

FIRST FOCUS

Neighborhood Catalysts

This past September, the deacons and pastoral staff retreated to Dowling Park for a powerful time of inspiration and dedication to deacon ministry. We prayed for our city, read Eric Swanson's book **The Externally Focused Quest**, and discussed the role that deacons have as servants in the city of Tallahassee. Our key verse came from 1 Peter 5:2 "Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away."

Deacons are shepherds of the flock, both gathered and scattered. At the retreat, we discussed how deacons can better serve the scattered in neighborhoods. Since then, twenty deacons have embarked on a pilot project called "neighborhood catalysts." The co-chairs are Darrell Thompson and Jeff Latimer. Their purpose is simply "to meet needs in Jesus' name." Each catalyst customized an approach for his neighborhood and the gifts of the deacon. They have fallen into four categories.

1. "Boots on the ground." Reaching out door-to-door to see if neighbors have needs such as mowing lawns, running errands, taking care of issues.
2. Nextdoor.com. An online social network designed to connect neighbors together and communicate about issues in neighborhoods.
3. Block parties. Inviting neighbors over for fellowship, food, and fun.
4. Prayer groups. Hosting groups either in a home or a restaurant for prayer and fellowship.

I am so excited about the process thus far. These catalysts are just beginning, and their ministry has already touched lives. They have connected to several homebound members and had some great conversations about Jesus. These stories are emerging now.

This Sunday, we ordain five new deacons and welcome ten others who begin a new term as voting deacons. As you can tell, it's a great time to serve as a deacon through First Baptist. I am so grateful to Fran Buhler and the nominating committee for their work of discernment to call out these servants. I have met personally with each one and have learned of their commitment to the Lord and His church. We are blessed to have these men serving for the next four years, and each one will be a part of the neighborhood catalyst project. On Sunday morning, you'll have a chance to hear testimonies in both services from each of the five candidates for ordination. Join us Sunday evening for the ordination service at 6:00 p.m.

Please be praying for our deacons in 2014 that God will continue to bless their efforts. They are out in the neighborhoods like shepherds searching for the lost sheep. Join us as we bless their service Sunday.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

NEW DEACON ORDINATION

Everyone is invited to join us THIS 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
- James Craig
- Lee Gonzalez
- Denis Harrelle
- Charlie Silcox

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

All are invited for the series **Live Sent: Your Life on Mission** with Dr. Shiell. Join us at 6:00PM in the sanctuary each Wednesday as we prepare for Connections Weekend.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Women of all ages are welcome to join us for **Clothed with Power**, a 6-Week Bible study by Jennifer Kennedy Dean! There are two studies, both meet on Wednesday.

- 9:15AM led by Patsy Faircloth in Betty Gardner's home (beginning January 22)
 - 6:00PM led by Linda Smith in the Café Praise at FBC
- Participant books are \$10. In addition, we are excited that Jennifer will be the guest speaker at our upcoming women's event – **Covered**, *A One-Day Conference for Women* on April 5th! Questions? Contact Barbara Corven at bcorven@corveneng.com.

YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adult 2 is preparing and serving a meal for the hungry and homeless at The Shelter on Friday, January 17. We start cooking in the church kitchen around 5:30PM, take the meal to The Shelter and serve it, then come back and finish cleaning up, usually by 8:30PM. If you would like to join this quarterly effort, RSVP on Facebook (FBC Young Adults) or let Josh (josh@fbctlh.org) know.

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.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

8:00AM Median Adult III Bible Study, Parlor
9:00AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
10:00AM Churchwide Bible Study Options
11:15AM Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary
3:00PM New Deacon Orientation, Fellowship Hall
5:15PM College Boston Mission Trip Meeting, the Basement
6:00PM Deacon Ordination Service, Sanctuary

MONDAY, JANUARY 13

9:30AM Homebound Visitation, Conference Room
10:30AM First Joy Rehearsal, Chason 2201
6:00PM Deacon's Meeting, Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

5:30PM CLC Committee, CLC 2nd Floor
6:00PM Childcare for Internationals, Duval 2nd Floor

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

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 First Ladies' Bible Study, Adams 301
6:00PM Adult Prayer and Bible Study, Sanctuary
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 Praise Team Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7:15PM Young Adults Veritas, Adams 317
7:15PM Israel Trip Meeting, Duval 209

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

9:00AM Childcare for Internationals, Duval 2nd Floor
9:30AM Internationals English Classes, Chason 2201
5:30PM First Brass, Adams 200

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

5:30PM Shelter Meal, Kitchen

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

9:00AM-1:00PM CLC Open

COMING SOON

YOUTH

Journey Summer Camp from June 23 – 27! Total cost is \$245 and a \$100 deposit is due by January 19.

Disciple Now Weekend is February 27 – March 2! Total cost is \$55 but will increase to \$65 after February 2.

Release Forms for 2014 are needed for all youth. Find them in the Connect Center and online at: fbctlh.org/youth

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.

CONNECTIONS WEEKEND

Mark your calendars now and be sure to join us for Connections Weekend: FEBRUARY 7-9, 2014. This event is open to the entire community, and we will focus this year on what it means to 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 what it means to live a missional lifestyle where you live, work, and play. YOU are the missionary, YOU are the Church, and YOU are on a mission from God! More info can be found at fbctlh.org/connections.

SERVE

COLD NIGHTS SHELTER

Jacob Chapel (2333 Lake Bradford Road) is the location of the Tallahassee Cold Nights Overflow Shelter this winter. FBCTLH is responsible for providing volunteers on any Tuesday night that it needs to be open (when the forecasted temperature is less than 40 degrees overnight). Volunteers will be needed to help with check-in and various other needs from 8:30PM until approximately 9:30PM. To volunteer or for more info, please contact Paula (x131 or paula@fbctlh.org).

FLORIDA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

For the month of January, we will join the Children's Home in collecting **laundry supplies**, such as laundry detergent, fabric softener, dryer sheets, and bleach. 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.

MORE OPPORTUNITIES

Check out the new fbctlh.org/Serve page for more ways to get involved now in serving in and through FBCTLH.



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 linoir@fbctlh.org.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL

January 15 - ham, macaroni and cheese, peas, salad bar, rolls, dessert

FINANCIALS

YTD budget:

Receipts 1/5:

YTD receipts:

DEACON SCHEDULE

Deacon of the Day – Roger Merriam

Deacons of the Week

- 9AM Carl Monson
- 10AM Jack Nix
- 11AM Mark Milner

SECURITY SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 12

- 8AM Jim Wheeler
- 10AM Brent Daniel
- 11AM Eric Palm

Wednesday, January 15

- 6PM Lee Vickery

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

9:00AM

BIBLE STUDY

10:00AM

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

11:15AM

Now Let's do
This Together

Matthew 3:13-17