

FIRSTWORD

FIRSTBAPTISTCHURCH DECATUR, AL
fbcdecatour.org

April 2011 Issue Vol. 43 No. 4

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP EACH DAY AT NOON

Lunch at 12:30

Monday, April 18

Speaker: **George Sawyer**
Calvary Assembly

Tuesday, April 19

Speaker: **Terry Greer**
First United Methodist

Wednesday, April 20

Speaker: **Karockas Watkins**
Emmanuel Church International

Thursday, April 21

Speaker: **Sandra Locke-Godbey**
Chaplain, Decatur General
Music: Austin High Chorus**

Friday, April 22

Speaker: **Bill Hurt**
First Baptist Church
Music: Decatur High Chorus**

***Will perform 20 minutes
prior to beginning of service*

HOLY WEEK

The Passion of the Christ

Palm Sunday, April 17

Sunday School, 8:00 am (Adults & Family Bible Study), 9:00 am, 10:30 am (Classes for all ages)
Morning Worship, 9:00 am & 10:30 am
Hide & Hunt Egg Hunt, Mallard Farm, 12:00 pm
Cross Journey through Decatur, begins at Decatur Mall, 4:30 pm
Palm Sunday Prayer & Reflection, Worship Center, 6:00 pm

Maundy Thursday Communion Services, April 21

Stephenson Chapel, 5:00 pm, 5:15 pm, 5:30 pm, 5:45 pm, 6:00 pm, 6:15 pm, 6:30 pm, 6:45pm

Good Friday, April 22

NEW! *Secret Church* Simulcast, the Loft, 6:00 pm - midnight
Tenebrae Service, Worship Center, 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday, April 24

Celebration Services, 8:30 am & 10:30 am

secret  church
simulcast

A MESSAGE FROM DR. HURT

My Dear People,

It is hard to believe that Easter is already upon us. With this special time of year comes Holy Week. We have planned an exciting schedule for Holy Week in hopes to make your Easter celebration more meaningful.

Our Holy Week will begin on Palm Sunday with a "Cross Walk" from the Decatur Mall to our church. If you will remember, we did this event last year with much excitement and participation. Our evening will be capped off with a time of praise and worship.



Also, we will have our Holy Week noon services Monday through Friday. Our guest speakers will be George Sawyer from Calvary Assembly, Terry Greer from First Methodist, Karockas Watkins from Emmanuel Church, Sandra Locke-Godbey from the Enrichment Center, and I will be preaching on Friday. In addition to these wonderful preachers, the Decatur High School Concert Choir and Austin High's Concert Choir will be with us. Wow! What an awesome line up for our special services.

On Maundy Thursday evening, we will have eight services of communion in the Stephenson Chapel. These services will last twenty minutes each and will run from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm Pick a time that will fit your family's schedule and come and observe the Lord's Supper. This is a great way to worship in a more intimate way as a church family.

On Good Friday evening, we will have our Tenebrae Service of Darkness at 7:00 pm plus a simulcast of David Platt's Secret Church. You actually have a choice.

Secret Church is really not a secret at all. It is a six-hour Bible study from 6:00 pm until midnight led by David Platt, Pastor of Church of the Highlands. Many churches across our state and nation will be participating in this study.

On Easter Sunday, we will have two Worship Services and no Sunday School. Our services will be held at 8:30 am and 10:30 am. By the time our Easter Sunday morning celebration begins, you should be ready to worship the risen Savior. Please make every effort to be a part of our Holy Week Celebration.

I am looking forward to seeing each of you this Sunday in Bible Study and Worship.

Until then, I remain...

Sincerely Yours, *Scott Hurt*

AFRICAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR

APRIL 10
BOTH SUNDAY MORNING
WORSHIP SERVICES

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SUMMER AT A GLANCE FOR KIDS: WATCH YOUR MAIL, FIRST WORD AND CHILDREN'S HALL FOR PACKETS AND INFORMATION.

- June 12-16** Big Apple Adventure
- June 20-23** All American Girls Camp for completed 1st-4th Girls
- July 8-10** C.P.R (Camping, Praising and Rafting) for completed 4th-6th Grade Families
- July 15-18** Student Life for Kids Camp (Shocco Springs)- completed 3rd-6th

FAITHFUL HEARTS

Senior Adult Day Sunday, April 3

Worship services featuring our Senior Adult Day Choir
Special Guest: Joe McKeever from Kenner, Louisiana

Appreciation Luncheon after 10:30 am Worship Service
Luncheon Catered by Caddo Cafeteria
Everyone age 55 and up is invited to the luncheon... NO COST
Reservation Required

Leadership Team Meeting Thursday, April 7 10:00 am Conference Room #121

"Reading Buddies" Ministry
Monday, April 25

Meet at Somerville Road Elementary School around 9:45 am
We'll sign in, get our reading assignments, and read with the children for 30 minutes.
We need a lot of readers/listeners...Come join us!

WORSHIP/MUSIC MINISTRY

CHOIR & ORCHESTRA "MEMBER of the YEAR"

Each year at our Annual Awards Banquet, the Worship Choir & FBC Orchestra vote on their choice as a "model" choir and orchestra member. These awards are named for two former exemplary members that were dedicated servants to these organizations, Joyce Johnson and Bowes Channell. Congratulations and thank you to our 2010 Award Winners, Elaine Thompson and Brad Clayton, for their servant spirit and dedication to leading worship each Sunday at FBC!

FILL THE FRONT WITH FRIENDS!

Thanks to so many that joined with us during March "Friend" Sundays! The Women's and Men's Choirs added so much to our musical Worship. The Orchestra and Clay Crosse were also superb this past week. Now, many of you need to come and be a permanent part of our group! Join us for rehearsals each Wednesday evening at 6:45 pm. We'll have you on your way by 8:00 pm and I promise great blessings in your life as a result. Try it for a month and see what you think!

PRESCHOOL MINISTRY



YOUTH/COLLEGE MINISTRY

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS: The Scholarship Committee is currently accepting applications for the scholarships available from First Baptist Church. These include the Frances B. Ryan Scholarship which is not school or career specific, the Jones-Polhill-Wolfer Scholarship available to students attending Judson College, and the Keith-Chandler Trust Fund which is available to students who have dedicated themselves to full-time church-related vocations. These scholarships are available to high school seniors and currently enrolled full-time college students.

Application forms are available in the church office and are due by April 17. For additional info, contact Donna Calvert at 353-7399, ext. 108.

MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES



North American Mission & Annie Armstrong Emphasis

As a Global Missions oriented church we will be working in our "Jerusalem" on Missions Day April 2. We will expand our vision of our "Judea, and Samaria" during

the focus on North American Missions as you will see posted around the church prayer requests for North American Mission Work. Below are the highlights of our North American Mission activities that we would like for you to participate in:

Week of Prayer

April 17-24

We will have prayer stops around the church for our missionaries throughout North America and we will have prayer guides for you to take home.

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions

National Goal - \$70 million Church goal—\$28,625.00

100% of the money goes to support more than 5,000 missionaries and their work and to plant churches.

Serving Outside The Box!

Do you have a unique skill, talent, or hobby that God has blessed you with in order to be a blessing? Could you minister to others while cutting hair for the homeless, giving a pedicure to an abandoned teenage mom, practicing English with an ESL student, or leading a drama team in an inner city school? In gearing up for our summer schedule, we want to hear YOUR abilities to serve outside the box...outside our church!

Email us your thoughts at donnacalvert@fbcdecatur.org



Carpenters for Christ

Carpenters for Christ will be going to Conyers, Georgia June 9 -12. More details will be available in the May issue of First Word. To help cover trip expenditures, contributions of the following are requested:

\$100/adult for full week

\$50/spouse or child teen for full week

\$35/child 12 & under

Partial Trip- \$35/1st day, \$20 each additional day with cap of full week cost above.

Share Our Shoes

"There are an estimated 400 million, without shoes in today's world" says Jennifer Pierce, Director of Share Our Shoes, "and at the same time, there are an estimated 1½ billion unused shoes sitting in American closets."



Spring Cleaning?? For the month of April we will be collecting shoes. If you have extra shoes just sitting in your closet, consider donating them! You may do this in the boxes outside of the church office.

Share our Shoes accepts ANY type of shoes, no matter what their condition! There are many uses for the shoes. We have men and women that come to our facility daily, who have found a job, but they cannot start because they do not have a pair of required steel toed boots. They do not care what they look like; they would just like to start their job and then they could buy a new pair with their first check, if needed! These shoes will be going to other countries or right here in the US to be passed out to children and adults.

Opportunities to get involved at FBC!

Legacy
Craft Night
 Thursday, April 7, 2011
 6:00pm in the ROC

Come join us for a fun filled night of fellowship, food, and crafting.

****Bring a salad to share****

Sign up Sundays in front of the church office & Wednesdays outside the ROC through April 3.

ADULTS WITH ADHD* (2nd Session)

Mondays through May 30

Time: 6:00-7:30 pm

Location: Heritage Room

To help adults discover coping skills, gain vision for their lives and lifestyle, and see the up side.

Facilitators: Kay Thompson

*all attention deficit is now called ADHD with addendums such as inattentive, etc.

DIVORCE CARE GROUP (2nd Session)

Wednesdays through June 29

Time: 5:30– 7:00 pm

Location: Heritage Room

To encourage adults who are dealing with the grief, stress, and relational issues of divorce.

Facilitator: Kay Thompson

For more information on the activities listed in the April issue of the First Word, visit our website at www.fbcdecatur.org.



SECRET CHURCH

Good Friday
6:00pm—Midnight

Cost: \$5 (pay at the door)

Deadline for registration:
April 10 (for ordering study materials)

Please contact the church office to sign up

For more information check out:

<http://www2.lifeway.com/secretchurch/>

SHARING IN SORROW

We would like to extend our Christian sympathy to Sharon Trimble in the loss of her mother, Ouida Harwell; Opal Terry in the loss of her son, Donnie Terry; Irene Shafer in the loss of her brother, Robert Shafer; Lisa Smith in the loss of her father, Charles Warren; Polly & Jimmy Lee in the loss of their husband and father, Jim Lee; Jerry Knight in the loss of his step-brother, Gary White Gross; Wayne Wales in the loss of his brother-in-law, Thomas Rochelle; Ralph Edwards in the loss of his mother, Lucille Mills; Betty Matthews in the loss of her brother, Edward Richards; Angie Huff in the loss of her father, Oliver Golden; and Gaynell King in the loss of her mother, Lorene Phillips.

THANK YOU NOTES

Notes of appreciation have been received from Bill Gray, Margaret Earl Fite, The family of Jim Lee, and Kelly Carter. Notes are placed on the board outside the church office.

A TIME TO REJOICE

With Luke & Kristina Beard in the birth of their son, Kaleb Samuel Beard on February 22, 2011 (Grandparents: Fred & Elaine Thompson) and with Todd & Taunton Griffith in the birth of their son, Jude Thomas Griffith on March 22, 2011 (Grandparents: Tom & Vicki Clackley).

Permit No. 220

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