



Elizabeth Allen and Emily Ashley help out at the Venture Student car wash and bake sale.

THE INTERIM



Volume 72 Issue 12

June 7, 2015

What 'Wagon Wheel' Taught Me About the Kingdom of God

■ **Rob Lee**
Guest Speaker



This past Monday, I went to a Memorial Day concert in Black Mountain. Old Crow Medicine Show, an old time bluegrass band was playing, and I accompanied my friend Natalie who happens to be one of their biggest fans. It was amazing to watch the show, but I found it interesting to watch my friend at this concert.

She knew every word to every song, she sang along,

and she connected with other people who knew the songs as well as she did.

I must confess I'm not as familiar with these songs as I'd like to be. I really enjoy the band; I just don't have much of their music lying around to listen to. But there is one song that I do know, many people here where I live call it the anthem of Boone, North Carolina. "Wagon Wheel" was originally written by Bob Dylan but was later gifted to Old Crow Medicine Show. The song has words like these,

So rock me mamma like a wagon wheel
Rock me mamma any way you feel
Hey mamma rock me.
Rock me mamma like the wind and the rain
Rock me mamma like a southbound train
Hey mamma rock me.

As the opening chords to that song came on, I will go to my grave knowing it was a glimpse of what the kingdom of God might look like. People joined arms with strangers, started swaying, and singing the familiar words as if we had known them instinctively. In those moments, I felt like the church could learn a line from that place in Black Mountain.

I'm not saying that we should offer catchy themes that everyone knows to gain momentum or numerical attendance. I'm not saying an elaborate light show will suddenly bring back the 'nones.' In fact, I'm saying something quite the opposite. People need the kingdom of God when they come to church. It's our job to be constituents of that kingdom by how we work, worship, and live in community together. We need to join arms, even with strangers, and sing the songs that brought us to this place. We need to hear the word proclaimed. Deeper than that, we need to listen for the song in the heart of God, the song that brings us grace upon grace. When we hear that song, the voice of God, when we hear that, we find ourselves lost in wonder, love and praise, as Charles Wesley penned. We find ourselves singing a song we have known far before any of us could remember where we first learned it.

Next time you're at a concert, watch the people who sing along. Let it be a reminder that the song of God is big enough for all of us to sing, and God has invited us to lock arms and join in. Will you?

This article was originally published by Baptist News Global Perspectives site, an opinion companion site of BaptistNews.com on May 28, 2015.

The Reverend Rob Lee is the Assistant Minister for Youth at First Baptist Church of West Jefferson. Rob received his undergraduate degree in religious studies at Appalachian State University in Boone. Rob has a column in the Statesville Record and Landmark, his hometown newspaper and writes regularly for the outlets such as the Huffington Post, and the Fund for Theological Education.

Rob has studied at Duke Divinity School's summer program, Candler School of Theology's Youth Theological Initiative and has participated in a research grant with the Forum for Theological Exploration. He will be attending Duke Divinity School in the fall of 2015.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near.

- Mark 13:28



Schedule

Sunday, June 7 ~ Numbers 33-34

Graduation Sunday

- 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, June 8 ~ Numbers 35-36

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

Tuesday, June 9 ~ Deuteronomy 1-2

- 6:00 p.m. Yoga - FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Faithful Steps - FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball - Gym

Wednesday, June 10 ~ Deuteronomy 3-4

- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal
- 5:45 p.m. Adult Bible Study
- 5:45 p.m. Activities for Children & Students
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, June 11 ~ Deuteronomy 5-7

- 8:00 p.m. Senior Basketball - Gym

Friday, June 12 ~ Deuteronomy 8-10

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

Saturday, June 13 ~ Deuteronomy 11-13

Sunday, June 14 ~ Deuteronomy 14-16

- 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 Nation / Messy Games / Parent Meeting
- 5:00 p.m. Deacon Ministry Team Meeting

Monday, June 15 ~ Deuteronomy 17-20

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

Tuesday, June 16 ~ Deuteronomy 21-23

- 6:00 p.m. Yoga - FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Faithful Steps - FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball - Gym

Wednesday, June 17 ~ Deuteronomy 24-27

- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, June 18 ~ Deuteronomy 28-29

- 8:00 p.m. Senior Basketball - Gym

Friday, June 19 ~ Deuteronomy 30-31

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

Saturday, June 20 ~ Deuteronomy 32-34

Spiritual Statistics

Week of May 31, 2015

	5/31
Church in Bible Study	107
Church in Worship.	227
8:30 a.m. service.	70
10:55 a.m. service.	157

Financial Statistics

Week of May 31, 2015

	5/31
Budget - Received	\$17,625.00
Alms	0.00
Designated - Received	924.00
Building Reserve - Received	0.00
TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 5/31/15	18,549.00
Budget for 2014-2015	865,070.00
Budget Received-Year to Date	588,888.26
Remaining in Budget - Unfunded	276,181.74
Designated Funds Received-Year to Date	60,933.39
Alms Received-Year to Date	4,955.50
Building Reserve-Year to Date	8,847.00
Total Giving-Year to Date	633,624.15



Church Staff Directory

Dr. Roger Gilbert.....Interim Pastor
 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
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



Children & Student Ministries

VBS Work Day

Saturday, June 13, 2015 ~ 9:00 a.m. ~ Gym

We will be having a VBS workday on Saturday June 13. This is the BIG ONE! We are building our set for the Family Life Center. We are constructing a set out of foam insulation board, so the materials are light weight, but there are definitely some carpentry skills involved! We have good instructions, but we need people who are good at assembling things, measuring, & cutting! We will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the gym area! We have cutting tools, but if you have a tape measure it wouldn't hurt to bring it!

VBS Decorations

We are in need of some decorative items for VBS. If you have any of the following that you would be willing to loan or donate, please bring them by the church. Sarah Faulk will be in charge of making sure all items that are loaned, are properly labeled and gathered for returning to the owners. If the item is a loan please make sure your name is taped to the item before you leave it at the church.

The theme is a Bible Times theme. We need:

- Old Sheets solid colors please! (please no patterns or florals)
- Older looking baskets (nothing too colorful or plastic)
- Terracotta Pots or Bowls (again not colorful or painted)
- Wooden Plates or Bowls (again not colorful or painted)
- Old or broken Umbrellas (these won't be returned)

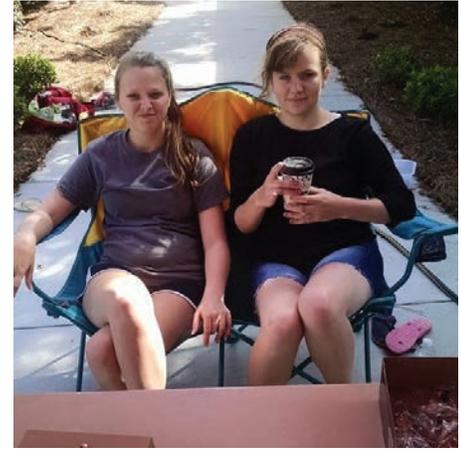
Venture Nation

Sunday, June 14

On Sunday, June 14, regular Venture student activities for the summer will move to Sunday nights from 5:00-7:00 p.m. A summer calendar will be available to students/parents that evening (if not sooner). We will kick off summer activities with the annual tradition of "Messy Games." Wear old clothes and bring a friend or two! Camp paperwork will be available for parents the evening of Sunday, June 14, as well. Come get all your paperwork filled out and receive camp information. All paperwork must be filled out, notarized, and turned in by Thursday, June 18. Any final payments are also due at this time. We will NOT be accepting paperwork or payments the morning we leave, so please contact James Martin or Melissa Wilson if you cannot be there on June 14.

Student Ministry Car Wash

Thank you to everyone who showed up and helped out! We had a great time and raised money too! Be sure to thank people who brought their cars as you see them and let them know we appreciate their support.



Congratulations to Our Graduating Seniors!

Mackenzie Barker
Statesville Christian School

Thomas Brown
Statesville High School

Edward Hunter
North Iredell High School

Ruth Shankle
Statesville High School





Message by: Rev. Rob Lee

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

Volume 72 Issue 12

Announcements

Christian Sympathy

...is extended to the family of Dr. John Hardaway in his death on June 3, 2015.

Applewhite Group Monday, June 8, 2015 9:45 a.m.

On Monday, June 8, the Applewhite Group will visit a nursing home. Please meet in the church parking lot at 9:45 a.m. so we can travel to the nursing home together.

A Note of Appreciation from Bob Dellinger

Carolyn and I are very grateful for the visits, calls, and most of all prayers. Thank you.

Bob Dellinger

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Susan Webb, daughter of Beth and Jimmy Webb. Susan received her doctorate in physical therapy from East Carolina University.

Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, & Eye Glasses Needed!

Our Belize Team is in need of NEW toothbrushes and toothpaste. The team is also in need of glasses. These eye glasses can be new, used, prescription, or readers. Your donations will benefit the people of Cristo Rey, Belize. You may bring your donations to the church office Sunday mornings or Monday - Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. or Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Worship Greeters Sunday, June 7

Chris Simon Jeff Templeton
Chuck Heckel Jason Allen

Sunday, June 14

Eddy Sipe John Garland
Pat Rushton Nancy Garland

Acolytes Sunday, June 7

Sam Buckner & Luke Williams
Sunday, June 14
Kendyl King & Andria Eudy

Coffee Rotation Sunday, June 7

Emanons Class
Sunday, June 14
Melissa Wilson

Pray Before You Read How to Get the Most From Your Daily Scripture Reading

Reading the Bible and prayer go hand in hand. Many times we are at a loss for words or wisdom concerning God's will when we pray. When that happens (and I often find myself in that situation), I have learned to open God's Word. I don't have to read very far to find a principle, a command, or a promise that just "fits" my situation. As we read through the Old Testament (I hope you're making it a priority to set aside time for your daily reading), we find so many of these that we can pray back to God, applying them to the matter at hand. Unlike any other book, the Bible is new and fresh each time we pick it up! Reading through the Bible again this year I have discovered so many "new" insights! My well-worn phrase is, "I never saw that before." I have found that the best way to see what God wants to show me in His Word is to pray before I begin reading, asking Him to open my mind to understand it, and my heart to receive it. My most-used verse to pray before reading scripture is John 6:63, "Lord, it is Your Spirit that gives life; my own understanding (flesh) counts for nothing. Speak to me, Father, for Your Words are Spirit and they are life." Then I open my Bible and the Holy Spirit goes to work! What an adventure! I pray the same experience for you.

His servant and your friend,
Ginny Stikeleather