

Preschool Teacher Pam Chase hangs decorations in her classroom. Preschool resumes September 5, 2017.



THE INTERIM

Volume 74 Issue 18

September 3, 2017

From the Pastor...



I loved the energy and ideas that came up during our Family Life Center Town Hall Meetings. Thank you to everyone who participated and those of you who couldn't attend, but shared your ideas. I can't wait to get back into the FLC and begin to implement these creative ministries.

As you recall, our use of the FLC has changed over time. The purpose of the FLC has been, and continues to be, outreach. Like our other facilities, it is a tool to help us reach our mission of "knowing and loving Jesus Christ and making Him known."

As the FLC team processed all of the ideas, we discovered that they fell into four general categories – health, fellowship, education, and missions. It is our goal to launch at least one ministry in each area. To do so, we will form teams of members who have an interest in a specific area and equip them to succeed in developing an ongoing ministry.

Health involves recreational opportunities for various age groups. Activities might include: pickle ball, dancing, walking and other recreational events. Fellowship involves Christian based entertainment that brings us closer together. Events might include: concerts, dinner theaters, movie nights and other experiences that draw us together.

Education involves special times to strengthen our walk with Christ. These might include: growth emphases for men, women, families, and other groups. Mission involves using our FLC as a launching pad for missional endeavors. Missions might include existing ministries like White Christmas or new ministries, like hosting mission teams.

No one idea is set, but there are plenty of opportunities on which to build. Right now we are recruiting leadership for each area. Once our leaders are in place, they will build their teams from interested people. Hopefully, by the time we get back into the FLC, we will have some specific events ready to go.

One thing that was re-affirmed in our town hall meetings is that the Family Life Center is a wonderful asset to our church's mission. We look forward to the days ahead when we will make even better use of this facility. We are grateful for those who had a vision for the FLC and will do all we can to faithfully use it in our time.

Health

Fellowship

Education

Missions

Wednesday Evening Activities Resume This Week!

Join us on Wednesday evenings for fellowship and Bible study! We begin at 5:00 p.m. with the Family Night Meal. Activities for children and students begin at 5:45 p.m. and Bible study for adults begins at 6:00 p.m. We'll see you there!

Schedule

Sunday, September 3

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
 5:00 p.m. Venture Students

Monday, September 4

Happy Labor Day

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, September 5

10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

Wednesday, September 6

5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal
 5:45 p.m. Activities for Children & Students
 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

Thursday, September 7

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Sunday, September 10

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
 5:00 p.m. Venture Students

Monday, September 11

9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

Tuesday, September 12

10:15 a.m. Sewing Group
 6:00 p.m. Precept Study - Adams Hall

Wednesday, September 13

9:30 a.m. Precept Study - Adams Hall
 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal
 5:45 p.m. Activities for Children & Students
 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study & Budget Discussion

Thursday, September 14

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 August 20 & 27, 2017

	8/20	8/27
Church in Bible Study	133	151
Church in Worship.	178	228

Financial Statistics

	August	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	80,485.00	804,849.00
Budget Receipts	105,004.00	758,563.00
Needed to Meet Goal	(24,519.00)	46,286.00
Alms	703.00	9,510.00
Designated	703.00	59,929.00

Note: We surpassed our Giving Goal for the month of August.

2017-2018

Budget Adoption Schedule

Thursday, September 7, 2017

Budget Mailed to Congregation

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

6:00 p.m. ~ Adams Hall

Budget Presented & Discussed

Sunday, September 17, 2017

11:00 a.m. ~ Adams Hall

Business Management Team Available for Questions
 in Adams Hall

Sunday, September 24, 2017

10:00 a.m.

Budget Adopted During Worship Service

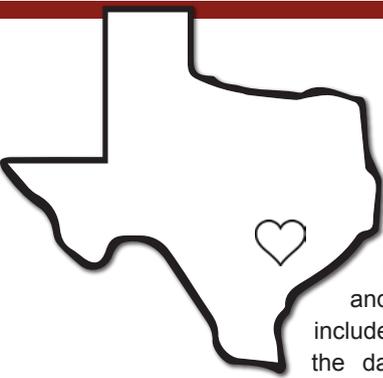
Christmas Choir Begins September 20, 2017

First Baptist Church's Christmas Choir will begin on Wednesday, September 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the choir room. The choir is open to anyone wishing to participate in this year's Christmas program. We will be rehearsing every Wednesday starting at 7:00 p.m.

This year's Christmas presentation is entitled "A Night of Rejoicing: A Cantata for Christmas". Through music, narration and scripture, this cantata follows the journey from Old-Testament prophets foretelling the coming of the promised Messiah, to the angel telling Mary the astonishing news, to that star-filled night in Bethlehem with angels and shepherds proclaiming the joyous news of Christ's birth.

Please contact James Martin, Minister of Music and Worship, if you are interested in participating in this year's Christmas Choir. You can reach James by e-mail (jmartin@statesvillefbc.org) or by calling the church (704-873-7231).





Hurricane Harvey Relief

Many of our members are interested in helping those who have suffered severely from Hurricane Harvey. As a congregation, we want to help those in need. Therefore, we will donate our entire Alms Offering this Sunday, September 3, 2017 to North Carolina Baptist Men's Disaster Relief Fund. This will help Baptists throughout

North Carolina who are traveling to the affected areas to provide both immediate and ongoing relief. Their initial efforts will include providing food, clean water, and shelter. In the days following our funds will help rebuild homes, churches, and entire communities. If you would like to donate, please do so at the end of the service through the Alms Offering or mail your check to the church office. Please mark any checks Hurricane Relief. Thank you for giving generously to this effort.



Peace in the Midst of the Storm

Thank you, Lord, that in the midst of the storm, You give peace;
In the midst of pain, You give joy;
In the midst of loneliness, You take us in Your arms;
In the midst of loss, You give Yourself;
For every tear, You give a smile;
In the midst of all, You surround us with Your unfailing love.

Please pray this week for all those in Texas and Louisiana who are experiencing all these things and more in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey. Especially pray for those who don't know the love of Jesus, that they will experience Him through the ministry of others.

His servant and your friend,
Ginny Stikeleather

PS: These things are also good to remember and pray for ourselves and our loved ones who are going through difficulty. Perhaps we can be "Jesus" to someone this week, right where we are.

Fall Sermon Series

Knowing Jesus: The I Am Statements in John

September 10, 2017

I Am He

John 4:1-26

September 17, 2017

I Am the Light

John 8:12-30

September 24, 2017

I Am the Way

John 14:1-14

October 1, 2017

World Communion Sunday

I Am the Bread of Life

John 6:25-51

October 8, 2017

I Am the Gate

John 10:1-10

October 15, 2017

I Am the Good Shepherd

John 10:11-21

October 22, 2017

I Am the Vine

John 15:1-8

October 29, 2017

I Am the Resurrection and the Life

John 11:1-27

November 5, 2017

All Saints Day

I Am the Alpha and Omega

Revelation 1:1-8





Messages by: Nelson Granade

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CBF Mission Bites

Bite 47: Showing love through a peanut butter cup

"Philip is an expert at carrying a Reese's peanut butter cup safely through a full day to give to our daughter, but he isn't our only neighbor that practices such love for her. My daughter and neighbors are slowly teaching me how to follow Jesus in his greatest commandment: to love God with all that I am, and to love my neighbor as myself. I've learned how these seemingly two commandments really are one, beautiful commandment. When we love others, we love their father. God's children fill our world and every day we have the unique opportunity to love them not because of what they have done or may do, but because they are God's children."

Joshua Hearne, CBF field personnel in Danville, Va.

Bite 48: Seeing it for the first time

"An amazing thing happened. One of our newest students, Ben, from the mainland of China, had only attended our Tues./Thurs. English conversation classes a few times. In July he joined the Wednesday Bible Reading class for the first time. As soon as he walked in the classroom, he went straight to the table where the Bibles were laid out ready for class. Picking up one of the Bibles and excitedly thumbing through it he said under his breath, 'My first time to see a Bible.' I asked, 'Ben, did you say it's your first time to see a Bible?' He confirmed: 'Yes!' That moment was so special to witness. He fully participated in our class, and afterward, I gave him a Chinese-English New Testament and encouraged him to start reading it so we could talk more about it. This experience has challenged us to read the Bible with enthusiasm as if it were the first time seeing God's written word."

- Sarah Ballew, CBF field personnel in Macau, China



Announcements

Precept Study on Daniel

Begins Tuesday, September 12 ~ 6:00-8:00 p.m. &

Wednesday, September 13 ~ 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Threatened with death, Daniel stuck to his guns and refused to adopt a pagan lifestyle. His worldview had God at the center and he lived it out even under extreme pressure to change. Learn to adopt a biblical worldview and adhere to it even when it's not the norm.

In Daniel, part 1, we will study Daniel himself. In part 2, we will study Daniel's prayer and prophecy. What an exciting study! You can sign up now at the Welcome Center or call the church office for details. All are welcome - men, women, students - so sign up as early as possible so we can order the correct number of books. Current plans are to begin after Labor Day.

Wednesday Evening Menus

September 6

*hot dogs with all the trimmings, fried potato wedges
& peanut butter cookies
Children's Menu: same*

September 13

*ham, mac & cheese, steamed broccoli, rolls
& brownies
Children's Menu: same*

Deacon Ministry Team Nominations Accepted Through September 3

This Sunday, September 3, will be the last day to submit nominations for our Deacon Ministry Team. You may submit your nominations by calling or e-mailing the church office or you may place the names in the offering plate during the Sunday morning service. Our current members of the Deacon Ministry Team are Crystal Beale, Ralph Bentley, Tim Burgiss, Don Daniel, David Deal, Luther Hunter, Mike McLain, Jane Mitchell, & Jeff Templeton. (Ralph Bentley, David Deal, and Mike McLain will complete their terms at the end of 2017.)



For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven...

Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NRSV)