

Teaching
THE
WORD...
Touching
LIVES

FROM YOUR PASTOR'S HEART



Dear First Family,
Thank you for your faithfulness to the Lord during these summer months. Your attendance, prayers, giving and stewardship of life are a blessing to me personally.

Preschool Worship: On Sunday, August 9, 2009, we will begin in the 9:30 and 10:55 am worship hour a preschool worship option for four and five year olds and five and six year old kindergarteners. **Cheryl McCrary** and her faithful workers are leading this preschool worship. Our goal and vision is to reach more young families for Christ and the church.

Special Needs Sunday School class If you know of a family with a special needs child, we have Sunday School classes at the 8:15 and 9:30 am hours for special needs children. God has raised up a group of workers who are called to this ministry. Please let families know there is a place for their special needs child at First Baptist Church. Contact Ron Moore at 572-1506 or ron.moore@fbct.org for more information.

New sign Have you seen the great new sign on both sides of the walkway over Commerce Street? We are grateful that the Clarksville Business District approved this welcome sign for our downtown church. It looks great!

Recreation Ministry Our Education staff is coming to the plate in a wonderful way to assume leadership over an age graded recreational ministry. Ron Moore will oversee the work of the Recreation Ministry and Education Staff work with the Recreation Ministry.

"Make my day" In the book "A Window on the Mountain," Winston Pierce tells of his high school class reunion. A group of the old classmates were reminiscing about things and persons for which they were grateful. One man mentioned that he was particularly thankful for Mrs. Wendt, for she more than anyone had introduced him to Tennyson and the beauty of poetry. Acting on a suggestion, the man wrote a letter of appreciation to Mrs. Wendt and mailed it to his high school. About a month later the man received a response. It was written in a feeble longhand and read as follows: "My dear Willie, I can't tell you how much your letter meant to me. I am now in my nineties, living alone in a small room, cooking my own meals, lonely and like the last leaf of fall, lingering behind. You will be interested to know that I taught school for forty years and yours is the first letter of appreciation I ever received. It came on a blue, cold morning and it cheered me as nothing has for years. Willie, you have made my day." Christian friend, make someone's day. Tell a teacher "Thank you!"

"The situation is well in hand"

"My times are in His hands." "My times are in Your hand; Deliver me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me." Psalm 31:15

"I'm graven on the palms of His hands." "See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; Your walls are continually before Me." Isaiah 49:16

"No one can pluck me out of His hands." "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand." John 10:28

(Continued on p. 2)



DR. JOHN DAVID LAIDA DAY AT FIRST BAPTIST

We will thank God for the ministry of Dr. Laida, our Pastor Emeritus, on Sunday morning, July 26. Dr. Laida will celebrate his 90th birthday on July 22. He will preach in the 8:15 and 9:30 am worship and will be recognized at 10:55 am. Additionally, Bill Morris, former Minister of Music during the pastorate of Dr. Laida, will be here to lead worship and sing. Don't miss this day of celebration!

CHURCH NEWS

(Continued from Pastor's article p. 1)

That is having the situation **well** in **hand!**

Adoniram Judson: "The future is bright as the promises of God."

I will be at Sunday School Week at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly in Ridgecrest, North Carolina this Lord's Day. We are thankful to God for skillful and spiritual church staff members who will fill the pulpit this Sunday and for Wally Vinson from our Cumberland Baptist Association who will preach at the 10:50 am hour.

See you Sunday Bible and tithe in hand. In Christ,

Roger P. Freeman

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

THE PASTOR AND CONGREGATION EXTEND CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY TO...

...**Calvin and Shirley Stokes** and **C.W. and Corene Stokes** in the death of Calvin and C.W.'s mother, Reathy Gibbs Stokes. Sympathy also to **David and Julie Stokes** and **Paul and Peggy Landrum** in the death of David and Peggy's grandmother. Mrs. Stokes passed away June 29, 2009.

...**Dwight and Gloria Dickson** in the death of Dwight's mother, Mrs. Daisy Dickson. Mrs. Dickson passed away June 30, 2009.

...**Ann Estes** in the death of her husband, Donald Estes. Mr. Estes passed away June 30, 2009.

...**Frank and Natalie White** in the death of Natalie's mother, Mrs. Shirley Andrews. Sympathy also to Andrew in the death of his grandmother. Mrs. Andrews passed away on July 4, 2009.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

July 5, 2009

Profession/Baptism: Daniel Ferguson, Belinda MonDragon
Letter/Statement: Joyce Cunningham, Keith Cunningham, Bridgette Wright, Rebecca Kleeman
Baptized this week: Peyton Benjamin

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Obedience

So early in the morning Abraham got up, saddled his donkey, and took with him two of his young men and his son Isaac. He split wood for a burnt offering and set out to go to the place God had told him about.
Genesis 22:3 HCSB

As a father of four children, there have been many times when I have told my children to brush their teeth, eat all of their food, put their warm coats on to go outside or to slow down because they were driving too fast. The list of my fatherly instruction is endless. In each situation, it was important for them to obey me because it was to their best interest.

Over the years, Abraham had learned the importance of obeying God and doing exactly what He had instructed. Therefore, he did not drag his feet; rather, he got up early and immediately began to work toward doing what God had instructed him to do. Even though his obedience would require a great sacrifice, Abraham was resolved to obey God. That memorable morning long ago, Abraham began one of the greatest acts of obedience every recorded in history.

Challenge – Obeying God is sometimes difficult and may call for you to sacrifice something you do not want to give up. What do you need to do today to be obedient to God? What is He asking you to sacrifice? Trust God and obey Him, even if it is difficult. You will be blessed because of your obedience.

Ron Moore, *Minister of Education*

RECEIVE FIRST THINGS FIRST ONLINE

Receive this devotion online at www.fbct.org. Click Resources, then Publications and First Things First. You will be prompted to enter your e-mail address. This devotion will arrive in your inbox everyday, Monday through Friday.

LEGACY: LIFE AFTER 55

COOKEVILLE TRAIN TRIP UPDATE

We have NO more seats on the bus going to Nashville for the October 17 train trip to Cookeville, TN.

If you are still interested in going, however, you may drive your own car to Nashville and still take the train trip with us. You will need to make your own reservations directly with Tennessee Railways. Call them at 615-244-9001 and state that you are with the group from First Baptist Church, Clarksville, to get the \$40.00 regular coach seating price.

If you are riding the bus, please get your \$30.00 non-refundable deposit in as soon as possible. The total cost of the trip is \$60.00 per person. Lunch in Cookeville will be extra. Contact the Senior Adult Ministry office at 572-1527 for further help.

CHURCH NEWS

FIRST CLARKSVILLE CONSERVATORY

The Fall Semester is quickly approaching so register now. We offer private music instruction with Christian instructors on a variety of instruments and in voice. Registration brochures are available in the Music Ministry Office until August 14. The semester begins the week of August 24. Contact Linda Ponder, Conservatory Administrator, at 572-1515 or visit www.fbct.org/conservatory for more information or to register online.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please contact Irby Stanley at irby@fbct.org if you are not receiving offering envelopes.

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

July 5, 2009

8:15 Sunday School 559
 9:30 Sunday School 448
 10:55 Sunday School 149
Total Sunday School 1,156
 Midweek Bible Study 378
Total Bible Study 1,534

Sunday 8:15 Worship 86
 Sunday 9:30 Worship 973
 Sunday 10:55 Worship 353
 Preschool 49
 Korean Church 19
 Missions 30
 Hispanic Church 36
Total Worship 1,546
 Exit One Church Sunday School 50
 Exit One Church Worship 251

PRESCHOOL NEWS

BE A HERO IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD

Being a true Hero in the life of a child is easy. The Preschool Ministry needs loving arms to teach, rock or pray for our children in the new Sunday School year that begins on August 9, 2009. By being present and loving our preschoolers at the 8:15, 9:30 or 10:55 Sunday School hours you will make an eternal difference in the lives of our preschoolers from birth through kindergarten. We need individuals to help weekly, every other week or monthly. Please answer the call and contact Cheryl McCrary at 572-1509 for additional information.

PRECHOOOL WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

The new Wednesday nights for our preschoolers this fall is going to be fun for both preschoolers and teachers! We are recruiting teachers who would like to minister to our preschoolers by teaching crafts, music, games, Bible stories or preparing snacks. Our preschoolers will be rotating through 3 different classrooms so teachers will only be responsible for 15 minutes of lesson planning and will then teach that lesson three times. Call Cheryl McCrary at 572-1509 or email at cheryl.mccrary@fbct.org for additional information.

PRESCHOOLERS LEARN ABOUT MISSIONS THIS FALL

Preschoolers love to help. They want to help cook, clean and build. Teaching preschoolers about missions at an early age helps them learn that missionaries help people while teaching them about Jesus. Missionaries help in the same ways that they can help. This teaches preschoolers that they can be missionaries as well. Beginning August 16 on Sunday evenings from 6-7 pm, our preschoolers will learn that they can be missionaries. If you are available to help preschoolers learn about missionaries, call Cheryl McCrary at 572-1509 for additional information.

PRESCHOOL WORSHIP KIDSTYLE IS COMING!

Beginning August 9, all four and five year olds and our five and six year old kindergartners are invited to remain for a special 2nd hour of Sunday School called Preschool Worship KidStyle at the 9:30 and 10:55 worship hours.

Preschool Worship KidStyle is a high energy hour that reinforces the biblical truths that preschoolers learned in their Sunday School Class utilizing multi-media technology and games. It is going to be a fun hour for all!!!

CHURCH NEWS

INFORMATIONAL MEETING FOR OCTOBER MISSION TRIPS

On Sunday, July 19 at 4:00 pm, Bill Graham and Jared Hodges will meet in the church parlor with people who want more information on the October trips to Ghana, West Africa and Omsk, Russia. The first 30 minutes each person will learn general information about taking an international mission trip. From 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm people interested in the Africa trip will go with Jared Hodges. Bill Graham will work with people interested in traveling to Russia.

For more information about the mission trips or the informational meeting, contact the Missions and Ministry Office at 245-0015.

BUST THE SUMMER SLUMP!

Don't let Satan have a victory this summer in your Sunday School class. Make contacts to all absentees and tell them they were missed, even if they are a regular attendee and you know they were on vacation. A contact lets them know they were missed. Make it a personal goal to keep your attendance up this summer by making visits, phone calls and sending cards to everyone in your class.

STEWARDSHIP RECEIPTS

July 5, 2009

Budget Required	\$84,809.97
Budget Gifts	79,491.97
Budget Required for the Year	2,349,839.49
Budget Received for the Year	2,134,764.83
Find Us Faithful Still Budget	\$9,615.38
Find Us Faithful Still Gifts	9,916.16
Find Us Faithful Required Year	259,615.26

World Missions

World Missions Required	\$5,961.53
World Missions Received	3,847.50
Required for the Year	160,961.31
Received for the Year	148,418.67

CHURCH NEWS

CHILDREN'S MUSIC CAMP

The week is almost here. Has your child signed up to participate in the music production of *GPS: God's Plan of Salvation*?



Children who have completed grades 1 through 5 are eligible to come to this free camp. They will learn music, movements and Bible verses that remind us of God's great plan for our lives. There are snacks and small group times and a free t-shirt. The dates are Monday through Friday, July 20 to 24, from 9:00 am to noon and Sunday, July 26, from 3 pm to 7 pm. The presentation will be on Sunday night, July 26 at 6:00 pm.

Enrollment forms are available at the Music Ministry Office or online at www.fbct.org/worship. Books and demonstration CD's are available at the Music Ministry Office for students to get a head start on the learning. See you at Music Camp!

THANK YOU FROM THE HOPE PREGNANCY CENTER

The Hope Pregnancy Center would like to express its appreciation to the First Baptist Church Women on Mission for the welcome basket items and \$500 collected through the baby bottle campaign from Mother's Day through the end of June. Our clients were delighted with the generosity displayed by your provision of their abundant welcome baskets and car seats for their babies. A special thank you to Jean Price for hosting the baby shower for our April/May parenting classes. God bless you for blessing us!



DEACONS OF THE WEEK

Active: Walter Brooks, Kevin Brown, Bubba Cherry, Les Cochran, Ralph Conklin, Reece Elliott, Bob Fort, David Frey, Steve Girsky

Emeriti: Jim Holleman

PRAYER LINE—572-1534

Published weekly except the week of Christmas by the First Baptist Church - Clarksville, 435 Madison Street, Clarksville, TN 37040, (931) 645-2431. USPS 662-200. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to PS Form 3579. First Baptist Church - Clarksville, 435 Madison Street, Clarksville, TN 37040. Periodicals Postage paid at Clarksville, TN.

CHURCH NEWS

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

As you know, our campus is very large. Just the buildings themselves cover almost two city blocks. We have not had any recent incidents but our Security Committee and our Property and Grounds Committee are always trying to be proactive in keeping us safe. We trust in the Lord first and additionally seek to use the good sense with which He has blessed us. We welcome all who come to worship. However, in this day and time not all enter churches with worship on their mind.

As you know all our doors are locked during the week and admission must come at one of the entrances where we have intercoms. This process helps protect those in the building for weekday events and those on the staff.

In order to help keep our facilities safe during worship hours, our entry doors have been equipped with automatic locking devices. These devices are helping us make our facilities a place where you can worship without worry for you, your children and your grandchildren. These doors will lock at pre-set times to protect our congregation. This is just another way our church is working to protect you and your family at church. The steeple entrance to the Grace Building on Commerce Street will remain unlocked before and after worship hours. Thank you for your understanding in this.

FOOD SERVICES

SUNDAY BREAKFAST

This buffet includes crisp bacon, savory sausage, fluffy eggs, hash brown potatoes, fresh baked biscuits, country gravy, southern grits, juice, coffee, sodas, fresh baked muffins, delicate Danish pastries and fresh fruit.

Serving each Sunday from 7:30 until 10 am, we hope to see you this Sunday.

Reservations for the Wednesday heart healthy meal may be made by calling 472-1171.

SAFETY TIPS FROM THE FBC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Parking lot safety

- ✓ Always lock your vehicle and never leave valuables in plain site.
- ✓ When returning to your vehicle have your keys in hand and ready to enter your vehicle.
- ✓ Be alert and aware of your surroundings; if a stranger approaches you, drive away.

Child safety

- ✓ Accompany young children to restrooms.
- ✓ Teach your children to know their phone number/address.
- ✓ Teach your child not to accept gifts/rides from strangers.
- ✓ Never leave your child alone in a public place.
- ✓ Have a plan if your child gets separated from you in a public place.

"The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?"

~ Psalm 27:1

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL

Adults \$4 • Children \$3

Heart Healthy \$4 • Family Maximum \$15

Please limit your meal to one plate of food per person.

Serving from 4:30-5:45 pm

*Menu is subject to change without notice.

Menu for July 15, 2009

Join us for our Super Salad Menus each Wednesday. There will always be hot breads, the dessert table and cool beverages. The heart healthy patrons will enjoy the same delicious choices.

**Our Children's Menu will be limited due to lower summer participation

REGULAR WEEKLY CHURCH SCHEDULE

Sunday

7:30 am Deacon Prayer Time
Laida Fellowship Hall (2230)

Worship

8:15 am & Grace Worship Center
9:30 am
10:55 am DOXA Worship
(Grace Worship Center)

Bible Study/Sunday School

8:15 am & Bible Study Classes for all ages
9:30 am
10:55 am Adult Bible Study Classes

Sunday Evening

6:00 pm Impact and Delight
(Middle School)
6:00 pm The Family Room
(High School)
6:00 pm Worship (Grace Building)

Wednesday

4:30 – 7:30 Wednesday 2/Wednesday
Outreach
4:30 – 6:00 Fellowship Meal
6:00 – 7:15 Prayer Meeting/Bible
Study in Grace Worship Center
6:00 – 7:15 Discipleship Training
Institute Classes
6:00 – 7:15 Children's Backyard
6:00 – 7:15 Preschool Team/Kid
6:00 – 7:15 Middle School and High
School Worship
7:45 – 9:00 College and Singles Worship
(Hope Children's Area/
Room 2161)

Friday

10:30 am Senior Adult Bible Study
Laida Fellowship Hall

Media Library Center Hours

Sundays 9:00 am - 12 pm & 5:00 - 6:00 pm
Wednesdays 4:00 - 6:00 pm
The Media Library Center is located in Room 2326 on the third floor of the Hope Building.

T.V. Ministry

Charter channel 9 or Broadcast channel 49.

Sundays at 9:00 am
Mondays at 8:00 pm
Wednesdays at 8:30 am
Hispanic Service—Thursdays at 7:00 pm