

THE INTERIM



Volume 71 Issue 1

January 5, 2014

Look To The Lord in 2014

■ Rich Kraft *Intentional Interim Pastor*

Happy New Year! There is a story told in the book, *Springs in the Valley*, that talks about the need for rhythm and rest in our lives. The author shares an experience of a traveler deep in the jungles of Africa, who was making a long journey. The westerner hired natives from a local tribe to carry her loads of stuff. As we know that people from the West take a lot of “stuff” with them. The first day they traveled fast and went a long distance. The traveler had hopes of a quick trip to her destination. The second morning, the native tribesmen refused to move even one foot. For some strange reason they just sat and didn’t move at all. When asked “why” they wouldn’t travel, they informed the traveler that they had gone too fast the first day. They were now waiting for their souls to catch up with their bodies. THE POINT: If we move too fast, it does effect our souls!

While we might not agree with the thinking of those natives, uneducated in our ways and so different from us, they sensed the need for

something to restore balance to their lives. That’s a good goal and objective, isn’t it? Lives lived too quickly, or even too slowly, are lives that are often lived out of control!

Actually, when we stop to think about it, we get a grip on sanity by getting a grip on the time we have! And, in order for us to get a grip on time, we must stop to get God’s view of, design for, and purpose for it! THIS IS OUR FATHER’S WORLD AFTER ALL!

Everyone at First Baptist Church has the opportunity this year to, as the prophet Jeremiah writes in Jeremiah 6:16 (NIV), “This is what the Lord says: ‘Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.’” Let’s make 2014 a year of looking to the Lord together so that we can get a grip on more than our time, but get a grip on our souls!

What Is Your Answer?

Yes () No () Are you a member of First Baptist Church of Statesville? If your answer to the first question is “Yes” please continue.

Yes () No () Can I honestly say that I have carried my share of the responsibilities of my church during the last year?

Yes () No () Do I want the joys and privileges of church membership without the responsibilities?

Yes () No () Have I been guilty of talking about “what they are doing” when referring to activities of the church?

Yes () No () Have I been critical of the lack of leadership in some positions but have not been willing to take a place of leadership myself?

Yes () No () Am I concerned about what I am going to do in my church during the coming year?

Yes () No () Have I prayed that the Lord will lead me into the place of service which He wants me to have?

Yes () No () Do I love my church enough that I want to carry my part of the work load?

Yes () No () Do I love my Lord enough that I will serve Him through His church?

Are you satisfied with your answers? If not, there is something you can do about it.

1. Determine right now that you are going to be the kind of church member who does his part.

2. Pray that the Lord will lead you into a place of service.

3. Talk to any one of the following persons concerning the church’s program of work for the year ahead: Pastor, Youth Director, Training Union Director, W.M.U. President, Brotherhood President, or Sunday School Superintendent.

Schedule

Sunday, January 5

7:30 a.m.	Prayer Time - Son Seekers 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
11:00 a.m.	Soup Lunch Fundraiser - FLC
6:30 p.m.	Dialog & Discovery - FLC

Monday, January 6

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

Tuesday, January 7

7:00 p.m.	Men's Basketball - Gym
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Wednesday, January 8

5:00 p.m.	Open Gym
5:00 p.m.	Family Night Supper (Baked Ham, Glazed Carrots, Red Potatoes, Rolls, Dessert)
5:45 p.m.	Children's Activities
5:45 p.m.	Bible Study - FLC
7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, January 9

8:30 p.m.	Senior Basketball - Gym
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Friday, January 10

12:00 p.m.	Line Dancers - Gym
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Sunday, January 12

7:30 a.m.	Prayer Time-SonSeekers Classroom
8:30 a.m.	Early Worship - FLC
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School for All Ages
10:55 a.m.	Worship in the Sanctuary
12:00 p.m.	Belize Mission Trip Interest Meeting - Venture Cafe

Monday, January 13

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

Tuesday, January 14

7:00 p.m.	Men's Basketball - Gym
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Wednesday, January 15

5:00 p.m.	Open Gym For Students
5:00 p.m.	Family Night Supper (Baked Chicken Breast, Hash Brown Casserole, Asparagus, Rolls, Dessert)
5:45 p.m.	Children's Activities
5:45 p.m.	Bible Study - FLC
7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir Practice


Thursday, January 16

11:00 a.m.	Senior Adult Luncheon - FLC
8:30 p.m.	Senior Basketball - Gym

Friday, January 17

12:00 p.m.	Line Dancers - Gym
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Inclement Weather Policy

 Our church follows the Iredell-Statesville Schools policy for closings due to inclement weather. If the schools are closed, the church office is closed and all church activities for that day are canceled. You may check the church closing status by calling the church office and checking the recording (704-873-7231), checking our website (www.statesvillefbc.org), and checking the following TV stations (WBTV, Charlotte; WSOC-TV, Charlotte; WCNC-TV, Charlotte).

Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of December 22 & 29, 2013

	12/22	12/29
Church in Bible Study	171	76
Church in Worship	279	181
8:30 a.m. service	.66	
10:55 a.m. service	.213	181
Christmas Cantata (12/15)		245
Christmas Eve Service (12/24)		246

Financial Statistics

Weeks of December 22 & 29

	12/22	12/29
Budget - Received	\$26,159.91	\$39,699.39
Alms	280.00	0.00
Designated - Received	3,891.00	2,634.00
Building Reserve - Received	80.00	25.00
TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 12/22/13		30,410.91
TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 12/29/13		42,328.39
Budget Received-Year to Date		\$297,562.29
Designated Funds Received-Year to Date		46,653.99
Alms Received-Year to Date		2,046.61
Building Reserve-Year to Date		843.00
Total Giving-Year to Date		347,157.87

*"He has made everything beautiful in its time.
He has also set eternity in the hearts of men;
yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end."
Ecclesiastes 3:11*

HAPPY ★ NEW ★ YEAR

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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Children's Ministry

Look Up Lodge Fundraiser

Please sign up to bring a crockpot of soup to the fundraiser on January 5th! This helps reduce the cost of Look Up Lodge for the kids!

M&M's

If you have not been a part of Missions and Music on Wednesday nights it is not too late! Join us on January 8 at 5:45 p.m.

Sunday School - Judges 13-16

This Sunday's Bible story is about Samson. Once again, the Israelites had turned away from worshiping God, so God gave them over to the Philistines. The beginning of Judges 13 states that not all Israelites worshiped false gods. Manoah and his wife worshiped the LORD.

The Angel of the LORD came to Manoah and his wife to tell them that the barren couple would have an impressive leader. Samson had terrible taste in women, and he took his special calling for granted. Though Samson disobeyed God, God used Samson to accomplish His purpose of delivering the Israelites from the Philistines. Jesus came as the last Deliverer, saving those who would trust in him.

-Melissa Wilson, *Minister of Children & Families*

Belize Mission Trip Interest Meeting

**Sunday, January 12, 2014
12:00 p.m.
Venture Cafe**

If you are interested in going to Belize this summer, please attend this meeting. Lunch will be provided. Send you RSVP to Landon.



Soup Fundraiser

The children of FBC would like to invite our entire church family to eat chili.

**Sunday, January 5, 2014
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
FLC**

This is a camp fundraiser. Please help support our children by coming to eat lunch and making a donation.



**Look Up
Lodge**

Student Ministry

Belize Interest Meeting

Sunday, January 12, 2014, 12:00 p.m., Venture Cafe

Lunch will be provided so please RSVP to Landon. Basically, this meeting is for ANYONE who might be interested in going to Belize this summer.

V Groups

High school & middle school V groups begin the week of January 12th. Check the calendar.

My Best,
Landon Senn, Minister of Students



Venture Students headed to CRU conference in Greensboro, NC.



815 Davie Avenue
Statesville, NC 28677

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

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Announcements

A Thank You Note To Santa Claus of First Baptist Church

The church received a thank you card from the children of a White Christmas family. The card addressed to Santa Claus reads:

*Dear Santa,
Thank you for my gifts. Thank you for the bike and the candy.
Marissa & Delmar*

Soup Lunch Fundraiser For Look Up Lodge

Sunday, January 5, 2014, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., FLC

The children of First Baptist will be hosting a soup lunch to raise funds for their trip to Look Up Lodge. The lunch will be in the Family Life Center 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Belize Mission Trip Interest Meeting

Sunday, January 12, 2014, 12:00 p.m., Venture Cafe

Anyone interested in the Belize Mission Trip is encouraged to attend the meeting Sunday, January 12. The meeting will be held upstairs in the Venture Cafe. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Landon Senn.

Revival God's Way

A Mid-Carolina Prayer Conference

Beulah Baptist Church

January 17, 2014, 7:00 p.m. & January 18, 2014, 9:00 a.m.

Worship will be led by Chris Pollard, Worship Pastor of Parkwood Baptist Church in Gastonia, NC. Messages will be given by Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church of Jonesboro, GA Mel Blackaby, Founder of International Awakening Ministries Richard Owen Roberts; and Director of the Office of Prayer of BSCNC J. Chris Schofield. The conference is free and you may register at the door.

HELP WANTED

Volunteers are needed to work at the church receptionist desk for four-hour shifts. The hours are 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Various shifts are available. Volunteers are also needed to work on an as needed basis to fill in when others are unable to work.

The duties include: answering the phone and door, transferring calls to the proper extension, taking messages, folding and stuffing printed material, calling team members to remind them of meetings and other projects as requested by the ministerial and support staff. Previous office experience is helpful but not necessary. Computer skills are NOT required.

Contact Hilda Lee at 704-876-0590 if you have questions or would like to volunteer.

Children's Ministry Volunteers Sunday, January 5

8:30 Nursery Jeanie Murdock

10:55 Nursery Monica Edwards

Acolytes: Hannah Van Buren, Georgiana Simon, Kendyl King

Sunday, January 12

8:30 Nursery Karen Cline

10:55 Nursery Kim Elliott

Acolytes: Rachel Estes, Sarah Estes, Skyia Shook

Worship Greeters Sunday, January 5

Chris Simon Bruce Steadman Suzanne Hayes

Mark Wilkerson BJ King Linda Tinsley

Chuck Heckel Richard King Jeff Templeton

Kathy Steadman Henry Hayes Jason Allen

David Lewis

Sunday, January 12

Joey Wright Nancy Garland Pat Rushton

Eddy Sipe Brian Martin Shannon Ashley

John Garland Brenda Martin

DIALOG & DISCOVERY

Sunday, January 5, 2014
6:30 p.m., FLC

Please join us for a time of corporate prayer and a presentation of the developing plans that focus on the key issues facing our church.