

FIRST FOCUS

MINISTRY WITH COLLEGE STUDENTS

With 80,000 college students flooding Leon County in the Fall and Spring, we know the fields are white unto harvest. If we visit the FSU, FAMU, or TCC campuses, we'll find a variety of spiritual perspectives. According to Stephen Lutz, students today express their faith in five different ways. I've adapted his categories below:

1. Committed. These are the average church hopping students you see on Sunday morning. They've grown up in a church, get involved typically in some sort of Christian campus group, and eventually plug into a church. They're generally looking for a church that either meets their needs or is completely different from their church of origin.
2. Unchurched. These are spiritual students but have grown disaffected by the church. They probably had some sort of church experience as a child but either because of problems with churches or difficulties in their lives, they're in church drift.
3. Apathetic. These simply don't care one way or the other about church, but they are very interested in service and "making a difference" in the world. They're likely more involved in fraternities, sororities, and service groups that allow them to give back and share. Sunday mornings are optional.
4. Suspicious. These people have likely never been to anything related to church, but they are interested in talking about faith matters. They're curious, articulate, and quite convinced of what they believe. Rarely do they believe in what you believe, but they'll talk about it.
5. Negative. These are either openly atheistic, involved in other religions, or just hostile to faith.

On an average Sunday, you'll likely see category one or two at First Baptist. They're interested, engaged, and have been invited by someone else. First Baptist Church has a responsibility to all five kinds of students. Ministry with categories 3-5 is much different than the approach to categories 1-2. It requires prayer, empowerment by the Holy Spirit, strategic relationships, and a supportive church family.

If it sounds complicated, it is. As Lutz suggests, we need an approach that goes deep and out. People need to dig deeply with college students through authentic meaningful relationships that are rooted in scripture and the incarnational life of Jesus. We need to extend outward to offer service and mission that meets categories 3-5 in their world.

In the early church, they learned from the apostle Paul what college ministry was like. When Paul visited the scholars on Mars Hill in Acts 17, he found a variety of altars to various gods. As a church family, we have much to learn about college ministry and the nuanced approach that it takes for this generation. The good news is that we have Zach Allen. This weekend, Zach leads a "Go Week" mission to college students on our own Mars Hill. Zach has a great vision for all the students on our campuses, and we have an exciting team of students and caring adults who are working with these students. Pray for them, and support their efforts.



THIS WEEK

RETIREMENT RECEPTION

Please join us this Sunday at 4:00PM in the fellowship hall for a reception honoring Fran & Nancy Buhler upon Fran's retirement after 21 years of service here at FBCTLH!

SUNDAY NIGHT SING

The FBC Chordsmen and Way Up (a local Christian blue-grass band) are teaming up once again for an evening of spirit-lifting, roof-raising song. This year's concert is Sunday evening, August 24 at 6:00PM—right after the reception honoring Fran & Nancy Buhler! Invite your friends and relations and come prepared to tap your toes and smile 'til you're sore.

DIVORCECARE

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 weeks. The next series at FBCTLH begins this Wednesday, August 27, in Adams 315 from 6:00-7:30PM. Contact Jenna (x107) or Vicki (x141) for more information.

DIRECTORY PHOTOS

If you are already a part of our most recent FBCTLH member directory (2012), you may stop reading now. If you have joined our church family since then, this is for you! Lifetouch will be on site to take new photos Wednesday, August 27 through Saturday, August 30. We would love to have our entire FBCTLH family represented! Please mark your calendars and schedule your photography session online at fbctlh.org, or contact our front desk (x101).

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

8:00AM Median Adult III Bible Study, Parlor
9:00AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
10:00AM Churchwide Bible Study Options
11:15AM Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary
11:30AM Children's Rotation SMBS Leadership Luncheon
4:00PM Buhler Retirement Reception, Fellowship Hall
6:00PM Sunday Night Sing, Sanctuary

MONDAY, AUGUST 25

9:30AM Homebound Visitation, Conference Room
10:30AM First Joy Choir Singing Out
6:00PM Personnel Committee, Conference Room
7:00PM, Seeking Him Weekday Group, Paula Silcox' Home

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

11:00AM Senior Ladies' Bible Study, Large Meeting Room
12:00PM Young Adult Guys' Lunch, Chick-fil-A (Parkway)
2:00PM LifeTouch Photo Sessions, CLC 2nd floor
4:45PM Fellowship Meal, Fellowship Hall
6:00PM Childcare, Duval 1st Floor
6:00PM Children's Music & Missions, Duval 2nd Floor
6:00PM Youth Choir, Adams 211
6:00PM Church Business Meeting, Sanctuary
6:00PM DivorceCare, Adams 315
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 200
7:15PM Praise Team Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7:15PM Young Adults Veritas, Adams 317

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

2:00PM LifeTouch Photo Sessions, CLC 2nd Floor
5:30PM First Brass Rehearsal, Adams 200
5:30PM First Love Committee, Conference Room

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

2:00PM LifeTouch Photo Sessions, CLC 2nd Floor

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

9:00AM CLC Gym - open until 1:00PM
1:00PM LifeTouch Photo Sessions, CLC 2nd Floor

COMING SOON

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

All ladies are invited and welcome to join one of our new Fall Bible studies as we study God's word together.

- Beginning September 3 - Wednesday Evening Bible Study with Linda Smith, 6:00–7:00PM in Adams 301. We will be studying Jennifer Kennedy Dean's *Secrets Jesus Shared* (on the Parables of Jesus) for 6 weeks (member book is \$15). The next 6 weeks will be followed by Jennifer Kennedy Dean's *Set Apart* (on the Beatitudes; member book is \$13). The study will end the week before Thanksgiving. Contact Linda Smith (lbswcs@aol.com) for more information.
- Beginning September 17 - Wednesday Morning Bible Study with Patsy Faircloth, 9:30–11:30AM at the home of Betty Gardner. We will be studying Beth Moore's *Children of the Day* (1 & 2 Thessalonians) for 9 weeks (member book is \$16). Contact Patsy Faircloth (ptfaircloth1946@comcast.net) for more information.

FLORIDA MISSIONS WEEK OF PRAYER

All Women on Mission groups will meet together on Tuesday, September 9 for the Florida Missions Week of Prayer emphasis. Refreshments in the Parlor begin at 9:30AM, and the program begins at 10:00AM in the Chapel. Launce Beauchamp will speak on the Maguire Missions Offering. All women of the church are invited to attend. For more information, contact a group leader or WOM Coordinator Donna Heald (224.3940). If you would like to ride the church bus, call Linda Wheeler (877.4839).

HELPING HANDS

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, September 6 for our "Helping Hands" work day around FBCTLH. We will need many hands to help clean up our campus and facilities so that we can be good stewards of our resources! There is something for everyone to do, from gardening/yard work to dusting to painting. We will begin at 8:00AM (with coffee!) and work until 12:00PM. See you there!

WEAR YOUR COLORS

Everyone is invited to show up for worship on Sunday, September 7 wearing your school colors! Whether it's garnet and gold, orange and green, or even orange and blue, support your school and create a fun, welcoming environment for our new college students.

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 page for more ways to get involved now in serving in and through FBCTLH.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TALLAHASSEE

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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.

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID
TALLAHASSEE
FLORIDA

FELLOWSHIP MEAL

August 27 - Spaghetti with meat or marinara sauce, steamed broccoli, salad bar, garlic toast, and dessert

**for kids: hot dog or hamburger with chips*

FINANCIALS

YTD budget: \$1,710,842

Receipts 8/17: \$33,374

YTD receipts: \$1,648,556

DEACON SCHEDULE

Deacon of the Day – John Schanbacher

Deacons of the Week

- 9AM Lee Scarboro
- 10AM Howard Rhodes
- 11AM Pat Brown

SECURITY SCHEDULE

Sunday, August 24

- 8AM Tim Barry
- 10AM Brent Daniel
- 11AM Eric Palm

Wednesday, August 27

- 6PM Wesley Head

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

9:00AM

BIBLE STUDY

10:00AM

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

11:15AM

BEST VS FAKE

Philippians 1:3-11