

FBC Newsletter

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



February 2010

2010 FBC Elder Board



Front l-r: Steve Bateman, Reggie Gladish, Ray Cain, Joey Harris, Mike Holiday, Donnie Haynie Back l-r: Stan Moore, Glenn Whiteside, Curt Brannon, Charlie Adams, Jeff Hodge. Not pictured: David Francis

FBC Mission Statement

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

2010 FBC Deacon Board



Front l-r: Chris Howard, Scott Anderson, Phil Olinger, Joel McWhorter, Joe Cimino, Gary Kessinger, Stratton Orr Back l-r: David Wilson, Cronan Connell, Pete Bromirski, Scottie Hubbard, Adrian Baker, Doug Mote

Mission Conference Coming March 5-7, 2010

Preparations are being made for our **25th Annual Mission Conference**. Flags will be going up the last of this month.

Our speaker this year is no stranger to those who have been on mission trips to Ukraine. **Masato Funakoshi** is the pastor of the church there. He is a missionary with Titus, International from his home church in Japan.

He says: "Missionary Dave Marcum and his family came to Japan in 1964 as missionaries. He started a church in our hometown, Kakogawa, in 1970. My parents believed in Jesus Christ through his ministry. When my parents got saved, I was still in my mother's womb.

I met my wife in the church nursery. We grew up together in the church ministries. I received Christ as my personal Savior when I was eight years old. My wife when she was 11-years old.

I do love my country, Japan, and wanted to serve the Lord in Japan, but the Lord called me to foreign missions when I was 20-years old."

He adds that with the collapse of the Soviet Union the Lord gave him a

burden for the people there. He

adds: "But, at the same time I was so scared by the thought that God might be calling me to Russia. I knew the Japanese language and English, to some extent, but not Russian language and culture! I thought, 'how can I go there?' I struggled with God's calling for more than a year. Finally I could say, 'Lord, I can't do anything, but you can do everything. Send this servant to where ever you want.' I surrendered myself to the Lord for missions in the land of the former Soviet Union on April 12, 1992.

The Lord gave me the privilege to come to Trinity Baptist College to get training for the mission field. I graduated May 8, 1996.

When I made the decision to go to the former Soviet Union I did not know that Brother Marcum, who started our church in Japan and led my parents to the Lord, was having a missionary ministry there. When I heard about this I was very excited. God provided us a tremendous opportunity to go to Ukraine. Brother Marcum mentioned the possibility of us becoming affiliated with TITUS. When I heard this, I shook with joy. As far as I know, there are no other missionaries to the former Soviet Union from Japan."

Masado has been on the field for 13 years.

Guest Missionaries
Confirmed:
Johnny & Maria Coker
John & Jan Lohrenz
Mark & Kathy Schaaf
Armando & Liset Diaz
Tommy & Heather Kyle



Pictured:
Miki, Uki & Masato Funakoshi

Looking Ahead with Steve...

When I first came to First Bible Church nearly eighteen years ago, most of the Elders were over the age of sixty. Wayne Gute was the most seasoned among them; we called him the “eldest elder.” Then came John Cook, Sr., Bill Prince, and Marshall Williams. Both John and Wayne were veterans of World War 2, and Bill and Marshall could tell me what Decatur was like before the TVA put dams on the Tennessee River. These men took a chance on a young and inexperienced candidate, and I have valued their support and encouragement more than they can know. Wayne and Kitty Gute moved to Oklahoma a few years ago, to a retirement center for missionaries. John Cook moved to heaven last year, to be with the Lord. Bill and Marshall continue to faithfully serve the Lord as they are able and remain faithful members of our congregation. Only a few in our church family can now remember how these men and their wives stuck with First Bible Church during some very lean and difficult years in our church’s history. Think about it. When I was graduating from high school in North Carolina, these men were leading First Bible Church of Decatur.

In our monthly meeting on January 12, the Elders unanimously voted to create a new position at First Bible Church called “Elder Emeritus.” The purpose of this position is to take full advantage of the experience and wisdom of older men in our church family who can bring a valued perspective to the table as we plan for our future. The proposal, as it was submitted to the Elders, is as follows:

Qualifications

The Elder Emeritus must have served with distinction and honor in the past, at least one full term, as a duly elected Elder of First Bible Church, but now has reached a season of life that limits his ability to fully function as a ruling elder of the church.

The Elder Emeritus must continue to meet the qualifications of an elder set forth in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1.

Role

1. To serve as a non-voting consultant to the Elder Board, especially in cases requiring strategic and weighty decisions. The Elder Emeritus has wisdom, experience, and insight that is valued by the current Board of Elders. The Elder Emeritus would not normally attend Elder Meetings, unless requested.
2. To function as an elder in the church family, keeping watch over the flock, guarding sound doctrine, visiting and praying with the sick, assisting in the Lord’s Supper, examining new members, representing the church as an officer of the church, etc.

In particular, we were thinking of two men as we created this position, and they have graciously agreed to continue to serve our church in this way. So, please welcome with me our new Elders Emeritus, **Bill Prince** and **Marshall Williams**.



Steve Bateman
Senior Pastor



Bill Prince



Marshall Williams



Wayne Campbell
Director of Student
Ministries



Alexander Roberts
Assoc. Director of
Student Ministries

FBC Youth Activities

SO
YOU'RE
DEAD...
NOW
WHAT?

DNow 10

KICK OFF
RALLY
FEB. 3

DNow
WEEKEND
FEB. 5-7

\$45
6TH-12TH GRADES
SIGN-UP TODAY

TREK

Sundays @ 5:15 pm

one eight

Wednesdays
Eat @ 6:30 (\$3) Worship @ 7:00

Children's Ministries

**All kids preschool thru 5th Grade
Don't miss the Great Kid Mission 2010**



Lights "R" Us Labs International



Plug in to the **POWER SOURCE** to become **LIGHT** to the world!

**ELECTRIFYING LIGHT
EXPERIMENTS!**



**ILLUMINATING MISSIONARY
PRESENTATIONS!**



**YES! 3rd-5th graders, you are invited to
attend the GKM this year!**

**Preschool kids in the Lighthouse.
Elementary kids on elementary wing.**



MARCH 5-7

(During the adult Mission Conference services)

Adults: Maximize your impact on missions by encouraging today's children to love the nations and to become missions minded.

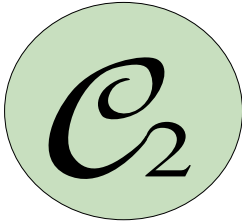
Contact Sherri Metzgar (350-9495, sherrimetzgar@bellsouth.net),
Joni Clark (260-3767, joni@fbc.org), or
Kelly Martin (606-2742, kelly@fbc.org)
to find out how you can help with this year's Great Kid Mission Conference.



Joni Clark
Director



Telete Chappell
Dir. Assistant



Seminar C2 — Our Conduct

February 21 - 3:00-6:30 pm

Spiritual growth is the product of a series of vital and decisive commitments. It does not just happen and there are no shortcuts.

To know and love God better, the believer must consistently engage in the four main disciplines of the spiritual life. This seminar will get you started and teach you how to keep it going.

Seminar C1 is a prerequisite for attending Seminar C2.



Ladies Night Out

“Ladies Night Out” in the Field House on February 19th, 6:00-9:00 PM. It will be an evening of NO STRESS, just fun, laughter and relaxation. Just bring a snack or dessert to share and come play some fun games and visit with old and new friends!

Special Offering

A special offering for the victims of the January 12 earthquake in Haiti was taken Sunday January 17. It will be sent to Samaritan’s Purse. This organization is ministering in that small country.



**The Local Missions Ministry
of First Bible Church**



Join us in showing the love of Christ to Decatur!

Neighborhood Christian Center Sav-a-Life Pregnancy Center
Tennessee Valley Outreach Frances Nungester Elementary School
Community Free Clinic of Decatur-Morgan County

For more information, contact Gil Key (350-3399)



February

Calendar of Events

- Feb 3 DNOW Kickoff
- Feb 5 DNOW Weekend at FBC
- Feb 11 Mission Committee Mtg.
5:30 pm
- Feb 12 MOPS 9:30 am
- Feb 15 CR Leaders Meeting 5 pm
- Feb 19 Ladies Night Out 6 pm
- Feb 21 Seminar C2 3-6:30 pm
- Feb 26 MOPS 9:30 am

Coming

- Mar 3 Mission Conference Youth
Kickoff 6:30 pm
- Mar 3-7 **Mission Conference**

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



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.

Newest Arrival

Name: Landon Joseph Sons
Born: January 4, 2010
7 lbs. 9 oz.
Parents: Steven & Melissa
Sons

Help Replenish our Mission Closet

Our Mission Conference is coming up and our missionaries enjoy being able to "shop" for their needs. Look for a list of needed items in the bulletin. We can always use sheets, towels, children's vitamins, etc.

Haiti Relief

The generosity of FBCers was demonstrated again in the **\$11,529.00** given for Haitian relief work.

This will be sent to **Samaritan's Purse**. This ministry, headed by Franklin Graham, is focused on providing the most basic and urgent needs of the people of Haiti, including drinking water and shelter.

Thanks to all for your generosity.

"For

*I was hungry, and you gave
Me something to eat;
I was thirsty, and you gave
Me something to drink;
I was a stranger, and you
invited Me in"...*

Matthew 25:35

Deacon of the Month



Cronan Connell

Sympathy

Please pray for God's grace, peace and comfort for these families as they mourn the loss in their lives: **George Stovall** (his son, Greg); **Christy Rippen** (her sister, Pam Channell).



Tuesdays @ 6:30

Open Basketball In Field House

**Thursdays
6:30-8:30 pm
February 4, 11, 18, 25
Guys and girls
High School age
and UP
Come join in
the fun!**





NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS AROUND THE WORLD

Reported by Linda Andrews



Andy & Linda Brucato

lindabrucato@fastwebnet.it

- Pray as they navigate the bureaucracy and try to start a book ministry in the markets in Bologna and as Andy tries to get recognition as a “religious minister,” which could open doors in hospitals and prisons.
- Continue to pray for their health and safety.



Johnny & Maria Coker

jcoker@caminternational.org

- Praise that Maria’s mother is doing much better.
- Pray as they begin planning for work teams this year.



Bill & Ginann Franklin

franklin.ginann@team.tw

- Pray for Billy as he’s preparing for their annual conference.
- Pray for wisdom as how to best integrate new staff into teams.
- Pray for their field to continue to grow in unity as to future vision.



Brom & Betty Cowser

brombetty@juno.com

Pray for Brom as he works toward his “resolutions” for this year. Pray for their health and well being.



Kent & Marion Fuller

karlinkentfuller@gmail.com

- Pray that God will use them to challenge team members who come on short-term ministry projects to make it a lifelong goal of service to the Lord in their sphere of influence.
- Pray for continued good health.



Wayne & Kitty Gute

- Pray for sexual purity and wisdom for the Mam young people.
- Pray for Kitty and Wayne’s church -- for unity and wisdom.
- Pray for their continued health and safety.



Lynne Herlein

lhpendo@gmail.com

- Pray as Lynne plans a trip to India in May for the Childrens’ Ministries Institute. Pray for clarity in her thinking and for the money she needs to raise to go for 8 weeks.
- Pray for Kelly (11 yrs old) who became a Christian at Christmas. Pray as she begins her new growth in Him.



Loreen Ittermann

loreen_titus@yahoo.com

- Please pray the government will issue her a living permit for one year.
- Praise - the government released the needed documents and the heating system of the new church building is connected.
- Pray for the dedication of the Voice of Truth Church and their ministry in the new building.



Jarko & Elena Jurik

jjurik@stcable.net

- Very important prayer request: Please pray for their son Ruben Jurik. He is in Haiti helping with the relief efforts.



Joel & Vivi Lara

drjlara@hotmail.com

- Pray for official documents that are coming from Spain and then pray as they apply to the embassy for a visa.

- Pray for patience and wisdom as they wait to go to Spain.



Tommy & Heather Kyle

tkyle@nationsofcoaches.com

- Pray for travel safety as they meet coaches and their wives over the next month.
- Pray for preparations for the Final Four in Indianapolis.



John & Jan Lohrenz

jlohrenz@caminternational.org

http://www.johnandjan-lohrenz.blogspot.com

- Pray for the salvation of Jose, the husband of their friend Loles. He has been arriving earlier and earlier to pick her up from their Friday night Bible study. He sits and listens to the dialogue, sometimes asking questions.
- Pray for the details of their English Encounter in July.
- Pray that the Lara's visa applications would be processed so they can move to Spain this summer.



David & Bethanne Moles

David.Moles@uscm.org

- Keep praying for David and Bethanne – pray for Bethanne's physical condition to improve. Pray for wisdom for the doctors. Pray for David.



Jim & Daphne Myers

jmyers1062@aol.com

- Pray for the new direction of their ministry and for the details of everyday life – the house and car to buy, where to live, etc.



Scott & Stephanie Nannen

Scott.Nannel@uscm.org

http://nannenfamily.blogspot

- Pray for wisdom and perspective in parenting their 3 young children -- especially one with special needs.



Cleon & Kathy Rogers

cleonlr@aol.com

Pray as Buddy travels to Orenburg, Russia (Siberia) at the end of February to work with a former student and speak at a pastors' gathering.



Scott & Ruth Yingling

syngling@caminternational.org

- Pray for wisdom as they minister to others in their "house" church.
- Pray for Josiah as he travels to Israel Jan 27 – Feb 17. Pray for safety and wisdom as he considers future plans.



Allen Rowe

alrowe1742@yahoo.com

- February is a very full month. Pray for endurance and joy with the busyness!

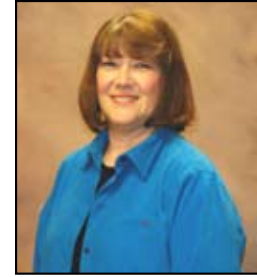
- Pray for one of her students who left during Christmas of her senior year to move back to the States. Pray that she will adjust quickly and also take the time to process everything she learned about Christ while she was in Okinawa for a year and a half.



Mark & Kathy Schaaf

mark203@gmail.com

- Mark is going to South Africa Feb 11 - 22 to meet with their ministry partners and get updates.
- During this trip, he will meet with his advisors at UNISA to submit/review a major section of his dissertation. Pray his meeting with the advisor will be profitable.
- Pray for Kaitlyn as she chooses her college for next year. Pray for a special place that will be a good support for her during her next few years of schooling.



Kathleen Wintter

kathleen_wintter@yahoo.com

- Pray for the refugee ministry, Westward Bound. Pray for new English teachers.
- Pray for needed help for the summer camps. (For more information, contact Kathleen at kathleen_wintter@yahoo.com.



John & Lois North

johnnorth@mac.com

- Pray for John as he works with churches in the area of evangelism as they prepare for a visit by Will Graham. Pray God will enable John to have a deep impact on the witness of these churches in their region.
- Lois is having problems with the proper functioning of her endocrine system. Please pray that God will have His hand on her body and give them wisdom in treatment.