



Members help set up the indoor yard sale that raised \$3,600 for the Ladies Thursday Ministry.

THE INTERIM

Volume 77 Issue 6

March 15, 2020

From the Pastor...

The COVID-19/Coronavirus is in the news and on our minds. As experts have said, we don't need to panic, but we do need to prepare. At First Baptist Church, your health and safety is paramount. Therefore we are instituting steps recommended by the CDC to help keep us all safe.

Here are few of the things we are doing:

- Frequently disinfecting doorknobs and other often touched surface areas
- Providing tissues and hand sanitizers
 - Hand sanitizer stations are on the walls throughout the building
 - Additional hand sanitizer is at entrances to Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall
 - Tissues are at the entrances to Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall
- Encouraging fist or elbow bumps instead of handshakes
- Encouraging members to stay home and watch via live stream if you are ill

Here are a few things you can do to help:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth
- Cover your cough or sneeze with tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
 - Do not reuse tissues or handkerchiefs
- If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow - NOT YOUR HAND
- Stay home and watch via live stream if you are not feeling well
- Visit [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for the most accurate and up to date information

For now we are not canceling any events or worship times, but we are monitoring the spread of the disease and will take appropriate actions if and when necessary. If we do have to cancel anything, we will let you know via Facebook, email, phone tree and TV. If you are not currently getting these, please make sure we have your correct contact information.

Having said all of this, I'd like to share with you some thoughts I consider just as important. During times of crisis, the church has a unique opportunity to be the caring presence of God. Much of Jesus' ministry involved healing the sick and he specifically encouraged his followers to help those who are ill (Matthew 25:36).

The church has been at its best when it looked beyond health crises to focus on the physical and spiritual health of those in need. From religious orders that care for the sick and dying to modern hospitals formed by various denominations; Christians have responded in faith to show Christ's compassion. Let's take every precaution to be safe, but let's also be the church.

Nolan

Schedule

Sunday, March 15

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

Monday, March 16

9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

Tuesday, March 17

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

Wednesday, March 18

9:30 a.m. Precept Study
 2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday After-School Program
 4:00 p.m. Children's Choir
 5:00 p.m. Time of Fellowship
 5:30 p.m. Family Night Meal
 6:15 p.m. Children's & Teen Missions; Preschool Choir
 6:15 p.m. Adult Bible Study
 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, March 19

11:00 a.m. Senior Adult Luncheon - FLC
 1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Sunday, March 22

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

Monday, March 23

9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

Tuesday, March 24

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

Wednesday, March 25

9:30 a.m. Precept Study
 2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday After-School Program
 4:00 p.m. Children's Choir
 5:00 p.m. Time of Fellowship
 5:30 p.m. Family Night Meal
 6:15 p.m. Children's & Teen Missions; Preschool Choir
 6:15 p.m. Adult Bible Study
 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, March 26

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

FLC Activities Schedule

Monday, March 16

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball
 11:45 a.m. Linedancers
 7:00 p.m. Pickle Ball

Tuesday, March 17

7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

Wednesday, March 18

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball
 2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday After-School Program
 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Time
 5:30 p.m. Family Night Meal
 6:15 p.m. Adult Bible Study

Thursday, March 19

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball
 11:00 a.m. Senior Adult Luncheon
 1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Friday, March 20

11:45 a.m. Linedancers

Monday, March 23

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball
 11:45 a.m. Linedancers
 7:00 p.m. Pickle Ball

Tuesday, March 24

7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

Wednesday, March 25

8:30 a.m. Pickleball
 2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday After-School Program
 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Time
 5:30 p.m. Family Night Meal
 6:15 p.m. Adult Bible Study

Thursday, March 26

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball
 1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet
 7:00 p.m. Senior Men's Basketball

Friday, March 27

11:45 a.m. Linedancers



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

THE INTERIM (USPS 581-800)

Published Every Two Weeks
 by First Baptist Church, 815 Davie Avenue,
 Periodicals postage paid at Statesville, NC 28677

POSTMASTER: send address changes to: THE INTERIM
 First Baptist Church, 815 Davie Ave., Statesville, NC 28677-5310

Financial Statistics

	March	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	70,293.00	477,113.00
Budget Receipts	30,325.00	404,274.00
Needed to Meet Goals	39,968.00	72,839.00
Alms	30.00	3,777.00
Designated	4,731.00	37,440.00
Eddie Steele Memorial Fund	1,672	1,672

Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of March 1 & 8, 2020

	3/1	3/8
Church in Bible Study	89	64
Church in Worship	212	183

Indoor Yard Sale Raises \$3,600 for Ladies Thursday Ministry

We want to say THANK YOU to all who participated in any way shape or form with the Indoor Yard Sale. THANK YOU to those who donated items because you made it possible to have the sale. THANK YOU to the young men who worked getting items picked up and delivered to the church. THANK YOU to Margaret and William Barnard for help in pricing the items to be sold. THANK YOU to Don and Jack for helping when items were brought to the church, THANK YOU to everyone (youth, children and adults) that helped last Wednesday night set up tables in the gym and move the furniture, boxes and miscellaneous items into the gym. THANK YOU to those who spent endless hours working to set up items for the yard sale. We also THANK YOU for your prayers for the Ladies' Thursday Ministry and request that you continue to pray for this ministry as we go forward.

Gratefully,

The Ladies Thursday Steering Committee

Sara Brandon, Kaye Daniel, Mary Hunt, Carol Hunter, Peggy Koepnick, Vicki Marsh, Wilma McNeil, Eleanor Price, Beth Webb



How to Pray During Difficult Times

- 1. Pray that God will be honored and glorified, whatever your circumstance, even if you have to suffer or go through a difficult time:** "...and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me" (Psalm 50:15). "In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that your faith – of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire – may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed" (1 Peter 1:6-7).
- 2. Love and pray for people who cause harm or suffering to you, or to others:** "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you'" (Matthew 5:43-44).
- 3. Pray for God to show you what He needs you to learn in the midst of difficult times:** "He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way" (Psalm 25:9).
- 4. Give thanks to God in the midst of whatever you are walking through:** "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). **Important note:** He does not say to give thanks *for* your circumstances, but to give thanks *in the midst* of them! (Ginny's note: Eph. 5:20 says "give thanks for everything".)
- 5. Pray that God will help you to be faithful instead of fearful when trials come:** "Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him" (James 1:12).
- 6. Pray that God will help you to be a light in the darkness to those who don't yet know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior:** "In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). When people see the way you walk through difficulty, they will want to know where you draw your strength from!
- 7. Give thanks to God because He has overcome the trials and troubles of the world:** "These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33).

(Compiled by Kim Butts)



CBF Mission Bites

Mission Bite 168: God Will Give the Increase

God gives the increase. We clearly saw this in Barcelona. Barcelona is the capital of the region in Spain where Catalan is spoken, and Keith had been asked to record the entire New Testament in that language. He made appropriate contacts. Then he went there to arrange. A few weeks later, as requested, he and I flew to Barcelona to begin, but we could not do any recording. Perhaps due to all the political unrest, the people there had not found anyone to record. We explained again what was necessary. We prayed together. But finally, there was just nothing else to do but go home.

We had planted, perhaps another recording team will water. God will give the increase.

Pray that Catalan-speaking Christians will use all available opportunities to spread the Gospel among Catalonians.

-Keith Holmes and Mary Van Rheenen, resource coordinators, Europe Tea.

Mission Bite 169: God's Love

This is S. He is about three years old and was my buddy this summer.



While you cannot see his face, he is one of the cutest children you will ever meet, but he requires a buddy to watch him all the time. When I would tell people they need to watch him or he'll start to get into the crafts or something like that, they usually thought it was cute or no big deal. But, next thing you know, he's got rocks and is throwing them at people. So yes, S. needed one-on-one care.

Throughout my summer, it was more or less a battle to see if I could keep S. entertained long enough so he didn't hurt himself or hurt others. And what got me every time is how happy he was to see me and how sad he looked when I left.

I believe that S. will grow out of his toddler phase, and my prayer for him is that he understands that he is loved. He is loved by his community and he is loved by God.

Interacting with S. has given me more insight on God. While I do love S., there are days when it was hard to love S. The idea that God loves each of us just as much on our worst days and on our best days will never cease to astound me. Not only does God love us through our high and lows, but God loves every person as much as the next.

-Naomi Black, 2019 Student.Go intern at Welcome House, Raleigh, N.C.

Announcements

Welcome to our Church Family

Carrie Utt joined our congregation at the 10:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, March 8, 2020. She is pictured with her fiance Richard Sykes. Welcome to our church family!



Bill and Lisa Adcox and their granddaughters Ashlyn Falcon and Jocelyn Hembree joined our congregation at the 10:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, March 1, 2020. Jocelyn is scheduled to be baptized soon.



A Note of Appreciation From Mary Jane & Nathan Rash

I want to thank you all for your wonderful cards, calls, and flowers in the recent loss of my mom on February 22nd. All of the food was absolutely delicious and I know it was prepared with love. It means so much and has helped so much in trying to get through this sad time.

Thank you again,
Mary Jane and Nathan Rash

**Senior Adult Luncheon
Thursday, March 19, 2020
11:00 a.m. - FLC**

Our speaker will be Dave Sanderson of Charlotte, a survivor of the "Miracle on the Hudson". Those who have heard his presentation give him a big "thumbs up". Call the church at 704 873-7231 to reserve your seat no later than noon on Monday, March 16.

Online Giving

You can now support FBC with online giving. Simply go to our website, www.statesvillefbc.org, and click the Giving tab. Follow the link to the online form. This form will enable you to give toward the church budget online.

