



The Simons enjoy Easter breakfast before worship on Easter Sunday, April 5.

THE INTERIM



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April 12, 2015

Beyond Easter Sunday

■ Roger Gilbert *Interim Pastor*

It is always a good experience to see the sanctuary full on Sunday. We expect that at Christmas and on Easter Sunday. I wish that was the case every Sunday. As important as it is to regularly participate in worship, the meaning of Easter is far greater than just “coming to church.”

The on-going meaning of the Resurrection is centered in the truth that Jesus Christ is alive. He is not just the one who was crucified and resurrected long ago, but is also the living Lord Jesus Christ in the here and now.

One way the Apostle Paul states it has to do with our intentional mind-set. In Romans 6:11 he writes, *consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.* Verse four of the same chapter connects this mind-set to the meaning of baptism where he writes, *we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.*

Another way that the Apostle expresses the influence of the living Christ is to be found in his frequent use of the expression “in Christ.” As Paul writes of being “in-Christ” one senses that he believes that we live in a sphere of influence, an atmosphere which throbs with the vibrant power of Christ. New Testament scholar James Stewart in his classic book *A Man in Christ*, puts it this way,

To be “in Christ,” to have Christ within, to realize your creed not as something you have to bear but as something by which you are born, this is Christianity. It is more: it is release and liberty, life with an endless song at its heart. It means feeling within you, as long as life here lasts, the carrying power of Love Almighty; and underneath you, when you come to die, the touch of everlasting arms.

Ponder what he is saying. The meaning of Resurrection is not a religious dogma that we believe, defend, and carry. It is the power of the living Christ who carries us.

Operation Inasmuch - Saturday, April 25, 2015

Please make plans to participate in a great day of missions in our community as we show the love of Jesus. We will meet in Adams Hall at 7:30 a.m. for biscuits and coffee, gather with our teams, pray, and then be sent out at 8:00 a.m. to begin the various projects. Sign up sheets are available and will be left in the Welcome Center. The time frame for Operation Inasmuch is 7:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. We have several local projects to help people and ministries in need.

We have two small home repair projects. One needs some steps built, and the other has a handful of small needs. We are also helping Powercross Ministries with three separate projects. We need about 20 people at Powercross. These needs include: help with the astroturf in their indoor facility, painting and cleaning, and tearing out insulation and sheetrock on a halfway house. George McLeod will once again lead our bicycle repair project used in Christmas Ministries. Steve

Kathman needs help with the Medical Equipment Ministry with cleaning and organization. Our students will be helping several needy seniors in our community with yard clean-up. We will also have a team to help other needy seniors with gutter cleaning and another team to help with window washing. Inside our church, we will have a team working on bean soup assembly. Our children will have a in-house project led by Melissa Wilson. We have had several folks step up and volunteer to be a group leader. David Potter has done an awesome job with the preparation and organizational work needed for these projects. The mission aspect of Operation Inasmuch is based on Matthew 25:40 when Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.” So, come and participate as we are the hands and feet of Christ. Pray for that love to shine through, and pray for nice weather.

The Missions Team

Schedule

Sunday, April 12 ~ Job 32-24

- 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, April 13 ~ Job 35-37

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

Tuesday, April 14 ~ Job 38-39

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

Wednesday, April 15 ~ Job 40-42

- 9:30 a.m. Precepts Bible Study - Adams Hall
- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal (roast pork loin, baked potato, salad, dessert)
- 5:45 p.m. Activities for Children & Students
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, April 16 ~ Job 12-15

- 11:00 a.m. Senior Adult Luncheon - FLC
- 8:00 p.m. Senior Basketball - Gym

Friday, April 17 ~ Genesis 16-18

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

Saturday, April 18 ~ Genesis 19-21

Sunday, April 19 ~ Genesis 22-24

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

Monday, April 20 ~ Genesis 25-26

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

Tuesday, April 21 ~ Genesis 27-29

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

Wednesday, April 22 ~ Genesis 30-31

- 9:30 a.m. Precepts Bible Study - Adams Hall
- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal (chicken & stuffing, lima beans, slaw, & dessert)
- 5:45 p.m. Activities for Children & Students
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, April 23 ~ Genesis 32-34

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

Friday, April 24 ~ Genesis 35-37

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

Saturday, April 25 ~ Genesis 38-40

- 9:00 a.m. Operation Inasmuch



But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds of the air, and they will tell you; or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish of the sea inform you. Which of all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind.

Job 12:7-10

Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of March 29 & April 5, 2015

3/29

Church in Bible Study	105.....	
Church in Worship.....	219.....	278
8:30 a.m. service.....	63.....	
10:55 a.m. service.....	156.....	278

Financial Statistics

Weeks of March 29 & April 5, 2015

3/29

Budget - Received	\$11,770.00	\$10,061.00
Alms	50.00	477.00
Designated - Received	1,541.00	295.84
Building Reserve - Received	0.00	0.00
TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 3/15/15		13,361.00
TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 4/5/15		10,833.84

North American Missions Offering

North American Missions - Southern Baptist Convention

\$185.00

Global Missions - Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

\$100.00

TOTAL: \$285.00 GOAL: \$8,000

Budget for 2014-2015	865,070.00
Budget Received-Year to Date	484,674.31
Remaining in Budget - Unfunded	380,395.69
Designated Funds Received-Year to Date	50,236.04
Alms Received-Year to Date	4,474.96
Building Reserve-Year to Date	8,672.00
Total Giving-Year to Date	545,946.37



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 - Fri Tel: 704-873-7231

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Prayer Point: “Lord Hear Our Cry”

Thursday, May 7, is the 64th annual National Day of Prayer. The theme verse for this year is 1 Kings 8:28. This is a call for all Americans to repentance and prayer for God to bring spiritual renewal and transformation to our great land.

The following is a prayer by Rev. Franklin Graham. May we use it as a guide to pray for our nation and its leaders.

Lord,

We are thankful for the abundant blessings You have bestowed on America. Our forefathers looked to You as Protector, Provider, and the Promise of hope. But we have wandered far from that firm foundation. May we repent for turning our backs on Your faithfulness.

We pray that this great nation will be restored by Your forgiveness.

From bondage, You grant freedom.

Through Your own sacrifice, You offer salvation.

From the state of despair, You offer peace.

From the bounties of Heaven, You have blessed – not because of our goodness – but by Your grace.

You have given us freedom to worship You in spirit and in truth as Your holy Word instructs. May our lives honor You in word and deed. May our nation acknowledge that all good things come from the Father above.

President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed that our nation should set apart a day for national prayer to confess our sins and transgressions in sorrow, “yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon... announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord.”

“We have vainly imagined in the deceitfulness of our own hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own... we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God who made us! It behooves us then... to confess our national sins and to pray for clemency and forgiveness.”

Help us to pray earnestly for our president and leaders who govern, that they will humble themselves and seek Your guidance so that everything we do will shine the light of Your glory in a darkened world

May our prayers as a people and a nation be heard and blessed for such a time as this. We make this plea in faith, believing in the mighty name of Jesus our Lord.

Amen

Easter Breakfast Fun





Announcements

A Letter of Appreciation From Drew Burgiss

Dear FBC family,
Thank you all so much for becoming one of my ministry partners by contributing \$125.00 per month. It is a privilege to be teamed up with my home church family as, together, we seek to help reach people for Christ. I believe your investments of prayer and financial support will result in many coming to Christ. Beyond that, I trust God will honor His Word and truly bless this church as you give. Thank you again. You all mean so much to me.

Yours in Christ,
Drew Burgiss

Yokefellow Ministry Annual Food Drive

Yokefellow Ministry of Greater Statesville, Inc., is beginning an annual spring food drive vital to the crisis assistance agency's food pantry and mobile food pantry programs. Over the last decade and a half, Yokefellow has conducted its Share the Pounds Feinstein Food Campaign during March and April. This campaign helps the agency to provide food assistance to 4,000-plus households, or more than 11,000 persons overall in Iredell County. Donations of funds or food items provided or pledged to Yokefellow during those two months will earn money from the Alan Shawn Feinstein Foundation which divides \$1-million among participating food pantries each year to fight hunger. The greater the amount Yokefellow generates locally the more funding it gets from the Feinstein Foundation.

"This year we have added a day each week to our food pantry program. In addition we have created a new mobile food pantry program in northwest Iredell," said Neil Furr, executive director of Yokefellow Ministry. "The success of these initiatives will greatly depend on the success of the Share the Pounds Campaign."

Donations earmarked for the Share the Pounds Campaign should be directed to Yokefellow Ministry of Greater Statesville, Inc., P.O. Box 5384, Statesville NC, 28687, or taken to the Yokefellow Helping Center at 1392 Shelton Avenue. For information, call Neil Furr at 704-872-1459 or Kristine Wiles, Helping Center Director, at 704-872-7677.

Faithful Steps

Faithful Steps running program is 12 weeks of faith and fitness. We dive into God's word to show the importance of keeping our bodies, Gods temple, healthy and fit. This program details the parallels the endurance it takes to run and hold steadfast in our faith. There are no prerequisites of a fitness back ground. It is a come as you are environment. We have a running program for everyone! We have a walker group, a beginner group, an intermediate group, and an advanced group for seasoned 5ker to marathoners.

Worship Greeters Sunday, April 12

Eddy Sipe	John Garland	Dan Mills
Pat Rushton	Nancy Garland	Jean Mills
Shannon Ashley		

Sunday, April 19

Bill Henderson	Gary Fyfe	James McNiel
Chris Buckner	Patricia Fyfe	Wilma McNiel
Matthew Waugh	Butch Price	Stan Williams

Acolytes Sunday, April 12

Kendyl King & Andria Eudy

Sunday, April 19

Rachel Estes & Sarah Estes

Coffee Rotation Sunday, April 12

Jean & Dan Mills

Sunday, April 19

David Potter

Senior Adult Luncheon Thursday, April 16, 2015 11:00 a.m. ~ FLC

The April meeting will be held in the Family Life Center Thursday, April 16, at 11:00 a.m. Entertainment will be by The Presbyterian Home Band of High Point. It was featured on UNC-TV's "Our State" program, and was started more than 50 years ago by residents of the assisted living facility, The Presbyterian Home. They use makeshift instruments out of items such as bottles, vacuum cleaner tubes and pipes.

Lunch will be served at 12:00 p.m. at a cost of \$6.00, payable at the door. Call the church at 704-873-7231 or sign up in your Sunday School class to reserve your seat.