FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH STATESVILLE

THE INTERIM

The children portray the nativity at "And There Was Light" Christmas Program on December 22, 2019,

Volume 77 Issue 1 **January 5, 2020**

From the Pastor...

Happy New Year! We look forward to a great year at First Baptist Church and know you will want to be a part of it. 2020 will bring several new opportunities for us – including a new Wednesday evening schedule (begins January 8, 2020) and an Epiphany Sunday Sermon Series entitled: Light for Living.

We are pushing things back a bit on Wednesdays to give more folks time to get to church and be part of our great Wednesday night events. Our meal will now begin at 5:30 p.m. and our Bible Study will start at 6:15 p.m. If you still want to come at 5:00 p.m., however, feel free to come on and enjoy some fellowship time with your friends.

Wednesday Evenings at FBC

Reservations Needed by Monday at noon

2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday After-School Program
4:45 p.m. Children's Choir
5:00 p.m. Fellowship
5:30 p.m. Family Night Meal
6:15 p.m. Adult Bible Study &
Activities for Children & Students
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Family Night Meal Reservations

1. Standing Reservation - For those who plan to attend every Wednesday. Just call the church office if you need to cancel.
2. Weekly Reservations - Call the church office or e-mail christine@statesvillefbc.org with your reservation.
3. Remind App - Text "@fbcmeals" to 81010 to join. You will receive a text each Sunday with Wednesday's menu. Simply reply to the text with your reservation.

Missions Partners

We will have guest speakers from our local mission partners sharing about their work in the community.

Sticky Faith

Led by Elizabeth Kilby

This is a study for all families to grow and to learn how to develop faith that sticks for themselves, their spouses, and their children.

We will also have two opportunities for spiritual growth on Wednesdays. First, we will be hearing from several of our mission partners about their work in Iredell and beyond. If you'd like to hear these speakers, just stay in the Fellowship Hall. Second, we will be exploring how to develop our children's faith so that it sticks into adulthood. Elizabeth Kilby will lead the "Sticky Faith" Study in the FLC Activities Room.

Another change for us will be our meals – which will be catered by JD's Catering. The food will be delicious, but we will have to give JD a reservation count each week. You can make a permanent reservation or a weekly reservation by filling out the card in the pew rack or by calling the church office by noon on Monday. You can also join "Remind App" and receive a weekly menu and reservation reminder (Text: @fbcsmeals to 81010).

January and February are also the time of Epiphany in the Church year. Epiphany is the season of light. Not only are the days getting longer, but we see how the light of Christ changes our world. Our sermon series for Epiphany will be Light for Living and we will look at how the Psalms can shed new light on our daily faith journey. I hope your New Year's resolutions will include being a part of your church each and every week.

Schedule

Sunday, January 5
9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
5:00 p.m. Venture Students
Monday, January 6
9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary
Tuesday, January 7
10:15 a.m. Sewing Group
6:00 p.m. Precept Study
Wednesday, January 8
9:30 a.m. Precept Study
New Wednesday Schedule Begins
2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday After-School Program
4:45 p.m. Children's Choir
5:00 p.m. Time of Fellowship
5:30 p.m. Family Night Meal
6:15 p.m. Children's & Teen Missions
6:15 p.m. Adult Bible Study
Guest Speaker: Jim Staples, Iredell-Statesville Schools Bible Association
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice
Thursday, January 9
1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Sunday, January 12
9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
5:00 p.m. Venture Students
Monday, January 13
9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary
Tuesday, January 14
10:15 a.m. Sewing Group
6:00 p.m. Precept Study
Wednesday, January 15
9:30 a.m. Precept Study
2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday After-School Program
4:45 p.m. Children's Choir
5:00 p.m. Fellowship Time
5:30 p.m. Family Night Meal
6:15 p.m. Children's & Teen Missions
6:15 p.m. Adult Bible Study
Guest Speaker: Brooke Moose, Director of Development for Habitat For Humanity
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice
Thursday, January 16
11:00 a.m. Senior Adult Luncheon
1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

FLC Activities Schedule

Monday, January 6
8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball
11:45 a.m. Linedancers
7:00 p.m. Pickle Ball
Tuesday, January 7
7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball
Wednesday, January 8
8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball
2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday After-School Program
5:00 p.m. Fellowship Time
5:30 p.m. Family Night Meal
6:15 p.m. Adult Bible Study
Thursday, January 9
8:30 a.m. Pickleball
1:00 p.m. Clothes Clothes
Friday, January 10
11:45 a.m. Linedancers
Monday, January 13
8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball
11:45 a.m. Linedancers
7:00 p.m. Pickle Ball

Tuesday, January 14
7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball
Wednesday, January 15
8:30 a.m. Pickleball
2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday After-School Program
5:00 p.m. Fellowship Time
5:30 p.m. Family Night Meal
6:15 p.m. Adult Bible Study
Thursday, January 16
8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball
11:00 a.m. Senior Adult Luncheon
1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet
7:00 p.m. Senior Men's Basketball
Friday, January 17
11:45 a.m. Linedancers

Church Staff Directory

Dr. Nelson Granade.....Senior Minister
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, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Fri
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Financial Statistics

	December	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	158,159.00	296,987.00
Budget Receipts	87,314.00	234,276.00
Needed to Meet Goals	70,845.00	62,711.00
Alms	854.00	2,402.00
Designated	6,065.00	25,497.00
Continuing the Dream		114,750

Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of December 22 & 29, 2019

	12/22	12/29
Church in Bible Study	121	107
Church in Worship	235	167

“And There Was Light” Cookie Social - December 22, 2019

Prayer: Cure the Post Holiday “Blues”

God knew you and me before He created the world. He knew exactly what we would be experiencing at this very moment. Today I read a devotional by A.W. Tozer, (“This World: Playground or Battleground”, pp. 7-8), and it prompted this prayer:

Thank You, Lord, for diverting my mind from fear to assurance. I praise You, God—for You are awesome, majestic, and radiant in splendor! You are light; in You is not one scintilla of darkness—and I am IN YOU! There is nothing I have to fear—poverty, sickness, old age—no inadequacy or loss of any kind. In You, my Jehovah-Jireh, I have everything and more! “When my mother and father (even husband and children and friends) forsake me, You will receive me.” (Psalm 27:10) You are the stronghold of my life. (v. 1)

Praising God through His Word will lift you up, no matter what your circumstances may look like. Let’s make 2020 a quest of pursuing God through prayer. It will change you and me, and it will change our church into everything God wants us to be.

His servant and your friend,
Ginny Stikeleather

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CBF Mission Bites

Mission Bite 160: Watch it Multiply

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship is no giant in the mission-minded agencies of this world. We are small, with few resources.

Many times I feel like a little boy tousled and tossed by the crowd in Togo, but somehow I am pushed to the side of Jesus. A Jesus in need, a Jesus searching for some help. Millions around us hungry, needy. Yet, CBF churches have placed in my small basket two fish and five loaves. I offer them up and Jesus the multiplier takes and blesses.

He blesses David the refugee. He blesses Audrey the homeless teenage girl. He blesses 12 year old Matthias, rejected by his family. He blesses so many with so little. We are small, but we are oh so essential to the hungry, homeless, nameless masses of West Africa. Give what you have, offer it up and watch it multiply in the hands of Jesus.

-Lynn and Mike Hutchinson, CBF field personnel in Togo, West Africa

Mission Bite 161: Sowing Community

We helped her plant watermelon seeds in May, a big field of rows and rows of watermelon seeds! We had started a friendship with Sylvia and her contact was in my phone. We often talked about the need for us to come and help her with planting or harvesting, or whatever else came up at the Conetoe Family Life Center garden. She was a wealth of information about all things gardening. We became friends on Facebook. We shared videos. She told us about her family.

But, in October we learned that Sylvia, just 63, had passed away from an intestinal blockage that turned septic. Health education and awareness might have saved her life.

We keep working to connect people with the help they need, to offer the hope that points to the possibilities of a life where this kind of disease, this kind of health situation, can be caught and treated in time. Nutrition is just one facet of the kind of relationship building that is key. Planting seeds . . . both the physical kind and the spiritual kind.

-Anna Anderson and LaCount Anderson, CBF field personnel in Rocky Mount, N.C.

Announcements

Senior Adult Luncheon
Thursday, January 16, 2020
11:00 a.m. - FLC

The first luncheon of the new year will feature musicians Clay Lunsford and Matthew Weaver. You will need to call the church at 704-873-7231 by noon on Monday, January 13 to reserve your seat. Program at 11:00 a.m. and lunch at noon. Cost of lunch is $6.00.

Wednesday Evening Missions Speakers

January 8, 2020
Iredell Statesville Schools Bible Association
Jim Staples

January 15, 2020
Habitat for Humanity
Brook Moose, Director of Development

January 22, 2020
CareNet Counseling
Cindy Ray

January 29, 2020
Power Cross Ministries
Natalie Storment

February 5, 2020
Fifth Street Ministries
Will Long

February 12, 2020
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of NC
Larry Hovis, Coordinator

February 19, 2020
Hospice of Iredell County
Amy Feimster, Faith Outreach