

# FIRSTWORD

FIRSTBAPTISTCHURCH DECATUR, AL  
fbcdeatur.org

April, 2010 Issue Vol. 42 No. 4

## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Father Daughter Dinner

*"Knitting the Father's & Daughter's Hearts Together"*

Friday, April 9  
6:00 pm  
In the ROC

Girls Grades K - 12th  
Cost: \$10 per family



Special Guest:  
Jamie Slocum

*Call the church office to make reservations.*

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Our staff and leaders are praying for understanding to adjust Sunday schedules to be a healthy structure for FBC Decatur. We encourage all members to invest time in prayer for clarity and unity.

LET'S FOCUS ON.....

- Taking the Good News
- Touching Great Needs
- Teaching God's Word
- Training Growing Leaders
- Touching God's Heart

*Be watching for an upcoming "Information Connection" meeting.*

## DR. HURT

My Dear People,

I have found it interesting over the years that Christmas comes and turns the world up on its head and Easter comes in with little regards. If we do remember Easter, usually the image of bunnies, eggs and new clothes comes to mind. We need to realize that without Easter, Christmas would mean nothing. The church is not a memorial society, but rather a living and breathing organism based on the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

However, I have to admit that the Easter Season, though it is so special to me, can be a difficult time of the year. You see, on the day before Easter 2004, Tommi Jo's father, Wes Lepard died of a massive heart attack at the age of 60. On the day before Easter 2005, just one year later, my dad died at the age of 83. Each year I have to relive those moments during my busiest time of the year.

As we meditate on our journey to the cross, let's remember that His death, burial and resurrection give us hope beyond the grave. As Jesus said to Martha: "He who believes in me and dies, yet shall he live. He who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this, Martha?" The question is, do we truly believe the good news of the resurrection?

For those of us who have lost loved ones, we do not grieve as those who have no hope! Because He lives, we indeed can face tomorrow. Celebrate eternal life now and forever more as you celebrate the Easter Season.

I am looking forward to seeing each of you this Sunday in Bible study and worship. Until we meet again I remain...

Sincerely yours,

## LEGACY LADIES MINISTRY

### LADIES MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Began Monday, March 29 at 6:30 pm in Room 301 studying Mary Kassian's *Conversation Peace*. The cost for a study book is \$13. You may pick up a book on Monday night or at the church office receptionist's desk. Childcare will be available if needed.

### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Legacy Women's Ministry is beginning a prayer shawl ministry to reach out to the many members of our congregation who are hurting either physically or emotionally. If you knit or crochet, or would like to learn, please join us for an informational meeting in the Heritage Room on Sunday, April 11 at 4:00 pm. We also welcome anyone who would be interested in serving with other facets of the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Please contact Carloss Bauer or Denise Lackey for more details.

## SPECIAL CALLED BUSINESS MEETING

Sunday, April 11  
9:45 & 11:00 am  
Worship Services

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

### S.A.M. LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

Thursday, April 1  
1:30 am in Conference Room #121

### S.A.M. LUNCHEON

Thursday, April 8 at 12:00 noon in the ROC  
Cost: \$5.00 • Meal Prepared by Gail Pennington  
Special Guests: The Ward Family from Columbia, TN  
This family travels extensively sharing the gospel through song.  
Call the church office or use the worship bulletin tear-off to make reservations!

### S.A.M. "SNACK DAY MINISTRY" FOR SOMERVILLE ROAD SCHOOL FACULTY

We will continue this ministry again this month!  
Please bring something sweet (cookies, mini candy bars, etc.) something salty (canned nuts, potato chips, flavored crackers, etc.) or something fresh (fruit or vegetable tray, etc.) to our April luncheon or to the church office by 1:30 pm on April 8! Thanks for continuing to be a part of this greatly appreciated ministry!

### S.A.M. TRIP TO "SENIOR ADULT SOUTHERN GOSPEL SPRINGFEST" AT RIDGECREST CONFERENCE CENTER

Tuesday, May 4 – Thursday, May 6  
Final payment of \$60.00 is due Sunday, April 4!  
There will be a trip meeting to complete all paperwork and receive itineraries on Sunday, May 2 at 4:00 pm.

### SENIOR ADULT DAY CHOIR REHEARSALS

We will form a choir again this year to sing on Sunday, May 2, Senior Adult Day. It takes 85 people to fill the choir loft. Rehearsals will be Sunday, April 18 and Sunday, April 25 at 5:00 pm. Everyone 55 and up are invited to make this a "SPECIAL" day by participating in the choir.

### S.A.M. PICNIC

Saturday, April 24 at Mallard Farms • 11:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Special Guests: The Clear Title Quartet  
No Cost! Come and bring a friend!

We'll enjoy grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, baked beans and potato salad from Big Bob Gibson's, as well as a variety of potato chips. Desserts will be prepared by our SAM Leadership Team. Please call the church office or use the worship bulletin tear-off to let us know you plan to attend!

## 2010-2011 KINDERGARTEN AIDE NEEDED

There is an opening for a kindergarten aide for the 2010-2011 school year. This position requires the aide to be a well organized person of good Christian morals who can work from 8:15 am -12:45 pm MWF and occasionally on Tues/Thurs (as needed) following the Decatur City School schedule. Responsibilities include handling money, scheduling field trips, keeping paperwork up-to-date, sending emails and communicating with parents as well as helping the teachers with making copies, and serving snacks. A teaching certificate would be a plus. Please send resumes to Teresa Letson, Church Street Academy Preschool Director, in the church office.



### MISSIONS DAY 2010

It was an incredible day for our third mission day. Over 400 people joined in this year. Here is a recap of the day: beautiful day, partnership with other churches and groups, generations serving together & getting to know each other and laughter. These touches of love all over the city have changed lives: Lunches, East Acres, Pumping Gas, Ramps and small construction projects, Homeless, Landscaping, Housecleaning, Prayer Walking, Nursing Home, Central Parkway Reach, Edwin Hodges Ministry, Laundry of Love, Boys & Girls Club Flipped, Two Homes Repainted, NewComers Blitz, Child Care and Neighborhood Community Center, and all the Bibles that will be sent all around the world.

I just want to say thank you for all who participated in this day. You are the reason it was successful. Now the challenge is to look around where you are and ask God what type of "Random Act of Kindness" He wants you to do for Him.

### KINGDOM LIFE CHURCH PARTNERSHIP

On March 7, a team of 15 went to Lansing, Michigan for the first day of worship with our partner at KingdomLife Church. We helped prepare the bulletins for Sunday, prayer-walked around the church, and prayed over Pastor Coye Boyer and his family and leadership team. On our way there we had a plan of what we were going to do, but that was man's plan. God wanted us there for our presence. That was the reason we were there. It meant so much to Pastor Coye and his church that we traveled 652 miles to support what God has begun with His new church. All the unity, partnership and vision was kicked off on that Sunday afternoon. And then we saw a gleam of the vision for the future. It was an incredible experience to be a part of a new beginning. I am ready for more, Lord.



### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD

We are looking for folks who would be willing to serve on site Saturdays beginning April 10. No experience is required. All you need is a willing heart--they will teach. Each Saturday they need 20 to 30 people from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. Lunch will be provided. Bring your own hammers and possibly other tools. Framing is on April 10, followed by blue boarding/window, siding, electrical and landscaping. If your Sunday School class or group would be interested, email Ryan Goss at [rgoss@tcco.com](mailto:rgoss@tcco.com), Paul at [paul13@fbcdccatur.org](mailto:paul13@fbcdccatur.org) or come by my office. The door is open. This home will be finished in roughly 13 weeks.

## MINISTER OF EDUCATION/ADMINISTRATOR



Thank you for your prayers and warm welcoming to become your Associate Pastor for Education and Administration. God's hand has been evident to us in the manner in which the Lord led Dr. Hurt and your Search Committee to talk and pray with us about this opportunity. Each conversation has been assuring of the Lord's desire to blend together for this season the church's needs and ministries with the Calling in my life. The church staff is wonderful and it is an honor for the privilege to join this Team.

I desire to know you, build friendship with you, and minister to this community with you. We will enter Heaven only with our personal relationship with Christ Jesus and the relationships we develop with other believers. Becoming friends now is an experience we can enjoy for eternity. Please be patient as I seek to learn names. Wearing the church nametags and introducing yourself is a gift of service to help people connect, and I appreciate all assistance in knowing people.

My wonderful wife, Kay is my partner in life and ministry. She is a counselor and will remain in the Atlanta area for a time. Her priorities are to assist some clients with transitions and to manage the sale of our house. Once the house sells she will be joining me in Decatur. We are excited about this new adventure and becoming a part of this community.

Our daughter, Carmen was married last August to Jonathan Dawson. Our son, Micah will be married this June to Courtney Ankrum and they plan to hike the Appalachian Trail from Maine to Georgia between June and December. Our family embraces new experiences.

Hope to see you each Sunday for Bible Study and Worship,  
Barry Thompson, Associate Pastor for Education and Administration

**CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP**

Weekly Requirements	\$60,377.98
Receipts 02/28	52,103.92
Receipts 03/07	58,510.82
Receipts 03/14	64,663.63
Receipts 03/21	55,601.00
Receipts 03/28	56,637.34
<b>Monthly Building Fund Receipts</b>	<b>\$19,777.35</b>
Budget Required to Date	\$784,913.74
Budget Received to Date	\$705,474.54
Over (Under)	(\$79,439.20)

**BIBLE STUDY & WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

**February 28**

8:30 Sunday School Attendance	489
9:45 Sunday School Attendance	360
9:45 Worship Attendance	578
11:00 Worship Attendance	469

**March 7**

8:30 Sunday School Attendance	518
9:45 Sunday School Attendance	325
9:45 Worship Attendance	593
11:00 Worship Attendance	414

**March 14**

8:30 Sunday School Attendance	374
9:45 Sunday School Attendance	304
9:45 Worship Attendance	442
11:00 Worship Attendance	425

**March 21**

8:30 Sunday School Attendance	457
9:45 Sunday School Attendance	304
9:45 Worship Attendance	571
11:00 Worship Attendance	427

**March 28**

8:30 Sunday School Attendance	489
9:45 Sunday School Attendance	311
9:45 Worship Attendance	588
11:00 Worship Attendance	463

**FIRST FAMILY UPDATES**

**THANK YOU**

Notes of appreciation have been received from Patsy Conner, Cecil & Robin Henderson, Bill Carwile, Frances Nungester Elementary School and Leland Troutman. Thank you notes are posted on the bulletin board outside the receptionist's office.

**SHARING IN SORROW**

We would like to extend our Christian sympathy to family & friends of Zelda Pitt; to Winifred (Poochie) O'Hara, Robin Davidson, & Kelley Holloway in the loss of their husband and father, Jim O'Hara; to Phillip Moses in the loss of his mother, Ann Moses; to Jack Payton, Robin Keown, Wally Payton and Jack Payton, Jr. in the loss of their wife and mother, Mildred Payton.



**SADDLE RIDGE RANCH EXPO**

For all Adult & Youth VBS Volunteers

Saturday, April 10, 4:00 pm