



# THE INTERIM

Volume 71 Issue 8

April 13, 2014

## It Was For This He Had Come

■ **Rich Kraft** *Intentional Interim Pastor*

On March 5, 1994, Deputy Sheriff Lloyd Prescott was teaching a class for police officers in the Salt Lake City Library. As he stepped into the hallway he noticed a gunman herding 18 hostages into the next room. Quickly, the deputy (dressed in street clothes) joined the group and became the nineteenth hostage. When the gunman announced the order in which the hostages would be executed, Prescott identified himself as a cop. In the scuffle that followed, Prescott, in self-defense fatally shot the armed man. The hostages were released unharmed.

God dressed Himself in street clothes and entered our world, joining us who are held hostage to sin. On the cross, Jesus identified Himself and set free from the penalty and power of sin all who would believe in Him. It was not simply a matter of dying any death, or of a quick death. What He endured helps us to understand the ugliness of our failings and rebellion against God. It is no small thing to be separated from our Creator. It took a powerful work to alter the effects of sin.

In John 19:1-3 we read, "Then Pilate took Jesus and had Him flogged. The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on His head. They clothed Him in a purple robe and went up to Him again and again, saying, 'Hail, king of the Jews!' And they struck Him in the face."

No simple matter, being turned over to hardened and cruel men and to go through this when you are innocent!

Paul, the Apostle writes, "He humbled Himself and became obedient, obedient even to death on a cross!"

There is a terrible twist of irony in how we find God on trial before the Jewish leaders and Roman governor. This absurdity and rejection found itself in Jesus continuing to fulfill His mission: no matter how difficult, no matter how horrible, no matter how unjust! Jesus Christ, beaten to the point of death, taunted and mocked, spat upon, identified as a criminal, was tried before human beings, and "sentenced to die!"

***It was for this He had come!!!***

John continues in John 19:6, "As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw Him, they shouted, "Crucify! Crucify!" The indignity continued with Pilate, afraid and trying to get out of a difficult spot, gave in to Christ's accusers. John 19:15,16, "The crowd shouted, "Take Him away! Take Him away! Crucify Him!"...Finally Pilate handed Him over to them to be crucified." John 19:16-18, "So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. They made Christ carry His own cross. He went out to the place of the Skull (which is Aramaic is called Golgotha). Here they crucified Him, and with Him two others - one on each side and Jesus in the middle."

In this place, called the place of the skull, was where the bodies of rapists, extortionists, and murderers breathed their last breath. There God made flesh allowed Himself to be nailed to a cross.

God manifested in the extreme.

What can we say to this as we meditate during this special season? Also, nothing but, "Hallelujah!"

## Prayer Point

The National Day of Prayer is scheduled for Thursday, May 1, 2014. This will be the beginning of a six-month effort to mobilize our nation to prayer. Second Chronicles 7:14 makes it clear that God cares about and responds to the attitudes and actions of His people.

The theme for the 2014 National Day of Prayer observance is "One Voice, United in Prayer," based on Romans 15:6. The virtue that once defined our country is deteriorating rapidly and is being invaded by evils. We must humble ourselves before Almighty God and seek His forgiveness and restoration.

Thankfully we serve a God who stands ready to work in ways that exceed all of our expectations. His Word offers his heartening

reminder: "Surely the arm of the Lord is not too short to save, nor His ear too dull to hear" (Isaiah 59:1).

***National Day of Prayer Local Events***  
***Thursday, May 1, 2014***

***Prayer Breakfast***  
***Landmark Church of God, 6:45 a.m.***

***High Noon Prayer Observance***  
***Caldwell Park, 12:00 p.m.***  
***Ginny Stikeleather will pray for the government.***

## Schedule

### Sunday, April 13

- 7:30 a.m. Prayer Time - SonSeekers Classroom
- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship in FLC
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
- 10:55 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
- 5:30 p.m. Operation Inasmuch Information Kickoff - FLC
- 6:30 p.m. Dialog & Discovery - FLC

### Monday, April 14

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

### Tuesday, April 15

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

### Wednesday, April 16

- 5:00 p.m. Open Gym
- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Supper (Roasted Pork Loin, Baked Potato, Glazed Carrots, Dessert)
- 5:45 p.m. Student & Children's Activities
- 5:45 p.m. Bible Study - FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

### Thursday, April 17

- 11:00 a.m. Senior Adult Luncheon - FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service - Sanctuary
- 8:30 p.m. Senior Basketball - Gym

### Friday, April 18

- 12:00 p.m. Community Good Friday Service - St. John's Lutheran Church
- 12:00 p.m. Line Dancers - Gym

### Saturday, April 19

- 10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt - Front Lawn

### Sunday, April 20

#### Happy Easter!

- 7:30 a.m. Prayer Time - SonSeekers Classroom
- 9:30 a.m. Easter Brunch (Breakfast Casserole, Fresh Fruit, Muffins, Cinnamon Rolls)
- 10:55 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

### Monday, April 21

#### Church Office Closed

### Tuesday, April 22

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

### Wednesday, April 23

- 5:00 p.m. Open Gym For Students
- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Supper (Baked Chicken & Stuffing, Vegetable Medley, Dessert)
- 5:45 p.m. Student & Children's Activities
- 5:45 p.m. Bible Study - FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

### Thursday, April 24

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

### Friday, April 25

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

### Youth Easter Musical Sunday, April 13, 2014, 6:00 p.m. First Presbyterian Church

Students from First Baptist Church and Trinity Episcopal Church will join the youth choir of First Presbyterian Church to put on the musical "Share the Good News! He is Risen."

## Spiritual Statistics

### Weeks of March 30 & April 6, 2014

	3/30	4/6
Church in Bible Study	132	146
Church in Worship	220	228
8:30 a.m. service	64	83
10:55 a.m. service	156	145

## Financial Statistics

### Weeks of March 30 & April 6, 2014

	3/30	4/6
Budget - Received	\$11,406.70	\$12,330.50
Alms	0.00	498.00
Designated - Received	4,044.88	1,949.00
Building Reserve - Received	50.00	199.00
<b>TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 3/30/14</b>		15,501.58
<b>TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 4/6/14</b>		14,976.50
Budget for 2013-2014		913,066.79
Budget Received-Year to Date		465,593.16
Remaining in Budget - Unfunded		447,473.63
Designated Funds Received-Year to Date		76,308.64
Alms Received-Year to Date		4,498.55
Building Reserve-Year to Date		9,837.00
Total Giving-Year to Date		553,514.69



*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead...*

*1 Peter 1:3*

## Church Staff Directory

Rev. Rich Kraft.....	Intentional 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

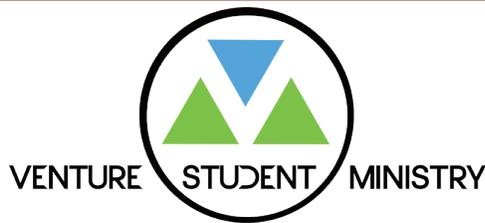
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## Student Ministry



*The Venture Student Ministry received a new logo. A circle of unity, the beauty of the Trinity, green mountains, blue sky, and the hidden letter "V". Yep, that's us. Venture was first introduced in the mountains of Tennessee while we were learning about the "sermon on the mount." The mountain is symbolic of - doing hard things - taking risk - and taking the next "venture" in life one step at a time.*

### Raleigh Mission Trip May 16-18, 2014

The students will be taking a short-term mission trip to the Raleigh area. Triangle Community Church will host us. There we will be part of a local food ministry where we will feed the hungry, organize food banks, and much more. Please sign up at [www.venturestudents.org](http://www.venturestudents.org).

### Graduation Sunday Sunday, June 1, 2014

Make sure you get the whole family here to celebrate the lives of our seniors. Join us for a breakfast and a whole lot more. Stay tuned for more details.

## Children's Ministry

### Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 19, 2014 10:00 a.m., Front Lawn

Thank you for picking up a bag of eggs on Sunday. We still have a few more bags. Just fill the eggs with candy and return them to the church!

### Vacation Bible School August 4-8, 2014

Vacation Bible School will be August 4-8. Save the date and mark your calendars now!

Melissa Wilson, *Minister of Children & Families*



## Announcements

### Operation Inasmuch Information Kickoff Sunday, April 13, 2014, 6:00 p.m.

Come and learn about the projects our church will be undertaking for Operation Inasmuch on Saturday, May 3, 2014. Sign ups will be available, so come and learn where the Lord will have you serve on this day! Snacks and coffee will be provided.

### Senior Adult Luncheon Thursday, April 17, 2014 11:00 a.m. ~ FLC

This month's meeting will be in the Family Life Center on Thursday, April 17. Our own Ginny Stikeleather will present a program entitled "The Stations of the Cross." The program will begin at 11:00 a.m. and the meal will be served at noon. The cost of the meal \$5.00 payable at the door. Call the church office at 704.873.7231 to make your reservation.

### Supplies Needed For Operation Inasmuch Saturday, May 3, 2014

We are in need of some items for Operation Inasmuch. We will be putting together packages of bean soup. To make the soup we need dried beans (pinto, navy, white, black, etc.), canned tomatoes (diced or chopped), and Lipton Dry Onion Soup mix. We are also in need of hotel/motel or travel size toiletries and unused cosmetic bags in which you have not used any of the contents.

### Aspect Foundation Looking For Families to Host Exchange Students

The Aspect Foundation needs five families to accommodate an international high school exchange student coming to Iredell County for the 2014-2015 school year. Volunteer Host Families can be married or single adults, with or without children, who can provide meals and a loving home for one or two students. Students arrive in August. For more information, please contact Bonnie Hamilton at 704.213-2332 or [bhamilton838@hotmail.com](mailto:bhamilton838@hotmail.com). A list of Frequently Asked Questions may be found in the church office.

### A Note of Appreciation From Habitat for Humanity Staff

To our friends at First Baptist Church,

The college volunteers who worked on a Habitat for Humanity house really appreciated the three dinners that you provided. The Habitat staff thanks you for your generous support. The food was delicious!

The Habitat organization is able to build decent, affordable housing for working families because of volunteers like you.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,  
Habitat for Humanity Staff





815 Davie Avenue  
Statesville, NC 28677

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

**Volume 71 Issue 8**

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## Announcements

### **Yard Sale & Silent Auction To Benefit Belize Mission Trip** **Saturday, April 12, 2014** **7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

We will host a yard sale to benefit the Belize Mission Trip. We are taking donations of any and everything. Please label your donations with "Belize Yard Sale" and bring them by the church office Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. If you have any big items, we will arrange to have them picked up from your home. To arrange a pick up, please call the church office at 704.873.7231.

### **Holy Week**



#### **Maundy Thursday Service**

Thursday, April 17, 2014

6:00 p.m. ~ Sanctuary

#### **Good Friday Service**

Friday, April 18, 2014

12:00 p.m. ~ St. John's Lutheran Church

#### **Easter Sunday**

9:30 a.m. Easter Brunch in FLC

Menu: Breakfast Casserole, Fresh Fruit, Muffins & Cinnamon Rolls

10:55 a.m. Joint Worship in Sanctuary

*Please bring flowers for the living cross.*

### **Pilot Leadership Training Class**

First Baptist Church is initiating two 8-10 week Pilot Leadership Training Classes starting Sunday, May 4. These classes form a Deacon level orientation, provide a biblical foundation for church leadership and acclimate those who will serve as Deacons at First Baptist Church with our teachings, standards, and expectations for key leadership. While the church as a whole is moving toward increased training for all areas of ministry, these classes are not intended for Sunday School teachers or ministry workers, That type of training will be provided in the future.

These pilot classes will be team taught by Pastor Kraft and William Barnard. One class will be offered during the 9:45 a.m. Sunday School hour, the other on either Tuesday or Thursday nights in the home of one of our class attendees. Because we are teaching in a seminar setting, attendance is limited to twelve people in each class. Those interested in getting information, or signing up for either class (Sunday or weeknight), should call Mary Jane Rash at 704.873.7231, ext. 203 or put your name on the registration sheet located at the Welcome Center.

We look forward to having this pilot program help our church strengthen its people and ministry. Please pray that the Lord will use our time to prepare us to do our very best for Him!

### **Christian Sympathy**

...is extended to Gay Suther and the friends and family of Idelle Davis in her death on March 29, 2014.

### **Worship Greeters** **Sunday, April 13**

Eddy Sipe	John Garland	Shannon Ashley
Pat Rushton	Nancy Garland	

### **Sunday, April 20**

Bill Henderson	Gary Fyfe	Jame McNeil
Chris Buckner	Patricia Fyfe	Wilma McNeil
Matthew Waugh	Butch Price	Stan Williams

### **Acolytes** **Sunday, April 13**

Piper Lewis, Darbee Lewis, Nicole Osborne

### **Sunday, April 20**

Margo Deal, Grey Deal, Emily Ashley

## **DIALOG & DISCOVERY**

**Sunday, April 13, 2014**

**6:30 p.m., Family Life Center**

We will have our fourth Dialog & Discovery meeting. All teams will present reports on the progress made regarding the recommendations made by Metanoia Ministries. Please plan to attend this important meeting.

### **New Arrival!**

Congratulations to Jeffrey and Elizabeth Hunter on the birth of a son, William Jennings Hunter, on March 12, 2014. The proud grandparents are Luther and Carol Hunter.

### **Preschool Registration**

The FBC Preschool is still accepting registrations for the 2014-2015 year. Space is available for children 18 months - 5 years. The preschool operates Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. To register your child, please call Preschool Director Renae Keesbury at 704.873.7231, ext. 209 or e-mail [renae@statesvillefbc.org](mailto:renae@statesvillefbc.org).