

# FIRST FOCUS

## **SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

On Sunday, we will commission the 2014-2015 year of Sunday Morning Bible Study (SMBS) leadership. On August 17, students promote in time for the new school year to start. Bible study on our campus is so integral to being Baptist that we almost take it for granted. Someone is there through staff and volunteers to take our children, order quarterlies, mop floors, and provide doughnuts just so we can hear a word from God. These two hours on Sunday morning—at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.—are holy ones.

In her book, *Plan B: Further Thoughts on Faith*, Anne Lamott writes about starting a Sunday School for kids in their inner city, urban location. Their church was temporarily meeting in a senior center during new construction. When they returned to their renovated church, the Sunday School had grown so large that they needed even more volunteers. She writes, “Finally, three adults came to help, all middle-aged white women. This was sort of frustrating, but one of the immutable laws of being human is that the people who show up are the right people. We met every few weeks. We figured out that the only things that worked were a short Bible story, the juice boxes, and art, and so we stuck with those.”

As Lamott describes, the teachers and workers change as much as the students. By learning to teach others, they understand the Bible in its depth that can only be understood in relationship with others. As in the case of most students, change happens while the Doritos are being trashed and the Kool-Aid is being spilled. As your pastor, I’ve seen our SMBS work behind the scenes. The relationships extend all the way to hospitals and funeral homes, sitting patiently unnoticed in a surgery or picking up an elderly friend in time for church.

Lamott writes, “Holiness has most often been revealed to me in the exquisite pun of the first syllable, in holes—in not enough help, in brokenness, mess. High holy places, with ethereal sounds and stained glass, can massage my illusion of holiness, but in holes and lostness I can pick up the light of small ordinary progress, newly made moments flecked like pepper into the slog and the disruptions.”

These holy ones, who work each week to prepare and deliver the word of God, guide us through the messy disruptions of our lives. This Sunday, join me as we give thanks to God for another year of very good work.



# THIS WEEK

## ORDINATION SERVICE

Come and show your support THIS SUNDAY at 6:00PM for a service of ordination for Josh Hall, Minister to Young Adults. Josh has recently completed his Master of Divinity at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, and we are excited to celebrate the work that God has done in and through him.

## FIRST LADIES SUMMER SUPPERS

Ladies of all ages are invited to join us for our annual First Ladies "Summer Suppers"—mark your calendars for our last gathering this summer, this Monday, August 11, at 6:30PM at Hopkins Eatery (1415 Market Street). These "Summer Suppers" are relaxed, Dutch-treat gatherings for the purpose of fun and fellowship, seeing old friends, and making new ones—the perfect time to invite a friend or neighbor! No reservations are needed. Arrive when you can and leave when you need to. Join us for good food, laughter, a word of encouragement, and door prizes! If you have questions, please contact Barbara Corven (bcorven@corveneng.com or 850.422.2902).

## SENIOR ADULTS

We have "New Faces in Our Places" who will be performing for us on Friday, August 15, at noon in the fellowship hall. Come welcome some of our newest members as they showcase their amazing talents. The luncheon is \$5 a person. Please invite a friend to join you; reservations are required. Sign up in your SMBS class or call Vicki Bitton (x141).

*This week we are celebrating 3 new births in our church family:*

- **Andrew Liao**, born July 4 to Ping Shou and Shaogang Liao
- **Jeremiah Michael Kofi Ablordeppey**, born July 11 to Jerilyn Carter and Suboe Ablordeppey
- **Chloe Grace Mello**, born July 29 to Terrah and Caleb Mello



## CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

8:00AM Median Adult III Bible Study, Parlor  
9:00AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary  
10:00AM Churchwide Bible Study Options  
11:15AM Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary  
2:30PM Bells of Praise Rehearsal, Adams 211  
6:00PM Ordination Service for Josh Hall, Sanctuary

### MONDAY, AUGUST 11

9:30AM Homebound Visitation, Conference Room  
No First Joy Choir Rehearsal  
6:00PM Personnel Committee, Conference Room  
6:30PM First Ladies Summer Supper, Hopkins Eatery

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 12

5:30PM CLC Committee, Large Meeting Room  
6:00PM Property Committee, Conference Room

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13

11:00AM Senior Ladies' Bible Study, Large Meeting Room  
4:45PM Fellowship Meal, Fellowship Hall  
6:00PM Childcare, Duval 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
6:00PM Children's FUNiversity, Duval 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
6:00PM Youth Collide, CLC 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
6:00PM Adult Bible Study, Sanctuary  
6:00PM DivorceCare, Adams 315  
6:45PM RAs and GAs, Duval 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
7:00PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Chason 2201  
7:00PM Chamber Players Rehearsal, Adams 200  
7:00PM Greeter/Host Training, Adams Basement  
7:15PM Praise Team Rehearsal, Sanctuary  
7:15PM Young Adults Veritas, Adams 317  
7:15PM Youth Fellowship, Red Elephant

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 14

5:30PM First Brass Rehearsal, Adams 200  
6:00PM Finance Committee, Conference Room

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 15

12:00PM Senior Adult Luncheon, Fellowship Hall

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 16

9:00AM CLC Gym - open until 1:00PM  
10:00AM Young Adult Sip-n-See, Shiell Home

# COMING SOON

## **SINGLE FOCUS + SENIOR ADULTS**

Are you ready to retreat, relax, and rejuvenate? All single adults (40+) and senior adults (55+) are invited to register now for a wonderful weekend at Dowling Park focusing on *God's Forgiveness: Past, Present, and Forever*, led by Dr. Bill Shiell. This retreat is scheduled for September 26-28, and the cost per person is \$100. Spaces are limited and available on a first come, first served basis. To register, submit a registration form (available in the connect center) and a \$50 deposit at the front desk. The remaining balance is due by August 18. For more information, please contact Vicki (x141) or Jenna (x107).

## **MENTORING AND VOLUNTEERING**

We are so happy to be Partnering with Sabal Palm at Dale Mabry Field Elementary School again this year! Teachers and staff are gathering, students are registering, FBCTLH mentors and volunteers are preparing, and excitement is in the air. It is not too late to join the adventure of being Jesus' hands and feet in tangible ways as we make a difference. Prayerfully consider how God might want to use you in HIS plan to share His love and light with those at Sabal Palm. Contact the Children's Ministry Office (x501) or drop by our sign-up table on August 17 in the welcome center to find out more details.

## **RETIREMENT RECEPTION**

You are cordially invited to a reception honoring Fran & Nancy Buhler upon Fran's retirement after 21 years of service here at FBCTLH! Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 24 at 4:00PM in the Fellowship Hall.

## **NEW DECORATING COMMITTEE**

Are you looking for a place of service where you are greatly needed? Do you love Christmas and Christmas Decorating? Would you like being a part of a special group that only meets for a few months during the year? There are still a few spots left in our new ministry group that will be tasked with decorating the Church for Christmas (including the Welcome Center) and coordinating and facilitating the Hanging of the Green service on the first Sunday evening of Advent. This is a new and completely separate group from the Flower Committee. We welcome people who have served in this area before and would like to continue, and we also are opening this group up to our many folks who haven't yet found their place of service. If you feel this is something that appeals to you, please contact Penny Folsom (x210 or penny@fbctlh.org) or Lenoir Brewer (x201 or lenoir@fbctlh.org) for more information. Christmas is coming! Our first meeting will be right after Labor Day.

# SERVE

## **FLORIDA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME**

For the month of August, we will join the Children's Home in collecting **personal hygiene items**, such as shampoo and conditioner, body wash, deodorant, toothpaste, and mouthwash. 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 [fbctlh.org/Serve](http://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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TALLAHASSEE  
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**THE VISION NEWSLETTER**

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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 [leonor@fbctlh.org](mailto:leonor@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**

August 13 - Chicken tetrazzini, steamed veggie medley, spiced apples, salad bar, rolls, and dessert

**DEACON SCHEDULE**

Deacon of the Day – Dave Westberry

Deacons of the Week

- 9AM Carl Monson
- 10AM Stan Sheppard
- 11AM Roger Merriam

**SECURITY SCHEDULE**

Sunday, August 10

- 8AM Jim Wheeler
- 10AM Jeff Crew
- 11AM Keith Burnsed

Wednesday, August 13

- 6PM Wayne Connor

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

# Jesus' Answer to the World's Problems

Matthew 16:13-20