

# FIRST FOCUS

## **THE STATUS QUO**

The Church of the Holy Sepulcher is the traditional site in Jerusalem marking Jesus' crucifixion and burial. Roman Catholics, Armenians, and Eastern Orthodox (primarily Greek Orthodox) share custodial responsibilities of the site. Each takes turns worshiping in various parts of the compound, but they can't agree on its operations. They rely on a local Muslim group to hold the key to the door. A man greets tourists as they enter. The document that maintains calm is called the Status Quo agreement. It dates to 1853 when the Ottoman Turks wanted to preserve the holy sites for everyone to enjoy.

The phrase *status quo* literally means "the state in which [things were before]." We use it today to preserve the past and keep tradition alive. The great irony of course is there is nothing *status quo* about the crucifixion or resurrection of Jesus. As Matthew describes, it breaks through time and eternity. A new era begins, and a new covenant is signed that changes humanity. If the birth of Christ becomes the pivot on our calendar marking temporal years, the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ changes our eternal sense of time. Death is defeated, new life is offered to all, and a door is opened through the Way of Jesus Christ.

Jesus returns to the people who denied and abandoned him just days earlier, creates a new community through them, and empowers them to go and testify to the world about the person they have just witnessed. He sends women to testify as the first apostles of resurrection to the other weary and afraid disciples. He offers a meal of bread and fish on the beach to disciples who have gone back to work and shows them the power of a resurrected Christ. He ascends to take his throne in heaven and await to return until all the forces that oppose him have been defeated.

This is the message that we proclaim this Easter. It compels us to come and see the place where the old passed away and where the new begins. God has ratified a new agreement with the world. Through the power of the resurrection, we go together and tell the news.



# HOLY WEEK

come and see | go and tell

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR MUSICAL

This Sunday at 6:00PM, our 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade choirs will perform the musical *Simon Says: The Rockin' Trial of Simon Peter*. The setting is a modern day courtroom where Simon Peter is put on trial for proclaiming that Jesus Christ is the Messiah! We hope you will come and hear the kids as they present this fun musical and share the evidence that Jesus Christ is the Messiah!

## COLLEGE FUNDRAISER

College Students are currently hosting their bi-annual Boston Butt fundraiser—just in time for Easter! You can pick up your order from 3:00-6:00PM on April 17 and the cost will be \$30 each. Place your order in the welcome center on this Sunday or in the Fellowship Hall during supper on Wednesday. Contact Zach (zach@fbctlh.org or x420) for more info!

\*if attending The Living Last Supper, pick-ups will be in the welcome center after the event

## THE LIVING LAST SUPPER

The Music and Drama ministries invite you to this Holy Week presentation depicting a DaVinci-like setting of the Last Supper - Thursday, April 17 at 7:00PM. Thirteen men will portray Jesus and His disciples, re-enacting the events of the upper room where Jesus gathered with His closest companions on the eve of His crucifixion.

This year's performance is ticketed and **you must have a ticket in your hand for admission to the sanctuary that evening**. Tickets are free and will be available for pick-up in the welcome center each Sunday morning and Wednesday evening.

## REMEMBER

Spend some time this Good Friday and remember what Jesus Christ did for you on this day. Our sanctuary is open from 11:00AM until 6:00PM, and all are welcome to drop in and stay as long as you need. We will provide a printed guide containing scripture, reflections, and prayer, and you will also have an opportunity to take the Lord's Supper.

## CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, APRIL 13

8:00AM Median Adult III Bible Study, Parlor  
9:00AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary  
10:00AM Churchwide Bible Study Options  
10:15AM New Member Brunch, Fellowship Hall  
11:15AM Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary  
6:00PM Children's Choir Musical, Sanctuary

### MONDAY, APRIL 14

9:30AM Homebound Visitation, Conference Room  
10:30AM First Joy Choir, Chason 2201

### TUESDAY, APRIL 15

6:00PM Childcare for Internationals, Duval 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
6:30PM Internationals English Classes, Chason 2201

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

9:30AM Ladies' Bible Study, Gardner Home  
11:00AM Senior Ladies Bible Study, Welcome Center  
4:45PM Fellowship Meal, Fellowship Hall  
5:00PM Youth Snack Rack, CLC 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
6:00PM Childcare, Duval 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
6:00PM Children's Choir, Duval 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
6:00PM Youth Choir Rehearsal, Adams 211  
6:00PM First Ladies' Bible Study, Adams 301  
6:00PM Adult Bible Study, Fellowship Hall  
6:30PM The Living Last Supper Rehearsal, Sanctuary  
6:45PM RAs and GAs, Duval 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
7:00PM Youth Collide, CLC 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
7:15PM Praise Team Rehearsal, Sanctuary  
7:15PM Young Adults Veritas, Adams 317

### THURSDAY, APRIL 17

9:00AM Childcare for Internationals, Duval 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
9:30AM Internationals English Classes, Chason 2201  
3:00PM College Fundraiser Pick-up, FBCTLH Parking Lot  
7:00PM The Living Last Supper, Sanctuary

### FRIDAY, APRIL 18

11:00AM Remember Good Friday Experience, Sanctuary  
7:00PM Secret Church Simulcast, Sanctuary

### SATURDAY, APRIL 19

10:30AM Family Easter Celebration, CLC Gym

*continued...*

# HOLY WEEK

## SECRET CHURCH SIMULCAST

On Good Friday, April 18, we will gather in our sanctuary for Secret Church. David Platt, pastor of The Church at Brook Hills, will lead an intense time of Bible study and a time of prayer for our persecuted brothers and sisters across the globe. This year, we'll study what the Bible says about the cross and everyday life. The simulcast will begin at 7:00PM and extend until 1:00AM...at least. If you desire to know God more deeply through His Word and to know His Church more fully around the world, then please join us!

## FAMILY EASTER CELEBRATION

Each year on the Saturday before Easter Sunday, we encourage families to consider the true meaning of Easter in a fun environment with a variety of crafts, games, and activities. Join us Saturday, April 19 at 10:30AM in the CLC gym.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## RECORDINGS AVAILABLE

Recordings of the Sunday Night Sing concert featuring the FBC Chordsmen and local gospel bluegrass band, Way Up, are now ready for you to order! You may place by calling the music office (x201). CDs are \$5 each.

You may also order recordings on our website at [fbctlh.org/contact](http://fbctlh.org/contact) - just choose "Audio/video request" as the reason for contact, and tell us what you're looking for!

## YOUTH CHOIR FUNDRAISING

There are youth who would like to work to earn money toward their youth choir mission trip this June. If you have hard work, house work, or need a babysitter and would like to help out one of our youth, please call Amy Baker (671.3754 or 284.3754) to set up a time and date.

If you would like to place one or more lilies in our Sanctuary this Easter in memory or in honor of a loved one, the cost is \$9 per plant. Please return this form with your payment to the front desk. *Contact Lenoir (222.5470 x201 or [lenoir@fbctlh.org](mailto:lenoir@fbctlh.org)) for more information.*

I would like \_\_\_\_\_ (number) lilies:

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name (giving the lilies) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TALLAHASSEE

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PERIODICALS  
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**THE VISION NEWSLETTER**

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For submissions, address corrections, or to unsubscribe, contact x132 or [hello@fbctlh.org](mailto:hello@fbctlh.org).

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Vision, 108 West College Avenue, Tallahassee, FL 32301.

**SERVICE RECORDINGS**

[fbctlh.org/sermons](http://fbctlh.org/sermons)

Our Traditional Worship service is broadcast on Comcast Channel 21 at 11:00AM each Sunday.

Contact x215 or [lee@fbctlh.org](mailto:lee@fbctlh.org) with questions.

If you are homebound and would like to be on our mailing list to receive a free DVD of our worship services each week, please contact x201 or [lenoir@fbctlh.org](mailto:lenoir@fbctlh.org). All other requests are \$5, and can be made at the front desk or online at [fbctlh.org/contact](http://fbctlh.org/contact).

**FELLOWSHIP MEAL**

April 16 - fried or baked catfish, cheese grits, steamed cabbage, corn muffins, salad bar, coleslaw, and dessert

**FINANCIALS**

YTD budget: \$725,812  
Receipts 4/6: \$57,950  
YTD receipts: \$629,225  
Spring Missions as of 4/6: \$8,024

**DEACON SCHEDULE**

Deacon of the Day – Richard Tudor

Deacons of the Week

- 9AM Dave Westberry
- 10AM Jeff Latimer
- 11AM Charles Lawson

**SECURITY SCHEDULE**

Sunday, April 13

- 8AM Lorne Shackelford
- 10AM Jeff Crew
- 11AM Art Pitts

Wednesday, April 16

- 6PM Wayne Connor

<b>TRADITIONAL WORSHIP</b>	9:00AM
<b>BIBLE STUDY</b>	10:00AM
<b>CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP</b>	11:15AM

*The Earth-Shattering Cross*

Matthew 27:45-55