

FIRST FOCUS

FORGIVENESS

This weekend, Luke Hinson and I will be leading a retreat for our Senior Adult and SingleFocus groups on the topic of God's Forgiveness: Past, Present, and Forever. When Jesus threw Peter (and the church) the keys to the kingdom of heaven, one of the keys on the ring was forgiveness. Forgiveness is a key that unlocks the doors of people's hearts. If you don't believe me, just walk through the pages of scripture with this theme in mind. You'll find many doors locked tightly by years of resentment, fear, and abuse. Joseph and his brothers learn to forgive each other in Genesis. Fearful disciples struggle with the scars from Jesus' death. You and I are still learning to love our enemies.

The problem with the forgiveness key is that it's not merely a one-time experience. When Peter asked, "Lord, how many times must I forgive?", he was hoping there might be an end point. Jesus knew that forgiving someone "70x7" was just the beginning of the process. Forgiveness is an ongoing discipline of reminding ourselves what Christ has done in the past for us and for the offender. It means surrendering the one who wronged us to the Lord and wishing them well for the future. We will likely never forget what has happened to us, but by God's grace, we will most assuredly remember the person and the events much differently in the future.

Most of the time forgiveness begins by letting go of our need to be in charge of events beyond our control. Caroline Lewis writes, "Forgiveness means letting go of the hope that the past is somehow going to change." Jesus has already redeemed the past. He offers us a new future. Will we trust him to walk with us through the door? I'll be back Sunday morning to gather around the table with you, to conclude the series on Philippians, and to share the Lord's Supper together. We will remember and celebrate Christ's forgiveness that he offers all of us.



THIS WEEK

NEWLYWED SEMINAR

It's time for the 2014 Newlywed Seminar! Jim and Pam Cooke will lead the discussion using *Saving Your Marriage Before It Starts* by Les and Leslie Parrot as our guide. If you were married sometime in the last couple of years, you qualify as "newlywed". Please join us at Jim and Pam's house this Monday, September 29, at 6:30PM. To reserve your spot or to get more information, contact Jim (893.1919 or jimcooke4@embarqmail.com).

YOUNG ADULTS

Hey fellas! Got plan for lunch? Well now you do! Join other guys at 11:30AM—single and married—as we get together for lunch this Wednesday, October 1, at Zaxby's on W. Tennessee Street. Feel free to bring a friend or coworker with you.

FIRST LOVE

Saturday, October 25

Register before October 12
online at fbctlh.org/firstlove or
in the connect center.



CALENDAR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

8:00AM Median Adult III Bible Study, Parlor
9:00AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
10:00AM Churchwide Bible Study Options
11:15AM Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

9:30AM Homebound Visitation, Conference Room
10:30AM First Joy Choir Rehearsal, Chason 2201
12:00PM Life Groups Leadership Huddle, Conference Room
6:30PM Newlywed Seminar, Cooke Home

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

6:00PM Property Committee, Conference Room
6:00PM Childcare for Internationals, Duval 1st Floor
6:30PM Internationals English Classes, Chason 2201

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1

9:30AM Women's Bible Study, Gardner Home
11:00AM Senior Ladies' Bible Study, Large Meeting Room
11:30AM Young Adult Guys Lunch, Zaxby's
4:45PM Fellowship Meal, Fellowship Hall
5:00PM Life Groups Leadership Huddle, Conference Room
6:00PM Childcare, Duval 1st Floor
6:00PM Children's Music & Missions, Duval 2nd Floor
6:00PM Youth Choir, Adams 211
6:00PM Adult Bible Study, Sanctuary
6:00PM DivorceCare, Adams 315
6:00PM Women's Bible Study, Adams 301
6:45PM RAs and GAs, Duval 2nd Floor
7:00PM Youth Collide, CLC 2nd Floor
7:00PM Christmas Choir Rehearsal, Chason 2201
7:00PM Chamber Players Rehearsal, Adams 200
7:15PM Praise Team Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7:15PM Young Adults Veritas, Adams 317

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

7:00AM Life Groups Leadership Huddle, Conference Room
9:00AM Childcare for Internationals, Duval 1st Floor
9:30AM Internationals English Classes, Chason 2201
5:30PM First Brass Rehearsal, Adams 200
5:30PM First Love Committee, Conference Room
7:00PM Life Groups Leadership Huddle, Conference Room

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

9:00AM CLC Gym - open until 1:00PM

COMING SOON

GRIEFSHARE

We are beginning a GriefShare group for help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend. This is a thirteen-week series that incorporates the use of a facilitator, video, discussion and a workbook. The introduction starts Sunday, October 5 at 3:00PM in Adams 305. The following twelve sessions will be at the same time and the locations will be announced. Call Vicki (x141) for information and locations.

FAITH, FOOD, FRIDAY

We have an exciting season planned for Faith, Food, Friday. Join us at FBCTLH in the fellowship hall on October 10 to kick off the season as we delve into the contrarian notion that maybe we should be talking about the challenging issues that surround faith in America after all! With faith (or lack thereof) used too often as a political tool, the public square could probably stand a change of pace. Whoever you are, whatever your beliefs, bring an open mind, an open heart (and an appetite) for what we hope will be a continuing conversation that defies the biases we seem to have against each other.

RSVP through fbctlh.org/events/faith-food-friday.

FIRST LOVE

Our annual First Love community missions day is October 25, from 8:30AM until 5:00PM! We invite you to join our church family and other volunteers as we come together and serve our city. There is a place for you to use your gifts - sewing, praying, singing, constructing, and more. Register online at fbctlh.org/firstlove or by using the forms available in the connect center this week to mark projects that interest you. Our First Love committee will match you to a project team based on needs and registration order, and your team leader will contact you to let you know where you've been assigned. A free bagged lunch is provided to all participants, and free childcare is also available.

If you know of any project or organization that needs our help, please contact Hannah Singletary (hannah@fbctlh.org or x146) for a project request form.

SERVE

SABAL PALM

Our partners at Sabal Palm Elementary School need volunteers for this school year, as well as some new donations; everyone can participate! If you are willing to help with any of the following, please contact Children's Ministry (x501 or rhonda@fbctlh.org). **Please do not donate any candy.*

- **volunteers** needed for laminating - once per month, volunteers will need to pick up materials at school, take to the District Media Center to laminate, cut out materials, and return to school
- **volunteers** needed for home projects - new math and reading materials are given November-December that will need to be sorted and laminated
- **contributions** needed for "treasure boxes" - little prizes that teachers can give to students on special occasions (books, puzzles, etc.)

FLORIDA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

For the month of September, we will join the Children's Home in collecting **baby diapers** (any size) and **toilet paper**. This diaper drive will address one of the biggest needs in caring for children in the Florida Baptist Children's Home. Though all sizes are welcome, larger sizes (3+ and Pull-Ups) are especially needed. Collection bins are in the College Avenue foyer, the welcome center, by the elevator on the first floor of the Adams building, and in the main office.



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.

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

SERVICE RECORDINGS

fbctlh.org/sermons

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

Contact x215 or 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. All other requests are \$5, and can be made at the front desk or online at fbctlh.org/contact.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL

October 1 - Taco salad bar: nacho chips, taco seasoned beef, refried beans, cheese sauce, salsa, sour cream, lettuce, tomatoes, jalapeños, olives, onions, and dessert

FINANCIALS

YTD budget: \$1,970,060
Receipts 9/21: \$57,677
YTD receipts: \$1,897,091
Fall Missions Offering: \$4,485

DEACON SCHEDULE

Deacon of the Day – Jim Barger

Deacons of the Week

- 9AM John Corven
- 10AM Cecil Davis
- 11AM Terry Baker

SECURITY SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 28

- 8AM Ben Hart
- 10AM Brent Daniel
- 11AM Eric Palm

Wednesday, October 1

- 6PM Wesley Head

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

9:00AM

BIBLE STUDY

10:00AM

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

11:15AM

**CONTENT
VS
DISSATISFIED**

Philippians 4:10-20