

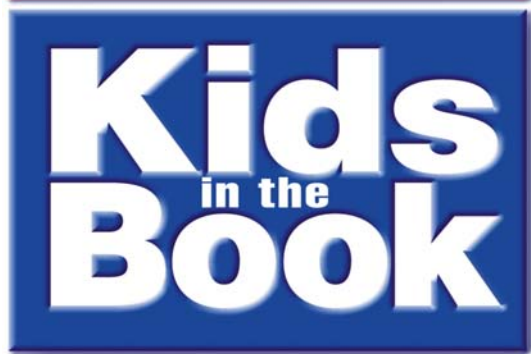
# FIRSTWORD

FIRSTBAPTISTCHURCH DECATUR, AL  
fbcdecatour.org

February 2011 Issue Vol. 43 No. 2

## WALK THRU THE BIBLE

Coming to FBC February 27th



For Kids 1st-5th Grade  
Location: Fellowship Hall

Throughout the seminar, children will become actively involved with stories, games, puzzles, and other interesting activities aimed at teaching Old Testament themes. Each activity will stimulate imagination, foster creativity, and enhance group participation. Kids in the Book is a positive and enjoyable experience for children, which will inspire them to pray, to read, and to study their Bibles. This powerful building block for kids will take place in conjunction with Walk Thru the Bible Old Testament for adults.



For Adults, Middle School & High School  
Location: Worship Center

In only a few memorable hours, you will learn and memorize more than you ever dreamed possible about the Old Testament. By the end of the day, you will be able to trace major geographical movements, learn to walk thru 77 major events in less than three minutes, and understand the themes and purpose of the Old Testament. Walk Thru the Bible is perfect for new believers as well as seasoned Christians. These engaging methods will bless you, those who attend, and everybody in the community because of the positive life changes it will produce.

**Schedule:** Session 1: Morning Worship Services (FIX56 will join Worship—1st-4th: Session during SURGE)

Break for Lunch— Individual responsibility

Session 2: 1:20-2:45 pm

Break: 2:45-3:00pm

Session 3: 3:00-4:15 pm

Break: 4:15-4:30 pm

Session 4: 4:30-6:00 pm

**Price:** \$10 per person (for sessions 2-4)

**Register:** Registration Required for afternoon sessions. Email [brittanywillis@fbcdecatour.org](mailto:brittanywillis@fbcdecatour.org) or call 256-353-0423 ext. 105. Tables will also be set up around the church on Sundays and Wednesdays to sign up. Childcare for preschool available by reservation.

# A MESSAGE FROM DR. HURT

My Dear People,

Over the past few weeks, I have been blown away by your response to 2011 being "The Year of the Word." There is not a day that goes by that someone doesn't email, text, or call me about their reading the Bible through in a year. I honestly believe this could be a pivotal point and process for our church family. As we saturate ourselves in God's Word, He speaks and moves His people where He wants them to be. Don't miss the opportunity to experience this exciting journey through God's Word.

Speaking of "The Year of the Word," don't forget about our "Walk Through the Bible" scheduled for February 27. I hope you will participate in this unique ministry that will enhance your love for God's Word. On this particular day, we will focus our attention on the Old Testament. At the end of our session, you will be able to recite the books of the Old Testament, their theme, and who wrote each book. There will also be a special version of the study offered for our children as well.

As of this moment, our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is \$86,765.87. If you will remember, our goal as a church was set at \$85,000. As we continue to be an Acts 1:8 church, God will honor our obedience of carrying out the "Great Commission." Remember, each week you have an opportunity to give to Global Missions which also includes Lottie Moon and Annie Armstrong.

Finally, we want you to be active in inviting your friends to church. Each member is responsible for being a witness. Think about two or three individuals you know who do not attend church. Make a conscious effort to invite them to be a part of our Bible study hour and worship. This past week, we had 32 visitors in Sunday School. Praise God for those who are actively reaching out to those not involved in church.

On January 31, twenty-two of us will travel to the Holy Land for an eleven-day tour. The thought of walking where God physically walked is absolutely mind blowing. Keep us in your thoughts and prayers each day.

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

Sincerely yours,



## MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

**Missions Day** Begin praying for where God would like to use you in the city of Decatur during this year's Mission Day on April 2. There will be some of the same ministries as well as some new opportunities to serve in different areas. Put April 2 on your calendar. More details coming soon.



**Belize** Mission teams will be going January 29-February 5 and February 12-19 for work in Belize. Please pray for both these teams as they travel and serve the people of Belize.



**Haiti** FBC will be going to Haiti, May 28-June 4 to the city of Jacmel. The purpose of this trip is evangelizing, disciplining men and women, and ministering to orphans. A team of 6 to 8 is needed consisting of 3 to 4 ladies and 3 to 4 Men. Cost is \$1250 and the deadline to sign up will be in March. A meeting for all those interested in going will be held on February 2 in the Chapel.



**Hallelujah!**  
**TOGETHER WE RAISED**  
**\$ 86,765.87 FOR LOTTIE MOON!**



**Marriage Retreat coming March 25 & 26**

A simple hope for anyone who is looking to build or heal their marriage. The concept is simple, but it takes some work. It takes commitment. It takes willingness and sacrifice. It takes sharing and caring. It takes faithfulness. Look at those words again: commitment...willingness...sacrifice...sharing...caring...faithfulness. Do these words sound familiar? They should. They are the exact things that every bride and groom promise to each other and to God. Come join us here at FBC March 25th & 26th for the Holy Homes retreat. Look for more details!

**ESL & Spanish classes** have resumed on Sundays at 5:00 pm in the Annex and Thursday nights in room 301 from 6:30 to 7:30 pm, respectively. There is no cost for either of these classes. If you are interested in these classes, please call Paul Radosevich at 256-353-7399, ext. 104.

# WORSHIP/MUSIC MINISTRY

"FILL THE FRONT WITH FRIENDS" - We want to fill the stage in the Worship Center with a lot more friends to experience and lead during the month of February. We are inviting those interested to sing and play with us in Worship Choir & Orchestra on specific Sundays. With "no strings attached," if you would like to join us for a single Sunday and experience leading in worship from the "front," meet us 15 minutes before the worship service begins for a brief rehearsal, enjoy the view and receive a huge blessing by "making a joyful noise!"

Special Sundays include -

- February 13 – Ladies Choir
- February 20 – Men’s Choir
- February 27 – Family Choir



ALL STUDENT MISSIONS EXPERIENCE TO ORLANDO, FLORIDA - June 18-25

Due to summer schedule changes and financial considerations, we are changing our summer missions emphasis for the Genesis and Revelation Student Choirs. As a result, the focus this summer will be a Missions Experience for ALL STUDENTS, Grades 7-12. In order to be better stewards of our calendar and finances, this will be a combined trip. We will be participating in the SonPower Conference and partnering with the Greater Orlando Baptist Association for a variety of missions projects, June 18-25 in Orlando, Florida.

Information was shared about this recently in a Student/Parent Meeting. Information is also being mailed out to the homes of our students. **Registration is due Sunday, February 6.** Watch your mail for all the important details!

# FAITHFUL HEARTS

## LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>—10:00 am in Conference Room #121

## VALENTINE DINNER

Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup>— 6:00 pm in the ROC  
Meal Prepared by Gail Pennington- COST \$5.00  
Special Guests: The Sophisticated Swingers Band  
Call the Church Office or Use the Worship Bulletin Tear-Off to make reservations!

## TRIP TO "GLORY!" AN EXPERIENCE OF MUSIC AND INSPIRATION AT THE BEVILL CENTER IN BOAZ, ALABAMA

Friday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm  
COST: \$18.00 per person, plus lunch  
Cost covers ticket price and church bus transportation  
Leave Church at 9:30 am—Return around 5:30 pm  
Lunch: Sante Fe Cattle Company in Albertville  
Entertainment by: Squire Parsons, Eden’s Rain, Kay DeKalb Smith, and Frank Jones  
Door prizes will be given away!  
30 tickets are available—to reserve your ticket, please call the church office by Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup>

## READING BUDDIES MINISTRY

Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup>  
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. Come join us!

# upcoming BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

## Legacy's Monday Bible Study

Priscilla Shirer's "JONAH: Navigating a Life Interrupted."

Interruptions - they shock us; they shake us; they compel us to change. We can't escape life's interruptions, but we can change our perspective of them. Dive into the book of JONAH and discover that what we see as an interruption may truly be God's divine invitation to a life so much bigger than we can imagine!

The cost for each workbook is \$13. This 7-week study will be offered on Monday mornings at 10:00 am and Monday evenings at 6:30 pm beginning Monday, February 28th. Both studies will be facilitated by Tommi Jo Hurt.

Please register by emailing [brittanywillis@fbcdccatur.org](mailto:brittanywillis@fbcdccatur.org)

## Share Jesus Without Fear

Wednesdays March 9-30  
Location: Fellowship Hall room 21  
Cost: \$10.00 for material

Have you ever had a family member or friend who you were unsure if they had eternal security as a born-again believer in Christ? You've said to yourself, "I wish the preacher or some of the church staff would share the Gospel with them." Do you realize that Matthew 28: 19-20 [The Great Commission] empowers you as a believer to share the same Gospel as your pastor or church staff? Join leader, Phillip Chenault, on a journey of learning how to "Share Jesus Without Fear."

## Nearly-Wed & Newly-Wed Class

Sundays March 6- April 17  
9:00-10:00 am  
Location: Heritage Room

Are you about to take the plunge? Are you just beginning a journey with the one you love? This 8 week small group experience is designed just for you. Start your marriage adventure with tools that will arm you with powerful insight, wisdom and practical help. Mark your calendar and make a point to attend The Enrichment Center seminar: "You're the one that I want" for engaged, almost engaged, just married and almost married couples... Facilitated by Melissa and Kelly Jackson plus other incredible leaders and married couples. It may be the most important thing you do this year. The materials will draw from: For Men Only, For Women Only, Saving your Marriage before it starts, and couples within the church. Share this exciting opportunity with other Nearly Wed & Newly Wed couples.

# UPCOMING EVENTS *get involved at FBC!*



**Free Workshop**  
*Nationally Known "Bargainomics" Lady*  
**Judy Bates**  
**Sunday, March 6th**  
**3:00-5:30PM**  
**FBC Decatur**  
**ROC**

*\*RSVP Requested\**  
 Call Church Office 353-0423 or  
 Email [brittanywillis@fbcdecatur.org](mailto:brittanywillis@fbcdecatur.org)

## Shining Stars Special Needs Ministry

Friday, February 4th

6:00 pm—9:30 pm

ROC

Please contact Jill Cook (256-340-0485),  
 Amanda Story (256-686-1446), or Matt Hudson  
 (256-345-0015) for more information.



For more information on the activities listed in the February issue of the First Word, visit our website at [www.fbcdecatur.org](http://www.fbcdecatur.org).



**THE BIG GAME**  
 Sunday evening, February 6  
 Join us in the ROC  
 Pre Game: 4:00 pm - Kick off: 5:25 pm

Bring your lawn chairs, we'll have the concession stand open!  
 Special Half-time Guest Speaker: Nikita Stover  
*Former University of Alabama Wide Receiver*

*Our Goal for this SOUPer*  
 Event: collect 2000 cans of soup  
 to be donated to local missions!

## SHARING IN SORROW

We would like to extend our Christian sympathy to John Dalton in the loss of his mother, Francis Dalton; Dave Briley in the loss of his mother, Virginia Briley; Jawana Root in the loss of her grandmother, Helen Gurliaccio; Bob Christian & Allie Butler in the loss of their sister, Bonnie Gaither; Judy Turner in the loss of her aunt, Clara Rodgers; the family of Mary Roberson; Dee Farr in the loss of her father, Jim McGuire; Betty Crittenden in the loss of her husband, Jim; Libby Britt & Leighann Chiles in the loss of their grandmother, Louise Hardage Simms; June Hill in the loss of her brother, Kemper Meacham, Jr.; Linda Blankenship in the death of her brother-in-law, Sonny Grimm; and Helen Grimes in the loss of her husband, Arzie Grimes.

## THANK YOU NOTES

Notes of appreciation have been received from Michael Smith (Alabama Baptist Children's Home) and Dave & Glenda Briley. Thank you notes are placed on the bulletin board outside the church office.

## A TIME TO REJOICE

With Jonathan & Amy Norris in the birth of their daughter, Abigail Grace Norris on December 27, 2010 and Ryan & Cheryl Goss in the birth of their daughter, Layla Gentry Goss on January 6, 2011 (grandparents: Michael & Jo Ann Gentry).

Permit No. 220

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