie Wiseman.....Accompanist / Music Assistant

OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Mon - Fri Tel: 704-873-7231

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# An Update on Athletes in Action From Drew Burgiss

Have you ever tried to wrap a gift, and you just don't have enough paper to cover the whole gift? Well that's kind of how I feel as I'm trying to wrap up this month's newsletter, while including this huge gift of answered prayer that God has given us! So, where do I begin?

Last month, the AIA leadership team started meeting an hour before our weekly AIA Large Group meeting to pray over the UNC team rosters, with our goal being that every single student athlete would be prayed over by name. This idea was student-led and open to anyone to come join us, and we have been committed to it every week this past month. And it's crazy what the Lord has already done.

Within AIA, we have a presence - some more so, some less - on most of the teams at UNC, but there are some teams on which we have very little to no presence. Women's lacrosse, soccer, and field hockey are three of those teams. Over the past few weeks, every single girl on each of these teams was prayed over.

## Lacrosse:

On a team that we basically have no presence, except for one girl that I disciple and is very involved, we have seen an explosion of 5 girls come to out last AIA Large Group! We've been able to follow up with a couple of them so far and see one girl come to truly understand what a relationship with Jesus looks like for the first time in her life. And not only this, next semester we're planning to start a Bible study within their team.

## Soccer:

A team that's been quite involved in the past but more recently we've had less of a presence on. And then, out of nowhere it seemed, 3 girls who not only have been coming to Large Group consistently, but that have wanted to start meeting weekly to read the Bible and ask questions! We've now met for the past three weeks with them, as they're reaching out and starting to invite more of their teammates.

## Field Hockey:

A team that for some reason, and for some time now, has just been very hard to have any presence on. But then just last week, a freshman girl on the team who came by herself showed up at Large Group for the first time. And I'm actually getting lunch with her tomorrow!

South African pastor, Andrew Murray once said, "God rules the world and his church through the prayers of his people," and this past month I've been reminded of just that. As I look at each of these three teams where just a month ago there seemed to be no open doors, not even a house for a door, God has brought forth his faithfulness, and there's a crack in the door. What if all along, God was just waiting for us to get desperate for him?

Would you come alongside us in prayer, as it beautifully expresses our total desperation for God to move, and pray specifically for these girls: Ashley, Summer, Danae, Casey, Maggie, Kayla, Katie, Liz, and Courtney. And would you also continue to pray for me in my planning and preparation for the women's soccer tour to Canada!

Joyfully,  
Drew Burgiss

## Children & Student Ministries

The Memorial Day Picnic was a wonderful time of fun & fellowship! Thank you to all who came, brought desserts, and helped make this a special time!

Please make sure you are getting those payments in for Look Up Lodge!

### Children's Choir Notes

The Preschool Choir will have a brief presentation on Wednesday June 3 at 5:45 p.m. Please make plans to attend this special program.

### VBS Work Day Saturday, May 30, 2015 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

We will be having a VBS workday Saturday, May 30 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Come by and have your car washed while you help us get ready for VBS. We have a variety of activities, but due to the nature of some projects any children who attend must have an adult chaperone. We will be using hot knives and want to make sure that everyone is safe!

### Venture Students

On Sunday, June 14, regular Venture student activities for the summer will move to Sunday nights from 5:00-7:00 p.m. A summer calendar will be available to students/parents that evening (if not sooner).

### Messy Games for Students

Sunday night, June 14, we will kick off summer activities with the annual tradition of Messy Games. Wear old clothes and bring a friend or a two!

### Look Up Lodge for Students

Camp paperwork will be available for parents the evening of Sunday, June 14, as well. Come get all your paperwork filled out and receive camp information. All paperwork must be filled out, notarized, and turned in by Thursday, June 18. Any final payments are also due at this time. We will NOT be accepting paperwork or payments the morning we leave. Please contact James Martin or Melissa Wilson if you cannot be there on June 14.



## Announcements

### Welcome to Our Church Family!

Jerry & Joy Cline joined our church family Sunday, May 17 at the 11:00 a.m. worship service by letter of transfer. Welcome to our church family!

### Car Wash & Bake Sale Saturday, May 30, 2015 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

The Venture Students will host a car wash and bake sale to raise funds for their trip to Look Up Lodge this summer. Please stop by for a car wash, a treat, and to make a donation.



### A Note of Appreciation From Dewey & Louise Taylor

We thank you for the yard work you did for us. The yard looks so nice and we appreciate your hard work. Thank you so much.

Dewey & Louise Taylor

### A Note of Appreciation From Sara Brandon

Your kindness is greatly appreciated. Many thanks to my church family for the cards, flowers, gift basket, visits, and special prayers during my illness at home and my recent stay in the hospital.

God bless you,  
Sara Brandon

## Pray Before You Read How to Get the Most From Your Daily Scripture Reading

"You shall remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not." (Deut. 8:2)

Lord, I praise You for the way You teach me through Your Word. For Your child, everything is a "test". So many times I have failed the test! Today I am done with living below the curve. From this moment on, I accept everything as coming from Your hand. I will learn to "rejoice always", to "pray continually" (1 Thess. 5:16-17), to "always give thanks for everything" (Eph. 5:20), and to "be content no matter what my circumstances" (Phil. 4:11)--because You are designing every "test" to conform me to the image of Your Son, Jesus Christ! (Rom. 8:29)

Loving Father, I thank You for Your precious Word! It gives me help, hope, security, assurance, and peace.

### Worship Greeters Sunday, June 7

Chris Simon      Jeff Templeton      David Lewis  
Chuck Heckel      Jason Allen

### Acolytes Sunday, May 31

Elizabeth Allen & Ryan Johnson

### Sunday, June 7

Sam Buckner & Luke Williams

### Coffee Rotation Sunday, May 31

David Potter

### Sunday, June 7

Emanons Class

### VBS Work Day Saturday, May 30, 2015 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

We will be having a VBS workday Saturday, May 30 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Come by and have your car washed while you help us get ready for VBS. We have a variety of activities, but due to the nature of some projects any children who attend must have an adult chaperone. We will be using hot knives and want to make sure that everyone is safe!

### PowerCross Work Day Saturday, May 30, 2015

We need a group of Baptist Men and volunteers to help us work on the Power Cross Half Way House on Saturday, May 30. We will be repairing siding and painting the house.

Anyone willing to help is asked to contact Clayton Cline at 704-873-7231 (First Baptist Church office).

We will meet at the church at 7:30 a.m. and go to the Wilmington Street home by 7:50 a.m.