

FIRSTWORD

FIRSTBAPTISTCHURCH DECATUR, AL
fbcdeatur.org

July 2011 Issue Vol. 43 No. 7

Daddy-Daughter Date Night



Sunday, July 24th
5:30 pm

First Baptist ROC

Cost: \$15 per household

Making a Difference for Daddys & Daughters

Bring your daughter or your dad and join us for a date night with dinner and special daddy/daughter team speakers, Larry & Lauren Little, as they share what a huge impact dads and daughters have on each other, and how to be intentional about your daddy/daughter relationship.

A MESSAGE FROM *Dr. Hurt*

My Dear People,

By now you should know we are in a capital improvement drive here at the Church. Our goal is to raise \$460,000 in six weeks. This amount will completely pay for our new roof on the sanctuary and the new sound system. There is no doubt that we can make this a reality if we all work together. How can you help? Let me suggest a few ways.

First, I would encourage you to pray. Pray that we as a Church will be good stewards of what we have been entrusted with. We have an obligation to make sure we take care of what we have and that includes our facilities. Leaking roofs which damage our organ, piano, pews and carpet are not an option for God's house. He deserves the best. Pray that we will continue to take care of His house.

Second, help us pay for our new roof and sound system. We are not asking for equal gifts but equal sacrifices! We want all of God's people here at FBC Decatur to join hands and give above and beyond our tithes and offerings to pay the debt off in six weeks. Can we do it? You bet we can! Give yourself to something which will out last you.

What an unbelievable experience we shared in Vacation Bible School last week. We had over 430 enrolled which led to 23 professions of faith in Jesus Christ. Also, our children raised over \$8,000 for the Mountain View Baptist Church in Phil Campbell. Unbelievable! Eight thousand dollars! As adults, we might could learn a valuable lesson about stewardship and sacrifice from our children.

On July 10, our Stewardship Team is inviting you to a "Hear, Here" experience at 6:00 pm in the ROC. This will be a special time of prayer, praise and Worship. You, as a Church member, will be given an opportunity to learn more about our capital improvement drive and debt reduction. I hope you will make plans to be there for this information session.

I hope you have a great weekend in Bible Study and Worship. Until we see each other again, I remain...

Sincerely Yours,



Thank you to everyone who came and participated in the Sunday & Wednesday Leadership Ice Cream Sundae Party. I hope everyone was able to see the "sweet" experiences being planned for the new year of Bible Study.

Ice cream creations are always delicious - fun to enjoy and share. Our desire is that each Sunday morning people will be excited about participating in a Bible Study experience. The delicious blend of flavors in an ice cream Sundae might include the flavored creams, crunchy nuts, fruity surprises, rich chocolate or caramel, the fun of sprinkles, and whipped cream.

God can blend our caring teachers, wide range of people's needs, laughter, friendship, and prayerful encouragement into a terrific experience each week.

Mark your calendars - August 14! Our preschool, children, and youth promote to new age groups.

Adult groups maintain the "sweet" fellowship of friendships while beginning new biblically based study discussions.

On this date each Adult class will have the opportunity to focus specific time in prayer for the new school year - praying for the students, faculty, and staff in public, private, and home school settings.

The afternoon of August 14 all our Sunday morning teachers will be gathering for special equipping in leading our Bible Study organization.

RECREATION MINISTRY



On **July 30**, 2011, beginning at 7:00 am First Baptist will partner with Central United Methodist Church to bring Connect 3ON3 to the Decatur area. This will be an incredible one-day event that will be open to adults (men and women) as well as children (ages 12 and up) from our community. Teams will play at the Central United Methodist gym and the First Baptist ROC.

We need volunteers to help sign up teams, referee games, pass out drinks, and so much more. Connect Ministries will help train you to be a part of the volunteer task force. A sign-up sheet is available at the ROC.

Our vision is to present the message of Jesus Christ to those who have not received it, while connecting the Church to the community and hosting a quality community event. You can sign up to volunteer or register a team at www.connect3on3.com.

Upward Flag Football sign ups begin July 1st

Summer Sports Camps:

Upward Cheerleader Camp July 11-15
Brilla Soccer Camp July 18-22
Upward Basketball Camp July 25-29

FAITHFUL HEARTS

FAITHFUL HEARTS SUMMER BIBLE STUDY AND LUNCHEON

Continues July 7 & July 21
Time: 10:30 am
Location: Loft

"The Book of Daniel" led by: Jim Burton

Lunch Prepared by: Ozella Stewart and Roberta Gray
Donations accepted for lunch

Please call the Church office to let us know you plan to attend so adequate lunch preparations can be made.

Everyone, any age, is welcome to attend—bring a friend!

FAITHFUL HEARTS DAY TRIP TO "ALL STEAK" RESTAURANT AND "STEELE APPLE ORCHARD"

Cullman, AL
Thursday, July 28
Leave Church at 10:15 am
Church Bus Transportation

No cost other than what you order from menu at All Steak or what you purchase at Steele Apple Orchard.

We will take an informative and enjoyable tour of the orchard!

Church bus transportation—space is limited on the buses.
Call the church office to reserve your seat.

FAITHFUL HEARTS MISSION TRIP TO LYNCH, KENTUCKY

September 17-22, 2011

Cost for this mission trip is \$100.00 per person

Sign up and payment deadline is Wednesday, September 7.

We'll be doing light construction, working at the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, working with the clothing ministry, distributing prayer shawls at the nursing home, and providing a reading ministry to the children in the schools.

SPACE IS LIMITED-Call the Church office if you would like to go!

SANCTUARY AUDIO SYSTEM UPDATE

We are happy to announce that the old, broken audio equipment has been completely removed and installation of our new system is underway. Soon, everyone should be able to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ in song, testimony, and teaching clearer than ever before.

With the new system comes new opportunities to serve through the First Productions ministry. Our volunteers play a crucial role in all our worship services! Audio training will be provided once the system has been installed and commissioned.

Now is the time to communicate your willingness to join the team! Contact Debbie Barton (debbiebarton@fbcdecatur.org), Barry Thompson (barrythompson@fbcdecatur.org) or Dave Briley (davebriley@fbcdecatur.org) to volunteer.

LOCAL TELEVISION MINISTRY CONCLUDES

We regret the need to conclude our local TV broadcast of our Sunday services.

Recently, the Staff and Finance Committee shared a list of Capital Improvement needs, which currently totals over a million dollars. The Church voted in Quarterly Business Meeting to prioritize two projects:

- (1) A new Sanctuary roof to replace the leaky roof that was damaging building and equipment. \$110,000.
- (2) A new Sound System in the Sanctuary to replace the worn out system that completely stopped working. \$350,000.

Unfortunately, the video equipment providing the ability to edit our services for TV production and edit DVD duplications has also worn out. At a cost of \$200,000, this project is being delayed along with the replacement of roofs on the rest of our facilities and other needed improvements. For the last 3 months we have had to temporarily offer reruns of last year's services. We have communicated with the television company a desire to renew discussions of possibly offering a TV ministry again in the future.

The Stewardship Team is prayerfully discussing how we will move forward with this and other Capital Improvement needs and debt reduction.

Our immediate Church-approved financial goals are:

- (1) Supporting the 2011 Ministry and Operating budget.
- (2). Raising the \$460,000 to pay for Sanctuary roof and sound system.

Please pray for and participate in meeting the needs of our Church's financial plans.

Wednesday Nights in July

July 6 Time: 6:00-7:30

Location: off campus at

Alabama Children's Home—1404 16th Avenue
Cost for FBC members: regular meal cost

FBC is taking a group to minister with games, cookout and devotion at the Alabama Children's Home. We need volunteers to help with the serving and games so that we are able to host this event for the Children's Home. You can volunteer by calling the Church office at 256-353-0423 ext. 105.

July 13 Time: 5:00 pm

Location: FBC ROC

Meal and family
Worship with a special
report from our FIX56
group.

We will also serve
homemade ice cream.

Contact Roger at
256-353-0423 ext. 154 to
sign up to bring some!

July 20 Time: 6:43 pm

(game time)

Location: off campus at
Joe Davis Stadium
3125 Leeman Ferry Road SW
Huntsville, AL 35801

*Tickets available for
purchase at FBC after July 4th.

Family Night at the Stars
Baseball game. Let's
enjoy an evening at the
ballpark together!

July 27

No activities on FBC
campus

In lieu of activities at
FBC we encourage
everyone to plan a
community service
action you and your
family or friends can
do to serve others in
the community.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Legacy Sponsored- dotMOM Conference: Because There's Strength in Numbers

September 23 & 24

Birmingham, AL Sheraton

World renowned speakers including, Priscilla Shirer, Vicki Courtney, Angela Thomas and Angie Smith. Worship led by Melissa Greene. If you are interested in attending, please call Denise Lackey at 256-351-8020. Tickets will be purchased at the group rate if there is enough interest. For more information on the conference, visit this website:

<http://www.lifeway.com/event/407/>

Date: Sunday, July 10

*date change from June 26

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: ROC



Please join us for coffee and cookies as we update you on the progress of our campaign to address the Sanctuary roof and sound system. We will also be making an appeal for each of us to participate in paying for these items. This will be a time of Worship and Praise to reflect on how God has blessed our family. We will also spend this time praying for God's direction for the days ahead.

SHARING IN SORROW

We would like to extend our Christian sympathy to John Moore in the loss of his wife, Debbie; Debbie Bishop in the loss of her mother, Jo; Larry Ayers in the loss of his sister, Carol Mayfield; Darlene Ziegler in the loss of her husband, Dave; Don Weems in the loss of his mother Laura Olena; Bearl Whitsett in the loss of his wife, Mattie; Larry Dunlap in the loss of his mother, Jean McMillan; and Cathy Parker in the loss of her mother, Mary Ann Douthit McElroy.

THANK YOU NOTES

Notes of appreciation have been received from Dean Wilson, Mary Hicks, Keith & Carolyn Thrasher, Damien Pearson & Justin Smith, Alabama Baptist Convention—State Board of Missions, and Alabama Baptist Children's Home. Notes are placed on the bulletin board outside the Church office.

A TIME TO REJOICE

With Becky & Matthew Anderton in the birth of their son, Weston Conner, born on June 9 and with Clint & Katherine Peters in the birth of their son, Lawson Rhodes, born on June 2.

MISSIONS Corner

MISSIONS UPDATE

We as a church have been very busy during the first six months of this year. Here is a summary of what all of you have done so far: three mission trips to Belize, one mission trip to Haiti, Habitat for Humanity build, Carpenters for Christ build, Missions Day Blitz, tornado relief locally and statewide, local house repairs, meals for Edwin Hodges Ministry, and wheelchair ramp built for sister church. Thank you for "going" on mission.



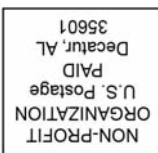
LOCAL MISSION

This past weekend 8 FBC Sunday school classes came together to build a wheelchair ramp for St. Paul's Spiritual Church. This will help Church members who previously could not attend Church.

PERSONAL NOTE FROM PAUL

Personally it is an exciting time in the life of our family as our daughter, Rae will marry John Steele on July 9. Please join our family in this joyous occasion.

Permit No. 220



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