



# THE INTERIM

*The gym floor has been refinished. We are excited to return to our activities when restrictions lift.*

Volume 77 Issue 10

May 10, 2020

## From the Pastor...

We are looking forward to the day when we can gather again as a congregation. We also want to make sure that we do so in a way that is safe and protects the most vulnerable among us. This means making plans for a phased return, reflective of the phases of North Carolina's reopening.

As you probably know, our State is opening in three phases. Phase One is a very limited reopening and it is scheduled to begin May 9 (depending upon decreased spread of cases). **Churches, however, are not allowed to gather again until Phase Two** (which will be two to three weeks after Phase One ends – also depending upon decreased cases).

This means the earliest we can begin the process of returning to church will be late May or perhaps even June, but only if cases continue to decrease. If we are able to return, we will do so under restrictions – so our gatherings will look much different from what we were used to. Here are a few of the things that might have to alter:

- Our numbers will be limited, so we might worship in multiple rooms (such as the Sanctuary, Adams Hall and the Fellowship Hall).
- If multiple rooms don't allow enough space, we might have to worship on a rotating basis or have multiple services.
- We must continue social distancing (six feet apart), which means we will have to block off some pews in the sanctuary and spread out in the other spaces.
- Wearing masks might be necessary – remember this is to protect yourself and others.
- Vulnerable groups, like senior adults and those with underlying health conditions should not return until Phase Three (best case scenario would be sometime in July).

We are also thinking through ways to safely have Sunday School, Wednesday Noon Bible Study and other ministries (such as Children and Youth). Your staff, deacons and other church leaders are doing our best to balance the need to return and the health of all involved. We will give you the best information we have, but know that things are in flux and are subject to change.

Our church is learning to be adaptive – which is a lot like the Early Church. Many of the lessons we are learning in this crisis will help us be stronger in the future. Connecting with First Baptist Church digitally will continue both throughout this time and beyond. We will also continue to connect with each other more closely. And, we will be even more responsive to our community and world.

*For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right  
hand and says to you,  
Do not fear; I will help you.*

Isaiah 41:13

# Ministries Continue Amid Pandemic

## Schedule

### Sunday, May 10

#### Happt Mother's Day

9:00 a.m. Sunday School - Zoom & Live Stream

10:00 a.m. Worship - Live Stream

### Wednesday, May 13

12:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting - Zoom

5:30 p.m. Wednesday Evening Meal Available for Pick Up

Reservations Required

\$6.00/meal

### Sunday, May 17

9:00 a.m. Sunday School - Zoom & Live Stream

10:00 a.m. Worship - Live Stream

### Wednesday, May 20

12:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting - Zoom

5:30 p.m. Wednesday Evening Meal Available for Pick Up

Reservations Required

\$6.00/meal



Visit [www.statesvillefbc.org](http://www.statesvillefbc.org) for a direct link to our live stream.



### Sunday School Zoom Links

You can use these links to access your Sunday School class meeting every Sunday.

#### Youth

<https://zoom.us/j/498935664?pwd=dzZXSHVwTmRZWjc2cldpbXJKam1Fdz09>

Meeting ID: 498 935 664

Password: FBCSYOUTH

#### Horizons

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74224580015?pwd=NFVWRzJKc040c3daajdSbytpNnVtUT09>

Meeting ID: 742 2458 0015

Password: 0NDGPa

#### Crosswalk

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5836118334?pwd=SHhFZzdFZlI4ZVRGdW95Mzh3THlCd09>

Meeting ID: 583 611 8334

Password: 3760

#### Adults

<https://zoom.us/j/95486330678?pwd=bEJxYk05dkRLejFmTFRRReXNQTDVzZ09>

Meeting ID: 954 8633 0678

Password: 412860

One tap mobile

+19294362866,,628381975# US (New York)

Meeting ID: 954 8633 0678

#### Children

Melissa records a new lesson for the children each week. You can access the link in your weekly e-mail, on the church Facebook page, and on the church website, [www.statesvillefbc.org](http://www.statesvillefbc.org). email, links on the church website and Facebook page have been deactivated for our children's internet safety.

## 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  
Tel: 704-873-7231

### THE INTERIM (USPS 581-800)

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## Financial Statistics

	May	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	14,957.00	607,324.00
Budget Receipts	68,536.00	518,324.00
Needed to Meet Goals	53,579.00	88,831.00
Alms	150.00	4,322.00
Designated	1,047.00	88,831.00

### Virtual Prayer Meeting Wednesdays at Noon

Join Pastor Nelson each Wednesday for a virtual prayer meeting via Zoom.

Meeting ID: 259 365 815  
Password: 978702

To join by phone, call the following number and enter the Meeting ID and Password:

Phone: 929-436-2866  
Meeting ID: 259 365 815



## Taking Care of Your Emotional Health During the COVID-19 Outbreak

It is natural to feel stress, anxiety, grief, and worry during and after a disaster. Everyone reacts differently, and your own feelings will change over time. Notice and accept how you feel. Taking care of your emotional health during an emergency will help you think clearly and react to the urgent needs to protect yourself and your family. Self-care during an emergency will help your long-term healing.

People with preexisting mental health conditions should continue with their treatment plans during an emergency and monitor for any new symptoms.

Take the following steps to cope with a disaster:

- Take care of your body— Try to eat healthy well-balanced meals, exercise regularly, and get plenty of sleep. Avoid alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.
- Connect with others— Share your concerns and how you are feeling with a friend or family member. Maintain healthy relationships, and build a strong support system.
- Take breaks— Make time to unwind and remind yourself that strong feelings will fade. Try taking in deep breaths. Try to do activities you usually enjoy.
- Stay informed— When you feel that you are missing information, you may become more stressed or nervous. Watch, listen to, or read the news for updates from officials. Be aware that there may be rumors during a crisis, especially on social media.
- Always check your sources and turn to reliable sources of information like your local government authorities.
- Avoid too much exposure to news— Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories. It can be upsetting to hear about the crisis and see images repeatedly. Try to do enjoyable activities and return to normal life as much as possible and check for updates between breaks.
- Seek help when needed— If distress impacts activities of your daily life for several days or weeks, talk to a clergy member, counselor, or doctor. Look out for these common signs of distress: feelings of numbness, disbelief, anxiety or fear; changes in appetite, energy, and activity levels; difficulty concentrating; difficulty sleeping or nightmares and upsetting thoughts and images; physical reactions, such as headaches, body pains, stomach problems, and skin rashes; worsening of chronic health problems; anger or short-temper; increased use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs.

<https://emergency.cdc.gov/coping/selfcare.asp>

## Praying Daniel's Prayer

When you get used to “praying God’s Word”, you will often be struck by a passage that applies to a situation that mirrors your own circumstances. Remember Daniel’s prayer in last week’s Sunday School lesson? “Now, our God, hear the prayers and petitions of your servant. FOR YOUR SAKE, Lord, look with favor on Your desolate sanctuary. Give ear, our God, and hear; open your eyes and see the desolation of the city (country) that bears Your Name. We do not make requests of You because we are righteous, but because of Your great mercy. Lord, listen! Lord, forgive! Lord, hear and act! FOR YOUR SAKE, my God, do not delay, because Your city (country) and Your people bear Your Name.” (Dan. 9:17-19) Jesus often said, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” Let us hear and pray the Word of the Lord at this critical and opportune time.

“For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.” (Romans 15:4)

His servant and your friend,  
Ginny Stikeleather



CBF Mission Bites

Mission Bite 179: Like a Good Neighbor

We've been in a national lock down for more than three weeks now in Spain. It's working.

The new cases of COVID-19 seem to be leveling off and down turning. Unfortunately, many people continue to die from this disease. How do you minister to people experiencing such grief? You can't be with your loved ones as they struggle and take their last breaths. We send WhatsApp messages to the pastors and people with whom we minister. It doesn't seem enough, but we want them to know that they are not alone. We are with them from our apartments in support, and God is as close as their breath.

On the Spanish radio this morning, they told the story of elderly people all across Spain voluntarily giving up their space for treatment for those younger. When one lady was asked why she is doing this, she replied, "These are my neighbors. I may not know them, but I live with them in the same neighborhood and I see them taking their kids to school each day and playing in the parks. How can I not try and be a good neighbor and give them the gift of future time with their families?" That, my friends, is great love. For no greater love has someone, but to lay down their life for another. May Christ keep you and hold you, forever and ever. Blessings from Spain.

-Matt and Michelle Norman, CBF field personnel in Barcelona, Spain

Mission Bite 180: A Real Miracle

We were wondering if the Food Pantry should stay open every Saturday or not, without food we can't do much. Of course, the calls are coming, people are asking if we will be open and if we can offer anything. Again, we know how many families are in need especially in this hard time. Without any volunteers, the four of us went out on Friday and started preparing bags to share on Saturday morning.

We usually get a lot of food from local stores, but since stores are struggling with food these days, we didn't expect to get a lot from them. When we arrived on Saturday morning, the volunteers driving the truck called to let us know that they received plenty of food. There were prepared foods, donuts, fruits, bread, etc. A real miracle!

From planning to give out a couple of cans and some dry goods. We received so much food that we filled up two big bags with food for each participant. 48 families came in that morning. We scheduled people to come in groups of 10 in 15 minutes increments. Of course, they followed the CDC rules of keeping a distance from each other.

Happy and thankful that we had plenty of food to give to them and they left with a smile on their face but also with a question of whether we would work next Saturday.

God really shows us that he really has everything under control. That he's going to protect us as we serve others.

- Mira & Sasha Zivanov, CBF field personnel in St. Louis, Missouri



Announcements

Welcome to Our Church Family



Rex & Linda Card joined our congregation on Sunday, April 26. Welcome to our church family



Richard & Terri Helms will join our congregation this Sunday, May 10. Welcome to our church family!

A Note of Appreciation from Danny & Ginny Stikeleather

Dear church family and friends, Ginny and I want to express our deepest gratitude and thanks for your prayers, expressions of sympathy, food, and gifts as we journey through this time of the loss of our son Danny Ray. May God reward you for your many acts of kindness. We love you all!

Danny and Ginny Stikeleather and family

You have been a beautiful example of God's love. Proverbs 31

Happy Mother's Day!

