



THE INTERIM

Preston McLain loads a case of bottled water in the Disaster Relief trailer on Sunday, September 10. FBC collected bottled water, hygiene kits, first aid kits, and diapers for those areas affected by Hurricane Irma.



Volume 74 Issue 19

September 17, 2017

From the Pastor..

Fall is one of the busiest times for churches. Here are just a few of the things happening at First Baptist Church:

FAMILY LIFE CENTER GRAND REOPENING

Sunday, November 5

Together we will enjoy a wonderful lunch, recognize our Jubilee Members, and celebrate new ministries that will launch in the FLC!



Family Life Center

Are you as ready to get back into the Family Life Center as I am? Our congregation has been very understanding and our patience will soon be rewarded. Smoke clean up is done, walls are painted, HVAC is replaced, floors are new (or look like new) and electrical work continues.

More has been done than is left to do, and we're working hard. New kitchen equipment is being installed this week, the elevator will be repaired soon and the carpet will go in once all other work is completed. The only work left to do then will be returning our furnishings.

We've planned our grand Re-Opening Celebration for Sunday, November 5, 2017! Together we will enjoy a wonderful lunch, recognize our Jubilee Members and celebrate new ministries that will launch in the FLC. Of course we hope to be back in sooner, but November 5 is a day you don't want to miss.

Budget Adoption

I hope you received a copy of the proposed 2017-2018 Ministry Budget. If not, they are available at the church. Our congregation has made great progress in supporting our ministry needs. In fact, we've made a \$140,000 turn around since last year (contributions up \$61,272 and spending down \$78,734).

Our new budget provides a blue print to help us do more ministry with less money. In fact, it provides well for our ministries (like children, youth, and senior adults), while continuing to be generous to missions beyond ourselves.

We want you to be informed about the business of your church, so we've provided several opportunities for you to have input into this process. I hope you'll attend at least one of the informational meetings or speak to a member of the Business Management Team about any question you might have.

As you can see, there is a lot going on at First Baptist Church of Statesville. It is a joy to be your pastor!

McLain

2017-2018 Budget Adoption Schedule

Sunday, September 17, 2017

11:00 a.m. ~ Heritage Hall

Q & A with Business Management Team

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

6:00 p.m. ~ Adams Hall

Second Opportunity for Discussion

Sunday, September 24, 2017

10:00 a.m.

Budget Adopted During Worship Service

Schedule

Sunday, September 17

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Q & A with Business Management Team ~ Heritage Hall

5:00 p.m. Venture Students

Monday, September 18

9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

Tuesday, September 19

10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

6:00 p.m. Precept Study

Wednesday, September 20

9:30 a.m. Precept Study

5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal

5:45 p.m. Activities for Children & Students

6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study & Budget Discussion

7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, September 21

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Saturday, September 23

8:00 a.m. Pregnancy Resource Center LifeWalk

Sunday, September 24

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

Budget Vote

5:00 p.m. Venture Students

Monday, September 25

9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

Tuesday, September 26

10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

6:00 p.m. Precept Study - Adams Hall

Wednesday, September 27

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, September 28

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

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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Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of September 3 & 10, 2017

	9/3	9/10
Church in Bible Study	137.....	131
Church in Worship.	195.....	223

Financial Statistics

	September	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	69,987.00	874,836.00
Budget Receipts	29,022.00	787,585.00
Needed to Meet Goal	40,965.00	87,251.00
Alms	5,619.00	15,129.00
Designated	191.00	60,110.00

An Update from the Business Management Team

The Business Management Team plans to give you an update each month to better keep our church informed. Here are a few highlights as of the end of August:

Celebrations:

We surpassed our August giving goal.

Our year-to-date actual receipts are up \$61,272 from last year.

Our actual spending is down \$78,734 from last year.

Challenges:

We are still \$46,286 behind our ministry budget, which runs through September.

Without meeting our budget, we are not able to pass along as much to mission causes or repay our ourselves for monies borrowed in previous years.

Our main challenge is to finish September strong and to go into our new budget year (beginning October 1, 2017) in good shape.

So we still have some challenges, but overall we are in a much stronger financial position from this time last year. In fact, if you add how much our receipts are up and how much our expenditures are down, we have had a \$140,006 turn around!

Thank you for your continued faithfulness. Your contributions of time, talent, and treasure make a real difference.

Sincerely,

Harry Tsumas

Fall Sermon Series

Knowing Jesus: The I Am Statements in John

September 17, 2017

I Am the Light

John 8:12-30

September 24, 2017

I Am the Way

John 14:1-14



Deacon Election

Thank you for nominating over 50 people to be considered as deacons of First Baptist Church. It is wonderful to have this many potential leaders within our congregation. Every eligible nominee has been invited to attend an orientation meeting at 11:00 a.m., this Sunday, September 17, 2017.

At the orientation, your nominees will hear about the duties and responsibilities of serving as a deacon. At the conclusion of this meeting, nominees will be asked whether or not they are willing to continue in the process. From this group, a slate of up to six nominees will be developed for your consideration.

The last step in the process will be for you to elect your new Deacons at a called church conference during the 10:00 a.m. worship service on October 1, 2017. Please encourage those you nominated to consider serving and continue to be in prayer for this entire process.



PRAY FOR OUR DEACON ELECTION

Prayer Point: Spread Wide Thy Wings

Last Sunday I was struck by this line in Dr. Granada's prayer: "May (those affected by the hurricane) hear Your voice in the storm". In my daily devotions this week I found a poem that seems to speak to that prayer.

O soul of mine, spread wide thy wings:
Mount up; push out with courage strong!
And—like a bird which, soaring, sings—
Let heaven vibrate with thy song!
SPREAD WIDE THY WINGS, O SOUL OF MINE,
For God will ever faithful be:
His love shall guide thee; winds divine
Shall waft thee o'er this troubled sea.

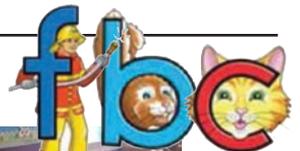
Though dangers threaten in the night,
Though tides of death below thee roll,
Though storms attend thy homeward flight,
SPREAD WIDE THY PINIONS, O MY SOUL!
Though shadows veil the verdant shore,
And distant seems the hallowed dawn,
Spread wide thy pinions—evermore
Spread wide thy pinions, and press on.

Robert Crumly

When you read this, take a moment to lift the victims and families of hurricanes Harvey and Irma to our faithful heavenly Father; and remember: He carries all who will trust Him on HIS STRONG and UNFAILING wings.

His servant and your friend,
Ginny Stikeleather

Back to FBC Preschool!





Messages by: Nelson Granade

Volume 74 Issue 19

September 17, 2017

CBF Mission Bite

Bite 49: Accessing resources for success

"Melanie's mom doesn't speak English well, and she didn't understand much about high school. I had lunch with Melanie, who told me she had been selected to participate in her school district's International Baccalaureate program, but she didn't think her parents would have the time or money for her to participate. Melanie, the oldest of four children, wants to become a pediatrician. After explaining the IB program to her parents, they agreed that this was an honor and an opportunity that she shouldn't pass up. We loaned her a computer, helped her enroll in a summer Algebra class, and found a tutor for her. Central American parents, many with only an elementary school education, want their children to succeed, but often lack the language or educational background necessary to fully understand how to help them reach their goals. Melanie is an excellent student, setting an example for others, and making her parents very proud."

- Greg and Sue Smith, CBF field personnel in Fredericksburg, Va

An Update From Carson & Laura Foushee

This summer Carson & Laura found a new apartment in Tokyo and are getting settled there. They have asked for prayers as they prepare to take their finals at the Japanese School. The finals are very comprehensive and include a listening test, an individual conversation test with their teachers, a reading comprehension test, and a written test that covers grammar, vocabulary and an essay. Some parts will be easier than others, but they need to pass each section to move ahead in October. Prayers for energy, focus and calm nerves would be wonderful!

Carson and Laura update their Facebook page with regular updates and photos. Visit this page at <https://www.facebook.com/pg/FousheesInJapan/posts/>



Fall Festival

Sunday, October 8, 2017

4:00-6:00 p.m. ~ Church Lawn

Please join us for our annual Fall Festival! We will have lots of games, prizes, candy, and snacks on the front lawn. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Melissa Wilson at 704-873-7231 or melissa@statesvillefbc.org. Also, be sure to pick up an extra bag of candy!

Announcements

Wednesday Evening Menus

September 20

chicken salad, potato salad, layered salad, crackers, & cake
Children's Menu: chicken nuggets & chips

September 27

cheeseburgers, french fries, & banana pudding
Children's Menu: same

Senior Adult Luncheon

Thursday, September 21, 2017

The first meeting of our new program year will be as follows:

Place: Adams Hall

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Program: Ulysses Long, Soloist

Lunch: 12:00 noon

Reservations: Call church office 704-873-7231

To reserve a seat, sign up in your Sunday School Class on Sunday, September 17, or call the church office no later than noon, Monday, September 18. The meal will be \$6.00, payable at the door.

Christmas Choir Begins September 20, 2017

First Baptist Church's Christmas Choir will begin on Wednesday, September 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the choir room. The choir is open to anyone wishing to participate in this year's Christmas program. We will be rehearsing every Wednesday starting at 7:00 p.m.

This year's Christmas presentation is entitled "A Night of Rejoicing: A Cantata for Christmas". Through music, narration and scripture, this cantata follows the journey from Old-Testament prophets foretelling the coming of the promised Messiah, to the angel telling Mary the astonishing news, to that star-filled night in Bethlehem with angels and shepherds proclaiming the joyous news of Christ's birth.

Please contact James Martin, Minister of Music and Worship, if you are interested in participating in this year's Christmas Choir. You can reach James by e-mail (jmartin@statesvillefbc.org) or by calling the church (704-873-7231).

