



THE INTERIM

On Sunday, April 2, 2017 the Youth hosted a spaghetti luncheon to raise funds for their trip to Look Up Lodge this summer.



Volume 74 Issue 8

April 16, 2017

From the Pastor...



Thank you for your continued prayers, thoughts, cards and meals. I'm doing a little better each day and look forward to the day I can be with you again. Last Interim I wrote the first part of a short series on how much hospitals and churches have in common. Having been in both, I much prefer the church!

Last time I explored how pain can be of benefit in the healing process. In this article I'll look at the importance of loving care in both the church and hospital settings. Hospitals and churches are both "caring places." Whether or not that care is "loving care" depends upon those giving it.

I received excellent care at Duke and appreciate every doctor, nurse, physician's assistant and aide who worked with me. Each had a job to do and each one did it very professionally. Some, however, did it out of love and compassion. You could just tell who really cared.

Church can be the same. We are called to love one another. In fact, John notes that how we love one another is the identifying mark of a Christian. Jesus, however, calls us to love everyone we encounter. Because God loves the world, we are to do so as well.

We try our best to love one another and the world. Whether we truly love, or are just going through the motions, is easy to tell. Just like I knew which medical staff cared, people who encounter First Baptist Church intuitively know if we truly care.

This Sunday is the height of Holy Week. The events leading up to Easter are also known as The Passion of Christ. If ever we wondered about God's love for us, we find that answer in Jesus' willingness to die for us. Because we have been loved, we are freed to love others.

I hope to see you Easter Sunday. I'll let my surgeon help me decide when I see him on Thursday. Whether we're able to celebrate this great day with you or not, I hope you know how much Valerie and I love each of you. We have certainly felt your love through this ordeal.

GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNITY SERVICE

Friday, April 14, 2017

12:00 p.m. ~ Sanctuary

First Baptist Church will host this year's Community Good Friday Service with Phil McCoy of First ARP Church of Statesville delivering the message.



For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

John 3:16

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 16, 2017

8:00 a.m. A light breakfast will be served in Adams Hall.

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary



Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again."

Luke 24:6-7

Schedule

Sunday, April 16

Easter Sunday

- 8:00 a.m. Fruit & Pastries in Adams Hall
- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

Monday, April 17

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, April 18

- 10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

Wednesday, April 19

No Wednesday Evening Activities

Thursday, April 20

- 11:00 a.m. Senior Adult Luncheon
- 1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet
- 2:00 p.m. Grief Support Group

Sunday, April 23

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. Handbells

5:00 p.m. Venture Students

Monday, April 24

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

Tuesday, April 25

- 10:15 a.m. Sewing Group
- 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball - Gym

Wednesday, April 26

- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal
- 5:45 p.m. Activities for Children & Students
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir - Choir Room

Thursday, April 27

- 1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet
- 2:00 p.m. Grief Support Group



Church Staff Directory

Dr. Nelson Granade.....Senior Minister
 Mr. James Martin.....Minister of Music & Worship
 Ms. Melissa Wilson.....Minister of Children & Families
 Dr. Larry Gregg.....Minister of Christian Education & Administration
 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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Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of April 2 & 9, 2017

	4/2	4/9
Church in Bible Study	149.....	157
Church in Worship.....	216.....	245

Financial Statistics

	April	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	61,239.00	536,274.00
Budget Receipts	23,329.00	441,075.00
Needed to Meet Goal	37,910.00	95,199.00
Alms	467.00	3,375.00
Designated	2,973.00	42,423.00

Continuing to Pray the 23rd Psalm (Walking through the Valley)

"Yea, though I walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me, Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me." (v. 4) This valley is where lessons are learned, hearts are broken, and self-will is shattered. It is a period of dark shadows surrounding you when you've lost a loved one, when there is an on-going rift between you and your spouse or when your child seems to have forgotten all you've ever taught him. When financial woes prevail, when you've been diagnosed with a debilitating disease—on and on I could go, but you fill in the blank. No matter the problem, our Father has promised never to leave us or forsake us. (Heb. 13:5)

Lord, it is comforting to know You as Jehovah Shammah—the God Who is there! Thank You that there is no place I can go where You haven't already arrived. You're there waiting for me—to soothe my pain and bind up my broken heart. Thank You for Your rod and staff that pull me close to You and prod me to walk on through the Valley of the Shadow into Your glorious expanse of light! Help me to surrender my will to Yours so that I can experience Your comfort and peace as You guide me through the valleys of life. In the precious name of Jesus, I pray. Amen



He is not here

FOR HE IS

RISEN

Matthew 28:6

Operation Inasmuch

Sunday, April 30, 2017

Please plan to participate in the awesome day of service. Immediately following the worship service, we will break off to work on the following community projects. This will be a wonderful day for us to grow as a congregation as we grow our community.

- Build steps at Iredell Christian Ministries
 - Make repairs at PowerCross
 - Make blankets
- Serve lunch at Fifth Street Ministries
- Assemble bean soup mix for the food bank at Iredell Christian Ministries
- Help out in yards at the homes of local senior citizens
 - Sing at local assisted living facilities
- Prepare lunch for all those serving on this day

INASMUCH AS YOU DID IT FOR THE
LEAST OF THESE, YOU DID IT FOR ME.
—JESUS





Messages by: Nelson Granade

Worship with us Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

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CBF Mission Bites

Our Church is pleased to support CBF Global Missions in moments like these where bearing witness to Jesus Christ takes form through meeting the needs of a community and growing ministry with assets and passions of the community .

"Conetoe, North Carolina, is one of the country's many "food deserts," where fresh, nutritious food is not readily available. Our partner Rev. Richard Joyner started a community garden in Cone-toe and enlisted the youth in the community to help him take care of it. These youth became so involved in the garden that they not only helped with the garden daily, but they also organized a non-profit called the Conetoe Family Life Center and put together a grant allowing them to build an educational building for the ministry. We are finding as we work alongside the youth and Richard Joyner, that Conetoe is also a "spiritual desert." Therefore, our hope is to provide a Christian educational piece connected to the Conetoe Family Life Center ministry through our current music and art programs."

- Anna and LaCount Anderson, CBF field personnel in Eastern North Carolina

Our Church is pleased to support CBF Global Missions in moments like these where bearing witness to Jesus Christ takes form through reaching the refugee community with innovative ministry and offering prayer where we cannot meet needs .

"Many of the people in the churches we work with are refugees, immigrants and migrants (often undocumented). These are wonderful folks seeking freedom and a better way of life. There are numerous members of the Mosaic Paris Choir who do not have their papers. This situation sometimes makes it impossible for them to participate in all of the activities (for example, the prison programs at Christmas). Those who have made it to Europe have a chance but their lives are still uncertain and their futures are far from settled. Pray for these precious brothers and sisters."

- David and Julie Brown, CBF field personnel in Paris, France

Announcements

Bean Soup Mix

As part of Operation Inasmuch, we will assemble Bean Soup Mix for Fifth Street Ministries. Please bring various types of dried beans, onion soup mix, canned tomatoes, and quart-size zip lock bags.

Senior Adult Luncheon Thursday, April 20, 2017 11:00 a.m. ~ Adams Hall

Our program this month will be a presentation by Bill Warren, president of Performing Arts Live of Iredell. Bill is an accomplished pianist and will present a program of music. Please call the church at 704-873-7231 or sign up in your Sunday School class no later than Sunday, April 16. The meal will be served at a cost of \$6.00 payable at the door.

EASTER EGG HUNT Saturday, April 15, 2017 10:00 a.m. ~ Front Lawn

Please make plans to attend and invite your friends to the Easter Egg Hunt. We will begin hiding the eggs at 9:00 a.m. We have over 4,000 eggs to hide, so we will need all the help we can get!



Wednesday Evening Menus

Wednesday, April 19

No Wednesday Evening Activities

Wednesday, April 26

Ground Beef-Macaroni Casserole, Salad, Pita Bread,
& Bread Pudding
Children's Menu: Same

