



Dr. James Hunter and Dr. Tim Burgiss worked in the dental ministry in Cristo Rey, Belize.



THE INTERIM

Volume 72 Issue 19

September 13, 2015

Giving Thanks & Moving Forward

■ Roger Gilbert *Interim Pastor*

On Sunday, August 30, the congregation voted to call Dr. Nelson Granade as pastor. I am excited about this decision. I know Nelson and am familiar with the church where he has served for more than twenty years. God has gifted him with talents and abilities that I believe will relate to the needs and personality of First Baptist Church of Statesville. He also has abundant experience as a pastor and this will be beneficial in enabling him to use those gifts in effective ways to help the church move forward to the mission that is ahead.

As you prepare for the coming of Nelson and Valerie, I encourage you as individuals and families to be thoughtful and intentional about how you can welcome them, help them get to know you, and become acclimated to a new place and people. Don't hesitate to tell them your name---and tell them again the next time you see them.

Remember that Nelson and Valerie are individuals, just as you are individuals. Don't expect Dr. Granade or Valerie to be like any former pastor or pastor's wife. And, just as you want him to be patient in learning how you are accustomed to doing things here at Statesville, also be

patient with him if the way he is accustomed to doing some things may vary from your tradition. In a healthy church, the pastor and congregation happily learn from one another.

I also want to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to the Pastor Search Committee. There is no more demanding and difficult assignment than serving on the search committee. It is a huge commitment of time and energy for the individuals and for their families. The committee is charged with the responsibility of seeking to be sensitive to the needs and wishes of a diverse congregation while following God's direction in the search for the person that will lead the congregation. Your Pastor Search Committee has worked long and hard to faithfully carry out the commission that you and God gave to them. I encourage you to express to the members of this committee your appreciation for their faithful and excellent service.

When my service as your interim pastor is finished I will miss you, but, I am delighted that First Baptist Church of Statesville is going to be moving forward to continue the strong mission to which God called you.

Prayer Point: "Thy Kingdom Come"

"Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." As believers, we all long for the day when God reigns supreme in the new heaven and new earth that we read about in Revelation 21 and 22—where we will live with Him forever, free from the effects of evil which surround us in our present existence on this earth. We know that sin will not be eradicated until that time; in fact it seems to grow worse every day. So what do we mean when we pray, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven"? Didn't Jesus say that the kingdom of God is within believers? "Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, 'The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, nor will people say, 'Here it is', or 'There it is', because the kingdom of God is within you.'" (Luke 17:20-21)

When we accept God's Son as our Savior and Lord, the kingdom of God comes within us. We begin to prepare here for life there; as subjects of the King, we speak the language of the court. ("Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth." Eph. 4:29) As royal ambassadors, we represent Jesus to everyone we encounter. ("We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us." 2 Cor. 5:20) God's will is done in His subjects (on earth as it is in heaven) when we are transformed by the renewing of our minds. Then we will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will. (Rom. 12:1-2)

Heavenly Father, set up Your kingdom anew in my heart each morning. Sweep out the refuse of yesterday and start fresh today. I swear my allegiance to You as Your faithful subject. Keep me aware of Your presence as I execute my royal duties. Amen.

Schedule

Sunday, September 13 ~ Psalm 134 & 146-150

- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship - FLC
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
- 10:55 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. Venture Students
- 5:00 p.m. Deacon Ministry Team

Monday, September 14 ~ 2 Chronicles 8 & 1 Kings 9

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Sewing Group
- 12:00 p.m. Line Dancers - Gym

Tuesday, September 15 ~ Proverbs 25-26

- 6:00 p.m. Yoga - FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball - Gym

Wednesday, September 16 ~ Proverbs 27-29

- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal (Lasagna, Salad, & Garlic Bread)- FLC
- 5:45 p.m. Adult Bible Study - FLC
- 5:45 p.m. Activities for children & students
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, September 17 ~ Ecclesiastes 1-6

- 8:00 p.m. Senior Basketball - Gym

Friday, September 18 ~ Ecclesiastes 7-12

- 12:00 p.m. Line Dancers - Gym

Saturday, September 19 ~ 2 Chronicles 9 & 1 Kings 10-11

Sunday, September 20 ~ Proverbs 30-31

- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship - FLC
- 9:45 a.m. Spiritual Gifts Emphasis Discussion - FLC
- 10:55 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. Venture Students

Monday, September 21 ~ 1 Kings 12-14

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Sewing Group
- 12:00 p.m. Line Dancers - Gym

Tuesday, September 22 ~ 2 Chronicles 10-12

- 6:00 p.m. Yoga - FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball - Gym

Wednesday, September 23 ~ 2 Chronicles 13-16 & 1 Kings 22

- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Meal (Chicken Breast, Baked Beans, & Broccoli) - FLC
- 5:45 p.m. Adult Bible Study
- 5:45 p.m. Activities for Students & Children
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, September 24

1 Kings 15:25-16:34 & 2 Chronicles 17

- 8:00 p.m. Senior Basketball - Gym

Friday, September 25 ~ 1 Kings 17-19

- 12:00 p.m. Line Dancers - Gym

Saturday, September 26 ~ 1 Kings 20-21

Spiritual Statistics

Weeks of August 30 and September 6, 2015

8/30

Church in Bible Study	150	119
Church in Worship	194	188
8:30 a.m. service	60	53
10:55 a.m. service	134	135

Financial Statistics

Weeks of August 30 & September 6, 2015

Budget - Received	\$10,491.00	9/6 \$25,139.00
Alms	100.00	388.00
Designated - Received	10,995.00	452.00
Building Reserve - Received	0.00	0.00
TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 8/30/15		21,586.00
TOTAL GIVING WEEK OF 9/6/15		25,979.00
Budget for 2014-2015		865,070.00
Budget Received-Year to Date		810,921.61
Remaining in Budget - Unfunded		54,148.39
Designated Funds Received-Year to Date		86,748.01
Alms Received-Year to Date		6,986.41
Building Reserve-Year to Date		9,072.00
Total Giving-Year to Date		913,728.03

Look Up Lodge

We will have a meeting for parents on Sunday, October 4 during the Sunday School hour in Adams Hall. At this meeting, parents will complete all paperwork for camp this summer and pay the first non-refundable \$50 deposit. In order for your child/teen to be added to the list for camp, they must turn in both the deposit and all required forms. Please make plans to attend this meeting!

Venture Students ~ June 26 - July 1 cost \$319 (may be reduced by fundraisers)

Kids at First ~ August 5-8 cost \$219 (may be reduced by fundraisers)

Church Staff Directory

Dr. Roger Gilbert.....Interim Pastor
 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 Tel: 704-873-7231

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Discover Your Spiritual Gifts

Spiritual gifts? What are spiritual gifts? I don't have any spiritual gifts! The only spiritual gifts are preaching or teaching or serving as a missionary overseas. That's not me! Why do I need to be concerned with spiritual gifts?

Do these comments sound familiar? Believers often do not see themselves as endowed with spiritual gifts. Many times the problem lies in the fact that we are not aware of what these gifts are. Nor do we understand how to use them in our lives to benefit the church. Yet spiritual gifts are critical to the life, growth, and outreach of the church. The body of Christ (i.e. the church) is made up of many different members or parts. When all the members (or parts) work together in unity ... utilizing their uniquely individual spiritual gifts endowed by the Holy Spirit ... then the church moves forward to extend the kingdom of God and Jesus Christ.

This leaves many of us asking: "What are spiritual gifts?" "How do I know what my spiritual gifts are?" and "How can I use my spiritual gifts to serve the LORD?" As a church body and as individual Christians committed to serving our LORD, we need to find out the answers to these questions.

On Sunday, September 13, 2015 the Deacon Ministry Team encourages all Student and Adult Sunday School Classes to complete a personal spiritual gifts survey during the 9:45 a.m. Sunday School hour. If you are not currently enrolled in Sunday School, you may complete the survey during the Sunday School hour in Adams Hall. It is easy to do, very insightful, and may be very surprising when you figure out your spiritual gift or gifts. Every believer has at least one spiritual gift that God has designed specifically for you! When you know your gift(s), then you can find the best place to use that gift within the ministries of the church here at First Baptist Statesville. When you match your God-given spiritual gift(s) with your personal passion(s), natural talents, personality, and background development, then you are on your way to serving God in an exciting and fulfilling way that you may not have experienced before.

To make this an effective and useful survey, we will gather around tables in the Family Life Center on Sunday, September 20, 2015 at 9:45 AM to discuss the results of the survey. Together we can explore ways to use these collective gifts within current ministry opportunities, and plan new opportunities where we each can serve. Jerry Campbell, Deacon Ministry Team chair, will lead this time of discussion, and a light continental breakfast will be served at 9:45 AM.

Put these dates on your calendar! Come have fun discovering who we are in Christ and how we can better serve Him. One day when we see Jesus face to face, surely we want to hear Him say to us: "Welcome home, My good and faithful servant!"

Angie Roberts
Member of the Deacon Ministry Team

Kids At First

Fall Sports & Fun

It is that busy time of year when the children are involved in fall sports. I would love to come and cheer them on in their sport! As you get sports schedules, please send me a copy so that I can pick a time to come and support your kid! If your child doesn't play a sport, let me know about a school activity, or any other special event where I could come and see them doing what they love. I really do enjoy spending time with them!

Family Night Schedule

Ms. Melissa will meet the children at the door near the stage in the Fellowship Hall at 5:45 p.m. and parents will pick up the children at the gym at 7:00.

5:00 p.m.

Family Night Meal

5:45

*Grades 1-5 ~ Children's Choir with Mr. James & Mrs. Laura
followed by Missions with Ms. Melissa*

*Preschoolers ~ Memory Verse with Ms. Melissa followed by
Choir with Mrs. Jan & Mrs. Jackie*



Venture Students

Sundays

Venture Students meet on the Student Hall during Sunday school. This is a great opportunity to study God's word with your friends. Venture Students are meeting on Sundays from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in Adams Hall. Don't miss this important time to connect as a group; they are having a lot of fun!

Wednesdays

Venture nation will be meeting on Wednesdays following the meal. This small group time is an opportunity to hang out in groups and discuss current events in the context of a Christian Worldview. This is a great time to think about what is going on in the world around us and consider how we as Christians should and do respond to it.





Message by: Dr. Roger Gilbert

Worship with us Sundays 8:30 a.m. or 10:55 a.m.

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Announcements

Christian Sympathy

...is extended to Fleeta Speaks in the death of her daughter Teresa Rimmer on August 31, 2015.

A Note of Appreciation From Wayne & Fleeta Speaks

Words cannot express our appreciation for the love and support we have received from you during the illness and death of our daughter Teresa Speaks Rimmer. The cards, the visits, the phone calls, the food, and the prayers were such a blessing to us. Our precious Teresa now resides in Heaven, no longer in pain and happy to be with our Lord. We sincerely thank you for all you have done for our family.

Sincerely,
Wayne & Fleeta Speaks

New Arrival!

Congratulations to Caroline and Mike Taylor on the birth of a daughter, Catherine Lynn, on September 2, 2014. The proud grandparents are Dennis and Lynn Deal.

Senior Adult Luncheon

Thursday, September 17, 2015

11:00 a.m. ~ Adams Hall

The first meeting of the new program year will be held in Adams Hall. Devotion will be given by George McLeod and the program will consist of men of the choir of First Baptist. Eddie Wiseman will be featured with some piano solos that you don't want to miss. The choir group will consist of Mac Funderburk, Larry Hedrick, Charles Guy, Danny Stikeleather, William Barnard, Don Daniel, and James Martin. The meal will be served at noon at a cost of \$6.00 payable at the door. Call the church office to reserve your seat at 704.873-7231 or sign up in your Sunday School class.

****Please note:** Meeting will be in Adams Hall

Spiritual Gifts Emphasis

Come and discuss your spiritual gifts and how to use them

Sunday, September 13

9:45 AM: Student & Adult Sunday School
Classes Complete Spiritual Gifts Surveys
(SS Classroom or Adams Hall)

Sunday, September 20

9:45 AM: Student & Adult Sunday School
Classes Meet to Discuss
Spiritual Gifts Survey Results
(Family Life Center)
Continental Breakfast Served
Program Led by Jerry Campbell

Coffee Rotation Sunday, September 13

Melissa Wilson

Sunday, September 20

David Potter

Precept Bible Study in Judges Begins Tuesday, September 29 & Wednesday, September 30

We will be starting a new Precept Bible Study Tuesday, September 29, 6:00-8:00 p.m. and Wednesday, September 30, 9:30-11:30 a.m. We will study Judges. This book tells us what happens when "everyone does what is right in his own eyes."

First Baptist Church Christmas Choir Begins Wednesday, September 16, 2015

First Baptist Church's Christmas Choir will begin on Wednesday, September 16, at 7:00 p.m. in the choir room. The choir is open to anyone wishing to participate in this year's Christmas program. We will be rehearsing every Wednesday starting at 7:00 p.m.

This year's Christmas presentation is entitled "Sing We Now of Christmas: A Service of Lessons and Carols." This work is a concert of worship for the Christmas season that offers exquisite, fresh carol settings that are woven together with scripture lessons and poetic narration to create a refreshing celebration of Advent and Christmas. The composer, Howard Helvey, brings together all these elements, including congregational singing, to complete this presentation.

Please contact James Martin, Minister of Music and Worship, if you are interested in participating in this year's Christmas Choir. You can reach James by email (jmartin@statesvillefbc.org) or by calling the church (704-873-7231).

Christian Sympathy

...is extended to the family and friends of Doris Mounts in her death on September 6, 2015.