



Patricia Fyfe plays a game with some childrens during Wonderful Wednesday - our after-school program.

THE INTERIM



Volume 75 Issue 23

November 11, 2018

From the Pastor..

It's tempting to jump over Thanksgiving and rush right into the Christmas season. After all, the stores do it every year. Thanksgiving, however, is one of the most important holidays of the year. In fact it should be expanded to be an entire season. Even better, it should be a way of life.

Paul tells the Thessalonians to "give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (I Thessalonians 5:18). Paul realizes that a grateful attitude can change more than just our outlook. Gratitude has the power to move us from unhappy self-centered lives to joyful lives given in service.

Some have called this focus on gratitude "thanks-living." Of course, others have co-opted this phrase to describe a vegan alternative to the traditional Thanksgiving meal (since the turkey lives – it's "thanks-living"). I'd probably do well to be on a vegan diet, but I'd benefit even more from reframing my outlook to be more appreciative.

A great description of thanks-living is found in Anne Cetas' *Our Daily Bread* article published January 1, 2017. She tells the story of Sue and her thanks-living jar. Every evening Sue wrote down at least one thing she was grateful for that day and dropped it in the jar. Some days were tough, but the exercise helped her see God's hand upon every day.

There's a modern equivalent to the thanks-living jar as well. Thanks-living actually has its own hash tag on twitter (#thanksliving). Most people post reasons they are grateful and a few vegans use it to share their thanks-living recipes. I personally don't tweet, but given what's on some twitter sites this one looks like a good idea.

Still, none of this captures what I think both thanks-giving and thanks-living mean. It is right to express words of thanks to others and we are called to praise God in all circumstances. A life of gratitude, however, entails action. We don't simply verbalize our thanks, we live it out. We joyfully give of our time, talents and resources. True thanksgiving is always thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving Celebration
Sunday, November 18, 2018

Join us after the worship service for
 our annual Thanksgiving Celebration!

Menu:
 turkey w/ dressing
 sweet potatoes
 green beans
 cranberry sauce
 rolls

Please bring your
 favorite homemade dessert to share!



Nolan

Schedule

Sunday, November 11

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
 11:00 Medical Response Training
 4:00 p.m. Venture Voices
 5:00 p.m. Venture Students

Monday, November 12

9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

Tuesday, November 13

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

Wednesday, November 14

9:30 a.m. Precept Study
 2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday 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 Options
 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, November 15

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

Sunday, November 18

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
 11:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Celebration
 12:00 p.m. Belize Team Meeting
 4:00 p.m. Deacon Ministry Team

Monday, November 19

9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

Tuesday, November 20

10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

Wednesday, November 21

No Wednesday Evening Activities

Thursday, November 22

Happy Thanksgiving!

Church Office Closed

Friday, November 23

Church Office Closed



happy
 thanksgiving

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

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

FLC Activities Schedule

Sunday, November 11

11:00 a.m. Medical Response Training

Monday, November 12

9:30 a.m. Pickleball

11:45 a.m. Line Dancers

Tuesday, November 13

7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

Wednesday, November 14

8:00 a.m. Pickleball

2:30 Wonderful Wednesday 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 Options

Thursday, November 15

9:30 a.m. Pickleball

11:00 a.m. Senior Adult Luncheon

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

Friday, November 16

11:45 a.m. Line Dancers

Sunday, November 18

11:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Celebration

12:00 p.m. Belize Team Meeting - Multi-purpose Room

Monday, November 19

9:00 a.m. Pickleball

11:45 a.m. Line Dancers

Tuesday, November 20

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

Wednesday, November 21

8:00 a.m. Pickleball

Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of October 28 & November 4, 2018

	10/28	11/4
Church in Bible Study	125	137
Church in Worship.	183	204

Financial Statistics

	November	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	68,538.00	138,834.00
Budget Receipts	15,540.00	64,780.00
Needed to Meet Goal	52,998.00	74,054.00
Alms	577.00	1,131.00
Designated	3,927.00	11,360.00

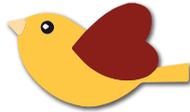
Financial Update

We finished our 2017-18 church budget year in good shape, but we have gotten off to a slow start in funding our 2018-19 ministry needs. We are only five Sundays into the new budget year and we are already \$74,054 behind our projected needs. October through December is traditionally our highest giving quarter and it often determines what ministries we will be able to do throughout the rest of the year.

Thank you for your continued generosity to First Baptist Church of Statesville. You have always risen to the occasion to provide for our ministries and we know you will do so again. In this season of Thanksgiving please consider making a special offering to help us fulfill the ministries before us.

Unsung Hero

Jane Mitchell



If you have enjoyed learning about how the great members of our congregations through our Unsung Hero articles, you can thank Jane Mitchell. She suggested that we recognize all the wonderful things our members do for our church. Jane is no exception. Jane leads our Caring Committee. This committee organizes meals for bereaved families. These meals remind the families that our church is praying for them during difficult times.

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.

wonderful
WEDNESDAYS

Children grades K-5 have enjoyed our Wonderful Wednesdays program since September. They do homework, eat snacks, play games, and learn about missions. We are grateful to our volunteers for making this program a success!



To register your child, please visit, www.statesvillefbc.org.

White Christmas Sunday, December 9, 2018

Each year we share in the special program we call White Christmas by sharing with needy families in our community through gifts of toys, food, and clothing.

1. Pray for this ministry and the families that we will serve.
2. Please give generously. We need money to purchase the toys and food. Mark your donations "Christmas Ministries" The toys and food are purchased from this fund.
3. Clean out your closets. We are in need of good, clean used children's and teen clothes, and winter coats of all sizes are needed.
4. Start collecting your "like new" used toys that are needed for emergencies that come up.
5. Mark your calendar now for December 9. This is the day families will come to the FLC to pick up their gifts, food, and clothes. We need willing hands to greet our guests, to help carry the food boxes and toys. This is such a wonderful opportunity for the whole family to share the Love of God with others.
6. Plan now to shop for the families using the gift cards provided. This is a great way to get the whole family involved. If you are willing to shop for a family please call Sherry Ashley at 704-450-7238 or Janet McLain at 704-838-3732.

Because of your willingness to share your time and money with those less fortunate, you are truly expressing the love of Christ and the real meaning of Christmas. Thank you for your participation.

Sherry Ashley and Janet McLain



Prayer & Faith

"Faith does the impossible because it brings God to undertake for us, and nothing is impossible with God. How great—without qualification or limitation—is the power of faith! If doubt be banished from the heart, and unbelief made stranger there, what we ask of God shall surely come to pass, and a believer hath vouchsafed (granted as a privilege or special favor) to him "whatsoever he saith."

(Excerpted from "The Complete Works of E. M. Bounds on Prayer) The language may be ancient, but the principle is timeless. Read through the gospels and you will see that nothing impresses Jesus more than faith. Let us exercise our faith through prayer. "Only God can move mountains, but faith and prayer move God."

His servant and your friend,
Ginny Stikeleather



CBF Misson Bites

Bite 104: Living Well

This past summer, we excitingly began a Living Well alumni group. I coordinate the Living Well life skills empowerment program for survivors of domestic violence and homelessness. Together with the Living Well team, we have recently connected with our graduates from years past and started a monthly gathering.

Because these women share trustingly with each other and allow me to bear witness to their stories, they are teaching me that we never stop needing our community to rally around us. Domestic violence is an extremely isolating trauma, and even after graduating the program, survivors continue to struggle with isolation.

I've listened to women echo the struggles of their peers and immediately offer a point of connection, supporting and holding each other up. When these women come together, they create sacred ground.

Lesley-Ann Hix Tommey, CBF field personnel in New York City

Bite 105: Hope and Healing

Five years ago, the Southeastern Medical International team came to work with us. We asked Pastor Han to take us to places the team could apply the love of Christ through their medical skills.

A baby girl in the remote village of Prey Chhka was on the verge of death. The doctor announced the little girl wouldn't live much longer without intensive medical intervention.

We persuaded the mother to accompany us to a hospital that specializes in the treatment of children's diseases. She made a complete recovery and is a healthy child today thanks to a God who hears prayers and sends His people to help in remote places with hope and healing.

Bill and Noy Peeler, CBF field personnel in Cambodia into the grave until the refugee mother was buried.

Kim and Marc Wyatt, CBF field personnel in North Carolina



Announcements

**Deacon Ministry Team Vote
Sunday, November 11, 2018
10:00 a.m. - Sanctuary**

This Sunday, November 11, we will vote on on three new members of our Deacon Ministry Team. Candidates for this team include Jason Allen, Shannon Ashley, Kaye Daniel, Bill Henderson, Carol Hunter, Edwin Hunter, and Butch Price.

**Medical Response Training
Sunday, November 11, 2018
11:00 a.m. - FLC**

We will have a church-wide training day to learn how to respond to a medical emergency. There will be 4 stations:

1. Hands-Only CPR
2. AED Training
3. First-Aid Kit Discussions
4. Biohazard Clean Up Kits

If you have any questions, please call Wanda Rushton at 704-450-4122.

**Senior Adult Luncheon
Thursday, November 15, 2018
11:00 a.m. - FLC**

Our November program will be a concert by the Presbyterian House Band, a River Landing Community near High Point. It consists of 31 Senior Adults playing handmade instruments. To reserve a seat, please call the church office at 704-873-7231 no later than noon on Monday, November 12. You may also receive a call, or you may sign up in your Sunday School classon Sunday, November 11. Cost of the meal to be served is \$6.00 payable at the door.

**Parents' Night Out
Friday, November 30, 2018
6:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

Bring your children (birth-grade 5) for some fun while you enjoy an evening out. The kids will eat pizza, make a craft, and watch a movie. There is a suggested donation of \$3.00 to cover the cost of the pizza. Teenage volunteers should sign up with Melissa.

**Habitat for Humanity Day
Saturday, January 12, 2019**

Habitat for Humanity has asked our church for volunteers on January 12 to do punch list work and cleaning at 1115 Partnership Way. The work day will begin at 7:45 a.m. There will be a short safety talk and then tasks will be assigned. We should have everything accomplished at 12:00 or 1:00 p.m. If you would like to volunteer, please call david Potter at 704-657-7227.