



Volume 81 Issue 21

October 20, 2024

## From the Pastor...

I was once at a meeting where they asked pastors to draw a representation of what ministry is like to them. One pastor drew a person spinning plates on poles. Perhaps you remember the plate spinners that used to be in circuses? The person would get a number of plates spinning and run from plate to plate keeping them all going.

Every pastor in the room decided that the plate spinner was the best drawing what it is like to be a pastor. Of course, the problem with plate spinning is that it's tough to keep it all going. Sooner or later, you're a plate is going to drop.

This fall, we forgot to spin an important plate, and it got dropped. Our deacon election was supposed to start in August and end in October. With all we've had going on, we missed a deacons meeting and didn't get the process going. Fortunately, there is time to have our nomination and election process before new deacons begin their service in January.

The abbreviated process will be as follows:

- November 3, 2024 – Nominations due
- November 17, 2024 – Nominees will attend an Orientation Session
- November 25, 2024 – List of all nominees willing to serve published
- December 15, 2024 – Election of new Deacons in Worship Service

Please pray for God's discernment in this process and nominate those you feel would be good deacon candidates. Deacons must be members in good standing and at least 21 years of age. Spouses may not serve concurrently The following people are NOT eligible for nomination as they are currently serving or rotated off last year(\*):

Kim Allen	James Foushee
Sherry Ashley	Nan Johnson
Lynn Barker	Steve Koontz
William Barnard	Mike McLain*
Crystal Beale*	Jeff Templeton
Ben Faulkenberry	Alan Williams*

Deacon Nomination Forms are available in Sunday's announcement sheet and in the church office. You may also email nominations to [kari@statesvillefbc.org](mailto:kari@statesvillefbc.org)

## Schedule

### Sunday, October 20

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary & Live Stream

### Monday, October 21

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

### Wednesday, October 23

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

2:30 p.m. Wond. Wed. After-School Program

5:15 p.m. Family Night Meal

6:00 p.m. Children's & Youth Activities

6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

### Thursday, October 24

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

### Sunday, October 27

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary & Live Stream

### Monday, October 28

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

### Wednesday, October 30

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

2:30 p.m. Wond. Wed. After-School Program

5:30 p.m. Trunk or Treat

7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

### Thursday, October 31

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

## Church Staff Directory

Dr. Nelson Granade.....Senior Minister  
 Mr. James Martin.....Minister of Music & Worship  
 Rev. Melissa Wilson.....Minister of Children & Youth  
 Mrs. Kristina Kyles.....Children's Ministry Associate / Preschool Director  
 Mrs. Elizabeth Kilby.....Minister of Young Families & Missions  
 Mr. Eddie Wiseman.....Accompanist / Music Assistant

OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Mon - Thur, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Fri  
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### THE INTERIM (USPS 581-800)

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## A Message from Minister of Missions Elizabeth Kilby

As we are continuing to monitor the Western North Carolina recovery, we will keep you updated as new plans come about. The best way to help, at this point, is with your prayers. If you choose to donate, please donate financially to our Disaster Relief Fund. When the time is ready, those funds will again be dispersed.

White Christmas is around the corner and sign ups will start by the time you have this Interim in your hand. If you would like to shop for a family, please let Sherry Ashley or Janet McLain know. We are also going to continue our food boxes for families this year. With the costs of food and goods, please contribute to the White Christmas fund as you feel led.

Many thoughts and prayers,  
Elizabeth.



## Financial Statistics

	10/6	10/13
In Person . . . . .	178	157
Live Stream . . . . .	15	16
Sunday School . . . . .	98	75

## Financial Statistics

	October	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	78,359.00	78,359.00
Budget Receipts	20,126.00	20,126.00
Goals Not Met	(58,143.00)	(58,143.00)
Alms	1,955.00	1,955.00
Designated	11,203.00	11,203.00

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## Prayer in the Aftermath of Helene, [www.cbfblog.org](http://www.cbfblog.org)

Loving God, you desire for us the gift of connection. Your creation was not complete until you had imagined for us the mutual blessing of human community, and we struggle to thrive outside of that community still. When we pray, we weave our hopes and dreams for others together with their own, creating a community of care by our words, our acts, and our faith. Hear us as we seek your best for each other, here, together, in prayer.

We find ourselves still flipping through our phones, still watching our screens, in disbelief at the destructive power of floodwater, hurricane devastation spread from familiar coastal areas into the mountains. We pray with words, and then without them when words run out, for those who are known to us, and for those who are strangers to us, who struggle with loss and ruin, while we struggle with how to help. Help us to be informed, and generous, and tenacious in paying attention, for the need will be extensive and lasting. We pray for protection from the jadedness and dulling of compassion that sometimes comes with exhaustion in those called to care, and for protection from despair and bitterness that sometimes comes with exhaustion in those who suffer such great loss. Remind us that community can shine in storms like these. For times when floodwaters wash away what felt solid and established, we pray...

We know that the everyday world, with its own particular struggles, continues turning when floodwaters rise. For those who are hurting, who we call by name—friends and family—when floodwaters wash away what felt solid and established, we pray... [pray for each other in the way usual for your faith family]

We know that when critical needs arise, the demand can stretch available resources to the breaking point, as everyday cries for caring attention continue as before. For needs in our community, when floodwaters wash away what felt solid and established, we pray... [pray in the way usual for your faith family]

We know that times of disaster and crisis summon the temptation to grandstand, and to blame, in those with sudden responsibility and attention focused on them. The desire to serve and the desire to look good doing it compete in the ego. For those who have accepted positions of influence or power in our government, when floodwaters wash away what felt solid and established, we pray... [pray in the way usual for your faith family, or omit if this is not a typical part of your prayers at this time]

We know that the twisted sadnesses of war, famine, terror, and systematic injustice do not pause when our attention is turned toward domestic concerns, and our hearts must be big enough to fit the troubles of our global neighbors alongside our own. For the world, when floodwaters wash away what felt solid and established, we pray... [pray in the way usual for your faith family for the troubles of the world]

We know, though we may not say, that storm winds and floodwaters batter our own souls, now and then. Some of us are bold about signing our own disaster declarations, while others of us manage our crumbling emotional infrastructures without a word to anyone, weathering our storms alone, picking up the debris all by ourselves. We can't find our way to community. For our own lives, when floodwaters wash away what felt solid and established, we pray...

We pray today with the gathered family of faith around the world, in the way Jesus taught his disciples to pray, saying:

Our Father, which art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name;  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts  
As we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation  
But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory  
Forever, Amen.

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## Announcements



# Trunk or Treat

**Wednesday, October 30  
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.**

All children are invited for a fun evening  
or trunk or treating.

We will have candy and other prizes.

We will also serve hot dogs.

You may sign up at the Welcome Center to  
decorate your car and pass out candy.

We are collecting donations of individually  
wrapped candy for this event.



### Empty Bowls: A Hunger Awareness Event Sunday, October 27, 2024

Fifth Street Ministries is hosting its annual Empty Bowls lunch event on Sunday, October 27, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church-Statesville.

The event will feature four types of soup from local restaurants (one vegetarian option), salad, bread, drinks and dessert. Michele Knapp, the Executive Director, will speak to the challenge of hunger in own community.

There are two ticket options. The first is a \$45 ticket that includes the meal and a keepsake bowl. The other option is a \$15 tickets that includes the meal only. Beautiful handmade bowls are provided by CrEaTe Pottery Studio.



Scan the QR code for more information on how to purchase tickets or volunteer.

### White Christmas Saturday, December 7, 2024

For White Christmas we will have multiple ways to serve. You can serve on the set up team, collect and sort food, buy gifts for the families, provide items for the parents to stuff a stocking for their children, or be a buddy for the shoppers.

We will host in the gym this year, and hope to have the participants come in and pick up the gifts, and make an individualized stocking for their children should they choose. We will have sign ups for shopping for the families on Sunday, October 20 and Sunday, October 27 to get a head start on our volunteers. That way we can get the family names to you as soon as we receive them. Gifts will be due Saturday, November 30 and we will have a wonderful day as a community on Saturday, December 7 as we have White Christmas that morning.