

FIRST FOCUS

THE IMPORTANCE OF PENTECOST

Sunday is Pentecost Sunday, a celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit to believers. For Jews in the first century, the holiday occurred during the Feast of Sukkot or booths, when God gave the law in the wilderness and lit their path through a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. For Americans, this day falls each year during two other events. Children are finishing school, and we are celebrating Memorial Day. We watch students begin the next chapter while remembering those who paid the ultimate price for freedom. So let's remember why this weekend is so important to the church.

We mark this Sunday fifty days after Easter and celebrate this day for several reasons. It's the beginning of the church, the empowering of believers to bear witness to Christ's work, the sending of the church into the world, the understanding that came to people speaking languages from all the nations, and the unifying of people for a common purpose. The New Testament records two stories of Pentecost. Acts 2 describes the disciples' experience in the upstairs room with tongues of fire and a mighty wind. John 20 tells that Jesus personally appeared to the disciples and breathed on them. Both stories are important. Our hymns reflect both traditions. We need the "old time power that Pentecostal power" of Acts 2, and the "Breathe on Me" of John 20. Acts gives us power and understanding, John gives us authority and forgiveness. Acts sends revival and renewal into the world. John sends us to each other as ambassadors of peace. Peter's sermon in Acts says that Joel's prophesy will be fulfilled in these last days: sons and daughters will prophesy; old and young men will dream dreams and see visions. Jesus shows his scars to fearful disciples in John and gives them a gift that will carry them through their own times of suffering. We are led by the Holy Spirit to do God's work in the world.

The gift of the Holy Spirit did not end with first century disciples. God continues to pour out his Spirit on all people even today. Our role as the church is to continue to discern what the Spirit says, receive and use the Spirit's gifts to build up the body of Christ, pray as the Spirit communicates our needs to the Father, and trust the Spirit's guidance as it opens new doors for the gospel in our midst and across the community.

On this weekend, as we gather to worship, we remember that none of us would be here without Pentecost. The Spirit created First Baptist to do its work in Tallahassee. The Spirit fills our lives as we help students and teachers in their search for truth. The Holy Spirit comforts the hearts of those who have lost loved ones while serving our country and removes fear from anxious families of those who serve our country. While we're enjoying a hot dog, the Spirit gives us laughter, love, and rest. Look around this weekend and prepare for the Spirit to fall again. How will the Spirit lead you to love Jesus?



THIS WEEK

SENIOR ADULTS

Coming soon - all senior adults are invited to join us for a day of fun at the National Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola on Friday, May 29. We will meet at the Publix on Tharpe Street at 7:30AM, take the FBCTLH buses, and spend the day exploring the museum. The trip is free, but museum attraction are available: an IMAX movie for \$8.75, flight simulators for \$20 or \$6, and a Blue Angels 4XD Experience for \$7. We will eat on site and return that evening. Please sign up in your SMBS class or by e-mailing jordan@fbctlh.org by Tuesday, May 26, at 12:00PM.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Registration is going on now for this summer's "Everest" VBS: June 15-19, from 9:00AM until 12:00PM. Upward Basketball and Cheerleading Camp is also available for \$100 per child in the afternoons from 12:00 until 5:00PM. Vacation Bible School is FREE, and for children 4 years old through the completion of 5th grade. Registration forms are available online at fbctlh.org/vbs or in the welcome center. Volunteers are also needed. For more information, please contact Rhonda (x501 or rhonda@fbctlh.org).



Findley Edge Award Presented to Fran Buhler

Fran Buhler is the 2015 recipient of the Findley Edge Award for Leadership in Christian Education. Dr. Edge taught at Fran's alma mater—Southern Seminary in Louisville, KY, from 1947-1987 and was the Basil Manly Jr. Professor of Christian Education there. Dr. and Mrs. Edge retired to Florida where they were members of College Park Baptist Church. The Edge Award seeks to recognize an individual who embodies the passion of Dr. and Mrs. Edge for Christian education, their vision for a well-equipped and active laity, and their dedication to and love of the local church. Fran received a cash gift, a book, and a commemorative plaque. This award was given by CBF Florida at their 25th anniversary dinner, recognizing Fran's leadership in Christian education.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MAY 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
3:00PM GriefShare, Adams 301

MONDAY, MAY 25

9:30AM Homebound Visitation, Connect Center
10:30AM First Joy Choir Rehearsal, Chason 2201
5:00PM First Brass, Adams 200

TUESDAY, MAY 26

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

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 Preschool Class, Duval 1st Floor
6:00PM Elementary Music & Missions, Duval 2nd Floor
6:00PM Youth Choir Rehearsal, Adams 211
6:00PM Business Meeting and Bible Study, Sanctuary
6:00PM DivorceCare, Adams 315
6:00PM Moms Connect, Adams Basement
6:00PM Women's Bible Study, Adams 301
6:00PM VBS SafeChurch Training, Duval 209
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, MAY 28

FRIDAY, MAY 29

10:00AM GriefShare, Westminster Oaks
7:30AM Senior Adults to Pensacola

SATURDAY, MAY 30

COMING SOON

DRAMA TEAM

On Sunday, May 31, we will host a Drama Drop-In after each of the morning services to connect (or reconnect!) with those interested in drama and worship enhancement at FBCTLH. Join Drama Team co-leaders AmyLynn Harrington Smoot and Bev DeMello in the Welcome Center 2nd Floor Café following the 9:00AM service and again after the 11:15AM service. Come by, grab a snack, and visit—no acting required—and hear about the many ways to use your artistic gifts and talents in our church and in the community.

WEEKDAY FAMILY NIGHT

Please plan to join us as we kick off the summer with a Weekday Family Night on Wednesday, June 3 at 5:00PM. We'll have a cookout with ice cream in the fellowship hall with Weekday families as our guests. Following supper, the Weekday Choir and our Preschool Choir will sing during a program in the sanctuary at 6:00PM.

A FULL SUMMER

We would love for you to get involved with this June's "A Full Summer." FBCTLH is partnering with St. John's Episcopal Church to provide funds and volunteers needed to pack meals for the hungry in our area. Many children in the Big Bend community who depend on free or reduced-price school lunches during the school year do not have a reliable source of food during the summer. Meals prepared at "A Full Summer" will be distributed by Second Harvest of the Big Bend to children and families in our community.

You can participate by volunteering to pack meals during "A Full Summer" on June 6 from 10:00AM until 12:00PM at Rickards High School. Registration forms are available in your SMBS classes. You can also participate by donating money to provide the food supplies required. Checks should be made payable to First Baptist Church, with "A Full Summer" in the memo line. For more information, please contact Becky Liner (beckyliner@comcast.net).

VBS FAMILY NIGHT

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for a churchwide Vacation Bible School Family Night - Friday, June 19. The entire FBCTLH family is invited to join those who participated in VBS for an evening of sharing and fellowship, with a recap of the week's events. There will be an Upward Camp presentation in the CLC gym at 4:00PM, dinner at 4:45PM in the fellowship Hall, and a program at 6:00PM in the sanctuary.

SERVE

FLORIDA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

For the month of May, we will join the Children's Home in collecting paper napkins, paper plates, aluminum foil, and Saran Wrap. 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. 21 | issue no. 20 | week of May 17, 2015

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID
TALLAHASSEE
FLORIDA

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 lenoir@fbctlh.org. All other requests are \$5, and can be made at the front desk or online at fbctlh.org/contact.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL

May 27 - Chicken tetrazzini, green beans, spiced apples, rolls, salad bar, and dessert

FINANCIALS

YTD budget: \$1,130,572
Receipts 05/17: \$36,684
YTD receipts: \$977,595
Mother's Day Offering YTD: \$6,736

DEACON SCHEDULE

Deacon of the Day – Gerald Culbreth

Deacons of the Week

- 9AM Daryle Gray
- 10AM Wayne Tedder
- 11AM Ryan Stokes

SECURITY SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 24

- 8AM Lorne Shackelford
- 10AM Brent Daniel
- 11AM Eric Palm

Wednesday, May 27

- 6PM Jim English

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

9:00AM

BIBLE STUDY

10:00AM

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

11:15AM

LOVING JESUS TO THE END

1 John 4:7-21