

FIRST FOCUS

LIVE SENT

At some point in the New Testament, without much warning, the first followers are no longer considered to be disciples, or “learners.” They are called “apostles,” the ones who are sent out to live on mission for Jesus. In Matthew, the change happens in chapter 10, when they are sent out first to lost sheep of the “house of Israel.” In other words their discipleship and apostleship were one and the same. They learned from Jesus and went out in his name simultaneously, practicing their faith where they lived and worked. Each person saw himself as a missionary.

In the book of Acts, the early church shared their faith as they went from “house to house.” With no central meeting place, the earliest followers of the Way worshipped in households. Keep in mind this concept was much different than a modern family. Many people fit under the definition of a “household.” If you read Ephesians 5, Colossians 4, or 1 Peter 2-3 and other passages, a household sounds more like a large family business of today. Husband, wife, children, workers, associates, cousins, and next of kin could fall into a household.

When apostles started going to households, the Spirit moved. In Acts 16, for instance, a jailer converts and his entire “household” is saved. Paul found that Timothy had been trained by grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice.

This past year, we’ve been learning about Jesus and loving Tallahassee. Right around our church, we’ve opened doors for a cold night shelter for the homeless, scouted the city to see God’s work in our neighborhood. We are rebuilding a home in Griffin Heights and mentoring children at Sabal Palm Elementary. Now I want to invite you to go out from the immediate area around our church. In 2014, I challenge you to live as if you were sent by the great commission to your own household in your neighborhood, on your campus, in the city, or in the workplace.

To help you discover God’s mission for you in these places, our Connections Weekend Conference will focus on this theme. Our speaker will be Matt Reynolds, lead pastor of Grace Midtown Church near the Georgia Tech campus in Atlanta, a church composed of households on mission together in the city. The workshops will provide practical ways to live sent in each area of where God is working around us: neighborhoods, campuses, city, and the office. You can register now for the conference February 7-9.

Just as the wise men left Bethlehem and went “home by another way,” I pray that 2014 will be the year where you see the place where you live as the starting point for Jesus’ great commission to you. You are Jesus’ missionary right here in Tallahassee. Where will he send you this year?



WHAT'S HAPPENING

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

All are invited for a new series beginning January 8 in Adult Prayer Bible Study with Dr. Shiell – **Live Sent: Your Life on Mission**. Join us at 6:00PM in the sanctuary each Wednesday as we prepare for Connections Weekend.

FAITH, FOOD, FRIDAY

Join us in the FBCTLH fellowship hall this Friday, January 10 as we kick off a new year of community discussions with Faith, Food, Friday. **Restorative Justice: Rethinking the Role of Forgiveness**

Our guest panelist this week will be Dr. Allison DeFoor from Wakulla Correctional Institution. All FFF forums are free and open to the public. Lunch is available for \$10 at the door. You may also bring your own lunch. For more information or to reserve your seat, go online to The Village Square, e-mail, or call 850.590.6646.

NEW DEACON ORDINATION

Everyone is invited to join us Sunday, January 12 at 6:00PM for our deacon ordination service as we welcome our 2014 deacons and participate in the ordination of 5 new deacons:

- Jim Chorey
- Lee Gonzalez
- James Craig
- Denis Harrelle
- Charlie Silcox

FIRST STEP

Are you interested in being part of our church family? Be sure and join us for our next First Step with Dr. Shiell—Sunday, January 19 at 10:15AM in the welcome center. You will learn more about what it means to be a member here and how to become more involved.

DIVORCE CARE

Help spread the word! Someone you know may be hurting...make sure they know about DivorceCare, a weekly seminar and support group for people who are separated or divorced. It incorporates the use of a facilitator, videos, discussion, and a workbook. Anyone may join the group at any time during the 12-week session. The next session at FBCTLH begins Wednesday, January 29 in Adams 315 from 6:00 until 7:30PM. Call Jenna (x107) or Kathy (x141) with questions or for more information.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

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, JANUARY 6

9:30AM Homebound Visitation, Conference Room
10:30AM First Joy Rehearsal, Chason 2201
6:00PM Personnel Committee, Conference Room

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

6:00PM Property Committee, Conference Room
6:00PM Childcare for Internationals, Duval 2nd Floor
6:30PM Internationals English Classes, Chason 2201

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

11:00AM Senior Adult Bible Study, Welcome Center
4:45PM Fellowship Meal, Fellowship Hall
5:00PM Youth Snack Rack, CLC 2nd Floor
6:00PM Childcare, Duval 1st Floor
6:00PM Children's Choir, Duval 2nd Floor
6:00PM Youth Choir Rehearsal, Adams 211
6:00PM Adult Prayer and Bible Study, Sanctuary
6:00PM Weekday Committee, Large Meeting Room
6:45PM RAs and GAs, Duval 2nd Floor
7:00PM Youth Collide, CLC 2nd Floor
7:00PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Chason 2201
7:00PM Chamber Players Rehearsal, Adams 201
7:15PM Young Adults Veritas, Adams 317
7:15PM Israel Trip Meeting, Duval 209

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

9:00AM Childcare for Internationals, Duval 2nd Floor
9:30AM Internationals English Classes, Chason 2201
5:30PM First Brass, Adams 200
6:00PM Finance Committee, Large Meeting Room
6:30PM Praise Team Rehearsal, Sanctuary

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

11:30AM Faith, Food, Friday lunch forum; Fellowship Hall

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

9:00AM-1:00PM CLC Open

CONNECTIONS WEEKEND

FEBRUARY 7-9, 2014

Mark your calendars now, invite your friends, and be sure to join us for our annual Connections Weekend: strengthening your connections with God and others. This event is open to the entire community, and we will focus this year on what it means to LIVE SENT as we live for Christ and love Tallahassee. Through our guest speaker, Matt Reynolds, and through a variety of breakout sessions from our own church members, we will explore the missional lifestyle where you live, work, and play. YOU are the missionary, YOU are the Church, and YOU are on a mission from God!

GUEST SPEAKER

After graduating from Clemson University in 2007, **Matt Reynolds** became the college pastor at Grace Fellowship Church in Snellville, Georgia. The glue of this college ministry was a network of house churches on college campuses across the Southeast and a monthly worship gathering called Transition. In 2009 Matt began to serve as the pastor of Grace Midtown in Atlanta, a plant of Grace Fellowship Church, which has grown in attendance from 200 to over 1,300 in four years. Matt is currently studying at Fuller Theological Seminary through a distance learning graduate program. He and his wife, Margaret, have a passion to bring the Kingdom to Atlanta and the cities of the world in fresh and innovative ways. Their son, Jude, is a year and a half old, and he is loving life!

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

In order to help you find the breakout sessions that are most relevant to you, we have grouped certain sessions by context. For example, the neighborhood track includes sessions that will equip you to live on mission in your neighborhood. The campus track includes sessions that will help you live on mission on your school or college campus, and so on. You are still welcome to attend any breakout session that interests you, regardless of how it is categorized.

BREAKOUT SESSION 1

(Friday PM)

Neighborhood track

- Meeting the Neighbors
- Reaching the Homebound

Campus track

- Sharing Faith in High School
- Starting a Life Group

Workplace track

- Business on Mission

City track

- Helping the Homeless
- Praying the City

Bonus track

- *Questions Skeptics Ask*
- *Human Trafficking*

BREAKOUT SESSION 2

(Saturday AM)

Kingdom Assignments

- Neighbors/Neighborhood
- Mentoring College Students
- Workplace/Campus/School Evangelism
- At-Risk Children and Youth/Sabal Palm
- Homeless
- Homebound
- Finding My Kingdom Assignment

Bonus track

- *Questions Skeptics Ask*

BREAKOUT SESSION 3

(Saturday PM)

Neighborhood track

- Reaching the Neighbors
- Moving to the Frontlines

Campus track

- Talking with Teachers
- Loving the International

Workplace track

- Working for Caesar

City track

- Maximizing Your Hour as a Mentor
- Visiting the Prisoner

Bonus track

- *Helping Someone in Crisis*
- *Living Sent with Those Who Grieve*

REGISTER NOW: fbctlh.org/connections



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TALLAHASSEE

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PERIODICALS
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THE VISION NEWSLETTER

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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 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.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL

January 8 – Fried chicken tenders, french fries, green beans, biscuit, gravy, salad bar, and dessert

FINANCIALS

YTD budget: \$2,345,480

Receipts 12/29: N/A

YTD receipts: \$2,367,363

Winter Missions as of 12/29: N/A

DEACON SCHEDULE

Deacon of the Day – Charles Maynard

Deacons of the Week

- 9AM Richard Lee
- 10AM Tom Link
- 11AM Clay Mason

SECURITY SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 5

- 8AM Ben Hart
- 10AM Jim Croushorn
- 11AM Art Pitts

Wednesday, January 8

- 6PM Charles Maynard

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

9:00AM

BIBLE STUDY

10:00AM

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

11:15AM

Home By Another Way

Matthew 2:1-12