



Despite the power outage, Clarence Poole and Hilda Lee serve hamburgers & hot dogs at the the Fall Kickoff on August 21.

THE INTERIM

Volume 76 Issue 18

September 1, 2019

From the Pastor...

I'm often called on to give a blessing before a meal. To be honest, I usually keep these short and sweet, because everyone is hungry. Most would rather dig in than listen to a pastor drone on – including me. I do, however, enjoy hearing others pray.

I remember a dinner blessing offered by a Methodist friend while on a pastor's retreat. She didn't just thank the Lord for the "hands that prepared the meal." She actually named all of the different types of people involved.

She began with the farm and thanked God for those who planted, those who tended, and those who harvested. She particularly mentioned the back breaking work of many who picked the vegetables for low wages.

She moved on to the processing plant. She thanked God for those who washed the produce and picked out the best for us. She expressed gratitude for those who packaged and bagged the items.

She then went on to talk about the store and all of its workers. She mentioned stockers, cashiers and custodians. And with each of these steps, she didn't forget those who transported items along the way or the inspectors who kept us safe.

When she finally got to the actual kitchen, she named prep cooks, line cooks, and dessert cooks. She expressed thanks for servers, hosts, table bussers, and dish washers. It was quite a prayer!

As I added these in my head, I realized that dozens of folks were involved in the plate that sat before me. I knew this in the back of my head, but I had never truly considered how many people work so that I and others can eat.

This Labor Day I'm aware that there are innumerable people who work to make our lives easier. Everything we have involves numerous hands that we rarely remember. It is truly our world's workers that keep our lives moving.

Church is much the same way. It takes lots of people to provide for our ministries. Our ministers are often the ones seen, but our support staff and lay people are behind the scenes supporting God's work. So this Labor Day, I want to thank all of you who carry on God's work!

Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the realm of the dead, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom.

Ecclesiastes 9:10

Schedule

Sunday, September 1

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
 11:00 a.m. Bell Tower Repair Informational Meeting - Adams Hall

Monday, September 2

Labor Day

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, September 3

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

Wednesday, September 4

9:30 a.m. Precept Bible Study - Adams Hall
 2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesdays After-School Program

5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal

6:00 p.m. Activities for Children & Students

6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, September 5

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Sunday, September 8

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

Called Church Conference

5:00 p.m. Venture Students

Monday, September 9

9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

Tuesday, September 10

10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

6:00 p.m. Precept Bible Study

Wednesday, September 11

9:30 a.m. Precept Bible Study - Adams Hall

2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesdays After-School Program

5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal

6:00 p.m. Activities for Children & Students

6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, September 12

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Financial Statistics

	August	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	80,840.00	808,400.00
Budget Receipts	51,363.00	734,956.00
Needed to Meet Goals	29,477.00	73,444.00
Alms	305.00	5,775.00
Designated	3,332.00	159,715.00

Church Staff Directory

Dr. Nelson Granade.....Senior Minister
 Mr. James Martin.....Minister of Music & Worship
 Ms. Melissa Wilson.....Minister of Children & Families
 Mr. Eddie Wiseman.....Accompanist / Music Assistant

OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Mon - Thur, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Fri
 Tel: 704-873-7231

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FLC Activities Schedule

Monday, September 2

Labor Day

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, September 3

7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

Wednesday, September 4

8:00 a.m. Pickleball

2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesdays After-School Program

5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal

6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

Thursday, September 5

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

7:00 p.m. Senior Men's Basketball

Friday, September 6

11:45 a.m. Linedancers

Monday, September 9

9:00 a.m. Pickleball

11:45 a.m. Linedancers

6:00 p.m. Pickleball

Tuesday, September 10

7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

Wednesday, September 11

8:00 a.m. Pickleball

Thursday, September 12

9:00 a.m. Pickleball

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

7:00 p.m. Senior Men's Basketball

Friday, September 14

11:45 a.m. Linedancers

**HAPPY
 LABOR
 DAY!**

Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of August 18 & 25, 2019

	8/18	8/25
Church in Bible Study	133	131
Church in Worship	199	185



Save the Date

Fall Festival

Sunday, October 6, 2019

4:00 - 6:00 p.m. - Church Lawn

Please save the date for our Fall Festival! We will celebrate the season with lots of games, candy, bounce houses, snacks, and facepainting!

Fall Kickoff - Wednesday, August 21, 2019

Despite the power outage due to a storm, we were able to enjoy a time of fellowship with a candlelight hamburger and hot dog dinner. We are now back to our regular Wednesday evening schedule. This fall, our adult Bible study topic is God's Purpose in Prayer. Join us each Wednesday for our Family Night Meal (5:00 p.m.) and the Bible study (6:00 p.m.).



Prayer Point

"Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance, but laying hold of His willingness." Martin Luther

"The chief danger of prayerlessness is pride. When prayer is not front and center, we can begin to feel that whatever is happening that is good in our congregation is the result of our hard work, or great ideas, or fantastic marketing. We so easily forget the words of Jesus in John 15:5, 'apart from me you can do nothing.' Failing to pray is failing to trust in the Lord and in His strength." David Butts, *Forgotten Power: A Simple Theology for a Praying Church*

Announcements

Are We Still Growing Young?

Sermon Series

September 8, 2019

Growing Young through Authentic Community

Luke 2:41-49

September 15, 2019

Growing Young through Shared Leadership

Exodus 18:13-26

September 22, 2019

Growing Young through Serious Faith

Luke 9:23-26

September 29, 2019

Growing Young through Caring for Others

Luke 10:25-37

God's Purpose in Prayer Adult Wednesday Night Study

- Forgiveness and Restoration
 - Direction and Confidence
 - Petition and Hope
 - Loyalty and Trust
 - Identity and Purpose
- Discernment and Wisdom
 - Vision and Deliverance
 - Faith and Possibility
- Dependence and Intervention
 - Memory and Mercy
 - Confession and Insight
 - Perspective and Justice
 - Presence and Security

Council on Aging Needs Volunteers

Volunteers are needed in the Statesville area to deliver meals to frail homebound elderly. Volunteers pick up a carrier of meals mid-morning. Following the route sheet, the volunteer delivers meals to no more than 14 seniors, and returns the carrier to the nutrition site. This takes about an hour to complete. Volunteers deliver meals once a week, every other week, or even just once a month, Monday - Friday.

Volunteer for them. For the homebound senior, the volunteer is the link with the world outside the front door.

Volunteer for yourself. Delivering meals is practical for busy lives. It's a minimum effort with a maximum impact. Volunteers report the experience is powerful and long lasting!

To volunteer, call the Council on Aging at 704-873-5171.



Announcements

CBF Misson Bites

Mission Bite 143: A Little More Neighborly

Did you ever in your wildest imagination think you would have someone from the Middle East over to your house for lunch? I asked my friend, Larry. Pastor Knowles is a tall senior gentleman, full of Christian joy, quick-witted and a master of dickering if ever there was. The Knowles' became American hosts to two young Arab students attending a local university. After lunch one day they gathered around a world map to share where their hometowns were and what countries they had traveled. Mary Kate, Larry's 'better half,' shared with me that for a few hours every time they get together with the students, the world feels a little more neighborly. I have to believe home feels a bit closer to the students too.

- Marc Wyatt, CBF field personnel serving in Research Triangle, N.C.

Mission Bite 144: Cross-Generational Learning & Community

Cross-generational learning is one of the things we strive for at Togo House. Once a month, Togo House hosts an adult training class, where someone from the community comes and shares a skill they have with those interested.

Pictured here, Abel, one of our middle-school leaders, is helping Debora learn how to tie the cloth to make a batik design. Togo House teaches middle- and high-schoolers how to develop a program and then assist in running it.

The adults love the attention they receive from our leadership team. More than learning a new skill, Togo House creates community and develops the leaders of tomorrow.

- Mike and Lynn Hutchinson, CBF field personnel serving in Togo, West Africa



A Note of Appreciation from Nelson & Valerie Granade

Valerie and I want to thank all of you who prayed for us, called, visited, texted and sent cards of encouragement while I was in the hospital. I continue to recover and covet your ongoing prayers. Thank you especially to Melissa and James for covering my duties while I was out. Valerie and I enjoyed worshipping with you over the live feed and thought Melissa brought a wonderful message.

With Gratitude,
Nelson & Valerie

Called Church Conference: Bell Tower Repair

Congregational approval is needed to move forward with the repair work as outlined in a letter mailed to the congregation. To better understand the process of repairs, there will be an informational meeting this Sunday, September 1 in Adams Hall immediately following the worship service. The congregation will vote to move forward with the repairs on Sunday, September 8.

Precept Study: Revelation - the sign of His coming Begins Tuesday, September 3 & Wednesday, September 4 Tuesdays: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. & Wednesdays: 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Now is the time to start making plans to attend our Fall Precept Bible Study: "Revelation - the sign of His coming". See Caroline Bentley or Ginny Stikeleather for questions. You may sign up at the Welcome Center.

Growing Young Survey

In order to help us better understand the culture of our church, we are inviting you to complete a brief online assessment. This survey is based on the work of the Fuller Youth Institute, specifically in the book Growing Young: 6 essential strategies to help young people discover and love your church. The survey will take 5-10 minutes to complete, and your responses will remain confidential as they are incorporated into a larger report. You may find the survey at www.oursurvey.church/FirstBaptistChurchStatesville-1.

Guardian Angels

In the August 18, 2019 issue of The Interim, we ran an incomplete list of our Homebound Volunteers. The complete list includes: Elizabeth Benfield, Caroline Bentley, Jerry Campbell, Phil & Jean Crowder, Kaye & Don Daniel, Lynn & Dennis Deal, Nancy Garland, Carol Heckel, Charles Guy, Mary Hunt, Peggy Koepnick, Hilda Lee, George McLeod, Linda Patterson, Ginny Stikeleather, Nedra Van Zee, Ken & Brenda Wilson, Jan Wuertz, and Susan Wood,

