

Preschool Teacher Sandy Cash serves her class at the Annual FBC Preschool Thanksgiving Celebration on November 21, 2016.



THE INTERIM



Volume 73 Issue 24

November 27, 2016

From the Pastor...

What do you want for Christmas? It's a question we ask kids, but it's one we might also want to ponder. Of course kids want the latest toys. When I was little, my mom gave me the Sears and Roebuck Catalogue and told me to circle the things I wanted. I skipped to the boy's toys section and put a big circle around each page.

Fortunately, with maturity my Christmas desires have changed. I really don't have many material things I hope for. I do, however, still have a pretty big Christmas list. I want my family to be safe, healthy and filled with joyous love. I want time with friends and for them to know that I love them and to know that they love me.

My list also includes our congregation. I want Advent and Christmas to be meaningful as we are reminded that God is with us - Emmanuel. I want God's love to permeate our congregation and for that love to overflow into our community. I want to be an effective leader, but more importantly, I want to be a loving pastor.

Of course I could add solving our budget problems, increasing our attendance, expanding our ministries and the like. If, however, we recognize and follow God's loving presence faithfully follow God's direction; these things will simple resolve themselves. So they didn't make my list.

So I'm not circling anything in the Sears Catalog - or even making an Amazon wish list. If I had to circle my hopes, however, I'd circle Philippians 1:9-11. "And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God".

Nolan

Advent Celebrations At FBC

Sunday, November 27, 2016
First Sunday of Advent ~ Hope

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Second Sunday of Advent ~ Peace

Sunday, December 4, 2016
White Christmas Celebration & Gift Distribution

Tuesday, December 6, 2016
Christmas Party for Change By

Wednesday, December 7 - Friday, December 9
Celtic Christmas Program
7:30 p.m. New Life Christian Fellowship, Taylorsville

Sunday, December 11, 2016
Third Sunday of Advent - Joy

Sunday, December 18, 2016
Fourth Sunday of Advent ~ Love

Sunday, December 18, 2015
Christmas Choir Program
6:00 p.m. Christmas Program - Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. Cookie Fellowship - Adams Hall

Saturday, December 24, 2016
Christmas-Eve Candlelight Service
4:00 p.m. ~ Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25, 2016
Christmas Day Service
10:00 a.m. ~ Sanctuary

Schedule

Sunday, November 27

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
 5:00 p.m. Venture Students

Monday, November 28

9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary
 10:00 a.m. Sewing Group

Tuesday, November 29

9:00 a.m. Yoga - Heritage Hall
 6:00 p.m. Yoga - Heritage Hall

Wednesday, November 30

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 - Choir Room

Thursday, December 1

9:00 a.m. Yoga - Heritage Hall
 1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Sunday, December 4

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
 12:30 p.m. White Christmas Celebration
 5:00 p.m. Venture Students

Monday, December 5

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

Tuesday, December 6

9:00 a.m. Yoga - Heritage Hall
 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball - Gym

Wednesday, December 7

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 - Choir Room

Thursday, December 8

9:00 a.m. Yoga - Heritage Hall
 1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Friday, December 9

12:00 p.m. Line Dancers

Spiritual Statistics

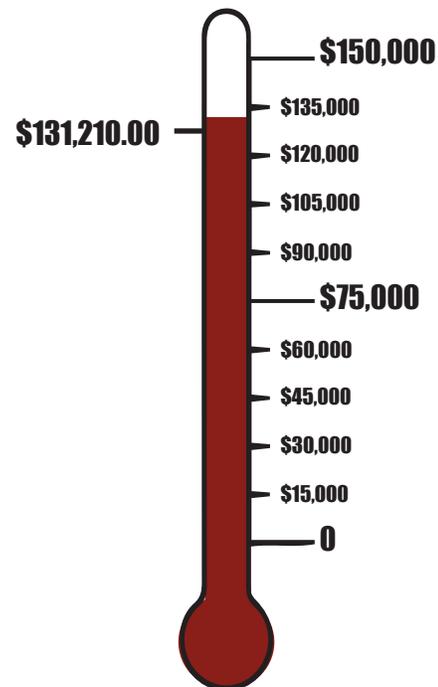
Weeks of November 13 & 20, 2016

	11/13	
Church in Bible Study	168	165
Church in Worship	201	250

Financial Statistics

	November	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	68,237.00	138,234.00
Budget Receipts	31,416.00	93,625.00
Needed to Meet Goal	36,821.00	44,609.00
Alms		693.35
Designated	10,525.00	14,149.00

So All May See & Hear Given



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

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New Christmon Tree

Our sanctuary has been blessed with a beautiful new Christmon tree. Thank you to all who gave to fund this new beautiful decoration - especially the Pioneer Sunday School Class who started the fund.



Disaster Relief ~ Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Packing Party ~ ~ Preschool Thanksgiving ~





Message by: Dr. Nelson Granade

Worship with us Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

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Prayer Point: True Thanksgiving

Many times we fail to thank God after He answers our prayers, but what if we practiced thanking Him BEFORE we prayed?

King David often began his prayers with tears, but finished them with celebration. He believed God was a faithful, promise-keeping God. He often thanked God in advance for what He was about to do! Celebration is sometimes a shout of victory; and sometimes a declaration of war. As long as we whine to God about our problems, we'll see nothing. We celebrate the answer; then we see the answer!

- Praise preceded the fall of Jericho's walls. (The shout preceded the falling of the walls.)
- Praise preceded Jehoshaphat's victory. (The praise team preceded the army.)
- Praise preceded the feeding of the five thousand. (Jesus thanked the Father for feeding the people with a lad's lunch.)
- Praise preceded the resurrection of Lazarus. (Jesus thanked the Father for hearing Him.)
- Praise preceded the earthquake and jailbreak in Philippi. (Paul and Silas celebrated.)

Lord, forgive me for failing to celebrate answered prayer, and for not expecting You to do great and mighty things in response to my intercession! Help me to purposefully give You praise as I seek Your face so that You will take pleasure in answering! Fill me with a large measure of faith to believe that You are always about to do something amazing in response to the prayers of Your people. Show me how to expect Your highest and best for the glory of Your Name!

Adapted from "The Secret of Single-Minded Prayer" by Eddie Smith



Christian Sympathy

...is extended to the family of Elaine Harris in her death on November 18, 2016.

Urgent Need!

We are in need of two (2) infant car seats for two of our White Christmas families. These families do not have car seats for infants. If you are able to donate an infant car seat, please contact the church office at 704-873-7231 or Carol Hunter at 704-876-1462.

Announcements

Wednesday Evening Menus

Wednesday, November 30

chili, salad bar, corn bread, & marble cake

Kids' Menu: grilled cheese & chips

Wednesday, December 7

ham, macaroni & cheese, roasted broccoli & cauliflower, & dessert

Kids' Menu: macaroni & cheese

White Christmas is Almost Here!

White Christmas is almost here. Families will be coming **Sunday, December 4** to receive their food, toys, and most of all our love. We still need the following: **new toys for emergencies, very gently used toys, tape, and desserts for the meal.**

Please come and be a part of this special ministry. There is a place for everyone. We need help greeting and visiting with the guests, offering words of encouragement, and carrying out the boxes of food and bags of toys.

We will gather in the Fellowship Hall right after the worship service. Your lunch will be provided. Our goal is to serve our guests the best way we can, so we need plenty of time for instructions. Whether you have helped before, or this is your first time, we will show you what to do. If you have any questions, please call Carol or Luther Hunter at 704-876-1462.

Thank you for your help. It takes everyone working together to make White Christmas a success. See you Sunday.



Celtic Christmas

Wednesday, December 7 - Friday, December 9

7:30 p.m. ~ New Life Christian Fellowship, Taylorsville

You are invited to enjoy an evening concert of Celtic Christmas Music to bring joy to the heart and celebrate the season. This is a free concert, but tickets are required due to limited seating. Please contact James Martin for tickets.