

Charlie & Nina Guy  
on Jubilee Sunday,  
July 28, 2013



# THE INTERIM



Volume 71 Issue 2

January 19, 2014

## Help Others As God Helps Us

### ■ Rich Kraft *Intentional Interim Pastor*

I am grateful for the heritage of First Baptist Church. Its commitment to the Bible, worship, serving and caring have been evident throughout its long history. Today I hear of people from our church volunteering at Fifth Street Ministries, hospice centers, health clinics and more. Such acts of love and compassion are statements of our love for the Lord. This Sunday, I will be sharing the very familiar story of the Good Samaritan. The story, which probably arose from a life event that Jesus was aware of has spoken through the ages about the need for God's people to be compassionate and caring in how we help others as God has helped us.

The words we read in the Bible are really thought provoking. In the story, Jesus answers a man's question of "Who is my neighbor?" Christ then tells about our attitude toward those in need as He talks about a victim of crime. Of course we recognize that in our world there are far

too many wounded, hurting and broken people. What is the Lord telling us as His people? In the very real world where there are far too many wounded, hurting and broken people, those of us who love God, believe in God, trust God, are asked to take sharing compassionate acts of kindness and love seriously as we proclaim the larger message of the love and acceptance of God through Jesus Christ.

We can be encouraged this week. We can look back and stop and think today about many acts of compassion shared by our people. We can also look forward to many continued acts of mercy, service, and love that are the heart-beat of a healthy and growing group of people committed to trusting and following Jesus Christ.

Your friend,  
Rich Kraft  
*Intentional Interim Pastor*

## Just Suppose!

*Just suppose* that your church membership was good for only one year and that your membership depended upon your attendance, stewardship, and service. Would you retain your membership?

*Just suppose* that you were called upon to explain why your church should continue your name on its roll. Could you do it?

*Just suppose* that the membership of your church was limited to those who could give a written excuse for necessary absences. Would your absences be acceptable?

*Just suppose* that every member of the church attended just as often as you. Would we need more pews, or would the building be closed and put up for sale?

*Just suppose* that all who misrepresent their contributions were stricken dead as were Ananias and Sapphira. Would there be a large increase in your church giving?

*Just suppose* that some parents could see into the future and see the awful and dreadful results of their neglect of teaching and discipline. Would they be different parents?

*Just suppose* that all those who are so loyal in attending the basketball games would be as faithful in their attendance of the church services.

*And suppose* that they were as enthusiastic in the church assembly as they are at the sporting event. Would there not be a marked difference in the life of the church?

*Suppose then* that we all stop supposing and become dedicated to the high calling we have in Christ Jesus. Our attendance and stewardship would be increased sharply. Many people would be saved from tragic mistakes they otherwise would make and find real joy and happiness in Christian fellowship, instead of the sordid shame in their pursuit of worldly pleasure.

- From Volume 42, Issue 35 of *The Interim* published August 31, 1986

As we look to the future of First Baptist Church, we will revisit the lessons discussed in past issues of *The Interim*. This publication has been a part of First Baptist Church since 1946.

## Schedule

### Sunday, January 19

- 7:30 a.m. Prayer Time - SonSeekers Classroom
- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship in FLC
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
- 10:55 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

### Monday, January 20

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

### Tuesday, January 21

- 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball - Gym

### Wednesday, January 22

- 5:00 p.m. Open Gym
- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Supper (Baked Spaghetti, Caesar Salad Garlic Bread, Dessert)
- 5:45 p.m. Children's Activities
- 5:45 p.m. Bible Study - FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

### Thursday, January 23

- 8:30 p.m. Senior Basketball - Gym

### Friday, January 24

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

### Sunday, January 26

- 7:30 a.m. Prayer Time - SonSeekers Classroom
- 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, January 27

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

### Tuesday, January 28

- 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball - Gym

### Wednesday, January 29

- 5:00 p.m. Open Gym For Students
- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Supper (BBQ Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Dessert)
- 5:45 p.m. Children's Activities
- 5:45 p.m. Bible Study - FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

### Thursday, January 30

- 8:30 p.m. Senior Basketball - Gym

### Friday, January 31

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

### Inclement Weather Policy



Our church follows the Iredell-Statesville Schools policy for closings due to inclement weather. If the schools are closed, the church office is closed and all church activities for that day are canceled. You may check the church closing status by calling the church office and checking the recording (704-873-7231), checking our website ([www.statesvillefbc.org](http://www.statesvillefbc.org)), and checking the following TV stations (WBTV, Charlotte; WSOC-TV, Charlotte; WCNC-TV, Charlotte).



## Spiritual Statistics

### Weeks of January 5 & 12, 2014

	1/5	1/12
Church in Bible Study	151	146
Church in Worship	230	240
8:30 a.m. service	58	73
10:55 a.m. service	162	167

## Financial Statistics

### Weeks of January 5 & 12, 2014

	1/5	1/12
Budget - Received	\$11,474.00	\$24,438.00
Alms	501.00	0.00
Designated - Received	1,182.00	373.00
Building Reserve - Received	200.00	5,070.00
<b>TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 1/5/14</b>		<b>13,357.00</b>
<b>TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 1/12/14</b>		<b>29,881.00</b>
Budget Received-Year to Date		\$333,474.29
Designated Funds Received-Year to Date		48,208.99
Alms Received-Year to Date		2,547.61
Building Reserve-Year to Date		6,113.00
Total Giving-Year to Date		390,395.87



### Week of Prayer for International & Global Missions

Global Missions of CBF	\$1,245.00
International Missions of SBC	\$1,737.00



### Valentine Fundraiser Saturday, February 8, 2014 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.



The Venture Students invite you to a night of dinner and entertainment. Tickets are available now. Please contact Landon Senn at 704-873-7231, ext. 211 or email [landon@statesvillefbc.org](mailto:landon@statesvillefbc.org) to reserve your seat. This is a donations only event.

## Church Staff Directory

Rev. Rich Kraft	Intentional Interim Pastor
Mr. James Martin	Minister of Music & Worship
Mr. Landon Senn	Minister of Students
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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## Children's Ministry

**Fourth & Fifth Grade Sleep Over  
February 21-22, 2014**

Kids are welcome to invite a friend. More details are coming soon!

### M&M's

Please join us for Music & Missions on Wednesday nights. We have started a new adventure, but your children may not tell you about it. Where we are going is a secret because missionaries often cannot reveal their location either.

Melissa Wilson, *Minister of Children & Families*

## Student Ministry

### Valentine Fundraiser

**Saturday, February 8, 2014, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., FLC**

Mark your calendars. This will be a pancake-eatin', entertainment watchin', money raisin' kind of event. Is anyone willing to volunteer in the kitchen for this event?

### For His Glory

Practice is set to begin for the spring semester. Practice is in the choir room Sundays 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

### Middle School Retreat

Details are at [venturestudents.org](http://venturestudents.org). There is a link for the retreat on the right side of the page.

My Best,  
Landon Senn, *Minister of Students*

## Announcements

### Baked Potato Bar Fundraiser

**Sunday, February 9, 2014, 5:30 p.m., FLC**

Please come eat dinner before the Dialog & Discovery. This is a fundraiser for the Belize Mission Trip.

### New Arrival

Congratulations to Dana and Philip McLain on the birth of a daughter Madison Rae on January 1, 2014.

### Christian Sympathy

...is extended to Jan Wuertz in the death of her brother Steve Jones of Jackson, Wyoming.

### Christian Sympathy

...is extended to Terry Earp in the death of his brother Amon Earp on December 28, 2013.

### Christian Sympathy

...is extended to Cookie Wilson in the death of her brother Jim Lloyd on January 4, 2014.

### Christian Sympathy

...is extended to Tim Waugh, Wanda White, and Becky Waugh in the death of their mother, Katherine Waugh, on January 5, 2014. Her grandchildren include Monica Williams, Matthew Waugh, and Jackie, Nickie, and Courtney DaVanzo.

### Christian Sympathy

...is extended to Neil Furr in the death of his mother, Sadie Furr, on January 7, 2014.

### Christian Sympathy

...is extended to Tracey Wilson in the death of her mother, Annie Morrow, on January 9, 2014.

## Christmas Lesson

Just a week or so before Christmas, a young woman came into Iredell Christian Ministries. She was the last client of the day, and she asked for food. The thing everyone noticed, however, was that she was not wearing any shoes. Several of the volunteers suggested that I speak to her to see what we could do for her.

When I approached her and asked about the shoes, she just hung her head and cried. I tried to explain we were not trying to embarrass her, but we just wanted to help. While we were trying to decide what to do, a woman who works in the kitchen came out and asked the lady what size shoe she wore. God does work in many ways. They both wore the same size shoe. The volunteer promptly took off her shoes and gave them to the woman. That was the most Christ-like experience I had ever encountered. I went home quite humbled. Through the entire weekend I could not focus on the mundane problems of what to buy for whom for Christmas. This woman kept coming to mind.

The first thing I did when I went into ICM the next week was look up her file to see what I could find about this family. She was a single mom of two young daughters ages 5 and 8. I tried to contact her, but her phone was not working. Later I found out it had been disconnected. I wrote down her address. I told some of the volunteers that I had found a Christmas tree and a Nativity Scene I was planning to take to the family. Soon people were slipping \$10.00 or \$20.00 bills into my hand for this family. I mentioned to a friend what we were doing, and he also gave me \$50.00 and went through his cabinets and put together five bags of food. I had some bags of chicken in my freezer and added that to the growing offering for this family. We ended up with \$190.00 plus the other items.

Since I could not reach her by phone, I went on faith to her address. When I told her why I was there she began to cry and thank us for our thoughtfulness. Little did she realize that we were the ones who were thankful for showing us the true meaning of Christmas. Her girls were so happy with the items I had brought, and they did not even know about the money.

The week between Christmas and New Year's Day, another volunteer went shopping and got a gift and clothing for each girl and a gently used coat with scarf and gloves for the mother. Another volunteer brought in her Christmas Jar to give to the family. I found some pots and pans that I no longer used and added that to what we had.

When I took the items to the family, she said she did not know how to thank us for what we had done. She had been able to show us what compassionate and caring people we have volunteering at ICM. There is no doubt in my mind that each of us is doing the work that God would have us do.

-Iredell Christian Ministries Volunteer

### Revival God's Way

### A Mid-Carolina Prayer Conference

### Beulah Baptist Church

**January 17, 2014, 7:00 p.m. & January 18, 2014, 9:00 a.m.**

Worship will be led by Chris Pollard, Worship Pastor of Parkwood Baptist Church in Gastonia, NC. Messages will be given by Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church of Jonesboro, GA, Mel Blackaby; Founder of International Awakening Ministries Richard Owen Roberts; and Director of the Office of Prayer of BSCNC J. Chris Schofield. The conference is free and you may register at the door.



815 Davie Avenue  
Statesville, NC 28677

**Worship With Us Sunday 8:30 a.m. or 10:55 a.m.**  
**Message By: Rich Kraft**

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## Announcements

### A Note of Appreciation From Dave Scott

Dear First Baptist Church,

Thank you to the many of you who were so encouraging and loving as we said good bye. Your hugs, words, cards, notes and most of all your prayers have meant so much. Thank you also to the many of you who generously and sacrificially gave to our love offering. We were really touched. Thank you to the church for the short-term severance as well. Know you will remain in our prayers that as you follow Christ, he will lead you as a body to your next chapter.

In Christ,  
Dave Scott

### A Note of Appreciation From Bobbie Long

Dear First Baptist Church Family,

Thank you so much for remembering my sister, Mary, and me with a gift for Christmas. Mary needed new socks, and I look forward to putting mine to good use as well.

The Home Bound Ministry plays an important role in our church, and I appreciate the literature and visits from Irene Blackburn. Thank you so much for staying in touch and for remembering those of us who are unable to attend.

Love,  
Bobbie

### A Note of Appreciation From Lou Hager

Thank you for all the prayers, cards, and visits.  
Love, Lou Hager

### Volunteers Needed

We need volunteers to prepare the coffee for the 8:30 a.m. service. If you are willing to help please contact Melissa Wilson at [melissa@statesvillefbc.org](mailto:melissa@statesvillefbc.org) or call 704-873-7231, ext. 308.

### Wednesday Night Bible Studies

Each Wednesday night we will continue to provide a good meal at 5:00 p.m. (\$5.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children and seniors). After the meal, the adult Bible study will feature a review of Pastor Rich Kraft's sermon and passage of the Bible from the previous Sunday. His messages every Sunday will be related to the larger issues that we are talking and thinking about as a church. Reviewing them together on Wednesday nights will be a way to have yet another opportunity to develop a growing unity among the people within the congregation. You will be warmly welcomed if you can join us this week!

### Habitat For Humanity Inventory Reduction Sale

Don't dread the IRS! It's time to get excited about the IRS! The Inventory Reduction Sale at the Habitat For Humanity Restore In Statesville. Great selection available in furniture, home improvement, and appliances available at 50% off.

### Children's Ministry Volunteers Sunday, January 19

**8:30 Nursery**                      Louisa Hunter

**10:55 Nursery**                     Crystal B.

**Acolytes:** Jenna Martin & Sean Martin

### Sunday, January 26

**8:30 Nursery**                      Laura Spearman

**10:55 Nursery**                     Gretchen Eudy

**Acolytes:** Piper Lewis, Darbee Lewis, Nicole Orborne

### Worship Greeters Sunday, January 19

Bill Henderson                  James McNeil                  Matthew Waugh

Chris Buckner                    Wilma McNeil                  Butch Price

Gary Fyfe                          Nicole Marsh                    Stan Williams

Patricia Fyfe

### Sunday, January 26

Eddy Sipe                          Hilda Lee                          Jim Van Zee

Monica Williams                  Clarence Poole                  Nedra Van Zee

Ginny Stikeleather                  Mike McLain

### Clothes Closet

The Clothes Closet is in need of clothes for all ages and sizes. We are extremely low on clothes for men, women, boys and girls. Please look in your closets and consider donating some of the good used clothes that you are no longer wearing. We need clothes that are in style and in good repair. You may drop them by the church anytime and receive a donation receipt for tax purposes.

If anyone is interested in volunteering we would love to talk to you. We are open every Thursday 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., but our volunteers come when their schedule permits. This is a rewarding and wonderful ministry to our community, but it takes a lot of manpower to keep it going.

For more information on volunteering, please e-mail [jbhstiles@gmail.com](mailto:jbhstiles@gmail.com) or call Brenda Falter at 704.872.0304.