

FIRST FOCUS

LENTEN CHALLENGES

This Sunday marks the beginning of the season of Lent, a period of examination and preparation for believers around the world. Forty days prior to Easter, the church pauses to reflect, repent, and remember Christ's sacrifice and resurrection. I want to challenge you to do a couple of things this season as I will be doing.

Pray for believers around the world. The beheading of 21 Christians in Libya on Sunday is just one stark reminder that people around the world are facing threats because of their faith. The Christian response is consistent throughout scripture—pray, worship Jesus as Lord, and bear witness peacefully in His name. The word martyr simply means “witness,” and some witness in life and death. Pray for these families and churches.

Give sacrificially to the church. Sunday was just a taste of how your giving is going to impact lives for Christ in 2015. Thank you to Hannah Singletary, Laurinda Norris, Sharon Cawthorne, and Chad Wilson for helping us feast and learn. The indoor picnic was fabulous. Your gifts, large and small, are touching some of the closest and remote places where the gospel is being preached. We're also seeking to do the important work of daily living out our faith as the church here in Tallahassee. Help us this year, and let your finances reflect your faith in Christ.

Recite the Jesus Creed. Scot McKnight challenged us at Connections Weekend to wake up every morning and go to bed each evening by saying Mark 12:29-31: “Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is One. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and all your strength. You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” We'll practice that in worship. Write it in your Kairos journals and keep it nearby each day.

Worship ecumenically. Another great testimony to the power of Christ is the common faith we share with churches in other denominations. Four downtown churches will be sponsoring joint noon worship services on Thursdays in Lent. I'll be preaching at the first one next Thursday, February 26, at Trinity United Methodist Church. The service begins at 12:10PM, followed by a free lunch. You'll have the opportunity to donate to the Renaissance Community Center's “Operation I.D.,” a service that helps homeless people obtain an identification card to use when they apply for work. We will be the host on March 12. Here's the full schedule:

	HOST CHURCH	GUEST SPEAKER
February 26	Trinity	Bill Shiell
March 5	First Presbyterian	Dave Killeen
March 12	First Baptist	Brant Copeland
March 19	St. John's	Tony Fotsch



The church is alive and well and doing great work in Jesus' name. Now more than ever, we have opportunities to share why we love Jesus. Let's witness together in Jesus' name.

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Bill".

THIS WEEK

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

A new Bible study for women begins this Wednesday, February 25! All women are welcome to join us for *The Patriarchs: Encountering the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob* by Beth Moore, on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:30AM. The study will be led by Patsy Faircloth and will take place at the home of Betty Gardner. Member books are \$15. For more info, please contact Patsy (ptfaircloth1946@comcast.net).

TOGETHER IN LENT

All are welcome for both worship and lunch at Trinity United Methodist Church this Thursday, February 26, at 12:10PM. Dr. Shiell will be speaking at the downtown churches' Lenten luncheon series, beginning this week and continuing through March 19. Join us for midday worship and food together with other believers downtown.

There will be no charge for the meal, but diners will be given the opportunity to contribute to "Operation I.D."

FIRST LADIES

Ladies, please join us for an afternoon of fellowship with a purpose—"BUNCO FOR BABIES"—this Saturday, February 28, from 2:00 until 4:00PM in the welcome center on the 2nd floor. We will play Bunco and support the babies of the Hope Community, a transitional housing program. Please bring an unwrapped baby item (diapers, wipes, bottles, diaper bags, bath items, etc.) or a financial donation to be used to purchase larger items such as car seats, strollers, etc. There will be light refreshments and prizes, too! Bring a friend! Contact Barbara (bcorven@corveneng.com) if you need more information.

Service Recordings

If you can't be at FBCTLH on a Sunday morning, both worship services (9:00AM and 11:15AM) will be streaming live during their respective times each week.

For access, visit our website at fbctlh.org/Sunday.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

8:00AM Median Adult III Bible Study, Parlor
9:00AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
10:00AM Churchwide Bible Study Options
10:15AM First Step, Welcome Center
11:15AM Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary
3:00PM GriefShare, Adams 301

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23

9:30AM Homebound Visitation, Connect Center
10:30AM First Joy Choir Rehearsal, Chason 2201
6:00PM Leadership Reception, Welcome Center
6:30PM Leadership Banquet, Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

9:30AM Women's Bible Study, Gardner Home
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 Prayer and Bible Study, Fellowship Hall
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, FEBRUARY 26

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

2:00PM First Ladies' Bunco for Babies, Welcome Center

COMING SOON

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL

In today's technological age, wouldn't it be incredible to have an app designed to teach kids who God is? That is what the characters in our upcoming musical are setting out to create. But isn't knowing about God more than just reading information about Him? Come join the FBCTLH 1st-5th Grade Children's Choir as they get scanned in, play games, and sing fun songs filled with the truth about the gospel and learn how they can truly know I AM. The musical "iAM" will take place on Sunday, March 1, at 6:00PM in the sanctuary! You don't want to miss it!

YOUTH CHOIR DESSERT THEATRE

Each year, our Youth Choir presents a musical revue called Dessert Theatre. This year's show is "At the Movies" and is filled with solos, duets, ensembles, and dance numbers from movies across the generations. Please mark your calendars and join us Sunday afternoon, March 8, at 2:00PM in the CLC Gym (3rd Floor).

The purpose of the show is to allow youth to have fun performing various musical numbers and to raise money to offset the cost of their annual Mission Trip. An offering will be taken, and you should also come prepared to bid on some excellent desserts donated by our FBCTLH family!

EASTER 2015

Remember - Good Friday, April 3 // *Spend some time remembering what Jesus Christ did for you on this day. Our sanctuary is open from 11:00AM until 5:00PM, and all are welcome to drop in and stay as long as you need for a time of personal reflection. We will provide a printed guide containing scripture, devotions, and prayer. You will also have the opportunity to take the Lord's Supper.*

Last Words from the Cross - Good Friday, April 3 // *Last words are very significant. Jesus spoke seven times from the cross; each "word" bears a vital message for His followers. This Good Friday, we will meditate together on Christ's words through scripture, reflection, and song. Invite your friends and join us at 7:00PM in the sanctuary.*

Family Easter Celebration - Saturday, April 4 // *Each year on the Saturday before Easter Sunday, we encourage families to consider the true meaning of Easter in a fun environment with a variety of crafts, games, and activities. We will meet from 10:30AM until 12:00PM in the CLC Gym.*

Easter - Sunday, April 5 // *Invite your friends and family to celebrate the risen Lord during our regular worship schedule: Traditional Worship at 9:00AM, Bible Study at 10:00AM, and Contemporary Worship at 11:15AM. We will also host our college students for lunch in the fellowship hall at 12:30PM.*

SERVE

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

VBS this year will be June 15-17. We need a lot of people from our church family who are able to lead groups of children, teach Bible stories, or lead recreation. Mark your calendars now and be praying about how you can be involved! If you would like to volunteer, please contact Rhonda (rhonda@fbctlh.org or x510).

FLORIDA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

For the month of February, we will join the Children's Home in collecting **shaving cream, razors, body lotion, deodorant, and shampoo** for boys and girls. 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.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TALLAHASSEE

108 West College Avenue, Tallahassee, FL 32301
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PERIODICALS
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THE VISION NEWSLETTER

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For submissions, address corrections, or to unsubscribe, contact x132 or hello@fbctlh.org.

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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 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.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL

February 25 - Hamburger or veggie burger with all the trimmings, fries, baked beans, salad bar, and dessert

FINANCIALS

YTD budget: \$395,700
Receipts 02/15: \$32,398
YTD receipts: \$269,626

DEACON SCHEDULE

Deacon of the Day – Eris Wilson

Deacons of the Week

- 9AM Lee Vickery
- 10AM Byron Folsom
- 11AM Eric Palm

SECURITY SCHEDULE

Sunday, February 22

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

Wednesday, February 25

- 6PM Lee Vickery

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

9:00AM

BIBLE STUDY

10:00AM

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

11:15AM

Motives

Matter

Mark 12:41-44