



The Miami Mission Team leads worship time at Touching Miami With Love.

THE INTERIM



Volume 74 Issue 15

July 23, 2017

From the Pastor..



Vision is key to any church's success. Proverbs 29:18 says, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." Vision is insight from God that gives us direction and draws us forward. Relationships, programming and management are all important aspects of a healthy congregation, but vision is paramount.

The first vision for First Baptist Church of Statesville was seen in 1875. Fifteen individuals gathered at the court house to organize a Baptist witness in Statesville. Leading people to Christ and helping them to grow in their faith compelled this group. In fact, two people were baptized on that very first Sunday. Shortly thereafter, the congregation organized and started a comprehensive Sunday School.

Over the years First Baptist Church has renewed this vision as we have grown both in numbers and ministries. In fact, we solidified this vision when we chose our mission statement – "To know and to love Jesus Christ and to make him known." In the 1980s our church took a big step toward our vision when we funded and built the Family Life Center.

The original dream for the Family Life Center was to be an outreach tool to draw people together, so they might come closer to Christ and one another. Recreation and fellowship were the tools to be used, but the purpose was always to reach people. For many years this concept worked. Over the last decade, however, our facility has not always fulfilled its original purpose.

There are many reasons for this, such as: fewer young families in the area and congregation, hectic family schedules, fewer volunteers, inadequate staffing and more recreational opportunities from other groups. Focusing on the negative, however, will only serve to discourage us. I choose to focus on the potential that we have to re-vision what God is calling us to do with this wonderful blessing today.

Family Life Center Town Hall Meetings

Wednesday, August 16, 2017
6:30 p.m. ~ Adams Hall

Sunday, August 20, 2017
11:00 a.m. ~ Adams Hall

Family Life Center "Dream Team"

Loy Devine Libby Purcell
Jane Mitchell Jeff Templeton
Andrew Mullins Alan Williams

Staff Liaisons: Nelson Granade,
Larry Gregg, & Melissa Willson

The fire in the Family Life Center was a tragedy in many respects, but it has also served as an opportunity for us to think through how to better use this great asset. Over the last few weeks a team of dedicated volunteers have been discussing how we might best use the Family Life Center to fulfill our mission as a church. When we reopen the FLC this fall, we'll have a renovated building and a renewed spirit.

The team is made up of wonderful people, but their purpose is not to make decisions for us. Rather they are to lead the congregation through a process to seek God's dream for us all. Therefore, we are planning two very important "town hall" meetings to prayerfully think through God's desire for the Family Life Center. Both sessions will have the same format and you are welcome to choose the session that best fits your schedule.

During our time together, the Family Life Center "Dream Team" has become enthusiastic about the potential that lies before us. I believe this excitement will spread through our entire congregation as the discussion expands. We have been blessed with a talented people and a great facility. I'm convinced that God has great plans for us. After all, God is the biggest dreamer of all!

Schedule

Sunday, July 23

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

Monday, July 24

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

Tuesday, July 25

- 10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

Wednesday, July 26

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

Thursday, July 27

- 1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Sunday, July 30

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. VBS Training - Adams Hall
- 5:00 p.m. Venture Students

Monday, July 31

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

Tuesday, August 1

- 10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

Wednesday, August 2

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

Thursday, August 3

- 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
 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 July 9 & 16, 2017

	7/9	7/16
Church in Bible Study	155	142
Church in Worship.	209	223

Financial Statistics

	July	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	55,990.00	724,364.00
Budget Receipts	34,475.00	633,152.00
Needed to Meet Goal	21,515.00	91,212.00
Alms	421.00	8,807.00
Designated	382.00	58,975.00

Prayer Point

E.M. Bounds on Faith in Prayer

"Prayer does not stand alone. It is not an isolated duty and independent principle. It lives in association with other Christian duties, is wedded to other principles, is a partner with other graces. But to faith, prayer is indissolubly joined. Faith gives it color and tone, shapes its character, and secures its results.

Our Lord puts trust as the very foundation of praying. The background of prayer is trust. The whole issuance of Christ's ministry and work was dependent on implicit trust in His Father.

When trust is perfect and without doubt, prayer is simply the outstretched hand, ready to receive.

Trust receives what prayer acquires.

Faith is nurtured and made powerful by prayer."

E. M. Bounds, one of the foremost expositors of Prayer, was born in Missouri in 1835. He died in 1913 having published only two books: "Preacher and Prayer" and "The Resurrection". After his death two friends assumed the task of publishing nine more books written by him.

Rome: Paul & the Underground Church

August 7 - 11 - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



Register Now!
www.statesvillefbc.org

Updates From Our Miami Mission Team



Saturday, July 15 & Sunday, July 16

Our Miami Mission Team departed for Miami this Saturday, July 15. The team arrived safely in Miami Sunday around noon. That afternoon they had an orientation with Touching Miami With Love (TML), the organization our team will work with for the week. During the orientation, they learned the history of TML and the ministers. The team also took a tour of the facility.

During the training, the TML staff talked about cultural differences and urban poverty. TML encouraged the team, along with our church family, to research the phrase "the school to prison pipeline".

After orientation, most of group had a Cuban dinner in Little Havana, while the "Moms" bought groceries for bag lunches for the week.

Monday, July 17

Monday was our first day with the kids. It was awesome to see their excitement as they came in the door. It felt a lot like the first day of VBS. You plan and prepare. The day arrives and is more chaotic than you would like, but it is a great day.

We started the day with a devotion time. We sang songs, told a Bible story, and played a quick game. We also led crafts. The kids made lanterns out of clear Chinese take-out boxes tying in with TML's theme of "living in the light as God is in the light".

We also led an enrichment time that focuses on learning about different countries. South Africa is the first country we learned about. We made "crunches" - delicious cookie bars. We also tried rooibos tea. We learned a few words in Zulu and colored the flag for South Africa.

Our day ended with a time of worship with the children - a big highlight of the day. These kids get so excited about singing songs to Jesus!

We are excited for our second day with the kids. Time is moving so fast!

Tuesday, July 18 & Wednesday, July 19

Tuesday was a much smoother day! The kids enjoyed our devotion time about Gideon and, they are really catching on to the songs and movements we are doing this week. For visual arts we made picture frames, and in Enrichment we learned about Kazakhstan.

Our team enjoyed our evening by celebrating Taco Tuesday at Coyo Taco, and a walk through the Winwood Walls Graffiti Art District.

Wednesday was a long and busy day. Our team arrived at TML at 8:30 a.m. and did not leave until 7:45 p.m. We had a good day. Our teens have been doing a great job helping lead devotions and enrichment. It was awesome to see some of our team share their personal experiences in Belize.

The kids were beyond excited about Wednesday evening's cookout and their field trip on Thursday. The community cookout was a success. We were able to serve many families that partner with TML.

Today we go with the kids to Ninja Lounge, an indoor trampoline park. We are excited to hang out with them in a different environment.

Melissa Wilson
Minister to Children & Missions

***The Miami Mission Team will spend all day Thursday and Friday with the children at TML. They will arrive home Saturday, July 22. Please keep this team in your prayers as the trip draws to a close and the team returns home.





Messages by: Nelson Granade

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CBF Mission Bites

Bite 40: A little gift of love

"Last summer we were the focus of the mission giving of a church in the U.S. The children made bracelets during vacation bible school to send to Syrian students in our ministry as a part of their mission giving. The kids here were so excited to receive these little bracelets. The VBS had chosen the colors of the Syrian flag as the bead colors for the bracelets and the students were excited that people in U.S. churches are thinking of them. They know that their language classes are supported by these same churches in the U.S."

- Cooperative Baptist Fellowship field personnel serving in the Middle East

Bite 41: A Team Effort

"Last week, a number of children attended the Persian service. Three cousins from an Afghan family were cared for by our small child care team while their parents went to worship. These children were full of energy. We talked A LOT about forgiveness. A crisis arose when the youngest child bit a hole in the beautiful map of Afghanistan and the surrounding countries drawn by a 10-year-old. However, by the end of the two hours, the 10-year-old was leading the youngest child in a game of 'Simon Says.' Perfect imitation complete with peaceful interaction, admiration and good will. It took a team of dedicated workers to minister to the children so the mothers (and father) could hear the sermon, sing worship songs and pray. But the end result was heartfelt gratitude from all the mothers!"

- Pat, CBF field personnel serving with U.S. Persian Ministry



Announcements

Amazing Grace

2017 Summer Sermon Series

July 23, 2017

'Twas Grace That Taught

James 4:1-10

God's grace teaches us the right path in life and warns us of other paths. The purpose of this message is to realize that God's judgment and forgiveness are both aspects of God's grace.

July 30, 2017

'Tis Grace Hath Brought Me Safe Thus Far

I Chronicles 17:16-22

Life is often best understood in hindsight. Life, however, must be lived in the present. The purpose of this sermon is to help us understand that God's grace has always been with us and will continue to be with us as we go forward in our lives.

VBS Training Day

Sunday, July 30, 2017

11:00 a.m. ~ Adams Hall

If you plan to volunteer at VBS as a group leader, please plan to attend the training immediately following the worship service Sunday, July 30 in Adams Hall.

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, 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.

