

FIRST FOCUS

FASTING DISCIPLINE

Fasting has never been high on the list of Baptist disciplines. Feasting, yes. Fasting... maybe if we're in a real bind. Jesus certainly warns us about fasting for attention (Matthew 6). That doesn't get us out of the practice; I have just ignored the discipline. Prior to Easter, most Christians forego something like chocolate. Other than that, we tend to overlook one of the practices of a relationship with God.

During the month of September, I want to invite you to skip one meal each week, and use the time to reflect on the question, "Do I want what Christ wants?" Ask God to help you to do what He wants. Using the book of Philippians as the bread of life, and feasting on the Word of Jesus Christ, reflect, pray, journal, share, and fast. We do not do this to get anything out of God, or to repent of our sins, or to show the world what a difference we can make. Rather, we participate in fasting because this is what it means to be a Christian. Our speaker for Connections Weekend 2015, Scot McKnight, suggests that fasting just turns our attention toward God, which is where it should be anyway. Just as Jesus fasted 40 days as part of his relationship with the heavenly father, so do we. Instead of 40 days, I'm asking you to skip 4 meals.

We've posted a few resources on the blog to help you out, and you'll read the story of at least one person who does this on a regular basis. Consider it "Fasting for beginners..." like me. Schedule it as you would a normal meal, eat a little bigger meal prior to the one you skip, and eat a larger one afterward. Drink some juice or water while you read, reflect, repent, and refresh. God does the work. You just be there for Him.

Speaking of work, please join us Saturday morning for Helping Hands. Our campus is a busy place, and twice a year, we come together to clean up and clean out. We could use your help. Our property committee does an excellent job of staying on top of the big issues with our facilities. But the little things get as much of our attention each Sunday. Offer a hand this weekend. You'll probably meet someone new and maybe even someone who could be your fasting buddy. Fasting and cleaning are more rewarding with friends. See you this weekend!



THIS WEEK

WEAR YOUR COLORS

Everyone is invited to show up for worship THIS 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.

DRAMA TEAM

We are in the process of forming a group of drama enthusiasts to share the gospel through dramatic presentations and plays. The Drama Team is a non-auditioned group. Anyone with an interest is invited to a *Drama Drop-In* this Sunday, September 7, in the welcome center 2nd floor café following each worship service. For more info, please contact AmyLynn Harrington Smoot (aharringtonsmoot@butlerpappas.com or 766.4933) or Bev DeMello (bsd6210@embarqmail.com or 228.9357).

FLORIDA MISSIONS WEEK OF PRAYER

All Women on Mission groups will meet together this 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. Lance 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 Donna Heald (224.3940). If you would like to ride the church bus, call Linda Wheeler (877.4839).

FIRST LOVE is coming Saturday, October 25! Registration will be available soon, but if you know of any project or organization that needs our help, please contact Hannah Singletary (x146 or hannah@fbctlh.org) for a project request form.



CALENDAR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

8:00AM Median Adult III Bible Study, Parlor
9:00AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
10:00AM Churchwide Bible Study Options
11:15AM Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary
6:00PM Celebration of Praise, Northwoods Baptist Church

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

9:30AM Homebound Visitation, Conference Room

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

11:00AM Senior Ladies' Bible Study, Large Meeting Room
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 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 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, SEPTEMBER 11

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

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

COMING SOON

LIFE GROUPS: EQUIP

Life Groups at FBCTLH are “church where life happens” for our members who have a common place, pursuit, or phase of life with those outside our campus. Based on the life of the early church in Acts 2:41-47, we want everyone to be a part of one group that gathers off site with an outward focus that sees organic growth. Anyone who is interested in being in a Life Group should try to join us for a **training weekend, September 12-13**.

Our guest speaker this weekend will be Rick Howerton (@rickhowerton), the small group and discipleship specialist at LifeWay Church Resources. Rick’s varied ministry experiences as a collegiate minister, small group pastor, teaching pastor, elder, full-time trainer, and church consultant, as well as having been a successful church planter, give him a perspective of church life that is all-encompassing as a highly sought after communicator and trainer. Don’t miss it!

REGISTER BEFORE SEPTEMBER 7 - online at fbctlh.org/lifegroups or by using the form available in the connect center.

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. A new Wednesday Morning Bible study with Patsy Faircloth, begins September 17 from 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.

SPECIAL CALLED CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING

We invite all church members to attend a special business meeting concerning the sale of property on Wednesday, September 17 at 6:00PM in the sanctuary. This will also serve as our regular business meeting for September.

CHRISTMAS KICK-OFF

It’s “Time for Christmas”! What? Can it really be that time already? Is there even any time in our life for Christmas? The bigger question...Is there time in our life for Christ to come to us? Choir rehearsals for “Time for Christmas,” our 2014 Christmas musical production, begin Wednesday evening, September 17 at 7:15PM in Chason 2201. Come sing with us this Christmastime! For more information, contact Lenoir (x201) or Penny (penny@fbctlh.org).

SENIOR ADULTS

Here’s the scoop, guaranteed to satisfy your sweet and salty tooth! We’re mixin’ the southern delicacy of boiled peanuts with the summertime fun of homemade ice cream in an ol’-fashioned Boil and Churn; 2:00-4:00PM on Thursday, September 18, at Virginia Glass’ Ice Cream Parlor. What’s better than bawled peanuts and taste money can’t buy? Sweet tea? Okay, we got that, too! If you need to hitch a ride, reserve your van seat by a callin’ Vicki Bitton (x141). For further details call Jenna (x107). Y’all come now!

SERVE

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**. 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

108 West College Avenue, Tallahassee, FL 32301
850.222.5470 (phone) | 850.681.0488 (fax)
vol. 20 | issue no. 35 | week of September 7, 2014

THE VISION NEWSLETTER

The Vision (USPS 662-400) is published weekly, except for Independence Day and Christmas, by First Baptist Church, 108 West College Avenue, Tallahassee, FL 32301.

Periodicals postage paid at Tallahassee, FL.

All submissions are subject to editorial revision. Deadline for submissions is 10 days before Sunday publishing date.

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 leonor@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

September 10 - Ham, macaroni & cheese, steamed cabbage, corn muffins, salad bar, and dessert **for kids: chicken sandwich or hot dog with chips*

DEACON SCHEDULE

Deacon of the Day – Wayne Tedder

Deacons of the Week

- 9AM Jeff Latimer
- 10AM Ryan Stokes
- 11AM Daryle Gray

SECURITY SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 7

- 8AM Jim Wheeler
- 10AM John Schanbacher
- 11AM Mark Byler

Wednesday, September 10

- 6PM Lee Vickery

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP	9:00AM
BIBLE STUDY	10:00AM
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP	11:15AM

SELFLESS VS SELFIE

Philippians 1:27-30 + 2:19-30