

Justin & Lauren show off an outfit that baby Violet received at the shower on Sunday, January 14. Violet is due to arrive in mid February.



THE INTERIM



Volume 75 Issue 2

January 21, 2018

From the Pastor..



Whose job is it? That is a question we often hear when something falls through crack. When we ask that question, we might be trying to solve a problem. Many times, however, we're looking for someone to blame. Unfortunately, that blame can come back on us.

A couple of weeks ago I was upset because our deacon retreat was coming up and no one had booked the retreat center. I asked Mary Jane if she had talked to the center, but she replied, "No. I didn't know you wanted me to do that." Likewise I went to each staff member trying to find out who dropped the ball.

After questioning each and every minister and administrative assistant, I finally remembered that I was the one who had agreed to book the retreat center! I had spent a lot frustration at the perceived failings of others, when I was the one who had failed. "Whose job is it" came back on me!

Years ago I read a little book entitled, "Every Christians Job." It was written in 1951, but its message still rings true today. In fact, it's been reprinted at least six times. The central theme of the book is that evangelism (sharing our faith) is the job of every Christian.

I remember early in my ministry asking some church leaders to pray one Wednesday night. After the prayer time, one of my senior adult ladies approached me. I hoped she was going to say something positive about the Bible study. Instead she said, "Why don't you just pray! Isn't that why we hired you?"

You might imagine how that comment hit me. Fortunately God's grace was upon me and I didn't overreact. I simply said, "Why yes it is my job, but it's your job too." That led to a good conversation about discipleship and the great commission. As time went on, she became one of my favorite people.

Pastors, deacons, other church leaders are to guide the church, but we cannot do the work of Christ by ourselves. In fact, scripture is clear that it is the role of the pastor to equip the saints (church members) to do the work of the church (Ephesians 4:11-13). Our main job is to help you be able to minister effectively.

When you think about this, it makes a lot of sense. If only one or two folks have the job of sharing the faith, then only a few folks will come to Jesus. If we all have the job of sharing with those around us, then our impact grows exponentially.

You might say, "Well pastor, isn't it true that if everyone is in charge, no one is in charge?" I'd have to say, "Yes, but you're looking at it wrong." Everyone isn't accountable to reach everyone, but we are all accountable to share our witness with those we know. How can someone else share with them if we don't even know them?

Perhaps you have family members, friends or others for whom you care that don't know Jesus. Or maybe they are Christians, but they are not growing in their faith. It's tempting to ask, "Whose job is it to reach them?" Or, "Whose dropping the ball?" Be careful, however, you might find out that you're the one responsible.

Nolan

Schedule

Sunday, January 21

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Venture Voices
- 5:00 p.m. Venture Students

Monday, January 22

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Pickleball - Gym

Tuesday, January 23

- 10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

Wednesday, January 24

- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal
- 5:45 p.m. Activities for Children & Students
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday January 25

- 9:30 a.m. Pickleball - Gym
- 11:00 a.m. Senior Adult Luncheon - Adams Hall
- 1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet
- 2:00 p.m. Grief Support Group

Sunday, January 28

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Venture Voices
- 5:00 p.m. Venture Students

Monday, January 29

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Pickleball - Gym

Tuesday, January 30

- 10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

Wednesday, January 31

- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal
- 5:45 p.m. Activities for Children & Students
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, February 1

- 9:30 a.m. Pickleball - Gym
- 2:00 p.m. Grief Support Group

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

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Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of January 7 & 14, 2018

	1/7	1/14
Church in Bible Study	132	132
Church in Worship.	225	209

Financial Statistics

	January	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	41,848.00	299,267.00
Budget Receipts	9,708.00	324,737.00
Needed to Meet Goal	32,140.00	25,470.00
Alms	583.00	2,735.00
Designated	1,362.00	40,044.00



Church Wide Night Out

Saturday, February 17, 2018

5:30 p.m.

Family Life Center

Join us for an evening of fun, food,
 entertainment, & fellowship.

Looking Forward to a New Year

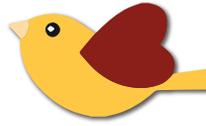
Thank You, Lord, that You have held me securely in Your arms and carried me safely through another year. Thank You for the scenes of my life that You bring to my mind. You have woven the good and the bad into a beautiful tapestry, but I hear You saying, "There remains very much land yet to be possessed." (Joshua 13:1) "Forgetting those things which are behind, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 3:13-14) I praise You, God, that You have set my feet on a rock; in You I am strong—I can scale any mountain that looms before me. You have sought me and found me. You have brought me out into a very broad place, and put me where I am for such a time as this. My times are in Your hands; You make everything beautiful in Your time.

This isn't just the end of a year—it's the beginning of a brand new life! Ask God to do through you great things for His glory!

His servant and your friend,
 Ginny Stikeleather

Unsung Heroes

Shannon & Sherry Ashley



Shannon and Sherry Ashley always offer a helping hand in many areas of our church's ministry. They serve as Sunday School teachers, they help at every church work day, and they assist with youth events. Shannon and Sherry even took the lead on the baby shower for Justin and Lauren.



Each issue of The Interim will feature a member that does great and often unrecognized things for FBC. If you would like to see someone recognized as an Unsung Hero, please e-mail Kayley Crouch at kayley@statesvillefbc.org or call 704-873-7231.

Family Life Center Rededication Celebration





Messages by: Nelson Granade

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CBF Mission Bites

Bite 66: The simplicity of Beloved Community

"Our college students come from many places, some from islands far away. Most are children of farmers and the first generation to attend university. The students' families and sometimes their communities have pooled their resources to send this student away for their education.

Most of these students and their families have little to no capacity to travel home or to visit in times of distress. Thus, our church and our ministry becomes their Beloved Community, a family for these students when their families are far away.

Beloved Community means spending the night in the hospital with a student. Beloved Community means opening your home and caring for a sick student. Beloved Community can simply mean buying a pair of crutches."

- Brooke and Mike, CBF field personnel in Southeast Asia

Bite 67: Just three cents

"Agodeka, Togo. Little Kwami attends Togo House kid's club every Saturday. He hears a Bible story, and then on a photo copy page costing three cents he, along with 19 others, colors this page. He takes it home and tells three people the story using his artwork. His mother likes it and hangs it on her selling table (fruits and veggies). She tells 22 people the story of that picture. With only three cents, 26 people hear a Bible story in their own language, told by fellow seekers of truth. Not a bad investment for the Kingdom, made possible by the CBF Offering for Global Missions. "

- Mike Hutchinson, CBF field personnel in Togo, West Africa



Announcements

A Note of Appreciation From Jesse Jackson

Thank you for all the cards and prayers during my recent surgery. You are truly a blessing.

Jesse Jackson

A Note of Appreciation From Ted & Betsy Evans

Friends,
Ted and I want to thank you for the love and prayers you have shown using during this very trying time. You were constantly lifting us up with cards, calls, visits, and most of all your prayers. We love you as our church family.

Ted & Betsy Evans

Pickleball

**Mondays & Thursdays
9:30 - 11:30 a.m. ~ Gym**

A group of members have begun to play Pickleball in the gym every Monday and Thursday morning. It is a great way to keep active in the cold winter months. If you would like to play, come learn the game every Monday and Thursday morning.

Senior Adult Luncheon

**Rescheduled for Thursday, January 25, 2018
11:00 a.m. ~ Adams Hall**

Due to the inclement weather, the Senior Adult Luncheon has been rescheduled for Thursday, January 25. Clay Lunsford and Matthew Weaver will provide the entertainment.

**Making Jesus Known
Sunday Sermon Series**

January 21, 2018
Be an Introducer
John 1:35-42

January 28, 2018
Be Biblical
Acts 8:26-40

February 4, 2018
Be Brave
(Even When You're Afraid)
Acts 9:10-24

February 11, 2018
Be Aware
Mark 9:2-9

**Making Christ
Known Naturally
Wednesday Night Series**

January 24, 2018
*Developing a Sharing
Strategy*

January 31, 2018
*Relationships: Positive Platforms
for the Gospel*

February 7, 2018
*Following the Holy Spirit's
Guidance*