

Paulette Templeton and Jacob Palmer  
enjoy the Thanksgiving Celebration on  
Sunday, November 18.

# THE INTERIM

Volume 75 Issue 24



November 25, 2018

## From the Pastor..

Do you remember the age you were when you moved from making lists of what you wanted for Christmas to making lists of what you would give at Christmas? Little children can be very giving, but at Christmas most focus on what Santa will bring. Somewhere along the way, however, the majority of us begin to focus on what others might want or need.

When I was around ten I saw a commercial for the Ronco Bottle and Jar Cutter. It showed how you could make drinking glasses out of old bottles and jars. Of course you can also just drink out of bottles and jars, but I was ten and it looked like so much fun. I convinced myself that it would be something that my mom would really love – surely we needed more glasses!

I was so excited on Christmas day when my mom opened “her” Ronco Bottle and Jar Cutter. She feigned excitement over the gift, but didn’t jump right to using it. So I decided to show her how much fun and how useful it could be. I don’t think mom ever made one glass, but I made about a dozen before getting bored with turning bottles around and around for hours.

As an adult, I realize that gift was much more for me than for my mom. I had tricked myself into believing that I was thinking about someone else; all the while getting something I wanted. I could blame this on being a child, but if you ask Valerie about the Christmas she got a gas grill, she might have a different opinion. In my defense, our grill was broken and we have a Christmas tradition of grilling flank steak for the family (there I go rationalizing again).

What about you? I’m sure you spend a lot of time focusing on giving wonderful gifts to your family and friends at Christmas. You might also have a few things you’d really like to get. Most of us have learned that it is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35). We get a lot more satisfaction out of helping others than doing for ourselves. My mom once told me that the glass cutter was one of her favorite gifts, because she took pleasure in watching me enjoy it.

As you make your Christmas lists of who all you will give to this year, I hope you put Christ first. You please Jesus when you give to those in need. The ones scripture calls the “least of these.” You cause rejoicing in heaven when you share your faith with those who don’t know Christ. You enrich the Kingdom of God when you give to our church and other mission causes. We’re all counting down the shopping days till Christmas, but you can do good any day of the year.



In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ ”

Acts 20:35

## Schedule

### Sunday, November 25

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages  
 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary  
 4:00 p.m. Venture Voices  
 5:00 p.m. Venture Students

### Monday, November 26

9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

### Tuesday, November 27

10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

### Wednesday, November 28

2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday After School Program  
 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal  
 6:00 p.m. Activities for Children & Students  
 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study Options  
 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

### Thursday, November 29

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

### Friday, November 30

6:00 p.m. Parents' Night Out

### Sunday, December 2

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages  
 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary  
 4:00 p.m. Venture Voices  
 5:00 p.m. Venture Students

### Monday, December 3

9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary

### Tuesday, December 4

10:15 a.m. Sewing Group

### Wednesday, December 5

2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday After School Program  
 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal  
 6:00 p.m. Activities for Children & Students  
 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study Options  
 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

### Thursday, December 6

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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## FLC Activities Schedule

### Monday, November 26

9:30 a.m. Pickleball  
 11:45 a.m. Line Dancers

### Tuesday, November 27

7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

### Wednesday, November 28

8:00 a.m. Pickleball  
 2:30 Wonderful Wednesday After School Program  
 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal  
 6:00 p.m. Activities for Children & Students

6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study Options

### Thursday, November 29

9:30 a.m. Pickleball  
 7:00 p.m. Senior Men's Basketball

### Friday, November 30

11:45 a.m. Line Dancers

### Wednesday, December 5

2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday After School Program  
 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal  
 6:00 p.m. Activities for Children & Students  
 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study Options

### Thursday, December 6

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

## Spiritual Statistics

### Weeks of November 11 & 18, 2018

	11/11	11/18
Church in Bible Study . . . . .	122	135
Church in Worship. . . . .	177	205

## Financial Statistics

	November	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	68,538.00	138,834.00
Budget Receipts	34,865.00	84,105.00
Needed to Meet Goal	33,673.00	54,729.00
Alms	577.00	1,131.00
Designated	15,355.00	22,788.00

### Habitat for Humanity Day Saturday, January 12, 2019

Habitat for Humanity has asked our church for volunteers on January 12 to do punch list work and cleaning at 1115 Partnership Way. The work day will begin at 7:45 a.m. There will be a short safety talk and then tasks will be assigned. We should have everything accomplished at 12:00 or 1:00 p.m. If you would like to volunteer, please call David Potter at 704-657-7227.



## Thanksgiving Celebration ~ Sunday, November 18, 2018



### White Christmas is Almost Here! Sunday, December 9, 2018

We have been looking forward to and working toward our White Christmas celebration for several months, and it's almost here. The families have been adopted and our shoppers are busy searching for just the right gifts to make Christmas wishes come true for the children. December 9 is right around the corner, and there is still a lot of work to be done.

Here are some other things you can do to help:

1. Pray for this ministry and the families we will serve.
2. Please give generously. Mark your donations "Christmas Ministries" We need money to pay for the food and the gift cards.
3. Please bring your toys to the gym this Sunday, Dec. 2. Make sure all gifts for each family are brought to the gym together. Each family's gifts must remain together. Place the family sheet on the outside of the bag. Do not wrap the gifts. Put the child's name on each gift. We will be in the gym that Sunday morning to check in the toys. If you can't bring your toys this Sunday, please call us.
4. We still need homemade desserts to serve our guests.
5. Plan to be a part of this ministry Sunday, Dec. 9. Please plan to come and help. Volunteers are needed to greet our guests and visit with them in the Fellowship Hall while they enjoy cake, cookies, and goodies. Volunteers are also needed to help carry their toys and food to their cars. We will meet in Adams Hall right after the 10:00 service for a snack lunch and instructions. Our guests will be arriving at 12:30.
6. In order that we may plan for the snack lunch for volunteers, please call the Church office or call one of us to let us know you are coming.
7. Help is needed Friday, Dec. 7 to help get the toy bags ready to be given out. If you can help that day, please let us know.

Because of your willingness to share your time and money with those less fortunate, you are truly expressing the love of Christ and the real meaning of Christmas.

Sherry Ashley - 704-450-7238  
Janet McLain - 704-838-3732  
Carol Hunter - 704-682-2131

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### Is Thanksgiving Over?

Yes, the food, family, fun of being together (and of course, football) may have come to an end—but was that really Thanksgiving? Has God ended His showers of blessing? Not until His clock stops ticking will we run out of things to thank God for (and not even then). That's why our prayers should reflect that EVERY DAY is Thanksgiving Day. When we wake up in the morning, our first prayer should be thanksgiving for another day to glorify our Savior; when we lie down at night, our last prayer should be thanksgiving for His guidance and protection through the maze of the day. If it was a happy day, He held your hand and rejoiced with you; if you barely made it through, it was He who embraced you and carried you. Thanksgiving is the best thing we can offer God. "He who sacrifices thank offerings honors Me, and he prepares the way so that I may show him the salvation of God." (Psalm 50:23)

Let's honor God by making EVERY DAY Thanksgiving Day.

His servant and your friend,  
Ginny Stikeleather



**CBF Misson Bites**

**Bite 106: Joyful & Resilient in the Face of Floodwaters**

*Over 90 percent of homes in Trenton, N.C., were damaged by floodwaters from Hurricane Florence.*

*During a recent visit to help local volunteer coordinator, Daynette Snead, as she prepared for teams from CBF churches to assist in the recovery effort, much of our time was spent in the hard-hit neighborhood of Haiti (pronounced hay-tie). Residents were still cleaning up—some preparing to rebuild, while others face uncertainty due to lack of resources.*

*This close-knit community includes the family of Ms. Mattie, pictured above, whose husband drowned during Hurricane Floyd in 1999. Even though they recently lost possessions and must replace the floor and walls of Ms. Mattie’s home, this is a joyful and resilient family, blessing us with a song of benediction as we departed.*

-Rick Burnette, CBF field personnel and coordinator for U.S. Disaster Response

**Bite 107: Little Things Can Make All the Difference**

*As Rev. Lorenzo Ortiz, pastor of Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel in Laredo, tries to coordinate assistance to the daily 200 deportees from the U.S. to Nuevo Laredo just across the border, he came upon a need he wasn’t thinking of.*

*While being held in detention centers, the people have to relinquish their belts and shoelaces. After being bused to the border crossing and then walked to the Mexican processing office, they sit waiting to either be released in the city or be bused to another area of Mexico.*

*Have you ever tried to walk with shoes and no laces? They usually flop around and make it difficult even to walk.*

*As we were sharing some bags of snacks with them, they began to ask about shoelaces. Pastor Ortiz decided to go pick some up at one of the local churches he has been partnering with.*

*When he returned with the shoelaces, everyone flocked to him and requested some. They immediately began lacing their shoes. Now at least one worry was checked off their mental lists.*

*Please continue to pray for the immigration and border situation. Pray for those like Pastor Ortiz who are trying to show the love of Christ to so many people who are searching for hope.*

Butch and Nell Green, CBF field personnel in Houston, Texas



**Announcements**

**Deacon Ministry Team**

On Sunday, November 11, our congregation elected Jason Allen, Shannon Ashley, and Carol Hunter to our Deacon Ministry Team. They will begin to serve January 1, 2019.

At the Deacon Ministry Team meeting on Sunday, November 18, our deacons elected Clarence Poole as chair and David Potter as co-chair for 2019-2020

**Parents’ Night Out  
Friday, November 30, 2018  
6:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

Bring your children (birth-grade 5) for some fun while you enjoy an evening out. The kids will eat pizza, make a craft, and watch a movie. There is a suggested donation of \$3.00 to cover the cost of the pizza. Teenage volunteers should sign up with Melissa.

