



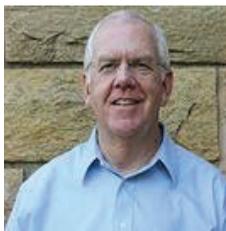
# THE INTERIM

William Simon, Jack Devine, and Darby Lewis carry dolls on their back like Malawi women carry babies on their back. This was an activity at the Night Market at Passport Missions Camp.



Volume 74 Issue 14 July 9, 2017

## From the Pastor...



First Baptist Church is a great place for families. Of course most of you know this and many of you have raised your families here. As I've looked over our summer activities, however, I'm reminded once again of what great children's and youth activities we have.

Two weeks ago our children went to Passport Missions Camp. This is a great camp because it combines Bible study and mission activities. While there the kids focused on Micah 6:8, which reminds us of God's requirements to "do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly." They also learned about the needs of the people in Malawi and the importance of both drinking water and living water.

Our youth just got back from Look Up Lodge. We had one of our largest groups in recent years. While at Look Up the youth focused on understanding and sharing their faith. Larry and I were fortunate to be able to join the teens for an afternoon and see firsthand how excited they are about growing in Christ. They came back closer to one another and closer to Christ.

In two weeks, a group of adults and teens will travel to Florida to share God's love with children from some of the most challenging neighborhoods of Miami. They'll work in partnership with *Touching Miami with Love*, an organization that's been ministering in this area for twenty-two years. During this week our team will both serve others and learn about doing missions in partnership with those they serve.

Another opportunity for our children will be coming up with Vacation Bible School, August 7 – 11. This year's theme is *Rome: Paul & the Underground Church*. As in the past, we look forward to having hundreds of children with us experiencing God's grace in a fun way. VBS has come a long way since I was a kid, but one thing remains constant – children learn the scriptures and grow in their faith.

I hope you will take the opportunity to read more about these wonderful summer activities. Justin and Melissa both have more in-depth articles and photos within this issue of *The Interim*. If you read these, you'll certainly agree with me, that First Baptist Church is a great place for kids, youth and families. If you're an older adult feeling left out, don't be. We even have special VBS just for you!

*Nolan*

*He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?*

Micah 6:8 (NRSV)

### *Amazing Grace* 2017 Summer Sermon Series

July 9, 2017

***I Once Was Lost, But Now I'm Found***

Luke 15:1-7

We all get lost from time to time. The purpose of this message is to understand how grace can both find us and keep us from getting lost.

July 16, 2017

***Was Blind, But Now I See***

John 9

Becoming a Christian changes the way we see the world. The purpose of this message is to explore the way faith changes our view of life.

## Schedule

### Sunday, July 9

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

### Monday, July 10

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

### Tuesday, July 11

- 10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

### Wednesday, July 12

- 12:00 p.m. Lunch & Bible Study - Adams Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir - Choir Room

### Thursday, July 13

- 1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

### Sunday, July 16

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. Venture Students
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Vacation Bible School

### Monday, July 17

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Vacation Bible School

### Tuesday, July 18

- 10:15 a.m. Sewing Group
- 1:00 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive - Adams Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Vacation Bible School

### Wednesday, July 19

- 12:00 p.m. Lunch & Adult Vacation Bible School - Adams Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir - Choir Room

### Thursday, July 20

- 1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Vacation Bible School



## 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 June 25 & July 2, 2017

	6/25	7/2
Church in Bible Study .....	155	136
Church in Worship.....	209	193

## Financial Statistics

	June	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	63,863.00	668,375.00
Budget Receipts	47,667.00	598,677.00
Needed to Meet Goal	16,196.00	69,698.00
Alms	4,468.00	8,386.00
Designated	6,479.00	60,368.00

	July	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	55,990.00	724,364.00
Budget Receipts	17,876.00	616,553.00
Needed to Meet Goal	38,114.00	107,811.00
Alms	376.00	8,762.00
Designated	100.00	60,468.00

## Prayer For Transformation

Lord, I thank you for the irritating habits of others, their moodiness, their unloving ways, their demands, their insensitivity, their unrealistic expectations. Why haven't I seen this before? It's Your way of refining me as silver is refined, of testing me like gold, and when You have tested me, You will bring me forth as gold! (Zech. 13:9; Job 23:10) When I respond with kindness and love, instead of reacting with harshness and anger, You are transforming me into the image of Christ. (Rom. 8:29) As Peter said in his first letter (1:7), "These have come so that my faith may be proved genuine". Oh, God, how transforming!

His servant and your friend,  
 Ginny Stikeleather

### VBS Registration is Now Open!

Register your children today for *Rome: Paul & the Underground Church!* Vacation Bible School is August 7-11, 9:00 a.m -12:00 p.m. Visit the church website, [www.statesvillefbc.org](http://www.statesvillefbc.org), and click the VBS link to register. VBS is for children ages 3-Grade 5. We are always in need of plenty of help. If you would like to volunteer as a teacher or helper, please contact Melissa Wilson at 704-873-7231 or [melissa@statesvillefbc.org](mailto:melissa@statesvillefbc.org).



# Summer Camps: Passport Kids & Look Up Lodge

This year the children attended Passport Kids Camp. The past several years we went to Look Up Lodge but we were ready to try something different. I chose Passport because it is more than Bible study. It also has a strong missions component. The theme for our week was Do, Love, Walk from Micah 6:8. All week the children were challenged with how they could Do Justice, Love Kindness, and Walk Humbly with God in their regular daily lives. During Bible study and worship we began by learning that Jesus is the way the truth and the life and then we started looking at what it truly means to follow Christ. On our second day we heard the familiar story of the Good Samaritan, but we were reading it through the lens of doing Justice and loving Kindness. Our third day of camp was all about walking humbly with God. We heard the story of Naaman and his servant girl. Our final day of camp we tied it all

**PASSPORT** kids!  
Exploring Missions in a World without Borders



together with the parable of the wise man and the foolish man and considered how important it is that we build our lives on a firm foundation.

In addition to Bible study, we also learned about a ministry called Watering Malawi. There is a water crisis in Malawi, and women can spend up to 8 hours per day hauling water for their family. Then the water may be contaminated. Watering Malawi is working to bring clean water to villages all over Malawi. At the Night Market the children were able to learn more about life in Malawi by tasting food, carrying water on their heads, carrying baby dolls on their backs, and learning about what it would be like to attend school in Malawi. We had a lot of fun making finger harps or crosses, learning new words, and just exploring a different culture. On the last day of camp we gave to an offering that supports the ministry of Watering Malawi. The offering for

the week was over \$3,000. Our children not only learned about how water impacts the lives of the people of Malawi, they did something about it by giving to this offering.

There was a lot of fun to be had at camp as well. We spent time at the pool, and the children had 4 opportunities to choose activities that interested them. They had a lot of fun with different sports and games. Several even got to play capture the flag, while others did arts and crafts. Our children got to help lead worship by reading scripture and through a dance that was one of the choice activities. Several of our children created art that was displayed during worship to help us think about our theme for the week.



We had a great time at Passport and we want to say a big thank you to all of you who supported us at our fundraiser back in January that helped make camp possible for these kids. Also a big thank you to Chris Simon and Mackenzie Barker who joined me as chaperones on this trip.

Melissa Wilson, *Minister of Children*



For the past several years the start of summer vacation for students here at FBC has been accompanied by a week away at camp in hopes to intentionally seek the presence of God in their busy and often hectic lives. This year was no exception as the youth, adult volunteers, and I made our way to Look Up Lodge located in Travelers Rest, SC.

This year's camp theme dealt with knowing how to discuss one's own faith. The teachings focused on students beginning to articulate and vocalize "why they believe what they believe." One of the points made during our chapel sessions, which I felt hit home with many of the students, addressed the importance of spending time on what matters. If one's faith in Christ is professed to be the center of their lives their time should reflect such a claim. Another aspect of teaching that week included the comparison of Biblical faith vs. Unicorn faith (to find out the difference I'd encourage you to ask one of our students who was at camp that week).

I believe time away at camp provides the essential opportunity for reflection. Between chapel, biblical application, and recreational fun I found myself thinking back to last summer and how my time at Look Up Lodge provided me with my first real bonding moments with students. The word that comes to mind is "exposure." Our time at camp not only provides the opportunity for exposure to different teachings and understanding of God and scripture, but a time of exposure with each other. I cannot express the life giving moments I personally experienced with students and how those instances often occurred organically. Thoughts and ideas heard and felt throughout the day frequently made their way back to the cabins and were unpacked in group discussion at night. Some of the introspective stories that were shared gave me such reassurance of God being active in the lives of our students. Those moments are my biggest take away from our time there.

As we make our way through the "dog days of summer" and the inevitable return to the classroom, my prayer is that our students will not seek what is comfortable, but will continue to grow in their faith by exposure. Exposure to God, to one another, and all those they meet on their spiritual journey.

Justin Cox, *Minister to Students*





Messages by: Nelson Granade

Volume 74 Issue 14

July 9, 2017

### CBF Mission Bites

Bite 39: The Gift of Giving and Receiving

"We first met Todd years ago, when one of us was wandering the neighborhood with a backpack full of lunches on what we called the 'roving feast.' Soon we became regular guests on Todd's stoop and in his apartment. A few months back, we celebrated Todd's birthday. Todd got seconds at his birthday meal, but only after checking with everybody to see if they had already gotten some and if they wanted seconds, too. He was anxious not to take more than his share, even as we insisted that he should. Todd has learned something over the years that he continues to teach us as we share life, work, and prayers with him: the work of our hands in community isn't just about giving. Todd's hands are teaching us how to receive, as well."

- Jessica and Joshua Hearne, CBF field personnel in Danville, Va.



## Announcements

### Back to School Bash

This year we are partnering with Back to School Bash to provide much needed items for children in Iredell-Statesville Schools. Back to School Bash is a ministry that provides shoes and school supplies to children in need right here in Statesville. Last summer we collected shoes for the Back to School Bash. This year we will be collecting school supplies. We need a variety of supplies such as: pencils, pens, highlighters, notebooks, paper, crayons, colored pencils, scissors, erasers, pencil sharpeners, book bags, glue sticks. We will be collecting these items in a large container near the Welcome Center until July 16. Thank you for helping provide for the students of Statesville.

### Adult Vacation Bible School July 16-20, 2017 ~ Adams Hall

**Sunday, July 16 ~ 6:00 p.m.**

*Supporting Your Church's Ministry From Heaven*  
Rev. Coy Jeans - Baptist Foundation of NC, Retired

**Monday, July 17 ~ 6:00 p.m.**

*Making Everything Legal While You Can*  
Kevin Beale, Attorney

**Tuesday, July 18 ~ 6:00 p.m.**

*Hospice Presentation*  
Karen Lawler, Hospice

**Wednesday, July 19 ~ 12:00 p.m.**

*Connecting Across Generations*  
Rev. Justin Cox, Minister to Students  
First Baptist Church, Statesville

**Thursday, July 20 ~ 6:00 p.m.**

*Volunteerism/Avoiding Identity Theft*  
Caroline Farmer, Attorney  
Executive Director of Volunteerism, State of NC  
formerly with the NC Attorney General's Office

### Welcome to Our Church Family!



Kendyl King made a profession of faith at the 10:00 a.m. worship service on June 25, 2017. She will be baptized Sunday, July 23.



Piper Lewis made a profession of faith at the 10:00 a.m. worship service on June 25, 2017. She will be baptized Sunday, July 23.