

First Baptist News

Volume LIV No. 7-b

July 20, 2017



I have read, taught and preached John 21:15-19 several times over the course of my ministry. It is the story of Jesus asking Peter, “Do you love me?” three times in the wake of Peter’s three denials.

As I said, I know the story fairly well, but I had an interesting weekend with this story while I was at the Shalem Residency in June.

The night before I left for the residency I could not help but think that we have been asking the wrong questions lately. We have been asking questions like “How can we get more people in church?” and “How can we get these people to give?” These are important questions, but they are not the right questions for us to be asking at this time.

I went to the residency and enjoyed a week of classes and group interactions in spiritual direction. As the weekend approached I thought I would pray, read and listen for the Spirit’s guidance as to the questions we should be asking. In the last class before our “Silent Sabbath” we were told a story about a woman who experienced a terrible tragedy. In the wake of the experience she felt the Lord saying “I want you to love me more than anything else.” The story did not set well with me, but I did not dwell on it. I set it aside and got ready for the weekend.

Continued, see **From the Pastor**, page 2

Quarterly Church Conference

July 26, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.
(At Family Night At Prayer)



Check out the “***I’m In***” display at our bulletin board. You can pick up a commitment card, a prayer guide and an “I’m In” sign to show your commitment to FBC this summer!

“Table for Five. . . Thousand!” A Music Day Camp Musical



Friday, August 4th at 5:00 p.m.
in Cherry Fellowship Hall.
Everyone is invited!

Preparing for Sunday—

“The Only Way to Get There” Romans 8:12-25

In this second of three sermons from Romans 8 Paul acknowledges that “a life in the Spirit” can be difficult or even painful. Being a child of God (or joint heir with Christ) involves suffering, but the suffering we face is, according to Paul, *not worth comparing with the glory to be revealed to us* (v.17-18). This is encouraging, but pain is still a fact of life and everyone has some. The healthiest people among us are those who are willing to accept their pain, to walk with it and work through it. We are all looking forward to *the glory to be revealed to us*, but the path of suffering may very well be ***The Only Way to Get There***.

From the Pastor, continued from page 1

As I woke on Saturday morning the story came to mind along with the interaction between Jesus and Peter in John 21. I read the passage as my morning devotion and started the day.

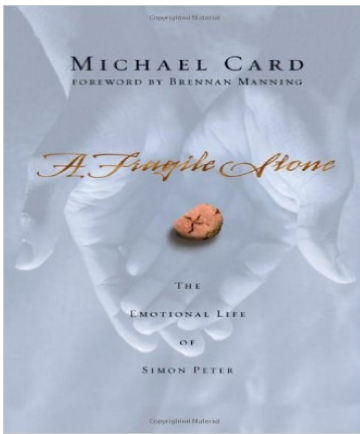
As I went through the day the Spirit kept bringing up Jesus' question... *do you love me more than these?* By the afternoon I realized that this is the question we need to consider. "Do we, as individuals and as a church, love Jesus more than these?" The answer may seem obvious, but it isn't, especially when "these" are packed pews and full offering plates. "These" can be good things, but "these" become idols when they are our highest priority. Every good question prompts a few more and the questions behind "Do you love me more than these?" include "What are my 'these?'" and "Why do I love 'these?'" These are the questions we need to be asking right now and I will be writing more in the weeks ahead to help us pray and respond.

Peace,
David



Art Mini-Camp—July 18-20





Join us Wednesday Nights this Summer as we study the life of Peter. Dr. Elks will be drawing from the book, *A Fragile Stone: The Emotional Life of Simon Peter*, by Michael Card.

Family Night Supper Menus July–August 2017

- July 26**—Spaghetti, String Beans, Texas Toast, Salad, Banana Pudding
August 2—Barbecue, French Fries, Baked Beans, Slaw, Hushpuppies, Salad, Blueberry Pie (Sugar-free)
August 9—Barbecued Pork Chops, Scalloped Potatoes, String Beans, Rolls, Salad, Chocolate Pie (Sugar-free)
August 16—Baked Chicken, Rice, Green Beans, Rolls, Salad, Apple Pie (Sugar-free)
August 23—Hamburger Steak, Rice & Gravy, Fried Squash, Rolls, Salad, Banana Cream Pie (Sugar-free)
August 30—Hamburger Casserole, Green Beans, Rolls, Salad, Strawberry Short Cake



Save the date!
 September 16, 2017
 Watch
First Baptist News
 for more information.

Servants this Sunday July 23, 2017

ETC—8:45 a.m.— Alyssa Weibe, Lisa Ivey
11:00 a.m.— Alyssa Weibe
Welcoming—James & Lois Johnson, Eloise Bullock
Collection—Glenn Walker
Entrance Greeters
 Children's Building—Mildred Kinlaw
 6th Street—Shirley Hickman
 Senior Entrance—Jim Driscoll
Security Monitor—Colin Osborne
Sound—Greg Gibson
Video—Amy Gibson

This Week . . .

Sunday, July 23

8:45 Worship Service
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service
12:00 Sanctuary Choir Bonus Rehearsal

Monday, July 24

9:00 Staff Meeting

Tuesday, July 25

7:00 Men's Prayer Circle

Wednesday, July 26

5:15 Family Night Supper
6:00 Family Night at Prayer—
 Quarterly Church Conference

**July 28-Aug. 1—Youth Music
 Retreat, Lenoir, NC**

July 31-Aug. 4—Music Day Camp

Flower Calendar

Contact the church office at 739-4336 or daphnefletcher@fbclumbertonnc.org to place flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one.

2017

July 30

Aug. 6, 20

Sept. 3, 10

Oct. 1, 8

Nov. 19, 26

For the Record

Budgeted 2017.....	\$685,000.00
Weekly Need (2017)	\$12,924.53
Received July 16, 2017	\$8,490.50
Need to date	\$374,811.32
Received to date	\$345,112.41
Over (Under) Budget	(\$29,698.91)
Sunday School Attendance — 184	

Senior Adult Southport Trip

Monday, August 14th



Leaving at 9:00 am
Shopping then Lunch at Provisions Seafood
Transportation cost: \$9.00

Senior Adult Biltmore Estate Asheville Trip



November 30—December 1, 2017

Cost \$340.00

\$50.00 deposit needed
to reserve your space.

Person of the Week

Helen Odom
212 E. 17th St.
Lumberton, NC 28358

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

Coming up. . .

July 26— Quarterly Church Conference
July 28-Aug. 1— Youth Music Retreat
July 31-Aug. 4— Music Day Camp

Aug. 1— Deacon Nominations Open
Aug. 7— Book Discussion on Growing Young
Aug. 8— Youth Committee Meeting
Aug. 10— Candlelight Vigil for Friends and Family of
Victims of Murder & Homicide
Aug. 11— ECM Staff Development Day
(Closed to students)
Aug. 14— Senior Adults to Southport
Aug. 19— Community Café— hosted by The Circle of
Friends and Rupert Collins Sunday School
Classes
Aug. 21— Finance Committee & Deacons Meetings
Aug. 27— Sunday School Promotion Sunday
Youth Fall Kick-off
Aug. 30— Deacon Nominations Close

Sept. 4— Labor Day—ECM & Church Offices Closed
Sept. 11— Baptist Women's Luncheon
Sept. 14— Fun & Fellowship
Sept. 16— Operation Inasmuch

Packets of offering envelopes are available
in the church office. You may also give your offering to First
Baptist online by scanning the QR Code on the back of the
Order of Worship or by automatic draft. Draft forms are
available on our website — www.fbclumbertonnc.org.

CHURCH STAFF

Contact us at 739-4336 or daphnefletcher@fbclumbertonnc.org
www.fbclumbertonnc.org

Mrs. Nancy Bass—Financial Coordinator
Rev. Erin Collier—Minister to Children
Dr. David Elks—Pastor
Mrs. Daphne Fletcher — Administrative Assistant
Ms. Dorothy Hunt—Building Superintendent
Rev. Tim Little—Minister of Music
Mrs. Kandace Ramsey—Administrative Assistant
Rev. Doug Reedy—Minister of Youth