

FBC Preschoolers play as Junior Engineers with logs and other blocks brought to them by the Catawba Science Center.



Volume 75 Issue 4

February 18, 2018

From the Pastor...



This past Wednesday was the official start of Lent. This is a season of prayer, repentance and change. Traditionally it is a time for those preparing for baptism to receive instruction in the Christian life. It is also a time for each person of faith to examine ourselves and draw closer to Christ.

Many people “give up” something for Lent. This practice is to remind us that Christ is greater than anything in our life. It might be as simple as giving up something sweet and refocusing our urges on spiritual growth. Or it could be something more substantial – such as giving up an unhealthy habit during Lent and letting go of it for life.

In these modern times, I know of some Christians who are taking a fast from social media or television during Lent. They use the extra time for meditation and prayer. What I like about this approach is the “giving up” of something makes space for adding something more significant. In this same vein, I also admire those who give up personal time to do good for others – like volunteering.

teering.

With all this in mind, I'd like to invite each of our members to consider making our Wednesday evening prayer and Bible study time a priority during Lent. We will have two wonderful options to help you grow in your faith. Larry Gregg will offer an Introduction to the New Testament. It will be a good primer for those who want to understand more about how to study scripture.

I will offer a Spiritual Directions Class. It will focus on various prayer forms and spiritual practices. Together we will explore techniques that help us listen for God's voice in our noisy lives. We will learn several methods, but more importantly, we will practice what we learn. Together we will explore how ancient prayer forms can change our lives today.

The Apostle Paul knew that Christian spiritual growth was never just about “giving up” things, but always about allowing more space for the Spirit. In his letter to the Philippians, Paul gave a wonderful list of things upon which to meditate – whatever is true, noble, just, pure, lovely, of good report, or is praiseworthy. Our Sunday morning sermons during Lent will focus on these things.

Lent is a great opportunity for growth at First Baptist Church. As we grow in our own spiritual lives, God will give us direction on how to grow as a church. Giving up chocolate is admirable, but devoting your Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings will be life changing. I look forward to seeing you each week.

Wednesday Evening Lenten Options

Starting Wednesday, February 21, 2018

Spiritual Directions Class

Dr. Nelson Granade

6:00 p.m. • Heritage Hall

This course will explore techniques that help us listen for God's voice in our noisy lives.

Introduction to the New Testament

Dr. Larry Gregg

6:00 p.m. • Adams Hall

This course will help you understand more about how to study scripture.

Schedule

Sunday, February 18

- 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, February 19

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

Tuesday, February 20

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

Wednesday, February 21

- 9:30 a.m. Precept Study - Adams Hall
- 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 22

- 1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet
- 2:00 p.m. Grief Support Group

Sunday, February 25

- 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, February 26

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

Tuesday, February 27

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

Wednesday, February 28

- 9:30 a.m. Precept Study - Adams Hall
- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal - Adams Hall
- 5:45 p.m. Activities for Children & Students
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, March 1

- 1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet
- 2:00 p.m. Grief Support Group

Saturday, March 3

- 8:00 a.m. Yard Sale - Gym

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

FLC Activities Schedule

Monday, February 19

- 9:30 a.m. Pickleball
- 11:45 a.m. Line Dancers

Tuesday, February 20

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

Wednesday, February 21

- 7:15 p.m. Pickleball

Thursday, February 22

- 9:30 a.m. Pickleball - Gym
- 7:00 p.m. Senior Men's Basketball

Friday, February 23

- 11:45 a.m. Line Dancers

Monday, February 26

- 9:30 a.m. Pickleball - Gym

Tuesday, February 27

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

Wednesday, February 28

- 7:15 p.m. Pickleball

Thursday, March 1

- 9:30 a.m. Pickleball - Gym

Friday, March 2

- 11:45 p.m. Line Dancers

Saturday, March 3

- 8:00 a.m. Yard Sale

Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of February 4 & 11, 2018

	2/4	2/11
Church in Bible Study	128	128
Church in Worship.	103	184

Note: Due to inclement weather, we canceled Sunday School on Sunday, February 4.

Financial Statistics

	February	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	62,771.00	387,264.00
Budget Receipts	26,308.00	359,264.00
Needed to Meet Goal	36,463.00	28,244.00
Alms	434.00	3,319.00
Designated	3,071.00	50,594.00

*You will seek me and find me when you seek me
with all your heart.*

Jeremiah 29:13

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

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Unsung Hero

Margaret Barnard



Margaret Barnard is a woman of many talents. Every year for Vacation Bible School Margaret (with help from William) builds a beautiful prop for us to display throughout the entire week. This past summer, Margaret and William built a chariot for us to display outside the Sanctuary. She is also responsible for sewing together all the tablecloths for the Valentine Night Out this week. Margaret is always willing to do any job that we give her in the church office including organizing a supply cabinet and shredding old documents from the Clothes Closet.

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.



Margaret & William Barnard

When He Says "Peace", the Wind Obeys

Thank You, Lord, that when I invite You to my boat the wind ceases! Help me never to hesitate to invite You, thinking I can calm the troubled waters around me, fix the situations and smooth the relationships that rock my soul. Only You have the power to say, "Peace, be still" and command obedience. Help me to keep You close, lay all my problems at Your feet and bask in the PEACE that only You can give. "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, nor let it be afraid." (John 14:27)

Prayer always calms a troubled heart. Invite Jesus into your boat.

His servant and your friend,
Ginny Stikeleather



**We are selling some of our unused tables, chairs, and other equipment.
Proceeds will be used to defray security expenses.**

**Church Only
Saturday, March 3, 2018**

**Public
Saturday, March 24, 2018**

8:00a.m. - 12:00 p.m. • Family Life Center



CBF Mission Bite

Bite 70: An unshakable source of love

"My dad had disagreements with the government, so they attacked us. Our family had to flee Burundi. My brothers and I ended up in Uganda. We found Refuge & Hope [a ministry of CBF field personnel Jade and Shelah Acker], where a program helped me start a business of poultry farming. I can now support what I'm doing and my educational opportunities. Refuge & Hope has taught us to love other people. I ask God to create an unshakable source of love in my heart, so that I can change people's lives like mine has been changed."

- Arcade, Uganda



2018 Lenten Sermon Series

8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

Philippians 4:8-9 NIV

February 18, 2018
Whatever is True

February 25, 2018
Whatever is Noble

March 4, 2018
Whatever is Right

March 11, 2018
Whatever is Pure

March 18, 2018
Whatever is Lovely

March 25, 2018 (Palm Sunday)
Whatever is Admirable

April 1, 2018 (Easter)
Whatever is Excellent and Praiseworthy

Announcements

Preschool Registration

FBC Preschool has begun registration for the fall. If you have, or know of, a child who will be around 18 months to 5 years old by August 31, please contact Melissa Wilson, Director, for more information. She can be reached at 704-873-7231 or at melissa@statesvillefbc.org

Young Adult Marriage Enrichment To Be Offered

Nelson and Valerie Granade will be leading a marriage enrichment class designed to help young couples build stronger marriages. If you are interested in this group, please join them in Adams Hall after worship this Sunday, February 18. Together the group will explore the best timing for the classes and what outcomes the young couples are looking to obtain.

March Alms Offering

In honor of Eddie Steele's birthday, our March Alms Offering will go toward the Eddie Steele Memorial Fund at Fifth Street Ministries.

Wednesday Evening Menus

Wednesday, February 21

cheeseburgers, french fries, & brownies
Kids' Menu: same

Wednesday, February 28

pork BBQ, baked beans, slaw, rolls, & cookies
Kids' Menu: same



Church Wide Night Out

Saturday, February 17, 2018

5:30 p.m. • Family Life Center

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

**** Please bring your favorite homemade (pre-sliced) dessert to share.****