



Thank you to Landon Senn for all he has done for the Venture Student Ministry and First Baptist Church.

THE INTERIM



FIRST
BAPTIST
CHURCH
STATESVILLE

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March 1, 2015

Waiting

■ Roger Gilbert Interim Pastor

Psalms 25 is one of those many passages of scripture that repeatedly emphasizes the word “wait.” The Psalmist uses the word three times.

Verse 3: “Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame.”

Verse 5: “Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.”

Verse 21: “May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you.”

We 21st century Americans are not very fond of or good at waiting. We want to get on with whatever we want to do. The primary biblical use of “wait,” however, means more than being patient while stuck in snarled traffic or in the waiting room at the doctor’s office.

There are several different Hebrew and Greek words that are translated wait. Years ago I read an explanation of one of these words that has been very helpful to me. The writer said that the root Hebrew word was related to the word for “rope.”

The idea is that if you are in danger of falling off a high cliff but just before falling are able to grab hold of a rope that is well anchored above, you hang on to that rope with every ounce of energy you have. The concept of “waiting on the Lord” means to trust God and hang on to Him as the source of security and hope for the present and the future.

The discipline of “waiting on the Lord” is very closely related to the season of Lent. We are in the midst of a time of waiting as we move through this season and toward Easter. Waiting was something those early disciples learned in a fresh and powerful way as they looked back on Friday and Saturday in the light of Sunday. Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggemann has an insight that is relevant at this point. In *The Prophetic Imagination* he wrote,

The wrenching of Friday had left only the despair of Saturday (Luke 24:21) and there was no reason to expect Sunday after that Friday. There is not any way to explain the resurrection out of the previously existing reality. The resurrection can only be received and affirmed and celebrated as the new action of God whose province it is to create new futures for people....

I can only imagine the darkness and despair those first followers experienced on Friday and Saturday. They could not begin to imagine that there was any positive future at all. Jesus was dead, crucified by cruel, heartless, hate-filled people who held the reins of power. But on Sunday the darkness was shattered by the light and joy of resurrection. “He lives!” The disciples were familiar with the word “wait” for it was used so frequently in their scriptures. But now “waiting” took on a very personal and powerful meaning.

I pray that Lent and Easter will help us to experience in fresh and powerful ways the strength and hope that is ours in “waiting on the Lord.” As Brueggemann says, God is creating “new futures for people.”

New Precepts Study To Begin In March

Do you pray? Really, do you pray? How often? How effective do your prayers seem to be? Do you question whether your prayer life is all it should be? Do you ever wonder if God still answers when people pray? Do you worry that you don't truly understand what prayer really is? If you've asked yourself these questions, you are not alone. Almost all of us have questioned at some time what prayer really is and how--or if--it really works.

In this study we will discover the answers to these questions as we examine what Scripture teaches about prayer and consider how to apply those truths to our own lives. Sign up in the Welcome Center today for this intriguing study led by Ginny Stikeleather and Caroline Bentley. Study begins Tuesday, March 10, 6:00-8:00 p.m., and Wednesday, March 11, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Schedule

Sunday, March 1 ~ 1 Corinthians 1-5

- 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, March 2 ~ 1 Corinthians 6-9

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

Tuesday, March 3 ~ 1 Corinthians 10-13

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

Wednesday, March 4 ~ 1 Corinthians 14-16

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

Thursday, March 5 ~ 2 Corinthians 1-5

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

Friday, March 6 ~ 2 Corinthians 6-9

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

Saturday, March 7 ~ 2 Corinthians 10-13

Sunday, March 8 ~ Galatians 1-3

Daylight Savings Begins!

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

Monday, March 9 ~ Galatians 4-6

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

Tuesday, March 10 ~ Ephesians 1-3

- 6:00 p.m. Yoga - FLC
- 6:30 p.m. Precepts Bible Study - Adams Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball - Gym

Wednesday, March 11 ~ Ephesians 4-6

- 9:30 a.m. Precepts Bible Study
- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal
- 5:45 p.m. Adult Bible Study
- 5:45 p.m. Activities for Students and Children
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, March 12 ~ Philippians 1-4

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

Friday, March 13 ~ Colossians 1-4

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

Saturday, March 14 ~ 1 Thessalonians 1-5

Inclement Weather Policy

Our church follows the Iredell-Statesville Schools policy for closings due to inclement weather. If the schools are closed, the church office is closed and all church activities for that day are canceled. You may check the church closing status by calling the church office and checking the recording (704-873-7231), checking our website (www.statesvillefbc.org), and checking the following TV stations (WBTV, Charlotte; WSOC-TV, Charlotte; WCNC-TV, Charlotte).

Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of February 15 & 22, 2015

	2/15	2/22
Church in Bible Study	117	148
Church in Worship	234	213
8:30 a.m. service	89	56
10:55 a.m. service	145	157

Financial Statistics

Weeks of February 15 & 22, 2015

	2/15	2/22
Budget - Received	\$7,326.00	\$23,372.79
Alms	20.00	0.00
Designated - Received	1,367.00	1,075.00
Building Reserve - Received	0.00	25.00

International & Global Missions Offering

Global Missions - Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

\$7,745.00

International Mission - Southern Baptist Convention

\$2,398.00

TOTAL: \$10,143.00

GOAL: \$15,000

TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 2/15/15 8,693.00

TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 2/22/15 24,472.79

Budget for 2014-2015 865,070.00

Budget Received-Year to Date 409,649.78

Remaining in Budget - Unfunded 455,420.22

Designated Funds Received-Year to Date 42,883.70

Alms Received-Year to Date 3,339.96

Building Reserve-Year to Date 8,597.00

Total Giving-Year to Date 462,359.50



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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Children's Ministry

Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser Sunday, March 22, 2015 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. ~ FLC

This fundraiser will be a little different. We will still have it from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., but I just need a few parents to help out in serving the food. No one needs to bring anything! If you are able to help boil some noodles and set up please contact Melissa Wilson at 704-873-7231, ext. 308.

VBS Craft Day Saturday, February 28, 2015 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. ~ Adams Hall

We will have a VBS craft day on Saturday, February 28 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. We can use your help in making props and decorations for VBS! There will be a variety of crafts from papier mache to cutting paper. Everyone is welcome to help! We will meet in Adams Hall at 10:00 a.m.!

Family Lent Kit

I hope you all have dug into your Family Lent Kit and are enjoying the activities available for our family. If you have any questions, feel free to e-mail or text me at melissa@statesvillefbc.org or 828-499-0676

Say Cheese!

We are still working on getting pictures of everyone!

Children's Choir Notes

The Children's Choir will help lead in worship at the 11:00 service on March 29 & April 26. Please make every effort to have your child at these services, so they can help lead the worship.



Student Ministry

There is a beautiful team God has put into place this past year. The Student Ministry Team consists of men and women who are excited to serve the amazing students of First Baptist Church. God has entrusted these leaders to love, support, and minister to our wonderful group of students. Encourage them often and ask how you can help serve them!

Words can't express the love I have for everyone that is a part of the VentureNation. Grace and peace my fellow servants.
- Landon Senn

Plan of Action

Sunday Morning: Chris Simon will be responsible for coordinating all Sunday morning activities.
Wednesday Night: Debi Martin will be responsible for coordinating all Wednesday night activities.
Events: Jason and Kim Allen will be responsible for coordinating all special events.
Camp: Melissa Wilson will be responsible for coordinating this summer's trip to camp.
Overseeing: James Martin will be responsible for overseeing each of these areas. .

Thank You Landon Senn

Here is a just a small glimpse at all the memories Landon and Erin Senn made with our Venture Student Ministry. We will certainly miss Landon and Erin Senn. Thank you for all the wonderful things you did for the Venture Students and FBC.



VENTURE STUDENT MINISTRY



Announcements

Christian Sympathy

...is extended to the family and friends of Iona Grant in her death on February 14, 2015.

Christian Sympathy

...is extended to Sylvia Williams in the death of her brother-in-law Andy Williams. Andy was an active member of FBC in the 1960s and 1970s.

Baptist Women

Monday, March 2, 2015

10:00 a.m. ~ Conference Room

All women are invited to attend a meeting on Monday, March 2 in the pastor's conference room at 10:00 a.m. to observe the Week of Prayer for North American Missions, which is March 1-7.

Missions Fair

Wednesday, March 4 & Sunday, March 8

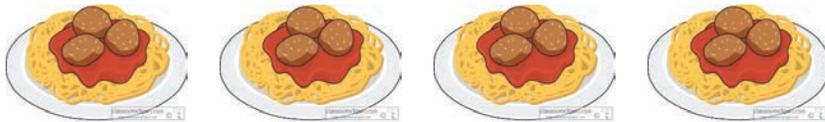
Please be sure to stop by the Missions Fair one Wednesday, March 4 or Sunday, March 8. You will learn about all the missions opportunities offered at FBC and learn how you can be part of these missions.

Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser

Sunday, March 22, 2015

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

The Children's Ministry will host a spaghetti lunch to raise funds for the children's trip to Look Up Lodge this summer. Please come by to eat lunch and make a donation!



New Transportation Ministry

A new transportation ministry is forming to assist our members who need transportation to church services, doctor appointments, and grocery shopping. If you are interested in being a driver or if you have question, please call Hilda Lee at 704-876-0590. You will need to provide copies of your driver's license and insurance declaration page.



Operation Inasmuch

Saturday, April 25, 2015

Please save the date! Operation Inasmuch will take place Saturday, April 25. Please look for more details soon!

Worship Greeters Sunday, March 1

Chris Simon Jeff Templeton David Lewis
Chuck Heckel Jason Allen

Sunday, March 8

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

Acolytes Sunday, March 1

Emily Ashley & Mallory Reid

Sunday, March 8

William Simon & Georgiana Simon

Coffee Rotation Sunday, March 1

Emanons Class

Sunday, March 8

Dan & Jean Mills

Weekday Preschool Registration

Our Weekday Preschool will begin fall registration on Monday, March 2. Current students and church members receive priority placement IF forms are submitted before registration begins on March 16. If you have a child who will be 18 months - 5 years old by August 31, please contact Renae Keesbury, Director, Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Her number is 704-873-7231, ext. 209.

Church Facilities

Please remember that all members of First Baptist Church are welcome to use the church facilities for birthday parties, showers, family reunions, or any other type of event. Members and church teams are asked to make your reservation at least two weeks in advance. Please call the church office at 704-873-7231 to reserve the church facilities for your next event.