



THE INTERIM

Ginny Stikeleather, Nina Guy, & Caroline Bentley meet for prayer in the Lydia Prayer Room.

Volume 75 Issue 15

July 22, 2018

From the Pastor...



James 5:16 states, "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." Prayer is vital to both our spiritual health and the wellbeing of our church. It is in prayer that we open ourselves to God's Spirit. Prayer enables us to hear God's will for our lives and empowers us to do God's will.

It is because prayer is so vital that we have opened a prayer room at First Baptist Church. The prayer room will be a place of solitude that provides a comfort and a respite from our day to day lives. We invite you to come and quietly sit in God's presence, listen for God's direction and be empowered by God's Spirit.

The prayer room is being named the Lydia Prayer Room for two reasons. First, it will be housed in the former classroom of the Lydia Sunday School Class (across from the Welcome Center). It was the inspiration of the Lydia Class and this name will preserve their legacy as they have joined with the Esther Class. Second, Lydia is a biblical name of a woman of great prayer (Acts 16:13-15). So it will inspire us to follow her example.

The Lydia Prayer Room will be open during normal office hours, except for Wednesdays when we are allowing it to be used by CareNet Counseling Center. It will also be open anytime the church is open for activities – such as Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. If you come during office hours, please let one of our volunteers or a secretary know that you are in the prayer room.

In the prayer room you will find various resources as well as two journals. One journal is for you to record prayer requests for which you'd like others to also pray. The other journal is for thanksgivings and answered prayers. You may write in these journals anonymously or sign your name, but please don't share information about others unless you have their permission. Please also date your entries.

A special thank you goes out to our Prayer Team Captain, Ginny Stikeleather, for leading in this effort. Thank you also to Margaret Barnard for painting the room and helping pick out the furnishings. Thank you in advance to all who will use this room and lift up our congregation in prayer. If you would like to help with this effort, donations are being accepted to defray the cost of setting up the room.

Nolan



July 30 - August 3

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Register Today!



You may register at www.statesvillefbc.org or come by the office

Schedule

Sunday, July 22
 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
 11:00 a.m. Jubilee Luncheon - FLC
 4:00 p.m. Venture Voices
 5:00 p.m. Venture Students

Monday, July 23
 9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

Tuesday, July 24
 10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

Wednesday, July 25
 12:00 p.m. Lunch & Bible Study - Adams Hall
 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, July 26
 1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Sunday, July 29
 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, July 30
 9:00 a.m. Vacation Bible School

Tuesday, July 31
 9:00 a.m. Vacation Bible School

Wednesday, August 1
 9:00 a.m. Vacation Bible School
 12:00 p.m. Lunch & Bible Study - Adams Hall
 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, August 2
 9:00 a.m. Vacation Bible School

Friday, August 3
 9:00 a.m. Vacation Bible School

FLC Activities Schedule

Sunday, July 22
 11:00 a.m. Jubilee Luncheon

Monday, July 23
 9:30 a.m. Pickleball
 11:45 a.m. Line Dancers
 6:00 p.m. Shag Lessons

Tuesday, July 24
 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

Wednesday, July 25
 9:30 a.m. Pickleball
 7:15 p.m. Pickleball

Thursday, July 26
 9:30 a.m. Pickleball
 7:00 p.m. Senior Men's Basketball

Friday, July 27
 11:45 a.m. Line Dancers

Monday, July 30
 9:00 a.m. Vacation Bible School
 12:45 a.m. Line Dancers

Tuesday, July 31
 9:00 a.m. Vacation Bible School
 7:00 p.m. Senior Men's Basketball

Wednesday, August 1
 9:00 a.m. Vacation Bible School
 7:15 p.m. Pickleball

Thursday, August 2
 9:00 a.m. Vacation Bible School
 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

Friday, August 3
 9:00 a.m. Vacation Bible School
 12:45 p.m. Line Dancers

Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of July 8 & 15, 2018

	7/8	7/15
Church in Bible Study	126	131
Church in Worship.	182	172

Financial Statistics

	July	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	53,565.00	692,995.00
Budget Receipts	34,343.00	669,066.00
Needed to Meet Goal	19,222.00	23,929.00
Alms	575.00	8,586.00
Designated	2,461.00	90,055.00

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

Life in Christ: Lessons from Ephesians Summer Sermon Series

July 22, 2018 Living in Unity <i>Ephesians 4:1-16</i>	August 5, 2018 Living in Light <i>Ephesians 5:1-20</i>	August 19, 2018 Living in Service <i>Ephesians 6:5-9</i>
July 29, 2018 Living in Truth <i>Ephesians 4:17-32</i>	August 12, 2018 Living in Family <i>Ephesians 5:21-6:4</i>	August 26, 2018 Living in Strength <i>Ephesians 6:10-20</i>

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Pew Cushion & Handicap Seating Update

Last Sunday our deacons voted to recommend to the congregation the purchase of pew cushions and the rearrangement of our pews to create places for handicapped seating. At our Noon Bible Study, this Wednesday, July 25, both of these recommendations will be presented for congregational approval.

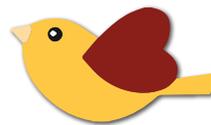
The recommended pew cushions will be similar in color and fabric to our existing cushions, but they will offer much more comfort. First, the button pattern is being changed so that there will be fewer buttons to sit on. Second, the padding will be two inches solid from front to back (unlike the tapered cushions we have now). And, third, the front edge of the cushion will smoothly roll over, instead of having welting under your leg.

Cost of the new pew cushions will be \$16,970 (about \$350 per pew). A fund has been established for those wanting to give to support this project. Please remember, as with all special projects, gifts should be above and beyond your regular tithes and offerings. Our ministry budget is always primary.

The recommended new pew arrangement will feature two wheelchair wells on the left hand side (looking toward the pulpit) near the front of the church (rows 4 and 5) as well as four more wheelchair wells, two on each side, at the back of the church (row 19). Cost will be nominal since we will use existing shorter pews to create these areas. These shorter pews will be centered, thereby creating wheelchair wells on either side. An added benefit to this arrangement will be that it creates safer egress at the back of the church for all of us. A drawing of this arrangement is available in the office.

Please thank the members of these two teams for their hard work. The Pew Cushion Team is made up of Dennis Lackey, Chair, Jerry Campbell, Don Daniel and Lillie Laws. The Accessibility Team is made up of William Barnard, Chair, Crystal Beale and Andrea Williams. Staff members, Nelson Granade, Larry Gregg and James Martin also helped facilitate this process.

Unsung Hero *Jerry Campbell*



Every year for Vacation Bible School, Jerry Campbell makes decorations that coordinate with our theme. Be sure to check out this year's Babylonian Garden! In recent years, Jerry has made sheep for Hometown Nazareth and camels from Egypt. He has even painted backdrops for the scenes. In addition to VBS decorations, he has helped with the Christmas decorations in the sanctuary. He also teaches the Esther Sunday School Class and is a former deacon of FBC.

Thanks for all you do to make FBC great!

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.

The sheep that Jerry made for our Hometown Nazareth VBS in 2015.



Let's Start a Revival!

Are you as disturbed as I am with the horrible rhetoric being tossed around in our country today? The words and actions of angry people are escalating to a very dangerous level! We, as God's people, must not stick our heads in the sand! Will you join me in praying God's word for this situation? "Let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works."

Oh, Lord, help me not to react to unkind words or deeds, but to respond with love and gentleness. The fruit of the Spirit is love...and gentleness. (Gal. 5:22, 23) Help me to consider others in order to stir up love and good works. (Heb. 10:24) Help me to remember that when I interact with others a book of remembrance is being written in Your presence. (Mal. 3:16) May I never put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in anyone's way, but always be willing to bear another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. (Rom. 14:13; Gal. 6:2)

I believe if all who love Jesus Christ and truly desire to walk in His steps would make this scriptural prayer a part of our daily living, we would see a revival sweep our nation. Let's start this revival at FBC Statesville!

His servant and your friend,
Ginny Stikeleather

P.S. Have you seen our new prayer room? It's across from the Welcome Center in the former Lydia classroom. Please use it anytime you wish, and if you would like to contribute in any way, it would be much appreciated.



CBF Mission Bites

Bite 90: Moderate in a world of extremes

"Several years ago we were invited to take part in an interreligious debate. Afterwards I talked with the Muslim Imam -- Hamza. Since then we have gotten to know him well. We ask each other hard questions and try to better understand each other's faith. Recently we talked about the violence practiced in the name of Islam. I was struck by his remark -- 'Understand that we also fear the extremists. Please tell your American friends that.'

Ignorance encourages fear and prejudice, so we must better understand Muslims and learn to live together in peace. Pray for the moderate voices of Islam in a world of extremes. Pray that the Lord will help us to see the world as God does and to love our neighbors and our enemies."

- David Brown, CBF field personnel in Paris, France

Bite 91: Bi-lingual Bibles in Texas

"A local partner congregation here in Texas recently invested over \$700 in bi-lingual Bibles written specifically for young children. After their recent book fair, we presented about 40 of the 90 Bibles to Kindergarten children. This particular Bible can be read by parents to their children, whether they speak primarily English or Spanish at home. There are also really wonderful pictures inside to help the children understand stories from the Bible. The rest of the Bibles will be used this summer during Vacation Bible School. What a great gift! I am always thankful for wonderful partners who help bring God's Word to the people of southern Texas!"

- Diann Berry, CBF field personnel, Rio Grande Valley, Texas

Bite 92: Seeing the Bible with fresh eyes

"In Cambodia, widows, orphans, immigrants and the poor still need protection. The spirit world is an everyday preoccupation, with temples in every neighborhood and frequent offerings to stone idols. Daily bread is not a given. These are major concerns of the Bible, but in the US, we usually gloss over these passages or spend a lot of time contextualizing them to make sense to us. In Cambodia, though, many of these passages apply directly to the lives of Cambodians with little explanation needed. By reading the Bible in Khmer alongside Cambodians, I see significant themes that are hard to notice in an American context. New words, interesting translation choices, different grammar, and having to read more slowly help me see things I've never noticed before. You may not be able to learn a new language just for reading the Bible, but I encourage you to think about how you can find ways to see the Bible with fresh eyes."

- David and Lauren Bass, CBF field personnel, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Announcements

Jubilee Sunday Sunday, July 22, 2018

Please save the date for Jubilee Sunday. We will honor our members who have been part of our congregation for 50 years or more and our members that are 90 or more years of age. A luncheon will follow the worship service. The menu includes fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, tossed salad, rolls, & cake.

Needs for VBS!

This year we need your help getting ready for VBS! Please save the cardboard tubes of your paper towel rolls. We will be using those in a craft during VBS!. We are also in need of artificial greenery to use as decorations. Please consider donating greenery that we may use to set the stage for Babylon.



Welcome to Our Church Family!

Donald & Vickie Hatfield joined our congregation at worship service on Sunday, July 15. Welcome to our congregation!

From the Church Library

Take time to visit your church library and check out some good books to read during these warm summer days. We have a wide selection for all age groups. It is important that children spend time reading during their summer vacation, and the church library is a great place to do that. We have entertaining books as well as educational books. You'll be pleasantly surprised at the great variety you'll find. Plan to visit soon!

Gardening/Canning Ministry

For the past several months, the students here at FBC have been trying to answer the question, what does being a good steward of the land God has given us really look like? While exploring this topic of creation care, I thought a good idea would be to see what others in our very own church have done and are still doing. Do you know the secrets of producing a good garden? Do you have a few rows of tomato plants in your backyard? Do you "can" green beans or your own pickles? Maybe you don't know how to do any of these things, but you want to learn! I'd like to gauge interest in seeing what a gardening/canning ministry might look like here at FBC. If this kind of talk excites you, please reach out either through email or by calling the church office and asking to speak with me.



Justin