

First Baptist News

Volume LIV No. 5-a

May 11, 2017



One last (maybe) reflection from the spiritual renewal weekend that now seems like a year or so ago... On more than one occasion, Bo Prosser said "don't settle for good...aspire to be great."

I did not ask him to explain this challenge, but I believe Bo was encouraging us to give ourselves wholeheartedly to loving our families, neighbors, classmates, coworkers, and everyone else we meet as God has loved us. In this respect, greatness is not measured by the number of people in a worship service or the dollars in an offering plate. Rather, it is measured by such things as visits made to elderly friends, rides offered to neighbors who cannot drive to a doctor's appointment, and moments spent tutoring a child. When Bo encouraged us to aspire to be great he was challenging us to do the things Jesus did and love the people Jesus loves.

Isn't it fair to say that everyone wants to be great? President Trump won the White House by tapping into the nation's desire for greatness, but his idea of greatness appears to be quite different from Jesus' (compare the President's rhetoric to Matthew 20:26-28). Still, if you are trying to be a great nation, a great church or a great person, there is one ingredient that must never be overlooked... sacrifice. Greatness on the athletic field requires the sacrifice of practice. Greatness in the field of academics requires the sacrifice of study. Greatness in business requires the sacrifice of long hours and hard work. Sacrifice is the key ingredient of greatness.

So, if we are to aspire to being great Christians, what must we sacrifice? We need look no further than Jesus. He was the greatest person to ever live, and it is no coincidence that he was also the most sacrificial. Jesus' whole life, not just his death on the cross, was a sacrifice. If we are to follow him we must also seek out ways to sacrifice so that the kingdom of heaven may come and the world may be made whole. Today, tomorrow, and every day of the rest of your life will present you an opportunity to sacrifice and therein, the possibility of becoming great. These opportunities will likely be small gestures of kindness and love but, I hope you will seize them. By doing so, you will become great in the eyes of God, and that is what really matters.

Peace,
David

Preparing for Sunday—

"Living Stones"

I Peter 2:2-10, John 14:1-14

Both of the scripture passages we will read this Sunday include the metaphor of a construction project. Jesus is going ahead of the disciples (and us) to prepare a place in heaven. Meanwhile, Peter encourages the Christians of his day to let themselves be built into a spiritual house. The imagery of these passages is that while our eternal home is being prepared, we are a people under construction. We are *Living Stones* that embody and share the truth, joy, righteousness, peace, hope, and love of which our eternal homes are made.

SURPRISE!
STORIES OF DISCOVERING JESUS

YOU'RE INVITED!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

JUNE 12-14, 2017

SCHEDULE:
DINNER (5:30-6:00 PM)
VBS (6:00-8:00 PM)

FOR AGES 4 (MUST TURN 4 BY AUGUST 31, 2017) THROUGH 6TH GRADE
FREE! REGISTER AT FBCLUMBERTONNC.ORG

Graduation is approaching!

If you know of someone in our membership who is graduating from high school or college, we would like to include them in our June newsletter. Please contact the church office (739-4336 or daphnefletcher@fbclumbertonnc.org) as soon as possible with the full name of the graduate, school where they completed the degree, and the type of degree received.

All information must be received no later than May 26th.

You're invited to...



Pastries

With Parents (of preschoolers,
on Pentecost!)



Sunday, June 4 9:30-10:00 am

In the nursery/preschool department

Join us for a time of fellowship with our toddlers and preschoolers, their families, and eating pastries!



Robeson County Scam Prevention—May 23, 2017

10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Pine Street Senior Center
(sponsored by Lumber River Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging and Pine Street Senior Center)

Learn how to protect yourself and loved ones from falling for scams that target elderly consumers, what to do if you've experienced a scam, and learn ways to reduce your risks. There is no charge to attend and lunch will be provided. Contact the Lumber River Council of Governments to register at 618-5533 by May 19th.

Family Night Supper Menus May 2017

May 17—Red Ticket: Stew Beef, Rice w/Gravy, Baby Lima Beans, Rolls, Salad, Peach Pie

May 24—Spaghetti, String Beans, Texas Toast, Salad, Apple Pie

May 31—Red Ticket: Hamburger Steak, Rice w/Gravy, String Beans, Rolls, Salad, Pineapple Upside-Down Cake

Music Day Camp

July 31-August 4, 9:00 am-3:00 pm

For children who have completed
1st-6th grade

\$55 (\$50 if paid early) per child



Person of the Week

Mary Lois Odom
Wesley Pines Room A131-B
1000 Wesley Pines Rd.
Lumberton, NC 28358

Send a card, letter, or other remembrance
to our special person this week.

This Week . . .

Sunday, May 14—Mother's Day
8:45 Early Worship Service
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service

Monday, May 15
9:00 Staff Meeting

Tuesday, May 16
7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Circle
7:30 p.m. Early Worship Ensemble Rehearsal

Wednesday, May 17
5:15 Family Night Supper
6:00 Family Night At Prayer
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 18
6:30 Early Childhood Ministry Spring Art Show

Saturday, May 20
10:30 Community Café



June 19th at Noon

Our topic will be Personal Security.
Bring a covered dish!

Servants this Sunday May 14, 2017

ETC—8:45 a.m.— Alyssa Weibe & Dianne Britt

11:00 a.m.— Alyssa Weibe

Welcoming—David & Judy Nicholson, Helen Odom

Collection—Donald Kinlaw

Entrance Greeters

Children's Building—Shirley Hickman

Walnut Street—Jim Driscoll

Senior Entrance—George Lawson

Security Monitor—Jim Driscoll

Sound—Ross Driscoll

Video—Amy Gibson