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JULY 2017

FBC Family News

First Baptist Church Taylorsville

“What does the worker gain from his struggles? I have seen the task that God has given people to keep them occupied.” (Ecclesiastes 3:9-10, HCSB)

I've been reading from Ecclesiastes lately. King Solomon was a wise man, whom God had granted a special gift of wisdom. He most likely wrote these observations later in life. Solomon stated, "Everything is vanity." Some translations state, "Meaningless, everything is meaningless." His point is that life caught up in the pursuit of empty pursuits has no value. The only real purpose in life is to know and obey God.

This month, we will host our Mega Sports Camp. We expect, and pray that we will have a lot of kids to participate. They will have a lot of fun. Kids in this area love sports and athletic activities can be a great vehicle to share the gospel truth with them. But, if we only focus on the skill sets of various sports, or pleasure that comes from participating in an athletic event, we will miss an opportunity. The camp will be meaningless, unless we dedicate ourselves to being spiritually prepared and intentionally present biblical truths to these children.

We gain nothing from all of our labors if we spend our time on things that will have little or no impact for the kingdom. Effective children's ministry focuses on the eternal, and therefore seeks to intentionally engage kids with biblical truths. The staff and volunteers of an effective ministry realizes their own shortcomings and rely upon God to transform their hearts.

Our VBS Offerings will go to support Brenton & Danielle Shelby, as they begin the process of moving to New York City, NY to serve as church planters. Let's pray for them and support them as they follow God.



Days of September Spiritual Renewal

We're trying something a little different this year. We are not trying to be different for the sake of being different. We are doing this, praying and hoping that it will

have a greater impact. Instead of having a revival emphasis that starts on a Sunday and continues through Wednesday

night, we are setting aside every Wednesday night through the month of September.

We have scheduled various speakers to come and share God's word with us. We will have our regular evening meal, a great time of worship, and then a fresh word from God. Our speakers include Stan Buckley, Mark Byrd, and Dr. Keith Thompson. Let's start praying now!

July 3rd Summer Celebration and Fireworks Spectacular

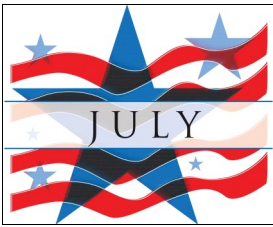
We want to encourage our entire church family to attend this event at the Taylorsville Town Park, located behind City Hall. There will be entertainment, food, games and a lot of fun, starting at 6:30 pm. A performance by **84 West** will begin at 8 pm and fireworks at 9 pm.



Discipleship Fair, Jul 30, 5 pm @ FLC

Beginning in September, we are going to be offering a new format for discipleship. We will divide the year into 4 terms. Several Bible studies will be offered during each term. Participants may choose which studies are best suited for them. Some of these studies will be available through our new medium, RightNowMedia.

We will host a fair, so participants can see what will be offered, who will be leading the study and sign up for the study.



July 2017						
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

July 1	Clothes Closet	8 am—noon
July 3	Summer Celebration & Fireworks Spectacular—Town Park <small>(sponsored by Taylorsville Chamber of Commerce and Jones Family Medicine Clinic)</small>	6:30 pm/*9 pm <small>*fireworks</small>
July 6-11	Student summer camp - Ridgecrest, NC	
July 9	Deacons' Meeting	6:15 pm
July 12	Business Meeting	6 pm
July 13	Children's trip—Bowling at Country Lanes <small>Everyone will need \$7 (shoes/2 games of bowling) plus food/snack money</small>	6 pm
July 15	Clothes Closet open	8-noon
July 16-18	Mega Sports Camp VBS <small>VBS offering will be taken for Brenton & Danielle Shelby each day</small>	5:30-8 pm
July 19	Mega Sports Camp Closing Ceremony	6 pm
July 20	Food Pantry Open	4-5:30 pm
July 23	Special Love Offering for Brenton & Danielle Shelby <small>(see back page)</small>	
	Children's Scavenger Hunt & Pool Party <small>Children will need to bring their Bible, swimsuit and towel</small>	3 pm
July 26	Missions report from Kayla Shelby on recent trip to Columbia, South America	6:30 pm
July 30	Discipleship Fair	5 pm

CHILDCARE VOLUNTEERS

DATE	NURSERY	2/3 YR OLDS	4/5 YR OLDS	1ST—4TH GRADES
7/2	Cynthia Boykin	Kristy McCord	Stefanie Moore	Sarah Jones/Judy White
7/9	Mary Ann Hill	Jamie Robinson	Rebecca Holder	Kenny & Kristy McCord
7/16	Susan Pierce	Deon Garris	Stephanie Polk	Joe & Delia Flynt/Mary Ann Hill
7/23	Rita Kelly	Emily Evans	Delia Flynt	Mike & Melissa Evans
7/30	Melissa Evans	Yvonne Dees	Gwen Creel	Anna Menzik/Lori Rogers

PRAYER LIST

Cindy Austin—breast cancer

Dodie Blakeney—cancer

Freda Blakeney

Tony & Karen Blakeney

Allie & Pam Boyd & mission team
(Haiti—July 14-22)

Sue Boykin—Swing bed Bay Springs

Noel Carter—6 yr old—liver cancer

Betty & Melissa Celic

Dwayne Chapman-FGH

Charles Cook

Maurice Ducksworth

Burl English—Swing bed Collins

Bobbie Gambrell (home)

Patricia Hankins

Kate Herndon

Debbie Harris Hill

Cindy Chaney Ivy

Braxton Jennings

Dennis Johnson

Donna Jones

Mitchell Jordan Family

George Kilgore

Inez Kitchens

Delorese Lancaster

Ray & Pat Lancaster

Elizabeth Lee

Law Enforcement Officers

Angela Lyle-Lynn Williamson's cousin

Louise McCallum

Ricky McKinley—UMC

Charlie Pat Nichols

Katie Norris

Jimmy Parker—on hospice

Marisa Thompson Pruitt

Joe Daniel Stringer

Judy White

Charles "Fuzz" Wilson

Homebound

Daisy Blakeney

James Bush

Burl and Geraldine English

Nursing Home/Assisted Living

Carl Arnold

Sheila Bowman

Bobbie Butler

Dorothy Craft

David Driskoll

Jean Hardin

Janell Holifield

Peggy King

Sue King

Jimmy Dale Phipps

Mary Elizabeth Robinson

Maurine Sitz

Mollie Stringer

Sharia Stringer

Ruth Walley

Cancer/Long Term

Tammy Anderson

Charlene Holt Ansley

Peggy Black

Cancer/Long Term cont

Larry Blakeney

Bonita Brown

Anita Cochran

Barbara Hegwood

Jason Horn

Carolyn Stringer Craig

Teresa Driskoll

Jamie Duvall

Joe Griffith

Freda Hutcherson

Patti Stokes Ishee

Jamie and Sandra King

Dakota McMinn

Katelan James Middleton

Wayne Moore

Todd Odell

Amanda Prince

Mickey Robinson

Chase Sims

Kaden Smith

Reece Stringer

Terri Sullivan

Melanie Odom White

Tyler Yarbough

Military

Mollie English Douglas, Turkey

Simon & Valerie Martin & family

Erik & Josie Nix, Alaska

Joseph Shaw



DEACONS OF THE MONTH:

Ken Odell & Larry Robinson



Back in April, Brenton Shelby shared with us the call God has placed on his and Danielle's life to be church planters in NYC. They will be making the move in late October. In order for them to be able to answer this call, they need our prayers and support. We want to give everyone an opportunity to support them in this work. Our VBS offering this year will go towards helping them set up and do ministry in NYC. We have set Sunday, July 23 as a day to take a special love offering for them. It is exciting to see someone grow up and respond to God's call to plant churches in an area that needs a Christian witness. Pray for them and support this couple as they serve and follow God.

Below is an update from Brenton and Danielle as they prepare for their move.

"for he has prepared a city for them." - Hebrews 11:16 (ESV)

Many times in the midst of uncertainty we look to Scripture for comfort. That's just what my wife, Danielle, did as she sat by the pool a few weeks ago. As plans turn into reality, the daunting task of moving from our quiet, country house in Jones County to the busy streets of Manhattan sometimes overwhelms us. This was one of those days for Danielle, but as she read the words of Hebrews she was convinced that, no matter our fear, God has already set a perfect plan into motion. Not only has He prepared a heavenly home for us one day, He has provided a city here on earth for our family to feel at home.

When God began to call us to NYC over two years ago, we were excited, but honestly we never thought it would happen. Now, just a few more than 100 days to go before our move to the big city, those distant dreams have become reality. Along with this reality has come much clarity in the plans God has for us, but also many questions that we had no idea we would have to answer 24 months ago. Where will we live? Who will our friends be? Where will we work and hang out? These are just a few of the questions that run through our minds daily. But while many questions go unanswered, God has provided many answers for which we are so thankful.

This journey has been a roller coaster, and we aren't even in the city yet. Beneath all the hustle and bustle of planning for a move and life in the city, God has given us clarity in our plans. If you will allow me just a few minutes, I would like to share some updates with you.

We knew from the beginning that God was calling us to help plant churches in the center-city of Manhattan. He has answered that promise. We are so excited to be partnering as ministry interns and team members with a new church in the West Village called Restoration Church. This church is led by a wonderful couple named Rob and Riley Russell. The Russells moved from New Orleans just over two years ago. Their passion for the West Village is contagious. We couldn't be more proud to walk alongside them to see God do miraculous works in the West Village. For over a year now, they have been working toward a launch date in September of 2017 for a week to week worship service. We will be joining them in November to assist in their calling to the West Village.

Church planting is hard in the city. To reach a post-Christian society, it takes much prayer and trust in the One who calls to succeed. That is why we are teaming with like-minded leaders to serve the city that we love so dearly. While we have long-term plans to plant churches all across Manhattan, we are excited to see this small group of believers in the West Village share the gospel with the nations right in the heart of NYC.

Joining this group of believers opens up many doors for Danielle and me. First, it allows us ground floor access to see the beginning stages of how a church plant works in the city, and we join a group of believers already established in the city. Secondly, it allows us access to a strong network of churches all over the country that has a passion for planting churches in urban areas from New Orleans to Denver to Orlando and NYC. Finally, it provides a runway for us to prepare and educate ourselves to prepare for our calling to plant a neighborhood church in NYC in the coming years.

While God has revealed some great things to us about his plan, we still have unanswered questions. We are still in the process of securing jobs and housing. We ask you to continue to pray for us as we seek God's guidance in these decisions. We know He is faithful and will provide.

Danielle and I would like to thank you for your continued support and prayers as we prepare to be a part of Gospel-centered restoration for the city of New York and its people.

Blessings, Brenton & Danielle Shelby

