

Our students and their families cheered the Hickory Crawdads to victory on May 23, 2021.



Volume 78 Issue 12

June 6, 2021

From the Pastor...

I've made the statement a number of times that I don't want to just get back to normal. Instead, I want to use the lessons we learned during COVID to grow and be better. I want us to not lose the new and creative ways we learned to be God's Church. That's why our staff recently participated in a webinar entitled: "How to Be a Hybrid Church."

What's a Hybrid Church you might ask? It is a congregation that recognizes the importance of the digital world and uses technology to enhance its ministry impact. Or as Christen Kinard, the webinar leader, kept reminding us; "A hybrid church emphasizes "go to them tools" over a "come to us model".

When I heard Christen talk about being a "go to them" congregation, it reminded me of the Great Commission. Jesus never said, "see how many people you can get into you sanctuary." Jesus said, "Go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19a). The key word here is to "go" and technology now gives us the tools to go everywhere."

I'm glad that we were already live-streaming our worship services long before the pandemic hit. Being a hybrid church, however, involves much more than simple live-streaming our worship. It means recognizing that many folks will connect to us digitally and that they too are an important part of our congregation.

To become a hybrid church will require us to offer our ministries in multiple formats so many more people can join in. When missionaries go to new countries they must learn the language. For us to be a hybrid church, we must become comfortable in the digital world. Fortunately, there are many among us who already speak this new language.

It amazes me how many people already connect to us digitally. Some can no longer come to church, like our home-bound and nursing home residents. Some are away from us, like our college students or folks on vacation. Some are new to us, like folks checking us out online long before they step foot in our building. We even have folks worshipping with us from various states and countries around the world!

A few of the initiatives we are already working on include: expanding our live-stream to FaceBook (where folks can be more interactive), changing our church software to Realm (where you can have an actual FBC Statesville app), and exploring a "Zoom Room" (where we can have hybrid meetings/Bible studies that create the same experience in-person and online).

As we move beyond simply live-streaming our services, a new Online Team will help us reach out in new ways. We've asked Jason Allen to spearhead these efforts and he's looking for folks to join him – so contact Jason if you are interested. If you're not yet interested in the digital world, just pray for our efforts. We aren't taking anything away, but there is so much we can add.

Schedule

Sunday, June 6

7:00 a.m. Sunday School Lesson

Uploaded to YouTube

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary & Live Stream

Monday, June 7

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

7:00 p.m. Pickle Ball

Wednesday, June 9

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

Thursday, June 10

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Sunday, June 13

7:00 a.m. Sunday School Lesson

Uploaded to YouTube

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary & Live Stream

Monday, June 14

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

7:00 p.m. Pickle Ball

Wednesday, June 16

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

Thursday, June 17

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Church Staff Directory

Dr. Nelson Granade.....Senior Minister
 Mr. James Martin.....Minister of Music & Worship
 Rev. Melissa Wilson.....Minister of Children & Youth
 Mrs. Elizabeth Kilby.....Minister of Young Families & Missions
 Mr. Eddie Wiseman.....Accompanist / Music Assistant

OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Mon - Thur, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Fri
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A Message from Minister of Young Families & Missions Elizabeth Kilby

Summer is here. As we think about the long days ahead, there is so much to be grateful for. There also opens up so many different mission opportunities. As you may have heard, our medical ministry is in need of supplies, Fifth Street Ministries is in need of men's t-shirts (Large+, shorts all colors and sizes 32 +). You can bring these to the church (make sure they are labeled Fifth Street) and I will take them over. With the summer schedules, volunteers are irregular and it is a great time to try new areas of serving. We have areas of service in our clothes closet, around the church, our homebound ministry, and Vacation Bible School in July. There are so many different opportunities outside our church as well. We are expecting to see God blow our minds with his splendor as we continue to serve and speak of His glorious name. For more information on these or any of our partners please email me, esb7432@gmail.com.

Many thoughts and prayers,
 Elizabeth



Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of May 23 & 30, 2021

	5/23	5/30
Live Stream Views.....	19.....	25
In-Person.....	137.....	131
Sunday School.....	98.....	72

Financial Statistics

	May	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	67,370.00	596,829.00
Budget Receipts	68,384.00	545,841.00
Goals Not Yet Met	1,014.00	50,988.00
Alms	315.00	3,755.00
Designated	13,443.00	93,667.00

Put Wings to Your Prayers

“Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.” (Eph. 4:30) Usually when we read this verse we think of doing something bad, but consider this: when we continue to harbor remorse and allow ourselves to feel guilty over a sin that God has already forgiven—isn't that grieving the Holy Spirit?

If this describes you, won't you accept God's forgiveness this very moment and refresh your relationship with Him? Let go of your guilt and your prayer life will sprout wings!

His servant and your friend,
Ginny Stikeleather

Hickory Crawdads Baseball Game

On Sunday, May 23, 2021, our students and some of their families attended the Hickory Crawdads game. It was a wonderful afternoon to cheer the Crawdads to victory!





Announcements

CBF Mission Bite

Mission Bite 214: A Mobile Prayer Request

Living in one of the largest, most traffic-jam prone cities in Asia has its challenges. But I've come to see my 2-3 hour, twice-weekly commute to tutor professors at a technical institute as a spiritually refreshing time. I love playing worship songs, full blast. I'm often moved to pray for different people—and when the traffic is at a complete standstill, can send them a quick text message or email. Seeing the tin shacks under the underpass, where those in extreme poverty cling to a precarious existence, prompts me to prayer; I keep a stash of tracts, along with small change and sometimes snacks, to give to those who come to my car to beg or offer to clean my windshield. I've cried in the car, shedding tears for the loss of my mother earlier this year while thanking God for the incredible blessings she was to me and so many others. Amazingly, I look forward to traffic jams in my mobile prayer closet.

- Suzie, field personnel serving in Thailand

Mission Bite: 215: Living Well

"I come to the group for support and to support others, and to listen to their stories and be better about telling mine."

We are in the middle of our first ever virtual Living Well group, and this is already one of the most powerful groups I've witnessed. Living Well is a trauma-informed life skills empowerment program for survivors of domestic violence and homelessness in NYC. We're all about providing safe, communal space to heal. So it's hard to not be in the same physical space together. But because we are online, everyone is much more easily able to show up. And we've been blessed to share intimate space with moms who are feeding their children, pumping, and rocking their babies to sleep, all while listening and speaking words of encouragement to their peers. It's going to be a very good year together.

-Lesley-Ann Hix Tommey, CBF Field personnel in New York City, NY

Medical Equipment Ministry Needs Your Help!

Our Medical Equipment Ministry has been very busy this past week. We have assisted six people in need and distributed nine items. The requests for assistance have been growing. If you have or know someone with a wheelchair, bath transfer chair, knee walker, rollator walker or a toilet chair we would love to add them to our inventory. Please contact Bob Dellinger at 704-450-9143

Memorial Service for Louise Hunter Saturday, June 12, 2021 10:00 a.m.

All are invited to attend a memorial service for Louise Hunter on Saturday, June 12 at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Graduation Sunday June 6, 2021

This Sunday we will honor our high school graduates in the worship service. Our graduates include:

Katie Allen
South Iredell High School

David Falter
Statesville High School

Jenna Martin
Statesville Christian School

Jacob Palmer
Alexander Early College

Meg Tillery
West Iredell High School

Walt Tillery
West Iredell High School

Bentley Whitson
Agriculture & Science Early College

