

First Baptist News

Volume LIV No. 7-c

July 27, 2017

From the Pastor

I was lying on the table. The physical therapist “gently” took hold of my arm and said “I was glad to see that you were coming in this morning.” She knows that I am a pastor, and she had a Bible question for me. As she started to pull and stretch my arm in ways it did not want to go, she said “this past Sunday, my pastor read from a translation I did not know.” She told me the name of the translation and then we talked (as she pulled and I winced) about different Bible translations. The conversation went on through the session, and she eventually told me about an occasion when she felt she needed to have a difficult conversation with a friend. An opportunity presented itself and she was about to bring up the issue with her friend but then decided against it. “Just then,” she said, “I got this pain in one of my teeth. I thought for a second and then decided to confront the situation. And you know what? That pain has never come back!”

I was intrigued by the story and could not help but ask, “So did God give you a toothache?” She laughed and said “Maybe so!” I then wondered out loud, “So, I wonder what God is trying to tell me with this stiff shoulder.” She laughed (and pulled) again and said, “I don’t know, but maybe it was so we could have this conversation.” I didn’t say it, but I thought, “My goodness, this has been a painful and expensive price for a conversation!” Needless to say, I wasn’t convinced that “the reason” for my shoulder pain was to answer her question about versions of the Bible. But as I have thought about it I realized that I did get a meaningful blessing from our talk. She’d asked me when I felt called to the ministry, and I told her that I felt a knowing of call as a junior in high school. She commended me for knowing so young and “sticking with it.”

She did not know how much I needed to hear that. I’d had a hectic few days and wasn’t sure I’d accomplished a whole lot of value, so it was good to hear a little bit of encouragement to keep going. I won’t go so far as to say that the Lord gave me a stiff shoulder just so I could have that one conversation, but as Sunday’s text from Romans 8 will remind us, *all things work together for good for those who love God* (v.28). Furthermore, it is up to us, individually, to discern what good things the Lord is doing in our lives and to celebrate them for all to see. The good my physical therapist got from our conversation was different from the good I received, but both blessings bore the fingerprints of a God who knows our needs and seizes every opportunity to love us.

Peace,
David

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



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



Youth Fall Kick-off

August 27, 2017
at 5:00 p.m.

At the home of Seth
Joyce—5211 Flynn Dr.
Pool, Pizza, Plans!
All youth families
welcome!

Sunday School Promotion Day August 27, 2017



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!

Preparing for Sunday—

“It Is God Who...”

Romans 8:26-39

We will conclude our three sermon series on Romans 8 this Sunday. Our text includes a couple of passages that many of us cherish. We often remind ourselves that *all things work together for good* (v. 28) and that *nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord* (v.39). Furthermore, Paul reminds that *the Spirit intercedes (for us) with sighs too deep for words* (v.26) and that *God did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us* (v.32). Our text is loaded with the great truths of our faith and the overarching truth of these promises is that ***It Is God Who...***

Senior Adult Southport Trip

Monday, August 14th



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



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

**Servants this Sunday
July 30, 2017**

ETC—8:45 a.m.— Amanda Evans, Christy Strickland & Alli Branch

11:00 a.m.— Amanda Evans, Morgan & Jeremy Strickland

Welcoming—Alan & Debra Arnette, Tim Hobbs

Collection—Glenn Walker

Entrance Greeters

Children’s Building—Judy Driscoll

Walnut Street—Johnny & Mickey Johnson

6th Street—Jim Driscoll

Senior Entrance—George Lawson

Security Monitor— Barbara Andrews

Sound— Ross Driscoll

Video— Nate Cribb

This Week . . .

Sunday, July 30

8:45 Worship Service

9:45 Sunday School

11:00 Worship Service

Monday, July 31

9:00-3:00 Music Day Camp

Tuesday, August 1

7:00 Men’s Prayer Circle

9:00-3:00 Music Day Camp

Wednesday, August 2

9:00-3:00 Music Day Camp

5:15 Family Night Supper-Barbecue

6:00 Family Night at Prayer

Thursday, August 3

9:00-3:00 Music Day Camp

Friday, August 4

9:00-5:00 Music Day Camp

5:00 “Table for Five. . .Thousand!”
Music Day Camp Musical

**Senior Adult
Biltmore Estate Asheville Trip**



Nov. 30th—Dec. 1st
Cost \$340.00
\$50.00 deposit needed
to reserve your space.

Person of the Week

Sara Ward
Glen Flora—Room 301
5701 N. Fayetteville Rd.
Lumberton, NC 28360

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

For the Record

Budgeted 2017.....\$685,000.00
Weekly Need (2017).....\$12,924.53
Received July 23, 2017 \$8,579.12
Need to date\$387,735.85
Received to date\$353,691.53
Over (Under) Budget (\$34,044.32)
Sunday School Attendance — 190