

# THE INTERIM

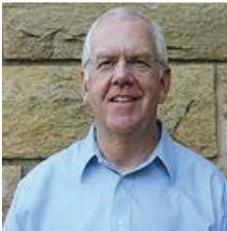
The children wait for worship to begin on their first day at Passport Missions Camp in Lynchburg, Virginia.



Volume 74 Issue 13

June 25, 2017

## From the Pastor...



Challenges can bring out the best or worst in congregations. I'm so glad that the difficulties we have faced are bringing out the best in First Baptist Church. Despite a fire that has prevented us from using a third of our space and major surgery of the pastor, our church is doing well. People have been patient, understanding and kind. We've also kept our focus on our mission despite these distractions.

I'm happy to report to you that things are progressing well with me and our congregation. I continue to be grateful for your prayers for my healing. I am feeling stronger each day, and my heart has stayed in rhythm for the last two weeks. We are also making great progress on the repairs of the Family Life Center. In fact, we are tentatively planning a reopening ceremony for the Sunday after Labor Day (September 10, 2017).

Much has been done to clean up the fire and smoke damage, and we are now in the process of replacing damaged items (see chart). The building has been cleaned from top to bottom and the gymnasium received an ionization treatment to remove any lingering smoke smell. We also have all new HVAC equipment, which will cut down on day to day expenses and save on future repairs.

Yes, there is still work to be done and we have faced some delays. For instance, the tile in the kitchen had to be removed, which damaged the concrete below. So we can't replace kitchen appliances until these repairs are completed. We have also had the normal issues of scheduling various trades that are a part of any construction project. Despite these challenges, we continue to make progress and look forward to being in a completely remodeled building.

The deacons, staff and I continue to appreciate both your patience and support as we make progress. We are especially grateful for the leadership of the Building and Grounds Team Co-chairs, Jody Parlier and Neil Pardue. They along with the rest of their team (Shannon Ashley, Jane Mitchell, Eddy Sipe, and Jeff Templeton) have volunteered countless hours of work to keep this project moving forward. Please speak a word of thanks and encouragement to these folks when you see them.

*Neil*

### Progress of the Family Life Center

#### Completed Work

- Removal of Damaged Items
- Cleaning Entire Building
- Ionization of Gym
- Sealing Interior Walls
- Painting Interior Walls
- New HVAC ductwork and equipment
- New Drop Ceilings

#### Work in Progress

- Kitchen Tile Installation
- Replacement of Fire Doors (on order)
- Wiring Kitchen
- Placing New Kitchen Equipment & Fire Suppressant System
- Installing New Audio Visual Equipment
- Replacing Carpet
- Replacing Craft Room Materials
- Repair of elevator



## Schedule

### Sunday, June 25

#### Youth Leave for Look Up Lodge

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

5:00 p.m. Hand Bells

5:00 p.m. Venture Students

### Monday, June 26

10:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

### Tuesday, June 27

10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

6:00 p.m. Precept Bible Study - Adams Hall

### Wednesday, June 28

12:00 p.m. Lunch & Bible Study - Adams Hall

6:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir - Choir Room

### Thursday, June 29

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

### Friday, July 30

#### Youth Return from Look Up Lodge

### Sunday, July 2

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, July 3

9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

### Tuesday, July 4

#### Independance Day

#### Church Office Closed

### Wednesday, July 5

12:00 p.m. Lunch & Bible Study - Adams Hall

6:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir - Choir Room

### Thursday, July 6

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 June 11 & 18, 2017

	6/11	
Church in Bible Study	133	132
Church in Worship	197	202

## Financial Statistics

	June
Giving Goal	63,863.00
Budget Receipts	34,100.00
Needed to Meet Goal	29,763.00
Alms	6,168.00
Designated	3,674.00

### 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

# Amazing Grace

## 2017 Summer Sermon Series

**June 25, 2017**

### ***How Sweet the Sound***

*Ephesians 2:1-10*

Grace is God's unmerited love. The purpose of this message is to explore the theological meaning of grace.

**July 2, 2017**

### ***Responsible Freedom***

*Galatians 5:13-25*

Christ has set us free, but what are we free to do? Christian freedom unbinds us to do what is right. This sermon calls on us to serve our country by being salt and light in a culture that often misuses freedom.

**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.

**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.

**August 6, 2017**

### ***And Grace Will Lead Me Home***

*I Chronicles 17:23-27*

We are only at home when we are truly in God's will, because God's Kingdom is our home. David asked for God to establish his household forever. God did so ultimately through Christ. This sermon is to remind us that, if we want our homes established forever, then we must establish them in God. (Message by Larry Gregg)

**August 13, 2017**

### ***The Lord Has Promised Good to Me***

*Jeremiah 29:1-4*

God is on our side! God is for us! God wants the best for us! The purpose of this sermon is to help us realize that God is always working for our good – whether we understand it or not.

**August 20, 2017**

### ***His Word My Hope Secures***

*John 10:22-30*

Grace provides us eternal security. The purpose of this sermon is to explore how to live with the theological polarities of free will and providence.

**August 27, 2017**

### ***We've No Less Days to Sing God's Praise***

*Revelation 7:9-17*

Heaven is a place where we will spend eternity praising God. The purpose this sermon is to gain encouragement from John's vision of heaven.



## A Prayer of Surrender

Lord, help me to pay attention to what I pray. When I pray for You to come closer, or to conform me to the image of Christ, and then something happens that I don't understand, or that I don't like, I'm like: "God, why is this happening?". Help me to see that You're answering my prayers, but in Your way, not mine. Remind me that my priority may not be Your purpose. You dig deep and prune to the quick sometimes, but just as a deer pants for water when he is wounded, so my soul pants for You. You are my heart's desire in good times and bad. When I pray, help me to expect You to work (in Your way and time). Heighten my awareness of Your work in my life. Raise, broaden, lengthen, and deepen my relationship with You. Amen. (Eph. 3:18) Surrender to God sets us free from self.

His servant and your friend,  
Ginny Stikeleather



Messages by: Nelson Granade

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### CBF Mission Bites

#### Bite 37: Field trips as a family

*"As Touching Miami with Love seeks to create strong communities, we create opportunities for Family Field Trips each year to provide families the opportunity to enjoy our beautiful city together. For several years in a row we have taken families to the Fun and Fit as a Family event at Jungle Island, hosted by the Food Network & Cooking Channel.*

*Our parents and children strolled through Jungle Island's interactive zoological park, watched chefs' presentations and learned kids' healthy-lifestyle tips. TML kids explored the food garden, free food, interactive fitness games and everything Parrot Jungle has to offer. Everyone enjoyed great family time, and who doesn't enjoy an opportunity to see your favorite famous chefs too like Guy Fieri, Rachael Ray and Robert Irvine! "*

- Angel and Jason Pittman, CBF field personnel in Miami, Fla.

#### Bite 38: Community Health Evangelism

*"Jesus ministered to people's spiritual and physical needs together, but a lot of Christian work in communities focuses only on one or the other. Is it possible to keep both the Great Command (Matt. 22:37, 39) and the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19-20) at the same time? Is it possible for Jesus' followers to work for the good of the whole person (not just their soul) and the whole community (not just the church)? We believe so, and we believe our Community Health Evangelism program, a method of working in communities to bring about spiritual, physical and social health as a way of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ, is one way to do that here in Slovakia."*

- Jon and Tanya Parks, CBF field personnel in Slovakia



## Announcements



#### Welcome to Our Church Family!

Jim and Susan Martin (parents of James and Theresa Martin) joined our congregation on Sunday, June 18, 2017 by transfer of letter.

Jeffery Smith (aunt of James and Theresa Martin) joined our congregation on Sunday, June 18, 2017 by transfer of letter.

#### Christian Sympathy

...is extended to the family of Dr. Bob Hudgins in his death on June 9, 2017.

...is extended to Jean Elledge in the death of her sister, Virgie Brown, on June 14, 2017.

...is extended to Genoa Taylor in the death of her sister, Norma Snow of Houstonville, NC.

#### 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.

