

James Martin, Minister of Music & Worship, baptized his son, Sean, on Sunday, January 10, 2016 at the 10:55 a.m. worship service.

# THE INTERIM

Volume 73 Issue 2



January 17, 2016

## From the Pastor...



*Together in Christ: Living, Learning, Serving* is more than a theme. It is also a blueprint to help us build a healthy and thriving church. As I said this past Sunday, our focus will always be on Christ and that will bring us together. Sharing our lives, growing our faith, and ministering to others will be how we live out Christ's calling.

The Early Church practiced *koinonia* – sharing life together. We translate this word as fellowship, but it has such a deeper meaning. It means that our lives are intricately woven together and that we are there for one another. Things like wearing name tags or sitting with folks we don't know as well are just a start. Trusting and supporting each other as we live out our lives is the goal.

Christ called disciples, which means He wanted people who were willing to learn and grow in Him. I so appreciate our dedicated Sunday School and Bible study teachers and feel they deserve all

the support we can give them. Because strengthening our Christian Education is vital, our deacons have approved a part-time interim position (see article below). This person will work with our Adult Ministry Team to build our Sunday School and other discipleship programs.

Service – what we call ministry and missions – is one of the greatest strengths of our congregation. Therefore, it is an area in which we can truly shine. Melissa Wilson and I are working with our Missions Team and other groups to ensure that we are engaging our community and world in an effective manner. I hope everyone in our congregation will take Christ's call to serve personally and find ways to get involved.

Our staff and deacons are very excited about coming together in Christ to support one another, grow in our faith and serve those in need. In doing so we will be a great witness for Christ and build a strong congregation that makes a difference to those we encounter. What will you do to make *Together in Christ: Living, Learning, Serving* more than words on a paper?

## Minister of Christian Education

Our deacons have approved a part-time Minister of Christian Education position and are working with the pastor and staff to find an interim person to get us started in this vital area of church health. We, however, want to make sure the congregation is involved and supportive of this process. Therefore we will encourage you to do the following.

Be in Sunday School over the next two weeks so that our staff and deacons can explain the needs and reasoning for this position. Come to Wednesday night Bible Study January 20 and 27 to be a part of discussing this great opportunity. Speak to a deacon, our pastor or a staff member about your hopes and questions. Pray for our congregation as we move forward in our mission of knowing and loving Christ and making Him known.

## Minister to Students

Because we recognize the importance of a strong youth ministry, our deacons will be appointing a Minister of Students Search Team. Starting this as a part-time position will allow us to begin our search immediately, while staying within our current means. We hope to expand the position as our church and youth ministry grow. We especially appreciate James Martin who has helped maintain and strengthen our youth ministry and will continue to do so until a more permanent Student Minister is called.

We need your help in three ways. First, pray for our youth, youth volunteers and this process. Second, submit names of people you feel would serve well on a Minister of Students Search Team (call or email May Jane Rash by January 31). Third, continue or increase your financial support as we take this step of faith.

*continued on page 4*

## Schedule

### Sunday, January 17

- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship - FLC
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
- 10:55 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

### Monday, January 18

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Sewing Group
- 12:00 p.m. Line Dancers - Gym

### Tuesday, January 19

- 6:00 p.m. Precept Bible Study - Adams Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Yoga - FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball - Gym

### Wednesday, January 20

- 9:30 a.m. Precept Bible Study - Adams Hall
- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal - FLC (turkey tetrazzini, tossed salad, garlic rolls, & dessert)
- 5:45 p.m. Adult Bible Study - FLC
- 5:45 p.m. Activities for Children & Students
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir - Choir Room

### Thursday, January 21

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

### Friday, January 22

- 12:00 p.m. Line Dancers - Gym

### Sunday, January 24

- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship - FLC
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
- 10:55 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. Venture Students

### Monday, January 25

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Sewing Group
- 12:00 p.m. Line Dancers - Gym

### Tuesday, January 26

- 6:00 p.m. Precept Bible Study - Adams Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Yoga - FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball - Gym

### Wednesday, January 27

- 9:30 a.m. Precept Bible Study - Adams Hall
- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal - FLC (baked chicken breast with stuffing, broccoli, & dessert)
- 5:45 p.m. Adult Bible Study - FLC
- 5:45 p.m. Activities for Children & Students
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir - Choir Room

### Thursday, January 28

- 1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

### Friday, January 29

## Spiritual Statistics

### Weeks of January 3 & 10, 2016

	1/3	
Church in Bible Study	101	117
Church in Worship	156	236
8:30 a.m. service		65
10:55 a.m. service	156	171

## Financial Statistics

### Weeks of January 3 & 10, 2016

	1/3	
Budget - Received	9,552.00	8,002.00
Alms	411.00	6.00
Designated - Received	245.00	1,102.00
<b>TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 1/3/16</b>		<b>10,208.00</b>
<b>TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 1/10/16</b>		<b>9,110.00</b>
<b>Budget for 2015-2016</b>		<b>893,174.00</b>
Weekly Budget Needed		17,176.42
Budget Needs To Date		257,646.35
Budget Given to Date		308,953.38
Budget Ahead		51,307.03
Designated Funds Received-Year to Date		47,875.43
Alms Received-Year to Date		2,716.50
Total Giving-Year to Date		359,545.31



## 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 Tel: 704-873-7231  
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# Leadership Transitions in the FBC Weekday Preschool

As you may have heard, our wonderful preschool director, Renae Keesbury, has announced her retirement at the end of May. While we will greatly miss Renae and her leadership, we are thankful for her 15 years of service. We have celebrated this 50th year of the preschool, and are thankful for the ministry of the Weekday Preschool Program.

The First Baptist Church Weekday Preschool provides a loving, nurturing, environment where children learn through play. Our teachers demonstrate the love of Christ each day as they work with the children. As we face this transition in leadership, we want to reassure you that we are committed to maintaining the high quality programs and excellent teaching staff you have come to expect from the FBC Weekday Preschool. It is our greatest hope to grow this ministry.

Through much discussion and several meetings, including both the Personnel Team and Deacon Ministry Team, we are happy to announce that Melissa Wilson will take on the additional role of Preschool Director, and Kari Lindeman will be a Teaching Assistant Director. While this is a different model of leadership for our preschool, it has been successful in many other congregations. We are excited about the possibilities it presents.

This new structure will strengthen the relationship between the church and the preschool. Having the same person serve as both Children's Minister and Preschool Director will make it easier for families to participate in both ministries. Preschool families will be able to build a stronger relationship with Melissa, which would make it more comfortable should they choose to be our guests at church events or worship. At the same time, FBC families who already have a relationship with Melissa may feel more drawn to the preschool.

We are adding the position of a Teaching Assistant Director to help with some of the day-to-day operations. While Melissa will take on the responsibilities and duties of Preschool Director, she must remain available to respond to the needs of church members. An Assistant Director gives her that flexibility and freedom. If there is a crisis and a family of the church needs Melissa to be present, she can leave the preschool in the capable hands of the Assistant Director and respond to that need. This decision has been given much prayer and thought, and Melissa is excited to accept this new challenge.

Please join us in prayer as we prepare for this transition. We look forward to seeing what God has in store for the FBC Preschool in 2016.



*Melissa Wilson, Renae Keesbury, and Kari Lindeman are excited about the leadership transitions to take place for the 2016-2017 school year.*

## Kari Lindeman Our New Teaching Assistant Director

Kari Lindeman has taught in the FBC Preschool for nine years. She and her husband, Jon, have two children, Aubrey (14) and Ty (12). Kari is a member of Front Street Baptist Church where she volunteers for with the youth department and is the children's worship leader.

Kari enjoys camping, crafting, crocheting, making wreaths, and spending time with her family and friends.

## Soup Lunch Fundraiser for Look Up Lodge

**Sunday, January 31, 2016  
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. ~ FLC**

The children of FBC will be hosting a soup lunch fundraiser to help with the cost of their trip to Look Up Lodge this summer. Please plan to stay for lunch and to make a donation following Sunday School or the 10:55 a.m. worship service. If you would like to donate a pot of soup, sandwiches, crackers, or a dessert, please sign up at <http://www.perfectpotluck.com/meals.php?t=OMQN1818> or call the church office at 704-873-7231.





Message by: Dr. Nelson Granade

Worship with us Sundays 8:30 a.m. or 10:55 a.m.

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## Announcements

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Our deacons will use your nominations to recommend a seven member search team for your approval on February 14, 2016. Once elected, the Search Team will work with Dr. Granade to find the person we feel God has for us and present that person to the congregation for your approval. In the meantime, the Personnel Committee will review and adapt the current job description. They will pay special attention to the characteristics our youth and parents have shared with our pastor.

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**Belize Mission Trip Informational Meeting**  
**Sunday, January 17, 2016**  
**12:15 p.m. ~ Heritage Hall**

There will a Belize Mission Trip meeting this Sunday, January 17 at 12:15 p.m. All who are interested in going to Belize this July should attend.

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**Senior Adult Luncheon**  
**Thursday, January 21, 2016**  
**11:00 a.m. ~ Family Life Center**

The January meeting will be held in the Family Life Center at 11:00 a.m. The program will be presented by Clay Lunsford, a well-known musician and president of the North Carolina Thumb Pickers Association. Ginny Stikeleather will have a devotion. Cost of the meal to be served at noon is \$6.00 payable at the door. To reserve your seat, please call the church office at 704-873-7231 to sign up in your Sunday School Class.

**Coffee Rotation**  
**Sunday, January 17**

David Potter

**Sunday, January 24**

Gary & Patricia Fyfe

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**Sound System Fund Established**

A new designated fund has been established by the deacons to raise money for a new sound system in the sanctuary. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please simply write "Sound System" on your envelope and/or check. As with all of our designated funds, please only give above and beyond your budget offering. A new sound system is needed, but our ongoing ministry is always our top priority!

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**Christian Sympathy**

...is extended to the family and friends of Frances James in her death on January 10, 2016.

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**Clothes Closet Needs**

The Clothes Closet is in need to large kitchen trash bags and bibles. If you are able to donate any of these items, please bring them to the church Monday - Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; or Sunday mornings.

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## Prayer Point Longing For God

As the deer pants for the water brooks, so pants my soul for You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?—Psalm 42:1-2

O God, I have tasted Thy goodness, and it has both satisfied me and made me thirsty for more. I am painfully conscious of my need of further grace. I am ashamed of my lack of desire. O God, the Triune God, I want to want Thee; I long to be filled with longing; I thirst to be made more thirsty still. Show me Thy glory, I pray Thee, that so I may know Thee indeed. Begin in mercy a new work of love within me. Say to my soul, "Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away." Then give me grace to rise and follow Thee up from this misty lowland where I have wandered so long. In Jesus' name. Amen. The Pursuit of God, 20.

"...I want to want Thee; I long to be filled with longing; I thirst to be made more thirsty still. Amen."

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*A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another*

~ John 13:34 (NIV)