

FBC Newsletter

A Monthly Source of News & Information for Members & Friends of First Bible Church of Decatur



January 2010



January 10
Time Changes
to 5:15 pm

*Beginning January 10, 2010 we will start all of our
Sunday evening services
at 5:15 P.M. and end at 6:30 P.M.*

FBC Mission Statement

Our mission
is to glorify God
by helping people
know, love, obey,
and exalt
Jesus Christ.

Annual Congregational Meeting

The FBC Annual Congregational Meeting was held December 6, 2009.

Bryan Boyd, Elder, gave a review of the status of our objectives for 2009 and the Vision 2010 action items that have been completed and the items yet to be completed.

The Elder-Deacon candidates were presented and overwhelmingly elected:
Elder: **Curt Brannon, Reggie Gladish, Joey Harris, and Mike Holiday.**

Deacon: **Chris Howard, Scottie Hubbard, Doug Mote and David Wilson.**

Rotating off the boards are:

Elders: **Bryan Boyd and Tom Varwig**

Deacons: **Ty Batchelor, Jay Reichmann, Joe Sanders, and
Darryle Waldron.**

We are grateful to these men who faithfully served the Body of Christ here at FBC.

Steve Bateman reported on the 2009 objectives and evaluation of the State of the Church.

The treasurer's report was given by Cronan Connell and the new budget by Scott Anderson. The new budget of \$1,908,287 with a weekly required giving of \$36,698 was approved.

A missions report was given by Scott Dubach.

To God Be The Glory!

Welcome New Members



Jon & Dawn McAfee
Caelan and Quade



**Teach us to number
our days aright,
that we may gain
a heart of wisdom.
Psalm 90:12**

Dear Church Family,

The year 2009 has gone
and Twenty-Ten is here.

I want to thank the FBC
Decatur Outreach team and
volunteers for a great year.

We have come far and we
are excited about the future.

We had an outstanding Local Missions Conference. Dolphus Weary did an outstanding job of educating and challenging us with ideas for this year.

All of our ministries (*Neighborhood Christian Center, Morgan Co./Decatur Free Clinic, Save-A-Life, and Tennessee Valley Outreach*) need our continued support and prayers. If anyone would like to get more involved with a particular ministry or FBC Decatur Outreach, please call me. Cell 256-227-1253.

Again, I would like to thank our team and church leadership for having servant's hearts and a desire to make a difference in people's live for eternity.

Sincerely,
Gil Key, Team Member



Looking Ahead with Steve...



Steve Bateman
Senior Pastor

If the past year taught us anything, it is this: God will provide. Yes, the economy sagged and unemployment surged. And most ministries and missionaries I am familiar with felt the financial pinch. We were not immune. For 51 of the 52 weeks in 2009, our giving fell short of our budget. So we adjusted, changed plans, cut expenses, made do. At our annual congregational meeting in early December, we adopted the 2010 budget. For the first time in nearly two decades, we decreased a budget from the previous year. This decision was wise, prudent, and just plain good Biblical stewardship. As always, our Deacon Board provided a model for sound financial management. Even with revenue falling short of our budget, our financial position looked strong and healthy as the year came to a close. *“To God be the glory!”*

But it gets better. As I mentioned earlier, for 51 of the 52 weeks in 2009, our giving fell short of our budget. Which week did it not? The last week of the year! In the last two weeks of 2009, the Lord put it in your hearts to give over \$140,000. That caught us up, with a surplus of \$4,227 for 2009! Talk about finishing strong! So instead of finishing the year financially healthy, we finished the year financially healthy to an uncommon degree. This positions us well for bold advances for the gospel 2010.

I don't recall ever dedicating this column to our operating budget, but this news needs to be broadcast throughout the entire church family. I am so thankful to serve such a generous church; a church full of people who don't just talk about the Great Commission, but also sacrifice to see it accomplished. The global advance of the gospel has always cost money, and I suppose it always will. It will require God's people to make money, spend money, save money, and give money the way God instructs. One of the most encouraging things about this provision is that in 2009, I preached every message from Colossians. That means I did not preach one sermon on giving, stewardship, tithing, or money. Those things were just not pressing issues for the church in Colosse, so Paul did not address them (as he did, for example his letters to Corinth). Yet, you still gave generously and faithfully.

So, I say it again, God will provide.

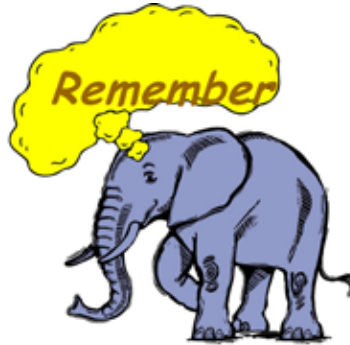
He always has.

He always will.

I do not know what 2010 holds for our national economy or our church budget. But I know this: whatever we need, that's what we will get.

Again,

“To God be the glory!”



*Sunday Evening Service
begins at 5:15 pm*

Calling All Moms of Preschoolers

MOPS starts back at 9:30 on Friday, January 8th in the youth wing.

Topic: Time Management Tips.

We hope to see you there!

Childcare provided.

Any questions, contact **Katherine Helms** 466-8192.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!
GREAT KID MISSION
2010
March 5-7, 2010**

Invest in the future of world missions today by being a part of our annual missions conference for children. We need folks to help with planning and preparation, as well as people to serve during the conference. If you are interested in being a part of this great project, please contact Joni Clark at joni@fbc.org or 260-3767.

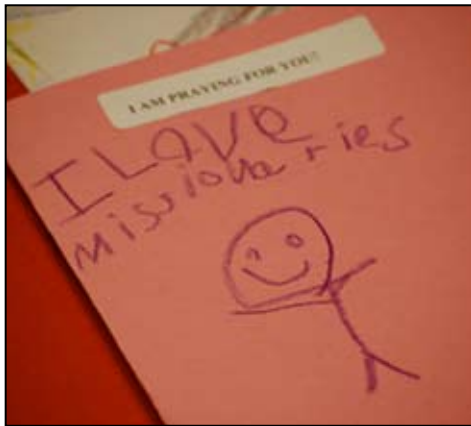
Children's Ministries



A Glimpse Into a

Typical **SHINE** Sunday

2009



Joni Clark
Director



Telete Chappell
Dir. Assistant



Wayne Campbell
Director of Student Ministries



Alexander Roberts
Assoc. Director of Student Ministries

FBC Youth Activities



**January 2-5, 2010
Atlanta, GA**

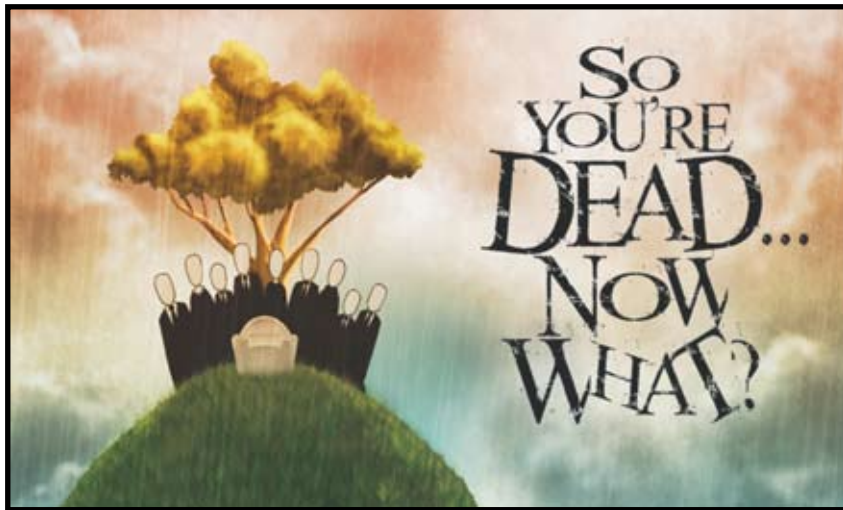
Please pray for those who are attending.



**Starts Back
1/10
@
5:15 pm**



**Starts back Wednesday
January 20
Eat @ 6:30 (\$3) Worship @ 7:00**



Dnow 2010

Kick off - Feb. 3 Dnow - Feb. 5-7

Cost: \$45

You will not want to miss this. Due to the theme this year, it will be a great DNOW to bring unchurched friends to. We will be examining the Biblical reality of eternal destinations.

Fill out a registration form and turn in your \$45 to sign up. If you are interested in helping with the weekend, contact Wayne. wayne@fbc.org

NEW YEARS EVE
STARTS
12/31 8:00 PM
ENDS
1/1 8:00 AM
Student Ministry
ALL NIGHTER

Ice skating, food, smores, craziness, extreme bowling, movie theater, hot chocolate, bonfire, friends, food, worship, and fun. All the above will all be at the New Years Eve Student Ministry All-Nighter!!!!!! Pick up forms [in youth wing or office], fill out, and return to the office. Any adults or college student who can help out with this event please contact Alexander at alexander@fbc.org or 353-2711 ext 3766

Time- 8PM-8AM Date- Dec 31-Jan 1

A Half Day of Prayer is scheduled for:

**Saturday, January 16
8:00 am - 11:30 am**

What better way to start the New Year than spending time alone with God.

The Elders, Deacons and Staff encourage you to join them for prayer. Guidelines / suggestions on how to spend extended time with God will be given.

8:00 Meet in auditorium for brief instructions.

8:05 Find a quiet place in the church building to be alone with God.

11:00 Return to the auditorium for a brief, closing word.

11:30 Dismissed.

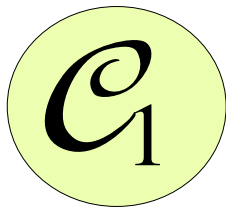
Bring a Bible, notebook/journal and pen. You may want to bring a devotional book or memory verses to review and your calendar. It's always over too soon.

There will be lots of coffee. Eat a light breakfast before you come.



***For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous
and his ears are attentive to their prayer.***

1 Peter 3:12a



Seminar C 1 — Our Creed

Truths We Believe

January 24, 2010 3:00 - 6:30 PM

This first step of four in our Catalysts of Commitment is for anyone interested in becoming more involved in the FBC church family through church membership.

Attendance at C1 does not commit you to membership. Rather it helps you understand our beliefs, values, direction and philosophy.

Attendance at C1 is required for membership.

Please sign up or let the office know if you will need childcare.

Deacon of the Month



Scottie Hubbard

Men's Prayer Breakfast



**Resumes
Tuesday, January 5
@ 6:30**

Open Basketball In Field House

**Thursdays
6:30-8:30 pm
January 7, 14, 21, 28
Guys and girls
High School age
and UP
Come join in
the fun!**



Sympathy

Please pray for God's grace, peace and comfort for these families as they mourn the loss in their lives: **Lisa Hambright** (her mother, Rita Asmus); **Bill Troth** (his brother, Ed Troth); **Janet Chenault** (her father, O. L. Graham); **Larry Baker** (his father, Frazier Baker); **Mike Wozniak** (his aunt).

Newest Arrivals

**Name: Nancy Leigh Fite
Born: December 3, 2009
8 lbs. 11 oz.
Parents: J. Robert & Ruth Ann Fite**

**Name: Brooklyn Olivia Abstance
Born: December 22, 2009
6 lbs. 5 oz.
Parents: Billy & Jessica Abstance**

**Name: Charles Joshua Cook
Born: December 25, 2009
8 lbs. 3 oz.
Parents: Charlie & Mandi Cook**

Steve's AM sermons are available through the First Bible Church of Decatur, AL podcast. You can subscribe to this podcast through the iTunes music store or at the address:

www.fbc.org/fbcsermons.xml

This will automatically download the sermons to your computer each week as they are posted.

JANUARY

Calendar of Events

- Jan 8 MOPS 9:30 am
- Jan 8-9 GIGAS Sleepover
- Jan 12 Elders Meet 6 pm
- Jan 13 Ladies Bible Sty 9:15 am
- Jan 13 Ladies Lunch Together @ 12 noon
- Jan 14 Mission Committee Mtg 5:30 pm
- Jan 16 Half Day of Prayer 8:00 - 11:30 am
- Jan 18 CR Leaders Mtg 5 pm
- Jan 19 Decatur Outreach Committee Mtg 5:30 pm
- Jan 22 MOPS 9:30 am
- Jan 24 Seminar C1 3:00-6:30 pm
- Jan 31 Howard Middlebrooks in AM Service

An up-to-date FBC Calendar can be viewed on the web at www.fbc.org

Coming

Feb 5 DNOW Weekend at FBC



**Don't Forget
Sunday Evening
Time Change
5:15 - 6:30 pm**



NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS AROUND THE WORLD

Reported by Linda Andrews



Andy & Linda Brucato

lindabrucato@fastwebnet.it

- Pray for Andy's health.
- Pray for encouragement for the believers and some fruit in 2010.



David & Bethanne Moles

David.Moles@uscm.org

- Continue to pray for Bethanne's strength and David's ministry.
- Pray for wisdom and guidance as they balance her illness, family life, and ministry responsibilities.



Norm & Melody Christin

normel@ium.org

- Pray for finances and wisdom and continued health and safety.



Pete & Shannon Collins

pcollins@campusoutreach.org

- Continue to pray for needed support and encouragement as they try to raise extra support and seek God's guidance for their ministry.



Tao & Madalena Cavacao

mmfcavaco@gmail.com

- Madalena writes: We praise the Lord. He has been so faithful - supplying, protecting giving opportunities and the possibility to serve Him. We praise the Lord for a new job to Ester - a better one - she is working in the rectory of the university in Lisbon. Please pray for a job for Rúben. This is a very difficult task.



Johnny and Maria Coker

jcoker@caminternational.org

- Pray for wisdom as they plan, make decisions about the future.
- Pray for continued health.



Brom & Betty Cowser

brombetty@juno.com

- From Brom: I propose that in 2010 that I will have a more direct personal witness to those I know and meet. I propose to spend more time than ever in private prayer and worship.



Bill & Ginann Franklin

franklin.ginann@team.tw

- At the end of the school year,

Ginann will leave her position as librarian at the MK. Pray God will supply additional support to make up for her salary.

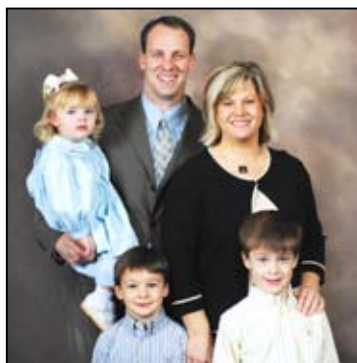
- Bill will prepare for the arrival of two new missionary families this summer while working on new ministry plans after a return from a 6-month home assignment in mid-summer.



Loreen Ittermann

loreen_titus@yahoo.com

- This year they hope to raise funds to send out 10 national career missionaries to countries where Westerners are not allowed to go.
- Pray for Eastern European churches to reach out to the Jewish community in their areas and share the Gospel of Christ with love and truth.



Tommy & Heather Kyle

tkyle@nationsofcoaches.com

- Pray for preparations for the Final Four ministry in April.
- Continue to pray for Tommy as he makes plans for the ministry and seeks Godly men to help.



Jarko & Elena Jurik

jjurik@stcable.net

- Pray for health and safety as they travel. Pray for openings to share the Gospel in other areas of the country.



Joel & Vivi Lara

drjlara@hotmail.com

- Pray for the Laras as they move to a safer area in January.
- Pray for their remaining support. FAM has given them permission to leave with 85% of their support (they need 10% more) so they can leave in June.



Scott & Stephanie Nannen

Scott.Nannen@uscm.org

<http://nannenfamily.blogspot.com/>

- Pray for their family as they have resolved to do things they know are good for them: Exercising, eating well, getting enough sleep, prioritizing time with the Lord.

- Pray that they would consistently walk by faith – and not by sight, or in fear, or in their own power.



Rowe

alrowe1742@yahoo.com

- Pray for the remainder of the school year.
- Pray for health and safety.



Bill & Linda Parker

bparker@caminternational.org

mattdoodle94@yahoo.com

Website: www.billparkerfamily.com

SkypeIn: awanalinda

- Pray for continued adjustment to their new home and ministry.
- Pray for health and safety.



Durand & Ruth Robinson

durand_robinson@gemission.com

<http://gemcreativeworks.org>

- Pray for wisdom as they seek God's will for their ministry.
- Pray for financial peace & guidance.

Allen



Kathleen Wintter

kathleen_wintter@yahoo.com

- Pray for Kathleen's New Year's resolutions: to go to bed earlier and to practice the discipline of fasting on a regular basis.



Jim & Nadine Rupp

jim_rupp@sil.org

- Pray for 3 communities adjacent to the Chinantec area that now have newly established congregations.
- Continue to pray for Juan and Rosa and their faithful service. Pray for the young men who work with Juan. Pray for their maturity and help to support these fledgling groups of new believers.



Cleon & Kathy Rogers

cleonlr@aol.com

- Pray for Buddy and Kathy as they see 2 sons graduate and welcome a new grandbaby in the spring.
- Pray they will see fruit in bringing a new reformation in Germany.



Scott & Ruth Yingling

syingling@caminternational.org

- Pray for new ministry opportunities for the New Year.
- Pray for continued health and safety for their family.



Mark & Kathy Schaaf

mark203@gmail.com

- Pray for them as they make plans to return to South Africa in late spring and for ministry.
- Pray for finances.
- Pray for decisions regarding college for Kaitlyn, Michael and Sara, as all 3 children will stay here after Mark and Kathy leave.



Jim Daphne Myers

jmyers1062@aol.com

- Pray for Jim and others as they work to get their new ministry in Crisis Intervention up and running.
- Pray for them as they settle into their new lives in Denver.