



*The children sing during the worship service on World Communion Sunday, October 1.*

# THE INTERIM



Volume 80 Issue 22

October 22, 2023

## From the Pastor...

As I've watched world events over the last weeks my heart has been broken. The terrorism that occurred in Israel brings back memories of 9/11 and all the hurt and anger we felt as a country. It also reminds me that we live in a volatile world where hatred seeks to kill and destroy.

What should be our response to this crisis and the continued war in Ukraine? I think it should be one of humility and prayer. I say this because I don't understand everything, so I need to go to God. I also say this, because Christ calls us to find the most loving response in every situation.

I've thought about several scriptures that might apply. I remember that Abraham had two sons and we need to remember that we are all related in some way. I think about Jesus talking of wars and rumors of wars, and how we are not to be deceived by false messiahs. I think of the psalmist's call to pray for the peace of Jerusalem, but also the Jesus's call to pray for our enemies.

What I think most applies, however, is Jesus call for us to have a consistent ethic – no matter the circumstance. That is why "blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God" (Matthew 5:9), keeps coming to my heart again and again. No matter my personal feelings, Christ calls me to be a peacemaker.

Many of you have asked me questions about the background of the conflict in Israel and Gaza. Since this is not my field of expertise, I've invited our friend, Dr. Larry Gregg, to speak to us at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 1, 2023. Larry has a unique academic background and has also traveled extensively in the Middle East, where he has related to both Israelis and Palestinians. Join us as seek to better understand this situation.

### **Larry Gregg to Speak on Conflict in Israel & Gaza Wednesday, November 1, 2023**

Larry will begin speaking at 6:00 p.m. The meal will be served 5:15-6:15 p.m. Cost is \$6.00/adult and \$4.00/child.



## Schedule

### Sunday, October 22

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary & Live Stream

### Monday, October 23

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

### Wednesday, October 25

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wed. After School Program

5:15 p.m. Wednesday Evening Meal

6:00 p.m. Children's Music & Missions

6:00 p.m. Youth on Mission

6:00 p.m. Adult Study: The Commands of Jesus

7:00 pm Choir

### Thursday, October 26

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

### Sunday, October 29

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary & Live Stream

5:30 p.m. Trunk or Treat

### Monday, October 30

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

### Wednesday, November 1

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wed. After School Program

5:15 p.m. Wednesday Evening Meal

6:00 p.m. Children's Music & Missions

6:00 p.m. Youth on Mission

6:00 p.m. Adult Study: The Commands of Jesus

7:00 pm Choir

7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

### Thursday, November 2

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

## Church Staff Directory

Dr. Nelson Granade.....Senior Minister  
 Mr. James Martin.....Minister of Music & Worship  
 Rev. Melissa Wilson.....Minister of Children & Youth  
 Mrs. Kristina Kyles.....Children's Ministry Associate  
 Mrs. Elizabeth Kilby.....Minister of Young Families & Missions  
 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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*Happy Birthday*

### November 2

Samuel Harper

Piper Lewis

### November 4

Eric King

### November 5

Charlie Faires

### November 7

Zoe Devine

Bill Eckliff

Emma Rose Gordon

Andrew Mullins

Andy Poole

Joy Stegall

### November 8

Hannah Byrd

### November 9

Shannon Ashley

### November 12

Karen Dellinger

Macie Durfee

Kelly James

Kathy White

### November 14

Valerie Granade

### November 15

Jim Falter

Sue Hedrick

Max Lewis

### November 16

Sherry Johnson

Vicki Marsh

### November 17

Boomer Lewis

### November 18

Kayley Crouch

### November 19

Erikson Whitson

### November 20

Caroline Eckliff

Nicole Pratt

### November 21

Sebastian Acosta

Jack Tillery

### November 22

Alan Williams

### November 23

Nancy Milstead

### November 24

Marian Moore

### November 25

Nedra Van Zee

## Spiritual Statistics

|                         | 10/8 | 10/15 |
|-------------------------|------|-------|
| In Person . . . . .     | 146  | 138   |
| Live Stream . . . . .   | 16   | 19    |
| Sunday School . . . . . | 81   | 92    |

## Financial Statistics

|                 | October     | Year-to-Date |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------|
| Giving Goal     | 78,588.00   | 78,588.00    |
| Budget Receipts | 39,168.00   | 39,168.00    |
| Goals Not Met   | (39,420.00) | (39,420.00)  |
| Alms            | 510.00      | 510.00       |
| Designated      | 3,602.00    | 3,602.00     |

# Youth Beach Retreat - Fort Caswell, NC October 13-15, 2023





## Announcements

### Wednesday Evening Menus

Cost of the meal is \$6.00/adult and \$4.00/child. No reservation is needed.

#### October 25

chicken pie, slaw, green beans, & dessert

#### November 1

BBQ, slaw, baked beans, mac & cheese, rolls, & dessert

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### Cemetery Plots

First Baptist Church was recently gifted four cemetery plots at Sharon Memorial Park in Charlotte. The value of each plot is \$5,395 each and all four must be sold together. If you are interested in purchasing the plots, or you know of someone else who might be interested, please contact Mary Jane in the church office.

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### Advent Devotionals Due October 25

Thank you so much for all of you who volunteered to write a devotional for Advent. Please turn those into Elizabeth Kilby by October 25 at the latest so we can get them all ready for everyone. Thank you so much for your support and help on this project.

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### Upcoming Events

*Christmas Choir Program*  
Sunday, December 17

*Ash Wednesday*  
February 14, 2024

*Easter Egg Hunt*  
Saturday, March 30, 2024

*Kids Passport Camp*  
June 12-15, 2024

*Youth Passport Camp*  
June 23-28, 2024

*Greece Mission Trip*  
July 9-19, 2024

*Vacation Bible School*  
July 29 - August 2, 2024

## Trunk or Treat Sunday, October 29, 2023 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

All children are invited to our Trunk or Treat for some fall fun! If you would like to decorate your car, please sign up at the Welcome Center. We also need lots of candy and prizes! If you are unable to decorate your car, please pick up an extra bag of candy or other prizes at the store!



### White Christmas

**Saturday, December 9, 2023**

For White Christmas we will have multiple ways to serve. You can serve on the set up team, collect and sort food, buy gifts for the families, provide items for the parents to stuff a stocking for their children, or be a buddy for the shoppers.

We will host in the gym this year, and hope to have the participants come in and pick up the gifts, and make an individualized stocking for their children should they choose. We will have sign ups for shopping for the families on Sunday, October 29 and Sunday, November 5 to get a head start on our volunteers. That way we can get the family names to you as soon as we receive them. Gifts will be due Sunday, December 3 and we will have a wonderful day as a community on Saturday, December 9 as we have White Christmas that morning.