

*Girls put on a skit at the Children's sleepover on
July 17, 2020.*



THE INTERIM

Volume 77 Issue 14

July 5, 2020

From the Pastor...

This Sunday I am preaching about faith and freedom. In scripture, they are always tied together. Paul said, "You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love" (Galatians 5:13).

Our freedom is given by God, but we have a choice with what to do with it. We can use it for ourselves, or we can use it to help one another. Individualism has many merits, but it must be tempered by a concern for the least of these.

I recently read an article that compared America to a sports team that wasn't playing well together. Teams that fight and fuss rarely win. Teams that come together do great things. My prayer for our country on its birthday is that we will unite in love and concern for one another.

I am thankful that during this stressful time our congregation has chosen to put others above ourselves. Every day I see you use your freedom to care for one another and our community. When you call and ask how you can help or tell me how you are helping; it makes me proud to be our pastor.

Thank you for your support and cooperation as we continue to figure out how to do ministry in an age of Covid-19. Our initial plan of worshiping in three spaces worked well, but our staff and Covid-19 task force feel we can make some adjustments to better serve everyone.

Starting July 5, we will all meet together in the sanctuary once again. Our space will be limited, however. So after the socially distanced spaces are taken up, we will ask folks to overflow into Adams Hall. Of course we will also continue live stream options. We appreciate your help in making this work.

We will also have a nursery available beginning this Sunday for children (birth through three years old). We are opening more space to give the children maximum area and are also requiring a temperature check before accepting a child. Parents are asked to use their own discretion about whether or not to use the nursery.

Happy Independence Day to us all. "If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed!" (John 8:36).

Beginning July 5

**Sanctuary Open
to All Groups**

Overflow in Adams Hall

Nursery Available

Schedule

Sunday, July 5

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

10:00 a.m. Worship

Monday, July 6

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, July 8

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

12:00 p.m. Virtual Bible Study - Zoom

Thursday, July 9

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Sunday, July 12

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

10:00 a.m. Worship

Monday, July 13

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

7:00 p.m. Pickle Ball

Tuesday, July 14

9:00 a.m. Wilderness Escape Vacation Bible School

Wednesday, July 15

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

12:00 p.m. Virtual Bible Study - Zoom

Thursday, July 16

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

9:00 a.m. Wilderness Escape Vacation Bible School

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

Noon Bible Study On Zoom

Acts: An Unhindered Gospel

Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m.

Pastor Nelson will lead the Wednesday Bible Study on Zoom on Wednesdays at noon. We will study the book of Acts: An Unhindered Gospel.

Phone: 929-436-2866

Meeting ID: 259 365 815 Password: 978702

July 8, 2020

The Gospels Spread to New Areas

(15:36-18:28)

July 15, 2020

Paul's Continued Missionary Work

(19:1-21:14)

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

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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=dzZXSHVwTmRZWjc2-cldpbXJKam1Fdz09>

Meeting ID: 498 935 664

Password: FBCSYOUTH

Links on the church website and Facebook page have been deactivated for internet safety.

Horizons

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74224580015?pwd=NfVWRz-JKc040c3daajdSbytpNnVtUT09>

Meeting ID: 742 2458 0015

Password: 0NDGPa

Crosswalk

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5836118334?pwd=SHhFZzdF-ZlI4ZVRGdW95Mzh3THlCd09>

Meeting ID: 583 611 8334

Password: 3760

Adults

Adults will view the Sunday School through the live stream.

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.

The June 21, 2020 Issue of *The Interim*

Due to a mix up at the post office, the June 21, 2020 issue of *The Interim* was mailed late. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of June 21 & 28, 2020

| | 6/21 | 6/28 |
|-----------------------------|------|------|
| In-Person | 62 | 48 |
| Live Stream Views | 70 | 70 |

Financial Statistics

| | June | Year-to-Date |
|---|-----------|--------------|
| Giving Goal | 64,142.00 | 671,297.00 |
| Budget Receipts | 91,651.00 | 664,110.00 |
| Month Goal Met / Needed to Meet YTD Goals | 27,509.00 | 7,187.00 |
| Alms | 145.00 | 4,687.00 |
| Designated | 76.00 | 55,341.00 |





Melissa and the children have a devotion at their sleepover on June 17.

Happy Birthday!

July 1

Betsy Evans
Jenna Martin
Sean Martin

July 3

Phil Crowder
Steve Kathman

July 4

Elizabeth Benfield
Elizabeth Kilby

July 5

Cathy Parlier
Diane Wilkins

July 6

Theresa Martin
Jane Mitchell

July 7

Julia Eckliff
Carolyn Elliott

July 8

Nancy Garland
Tamera Pendleton
Carol Robinette
Vera Webster

July 10

Paul Brendle
Chris Simon

July 11

Kendell Pardue

July 12

Bill Adcox
Jerry Livingston

July 13

Monica Williams

July 14

Clyde Elliott
Gary Tolbert

July 15

Madelyn McLain
Preston McLain
Elliott Rushton

July 16

Donald Hatfield

July 17

Hannah Falter

July 18

Tom Falter
Jeff Faulk

Mary Hayes

July 20

Leigh Ann Darty

July 21

Lynette King

July 22

Melissa Bentley
Paulette Templeton

July 23

Tiffany Acosta

July 24

Dale Wilson

July 25

Terry Earp
Dan Mitchell
Jennifer Simon

July 26

Jean Benfield
Allison Faulkenberry
Jane Stiles

July 27

Ken Wilson

July 28

Gale Hall
Rob Hall

July 30

Bob Boroughs
Wanda Rushton
Carla Wimpy

July 31

Irving Boyles
Butch Price
Micah Spearman



Choose Your Day!

Tuesday, July 14

Thursday, July 16

Monday, July 20

Wednesday, July 22

Join us at Wilderness Escape VBS, where we'll explore what life was like for the ancient Israelites. They've escaped slavery in Egypt...but now what? You'll craft cool projects in the Israelite Camp, race through the wilderness as you play games, and visit with Moses. Plus, you'll meet lots of new friends!

Vacation Bible School is open to children ages 3 - Grade 5. Each day begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 1:00 p.m. Please visit www.statesvillefbc.org to register.

An online version will be available.

What is Your Song?

This week I read a sermon by David Wilkerson (remember "The Cross and the Switchblade"?). He cited Isaiah 24:14-16 talking about the song of the remnant in the end times—their time of fierce trial. Those who have studied the book of Revelation know the devastation, destruction, and death that will be prevalent during that time. God was preparing Israel through the prophet Isaiah to have a song ready to sing. I believe the message to all believers is that we, too, should have a song ready to sing when we are going through hard times, or good times for that matter. Learn your song now so you will have it ready to sing in your hour of trial.

What is your song? A hymn? A Bible verse? A prayer? Sing it! God loves music. He invented it.

His servant and your friend,
Ginny Stikeleather



CBF Mission Bites

Mission Bite 187: Applying Lessons Learned

We struggle, like many others, to make sense of what is happening. In light of this pandemic, we must find creative ways to continue our work with immigrants here in Spain.

We are drawing on what God taught us on our first CBF field location. While living in India, we had to learn to adjust to water and electricity shortages, washing by hand, and hanging clothes outside. We were evacuated because of the threat of war and had to spend two months away from home. Through all of this we learned that trusting God and not our circumstances was the answer. Now we are applying those lessons once again.

-Macarena Aldape, Ministry with Immigrants and Students, Albacete, Spain

Mission Bite 188: Kind Eyes

Just before all the coronavirus restrictions came into effect, I traveled to Mexico. Things went smoothly just as I had prayed. Then on my return home, I had a problem. After leaving customs and entering the security area for my connecting flight, I realized I had left my cell phone in customs.

Returning to the door of the customs area I saw 3 security workers. They gave me my cell phone. I ran back to the gate. I had missed the plane by 7 minutes. The next flight was 6 a.m. the next morning. It was almost 9 p.m. I decided to spend the night in the airport. I needed something to eat. I went into a small fast food place. The waitress had a big smile and kind eyes. I told her my story. After I finished, I saw two young men about my son's age looking at us. They had been listening to my story. They also had kind eyes.

These eyes of compassion brought strength to my soul. They weren't offering me a bed for the night or even conversation, but there was something about these eyes that spoke encouragement.

I continued to see these same compassionate eyes in other faces that night. Eyes of fellow travelers stranded like I was, and eyes of the homeless in the airport. It was an experience for me. I could have gone to a hotel but I'm glad I didn't.

I entered briefly into the place of vulnerability and homelessness where many who are traveling as refugees and immigrants remain not for one night, but sometimes many years.

God answered my prayer for a "good trip." I learned the value of compassionate eyes. Perhaps this was preparation for the situation we are in today with COVID-19...multitudes thinking their "good trip" has gone haywire. May God give us His compassionate eyes and may we use them to strengthen those who are in difficulty. (1 Corinthians 13: 4-8).

-Pat, CBF field personnel serving with Persian speakers

Announcements

A Note of Appreciation From David & Nancy Deal

Thank you FBC family for your outpouring of love to the family of Ovaline Watts. The meal lovingly prepared by our adopted Sunday School class was appreciated by our extended family. Many members have honored Mother's dedication to church and family through the numerous cards, letters, and phone calls.

A special thanks to Nelson who knows how to put the right words of comfort and compassion together at this time of grief. And a thank you to Eddie for playing the old hymns that she loved so much.

We love you FBC family,
David & Nancy Deal

A Note of Appreciation From Dianne Martin

It has now been three months since my husband Jim died, and I want to take this opportunity to thank my church family at First Baptist for all their kindnesses – beautiful and meaningful cards, personal notes, food, phone calls, and lots of prayers. Generous memorial gifts have been contributed to both Hospice and to our FBC Benevolence fund.

Thank you so much,
Dianne Martin

