

David, Darbee, and Boomer Lewis pose as Noah, Esther, and Moses at the Heroes Unmasked Fall Festival on Sunday, October 27, 2013.



Volume 71 Issue 22

October 26, 2014

## Law of the Lord is Compass for Life

■ **Roger Gilbert**  
*Interim Pastor*

I was recently hiking in the woods near our house with two of my grandchildren. I see these outings as opportunities to teach them about the outdoors and to be alert to both dangers and joyous discoveries. On this particular adventure I began to point out certain landmarks that could help them remember where they are. For example, near some knotty maple trees I pointed out a huge old stump. A little later I showed them a pile of rocks that remind me to turn right to return to the main trail. We talked about where the sun was, and since it was afternoon, that meant the direction was to the west. I pointed out that with the west to my left that meant I was facing north. I told them that paying attention to landmarks can help them find their way in the woods or in a mall parking lot. Will they remember all of that? Hopefully with some repetition over the years, they will remember at least some of it. Who knows when some tidbit of information may be valuable to them at some point in the future.

What I am leading up to is to ask you to consider, how do we plot our course in life? What are the landmarks and direction signs for the journey of life? Psalm 1 is one of my mother's favorite scriptures. It emphasizes the importance of delighting in the "law of the Lord" as our compass for life. But what is the law of the Lord?

By the first century the Jewish religious leaders had expanded the Ten Commandments to 613 laws that attempted to define and clarify all of life. Of those 613 laws, 248 of them were positive (Thou shall) and 365 of them were negative (Thou shall not). It is not surprising that

there was considerable debate over which laws were the most important.

A religious leader asked Jesus that very question (Matthew 22:34-40). Jesus' response was a combination of Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18, which says to love God with our whole being and love our neighbor as ourselves. There is the essence of how to find our way through the journey of life. On Sunday, October 26, the sermon will explore this passage and the practical application for our lives in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Mark 1:21-39 is a passage that has intrigued and instructed me for many years. It is the captivating insight into a jam-packed 24-hour period in the life of Jesus. News of his authoritative teaching and his miraculous healing spread like wildfire. As the new day dawned, the crowds were again gathering for more of this superhero. But Jesus could not immediately be found. After searching for him for a time, Peter finally found him. Where was he? Mark explains in verse 35, "In the morning, while it was still dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed."

If Jesus, God's Son, needed to carve out time to be alone with the Father in prayer, how much more do we need to be seriously disciplined to cultivate a lifestyle of prayer! On Sunday morning, November 2, we will explore the implications that this passage has for our lives.

I encourage you to spend some time studying and reflecting on these passages in preparation for our worship time together.



**Don't Miss The Best Fall Festival In Town!!**  
**Sunday, October 26, 2014**  
**5:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

We are gearing up for the annual Heroes Unmasked Fall Festival. This means we are in need of individually wrapped pieces of candy, (No nuts, please!) Please bring your donations to the Welcome Center.

## Schedule

### Sunday, October 26

- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship - FLC
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
- 10:55 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. Heroes Unmasked Fall Festival

### Monday, October 27

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

### Tuesday, October 28

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

### Wednesday, October 29

- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal (Chicken Burritos, Tex-Mex Rice Salad, & Dessert)
- 5:45 p.m. Children & Student Activities
- 5:45 p.m. Bible Study - FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

### Thursday, October 30

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

### Friday, October 31

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

### Sunday, November 2

- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship - FLC
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
- 10:55 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. Church Conference
- 7:00 p.m. Venture Student Movie Night

### Monday, November 3

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

### Tuesday, November 4

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

### Wednesday, November 5

- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal
- 5:45 p.m. Children & Student Activities
- 5:45 p.m. Bible Study - FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

### Thursday, November 8

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

### Friday, November 7

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

## Prayer Point The Great Exchange

Father, I praise You that You are the "heart exchanger". You remove the stony heart and replace it with a heart of flesh. (Ezek. 11:19) Lord Jesus, give me a new heart--one that loves like Your heart. Your "new" commandment at the Last Supper was, "love one another as I have loved you". (John 13:34) The only way any of us can do that is to, by faith, let You exchange our dead stony heart for a living heart of flesh. Father, pack my new heart with love for the unlovely, compassion for the undeserving, and generosity for the ungrateful. A heart exchange--maybe not what I want, but absolutely what I need!

His servant and your friend,  
Ginny Stikeleather

## Spiritual Statistics

### Weeks of October 12 & 19, 2014

	10/12	10/19
Church in Bible Study	161	160
Church in Worship	237	269
8:30 a.m. service	87	91
10:55 a.m. service	150	178

## Financial Statistics

### Weeks of October 12 & 19

	10/12	10/19
Budget - Received	\$9,820.01	\$9,551.00
Alms	5.00	0.00
Designated - Received	908.90	1,013.59
Building Reserve - Received	30.00	25.00
<b>TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 10/12/14</b>		10,763.91
<b>TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 10/19/14</b>		10,589.59
Budget Received-Year to Date		36,843.01
Designated Funds Received-Year to Date		2,779.49
Alms Received-Year to Date		533.87
Building Reserve-Year to Date		185.00
<b>Total Giving-Year to Date</b>		<b>40,341.37</b>

### A Note of Appreciation From the Pregnancy Resource Center

Thank you so much for allowing us to use your church for our gathering place for our Annual LifeWalk. We appreciate it very much! Be blessed!

Pregnancy Resource Center

### 2014-2015 Church Budget

#### Budget Discussion

Wednesday, October 29, 2014 ~ 5:45 p.m. ~ Family Life Center

#### Church Vote

Sunday, November 2, 2014 ~8:30 & 10:55 a.m.

## Church Staff Directory

Dr. Roger Gilbert.....	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

**Fall Festival**  
**Sunday, October 26, 2014**  
**5:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

The Fall Festival is this Sunday! Be sure to invite your friends. We still need candy. Please bring some to church Sunday morning.

### Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes

The children will be packing shoe boxes in October for Operation Christmas Child. We need items to pack in those shoe boxes such as toys (dolls, balls, yo-yos, toy cars, stuffed animals, harmonicas), school supplies (pencils, crayons, sharpeners, notebooks, markers, coloring books), non-liquid hygiene items: tooth brushes, bars of soap, combs, wash cloths), accessories (t-shirt, hat, socks, hair clips, bracelets, flashlight with extra batteries).

Any of these items can be dropped off at the craft room in the white hampers!



## Student Ministry

**Bring a friend to Movie Night**  
**Sunday, November 2, 2014**  
**7:00 - 10:00 p.m.**

That's right, all students are invited to a movie night at First Baptist Church! However, there is a small catch. You must bring a friend in order to get in! Think of a friend as your ticket to the movie. When you arrive, please make your way to the gym. From there we will get your fall break started off right! Make sure to arrange a ride at 10:00 p.m.

A week prior to the movie night is our annual fall festival. The festival will take place on October 26, 5:00 - 7 p.m. If you are interested in helping out please arrive no later than 4:30 p.m. Please feel free to donate some candy any time between now and then.

The fall time can be such a fun and special time, but only if you are there!



## Announcements

**Senior Adult Trip**  
**Tuesday, December 16, 2014**

A one-day trip to the Wohlfahrt Haus Dinner Theatre in Wytheville, Va. is being planned for First Baptist Senior Adults on December 16, 2014. We will leave the church at 9:00 a.m. on a modern Christian Tours bus and arrive back at approximately 6:00 p.m. We will stop at the Farmer's Market in Hillsville, Va, on the way for shopping and rest room visits. Then, at the Wohlfahrt Haus, we will enjoy a four-course meal and a Holiday Spectacular musical production.

Cost of the trip is \$40.00 by check made payable to First Baptist Church. First Baptist members must sign up by October 31 and payment must be turned in to the church by November 10. Call the church office at 704.873.7231 to reserve your seat.

**Iredell Christian Ministries Bake Sale at Pumpkin Fest**  
**Saturday, November 1, 2014**

Iredell Christian Ministries is sponsoring a booth of baked goods and crafts for the Pumpkin Fest on November 1, 2014. We are asking for donations of your delicious baked goodies and craft items. Baked goods should be individually wrapped. All donations may be delivered to ICM, 752 Old Salisbury Road, between 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 31. Thank you so much for supporting Iredell Christian Ministries.

### Sunshine Basket Ministry

The Sunshine Basket Ministry is starting up once again. The baskets cheer up our hospitalized members, but we need help with the delivery of the baskets. If you would like to help with the delivery of these baskets or if you know of any member in the hospital or rehabilitation, please call Gail Taylor at 704-872-6378. We may later add the shut-ins to this ministry.

### First Baptist Church Staff Telephone Extensions

Kayley Potter	<i>Administrative Secretary</i>	201
Mary Jane Rash	<i>Pastoral Secretary</i>	203
Volunteer		205
Margeaux Holland	<i>Financial Administrator</i>	206
James Martin	<i>Minister of Music &amp; Worship</i>	208
Renaee Keesbury	<i>Preschool Director</i>	209
Landon Senn	<i>Minister of Students</i>	211
Burwell Whittenton	<i>Secretarial Assistant</i>	213
Amy Cummings	<i>Contributions Secretary</i>	214
Clayton Cline	<i>Maintenance Supervisor</i>	221
Melissa Wilson	<i>Minister of Children</i>	308

Due to the damage caused by the water pipe that burst several months ago, the church started to use a new telephone system. When you call the church, you will be prompted to dial the extension of the staff member you are trying to reach. Please cut out this list of staff telephone extensions and keep it handy, so you may refer to it the next time you call the church office. Also, You may listen to the staff directory by dialing "1". If you are unsure who you should speak with, you may dial "0" to speak with a secretary or a volunteer.

If you are calling the church after hours, you may leave a voice mail with a staff member or in the general mail box, and a staff member will return your call the weekday next morning.



815 Davie Avenue  
Statesville, NC 28677

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

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## Announcements

### Christian Sympathy

...is extended to Monica Edwards in the death of her mother, Brenda Elso of Vero Beach, Florida.

### Christmas Ministries

**Sunday, December 7, 2014**

Each year we share in the special program we call White Christmas by sharing with needy families in our community through gifts of toys, food, and clothing. Now is the time to begin preparing for this ministry. We need your help in the following ways:

- 1 Pray for this ministry and the families that we will serve.
2. Please give generously. We need money to purchase the toys and food. Mark your donations "Christmas Ministries" The toys and food are purchased from this fund.
3. We are in need of good, clean used children's and teen clothes, and winter coats of all sizes. Please bring the clothes as soon as possible.
4. Soon we will begin collecting cans of vegetables and fruit, as well as other nonperishable food. The more food that is donated, the less we will need to buy. Watch for the Christmas boxes placed around the church.
5. Please bring your "like new" used toys to supplement the new toys, and for emergencies that come up.
6. Plan now to shop for the families using the gift cards provided. The family names are here and I will be giving them out this Sunday, October 26. If you did not sign up for a family in your Sunday School class, please call me at 704-876-1462. I will be outside the church offices Sunday from 9:30-11:00 with the family names and the gift cards. The families will be coming for lunch on December 7 and to pick up their gifts and food. We are hoping that if you shop for a family, you will come and eat lunch with that family.
7. We need willing hands to greet our guests and to help carry the food boxes and toys. This is such a wonderful opportunity for the whole family to share the Love of God with others.

Because of your willingness to share your time and money with those less fortunate, you are truly expressing the love of Christ and the real meaning of Christmas. Thank you for your participation.

Carol Hunter – 704-876-1462

### Worship Greeters Sunday, October 26

Eddy Sipe	Hilda Lee	Jim Van Zee
Monica Williams	Clarence Poole	Nedra Van Zee
Ginny Stikeleather	Mike McLain	

### Sunday, November 2

Chris Simon	Chuck Heckel	Jason Allen
Mark Wilkinson	Jeff Templeton	David Lewis

### Acolytes Sunday, October 26

William Simon, Georgiana Simon

### Sunday, November 2

Audrey Allison, Sean Martin

### Coffee Rotation Sunday, October 26

Gary & Patricia Fyfe

### Sunday, November 2

Emanons Class

### Bike and Trike Clean And Repair Saturday, October 25, 2014 & Saturday, November 1, 2014 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

We have many bicycles and tricycles that need to be cleaned and repaired in time for White Christmas. Please come and help. 252 Stamey Farm Road, Statesville, NC.

### Church Conference Sunday, November 2, 2014 6:30 p.m. ~ Family Life Center

We will hold our annual church conference on Sunday, November 2, 2014 in the Family Life Center. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting.



*For you make me glad by your deeds, O Lord;  
I sing for joy at the works of your hands. - Psalm 92:4*

