

# 1<sup>ST</sup> WORD

FIRSTBAPTISTCHURCH DECATUR, AL

## PROSPECTIVE MINISTER OF STUDENTS

Our prospective Minister of Students will be here August 8-10!

When you can meet him:

**Friday, August 8:**

Cookout for 7th - 12th grade and college students at Mallard Farm @ 6:00pm  
(Parents may join the group at 7:15pm.)

**Saturday, August 9:**

Church-wide Reception in the Fellowship Hall from 10:00am to noon.

**Sunday, August 10:**

Promotion Sunday! All 7th-12th grade students will meet with the candidate in the Loft during Sunday School. In addition, he will give his testimony in both worship services that morning.

S U N D A Y   S C H O O L  
P R O M O T I O N

AUGUST 10

preschool - youth classes will promote

## DR. HURT

My Dear People,

By now I hope you are aware that we have a prospective Minister of Students coming on the weekend of August 8-10. Our activities include a cookout and concert on Friday night at Mallard Farm. Students are encouraged to arrive at 6:00 pm and parents can show up at 7:15 pm. On Saturday morning at 9:00 am our deacons will meet with our candidate in the music suite. A church-wide reception will be held from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall.

On Sunday, August 10 our prospective student minister will share his testimony in both services. He will also be leading Sunday School time for our students. As you can see, we have a full weekend planned. Hopefully, you will take advantage of these opportunities to meet and welcome our new staff member.

Our Student Minister Search Committee consists of the following people: Reese Hamn, Kris Hurst, Greg Stephenson, Kaye Moore, Paul Bishop and Gina Briscoe. This committee has worked hard to follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit during this process. There is no way they could have scripted this outcome. We are convinced that God has brought this journey to this person, at this time, for God's church. When you see these people, please encourage them with your support and appreciation.

The summer is about to come to a sudden stop, and school is just around the corner. Do not forget to make Sunday School and worship a priority in your family's life! August 10 is Sunday School Promotion Day! This is a great opportunity to get plugged in to a small study group. Let's work hard to make 2008-09 our best Sunday School year!

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

Sincerely Yours,

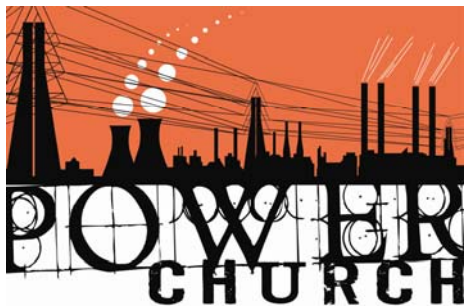


## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

# MACH 3

The new year of MACH3 begins Wednesday, August 13! Children in grades one through FIX56 will begin classes that evening at 5:25 pm. Materials are ready for all Missions teachers to pick up from Mrs. Kristy.

***There will be no Children Activities Wednesday, August 6.***



**KIDS! GET READY!**  
**The POWER Lab**  
**EXPLODES**  
**September 7!**

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

### MORGAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION SENIOR ADULT REVIVAL

August 4-6 • 10:30 am • First Baptist Church.  
Evangelist Junior Hill will be preaching, and Sam McElroy of Phil Waldrep Ministries will be leading the singing. If you wish to sing in the choir, Sam invites you to join him for rehearsal in the Worship Center choir loft each day at 10:00 am prior to the services. Don't miss this special time of inspiration! Invite a friend!

### ASSOCIATIONAL SENIOR ADULT COVERED DISH LUNCHEON

Thursday, August 7 at 12:00 noon  
Morgan Baptist Association Building in Hartselle  
Prepare your favorite meat, vegetable, salad, or dessert dish and join other senior adults for a great meal, enjoyable entertainment, and fabulous fellowship!

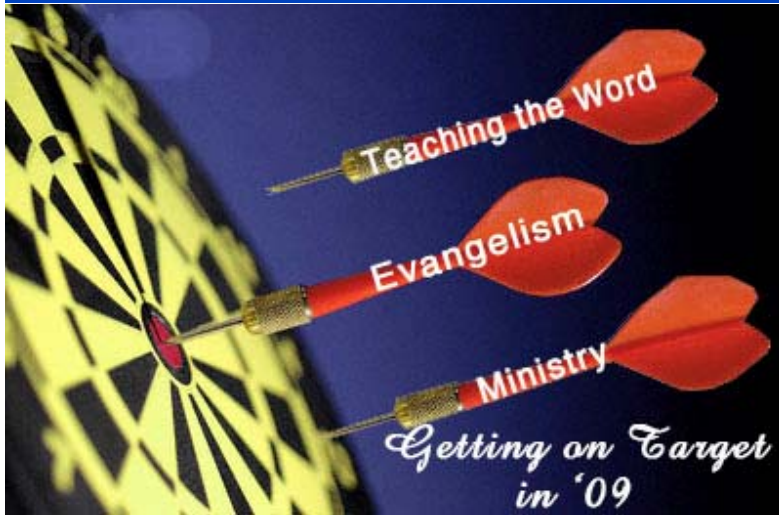
### S.A.M. DAY TRIP TO "EDWIN HODGES MINISTRIES" AND "THE ORIGINAL SNAK SHAK"

Thursday, August 14 • Leave the Church at 10:30 am  
We'll enjoy the lunch special (chicken casserole, green beans, salad, roll, peach cobbler, and drink for the price of \$6.99) at the "Snak Shak" in Somerville. If you prefer something other than the lunch special you may order whatever you want from the menu. After lunch we'll go to Edwin Hodges Ministries. Edwin Hodges accepts donated literature from churches and other religious organizations and sends the literature all over the world to help spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. Our church donates used Sunday School literature to this ministry, and we also support this ministry financially with a monthly gift through our missions budget. Edwin is going to give us a tour of his facility and show us how his ministry makes a difference in the lives of millions of people every year. You will be fascinated by his story and his ministry! Reserve your seat on the church buses by calling the church office no later than Monday, August 10 at 12:00 noon. The only cost is what you order for lunch. We'll return to the church around 2:00 pm.

### S.A.M. LUNCHEON AND TOUR OF "THE TERRACE AT PRICEVILLE"

Mark Fennell, the developer of "The Terrace at Priceville," has graciously invited our S.A.M. group to a complimentary lunch and tour of this very nice assisted living facility on Thursday, August 28. We will load our church buses (or you can meet us at The Terrace) and leave the church at 11:30 am. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. After lunch, Mark will lead us on a 30 minute tour of the facility. There is no cost for this activity. Mark has stepped out on faith and is having the kitchen staff prepare for 45 people. He said the meal will be fabulous! So, let's be supportive of Mark's gracious invitation and go enjoy some great food and learn more about the care that is offered at this wonderful facility. Please call the church office by Monday, August 25 if you would like to be a part of this activity. Mark will need a final number prior to our arrival to arrange for adequate seating.

## EDUCATION MINISTRY



The top 10 lessons of effective growing churches are:

1. Reaching people for Christ ...everything is designed with church outreach in mind.
2. Pastor's influence is elevated in evangelistic churches.
3. Purposefully engaging the church in personal witnessing. **(Fall campaign '09 Every day / Every play)**
4. Pray for the lost and the unchurched.
5. Connect ministries to evangelistic opportunities in reaching lost people for the Kingdom. Example: VBS, Retreats, Camps, Sunday School classes
6. Most effective evangelistic event is VBS.
7. Effective churches connect Sunday School with outreach ministry.
8. Effective churches "Go" to homes of prospects and guests.
9. Effective churches lead new believers to be baptized.
10. Evangelistic churches direct new believers to Sunday School classes and/or a new members' class.

These are some challenging lessons for us to look at as the new Sunday School year begins in August. My prayer is that every class will be challenged to reach the lost for the KINGDOM of God and to see God grow our classes. We are here to worship HIM and to make HIM KNOWN.

### Important Dates to Remember for Sunday School Leaders

Youth Leaders - August 14, 7:00 pm (New Literature: "KNOWN")

Adult Leaders - August 21, 7:00 pm (*Just Walk Across the Room*)

Church-Wide Outreach - August 25, 6:30 pm in the Chapel

## WOMAN TO WOMAN MINISTRY

Woman to Woman will resume on Tuesday, August 12 in the Loft at 9:30 am with a kick-off breakfast. This fall we will be studying Beth Moore's "Stepping Up-A Journey Through the Psalms of Ascent" which examines 15 ancient songs of worship and explores the major feasts of Israel. Katie Thompson will be facilitating. Women of all ages in our church and community are invited to attend each Tuesday morning following the school calendar. Childcare is provided.

## STAYING ACTIVE STAYING AGELESS

Staying Active Staying Ageless Senior Aerobics Class will resume on Thursday, August 14 in the Loft. The class meets on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:15-9:15 am with instructor Lisa Hamn. The class is free to all. Invite new friends and get ready to exercise!

## RECREATION MINISTRY



If you would like to be a referee or coach for Upward, please contact the ROC at 353-0272.



### DOVE HUNT

The 2008 Dove Hunt will be Saturday, September 13. Cost will be \$20. For more information please contact the ROC.

### 2008 TROUT RETREAT

The 2008 Trout Retreat will take place August 20-23, 2008 at Gaston's White River Resort in Mountain Home, Arkansas. The cost is \$400 a person. For more information contact the ROC.

## WORSHIP MINISTRY

### LET EVERYTHING THAT HAS BREATH PRAISE THE LORD!

**(Psalm 150)** That mandate in Scripture is our goal in everyday living and in our worship services at FBC! The Worship & Arts Ministry is a wonderful way in which you can live out that command! We are blessed with a lot of talent and there is always room for more of you to use your gifts to help lead. Why not make this your year to become involved in the worship ministry? Check out the schedule below:

### WORSHIP CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

#### Rehearsals resume August 6 @ 6:45 pm

Now is the best time of the year to become involved! With two morning services and Christmas approaching fast, this is a great time for you to visit a rehearsal and try it out! The Choir & Orchestra is one big happy family and there is no audition or musical expertise needed to become a part! Just a desire to praise the Lord and to lead others to do the same!

### REVELATION & GENESIS CHOIRS

#### Rehearsals Begin September 7

Student Choirs are alive and well at FBC and with a new student minister coming we are excited about the coming year of ministry. Watch your mail and announcements in Sunday School for all the details!

### MACH 3 CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

#### Program Begins August 13 at 5:25 pm

As always, our Wednesday evening program of MACH 3 is the perfect place for children's music and missions activities. Elizabeth Carter and her team of leaders are prepared and ready for another great year. *PASSPORT TO PRAISE* is the theme and we are expecting you to be there!

### CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL 2008 – December 6-7

Three performances will celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of "Sights and Sounds." Watch for more details this fall!

## NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

There's only one more opportunity for you to be included in our new pictorial directory. September 23-27 is the last week for pictures. To make your appointment call the church office or go to our website at [www.fbcdecatur.org](http://www.fbcdecatur.org) and click on New Church Directory.

**CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP**

Weekly Requirements	\$60,290.71
Receipts 06/29	48,994.00
Receipts 07/06	62,211.90
Receipts 07/13	63,491.55
Receipts 07/20	43,470.15
Receipts 07/27	40,661.41
<b>Monthly Building Fund Receipts</b>	<b>\$25,525.38</b>
Budget Required to Date	\$1,808,721.30
Budget Received to Date	\$1,609,850.37

**BIBLE STUDY & WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

**June 29**

Sunday School Attendance	771
8:30 Worship Attendance	347
11:00 Worship Attendance	600

**July 6**

Sunday School Attendance	584
10:00 Worship Attendance	879

**July 13**

Sunday School Attendance	813
8:30 Worship Attendance	394
11:00 Worship Attendance	434

**July 20**

Sunday School Attendance	845
8:30 Worship Attendance	353
10:30 Worship Attendance	606

**July 27**

Sunday School Attendance	795
8:30 Worship Attendance	327
10:30 Worship Attendance	650

**BIG IMPACT!**

will be  
**BIGGER** than ever...  
August 13!

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will be here August 8-10!**

*When you can meet him:*

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**FIRST FAMILY UPDATES**

**THANK YOU**

Cards of appreciation have been received from Allie & John Butler, Dave Nichols, Meagan Warner, Betty Bowers and family, Katrina Matthews, and Marilyn Hagen. Thank you cards are posted on the bulletin board outside the reception area.

**SHARING IN SORROW**

We would like to extend our Christian sympathy to Ronald Woodall in the loss of his mother, Wilma Woodall; to Joyce and Jason Brewer in the loss of their son and father, Benjamin Eugene Brewer; to Jim King in the loss of his father, Rev. Theron King; to Pat Hamilton in the loss of her father, Lionel J. "Skip" Metzger; Dee Farr in the loss of her husband, Tim Farr; and to Susan Chenault, David Duke, Jeanne Payne and Emily Payton in the loss of their mother, Doris Duke.