



Summer, Forde, and Tanner Snow enjoy treats at Muffins with Mom with the FBC Preschool.

THE INTERIM

From the Pastor...

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. Luke 9:51

“It’s almost Easter and I can’t wait to eat chocolate again.” Those were the words I heard a friend of mine say last week. He had given up chocolate for Lent and wasn’t quite sure he could make it much longer. He had made a “resolution,” but he wasn’t sure if he could be “resolute.”

Fortunately for my friend, and for all of us, Jesus was determined to fulfill his mission of salvation. In fact, the closer Jesus got to the cross, the greater his resolve grew. Jesus knew it wouldn’t be easy. He understood that the crowds that cheered him on Palm Sunday would cry out for his death on Good Friday.

Jesus knew that betrayal by friends, false accusations by religious leaders, beatings by authorities and death by crucifixion lay before him in Jerusalem. Despite these hardships, and perhaps because of them, Jesus steadfastly trusted God. We call it Holy Week, but it was the most hellacious week of Jesus’ life.

Jesus knew that there was more to life than what we see right before us. Jesus trusted that, when everything seemed to be falling apart, God was still at work. Even upon the cross, he stayed strong and offered forgiveness to his oppressors. Despite feeling forsaken, Jesus commended his very spirit into God’s hands.

So what did God do with Jesus’ resolute faithfulness? God redeemed that terrible suffering and turned it into the salvation of the world. God refused to accept death as the final word and raised God’s beloved Son to life again. God rewarded Jesus’ fidelity by exalting him to the highest place and making his name above all names.

I don’t know whether my friend will make it to Easter without eating chocolate and I’m not even all that worried about it. I am concerned, however, that we each faithfully resolve to follow the One who gave his very life for us. As Christ resolutely set his face toward Jerusalem, I pray that we will resolutely set our faces toward Christ’s call upon our own lives.

Nolan

Holy Week at FBC

Sunday, April 14
Palm Sunday

Thursday, April 18
Maundy Thursday Service
7:00 p.m.
Sanctuary

Friday, April 19
Good Friday Community Service
12:00 p.m.
Broad Street UMC

Saturday, April 20
Easter Egg Hunt
10:00 a.m. - Front Lawn
Rain Location: gym

Sunday, April 21
Easter Sunday
8:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast
FLC
9:15 a.m. Joint Sunday School
FLC
10:00 a.m. Worship
Sanctuary

Schedule

Sunday, April 14

Palm Sunday

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

4:00 p.m. Venture Voices

5:00 p.m. Venture Students

Monday, April 15

9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

Tuesday, April 16

10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

Wednesday, April 17

2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday After School Program

5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal

6:00 p.m. Activities for Children & Students

6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, April 18

Maundy Thursday

11:00 a.m. Senior Adult Luncheon

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service - Sanctuary

Friday, April 19

Good Friday - Church Office Closed

12:00 p.m. Good Friday Community Service

Broad Street UMC

Saturday, April 20

10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 21

Easter Sunday

8:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast - FLC

9:15 a.m. Joint Sunday School - FLC

10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

Monday, April 22

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, April 23

10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

4:00 p.m. Dine to Donate at Randy's BBQ

Wednesday, April 24

No Wednesday Evening Activities

Thursday, April 25

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Church Staff Directory

Dr. Nelson Granade.....Senior Minister
Mr. James Martin.....Minister of Music & Worship
Ms. Melissa Wilson.....Minister of Children & Families
Rev. Justin Cox.....Minister to Students
Mr. Eddie Wiseman.....Accompanist / Music Assistant

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

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FLC Activities Schedule

Monday, April 15

9:00 a.m. Pickleball

11:45 a.m. Linedancers

Tuesday, April 16

7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

Wednesday, April 17

8:00 a.m. Pickleball

2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday After-School Program

5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal

6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

Thursday, April 18

9:00 a.m. Pickleball

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

7:00 p.m. Senior Men's Basketball

Friday, April 19

Church Office Closed

Saturday, April 20

10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 21

8:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast - FLC

9:15 a.m. Joint Sunday School - FLC

Monday, April 22

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, April 23

7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

Wednesday, April 24

8:00 a.m. Pickleball

Thursday, April 25

9:00 a.m. Pickleball

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

7:00 p.m. Senior Men's Basketball

Friday, April 26

11:45 a.m. Linedancers



Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of March 31 & April 7, 2019

	3/31	4/7
Church in Bible Study	128	119
Church in Worship.	212	185

Financial Statistics

	March	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	70,296.00	477,132.00
Budget Receipts	57,862.00	408,483.00
Needed to Meet Goals	12,434.00	68,649.00
Alms (Eddie Steele Fund)	1,964.00	2,680.00
Designated	24,000.00	80,739.00

Fun at FBC Preschool



Resurrection Prayer

Dear God,

Thank You that You make all things new. Thank You for the victory and power in Your Name. Thank You that You hold the keys over death, that by Your might, Jesus was raised from the grave, paving the way for us to have new life with You. Thank You that You had a plan, that You made a way.

We confess our need for You...fresh...new...again. We ask that You renew our hearts, minds, and lives, for the days ahead. We pray for Your refreshing over us.

Keep Your words of truth planted firm within us, help us to keep focused on what is pure and right, give us the power to be obedient to Your word. And when the enemy reminds us where we have been, hissing his lies and attacks our way, we trust that Your voice speaks louder and stronger, reminding us we are safe with You and that Your purposes and plans will not fail. We ask that You will be our defense and rear guard, keeping our way clear, removing the obstacles, and covering the pitfalls. Lord, lead us on Your level ground.

Shine Your light in us, through us, over us. May we make a difference in this world, for Your glory and purposes. Set Your way before us. May all Your plans succeed. May we reflect Your peace and hope to a world that so desperately needs Your presence and healing.

Thanks be to You God, for your indescribable gift! To You be glory and honor, on this Resurrection Day, and forever.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

- Debbie McDaniel



Announcements

CBF Misson Bites

Mission Bite 124: Between the Fruit Trees

Recently we took a group from the Bosnian community on a trip to nearby Eckert Farms.

We were a little concerned how the trip would go when one of our friends, Lane, decided to join us. Lane has dementia and when he can't recognize friends or where he is, he often gets panic attacks.

When Lane saw all the fields full of fruit trees, sunflowers, and vegetables, a big smile appeared on his face.

Lane started telling us stories about his hometown and his huge family farm. But then Lane's smile faded and he said, "We lost everything. All we worked for, it's gone, it was destroyed in the war. Here we have nothing except the four walls of our apartment. Can you please leave me here between these fruit trees?"

His wife told him to be happy that they had a roof over their heads. But even with dementia, the bad memories come back to Lane on both good days and bad days.

We are so blessed to be able to spend time with people like Lane. Even if we've heard the same stories several times before, it fills our hearts with love when we hear that we are like family to them.

- Mira and Sasha Zivanov, field personnel in St. Louis

Mission Bite 125: Secondary Benefits

It takes two soccer balls, two goal posts, 25 jerseys and an empty sand lot. Open the doors and 60 neighborhood kids show up for Sunday afternoon soccer club. A start up cost of about 100 dollars and it is set to go for 6 months.

Mike Hutchinson, CBF field personnel in Lomé helps 4 young Christian men form the soccer club. They learn how to plan, organize, work within a budget and then evaluate the program as it goes along.

Forming leaders who can share their new skills in developing their community is the goal of the program, the kids having a great time playing soccer is a secondary benefit.

We begin with a Bible verse and end in a circle with a prayer. Join our prayers with us!

- Mike and Lynn Hutchinson, CBF field personnel serving in Togo, West Africa



Welcome to Our Church Family!
The Crain Family joined our congregation at the 10:00 a.m. worship service on April 7, 2019. Rob and Tiffany come by transfer of letter. Their daughters Karley and Kinley made professions of faith and will be baptized soon.

Senior Adult Luncheon Thursday, April 18, 2019 11:00 a.m. - FLC

Our April meeting will feature the Crossroads Strummers Dulcimer Club. This is a group of about 12 musicians who play a variety of instruments including mountain dulcimers, a banjo, a violin, and maybe a guitar. Our own Ike and Jan Wuertz are members of this group. Call the church at 704-873-7231 no later than noon on Monday, April 15, to reserve your seat. Cost of the meal to be served at noon and payable at the door is \$6.00.

Church Office Closed Friday, April 19 & Monday, April 22

The church office will be closed Friday, April 19 in observance of Good Friday and Monday, April 22 in observance of the Easter holiday.

Randy's BBQ Fundraiser for Belize Mission Trip Tuesday, April 23, 2019 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Plan to have dinner at Randy's BBQ in Statesville on Tuesday, April 23. A portion of all sales will go directly to our Belize Team. You may dine in or carry out. Be sure to tell them you are there for the fundraiser. Please be on the lookout for other opportunities to dine to donate to our Belize Team.



Church Yard Sale Saturday, May 4, 2019 6:00 a.m.

Our Belize Team will host a yard sale to raise funds for the mission trip to Belize this summer. The team is collecting yard items now (no televisions). You may bring your donation to the church Monday - Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; or Sunday mornings.

