

# FIRST FOCUS

## **WHY BELIEVE?**

The foundation of our faith is Jesus Christ. Like a house building our lives on the solid rock, our lives need a good frame, solid construction, and the furnishings of a Christian. The architecture of such a life is framed by the beliefs of a Christ follower. These doctrines give us the footholds and supports we need as we live to glorify Jesus. On Sunday mornings during our Think, Act, Be series, I'll be teaching through what and how we believe. On Wednesday nights at 6:00 p.m., I'll teach about why we believe. Building on the discussion we had last spring, we'll take up several key areas of the Christian life that have been passed down from generation to generation. We'll study the motives, intents, and purposes for our Baptist Christian beliefs and see how they affect our decisions as disciples of Jesus Christ. Join us for this Bible study series in the sanctuary each week.

### September 2- Why Believe?

Thinking and believing are a part of life. We believe because we need a plot to tell the story of life. When the cultures around us are shaky, belief in Jesus Christ shapes everything we do and the story God is writing in our lives.

### September 9- Why does God exist as Trinity?

Christians believe that God exists in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This community is reflected in our relationship with him and each other.

### September 16- Why am I here?

Because created us, we embody his image in the world and reflect his glory.

### September 23- Why does the Bible matter?

The Bible is the transcript of God's work in the world. Where science attempts to tell us how the world works, the Bible tells us who we are, why the world works the way it does, and where we're headed.

### September 30- Why is Jesus Lord?

Among all the religions in the world, Jesus claims to be Lord of all. Christians share this message with those who worship other gods and with atheists who say there is no god.

### October 7- Why does evil exist?

Faith needs to leave room for mystery, and one of the many mysteries of faith is the presence of evil.

### October 14- Why does marriage matter?

In our affirmations of what marriage, we also need to discuss why marriage matters so much to us today. In a culture of eroticism, agape triumphs. Christians confess a morality as old as the dawn of time and renewed every day as we engage other cultures in our world.

### October 21- Why do I need the Church?

There are no private Christians. We are a part of a larger church body where we confess our faith, hold each other accountable and create an alternative culture. We don't know who we are until we become a part of the church; and we join a large community of people seeking to follow Jesus.

### October 28- Business meeting

### November 4- Why are there so many different Christian denominations?

We are part of a larger group of denominations. What happened to create all these differences, and what do we need from each other?

### November 11- Why do Heaven and Hell exist?

In the end, Jesus returns and unveils a new heaven and a new earth. What's going to happen at the end, why do we need heaven and hell, and why does all this matter today?



# THIS WEEK

## SUMMER SUNDAY NIGHT SING

Sunday evening, August 30, at 6:00 pm, the FBCTLH Music Ministry is proud to present the 6th annual Summer Sunday Night Sing with our own FBC Chordsmen, Murray Cooper, Byron Folsom, Chris Green, and Don Thompson. This year, the Chordsmen are very proud to feature several of your favorite FBC solo artists in concert: Omar Allen, LeAnn Sbordone, Amy Parker, Mark Milner, Jackson Green, and yes, Pastor Bill Shiell! This lively evening of southern gospel music will have your spirit lifting, your toes tapping and your heart dancing. Invite your friends and neighbors and arrive early for good seats! Childcare will be provided.

## COLLEGE STUDENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS

As contemporary cultural norms continue to drift further from traditional biblical standards, today's Christians must be able to apply robust theology to the unique challenges of our culture. On the first Wednesday of each month, college students and young adults are invited to gather for a time of dinner and discussion as we explore the intersection of theology and culture. We will begin this series by looking at the perceived conflict between science and religion. Can you hold the Bible as God's written revelation while still accepting the results of modern scientific inquiry? Bring your questions and be ready for a great discussion...and the chance to win some free stuff, too. Dinner is served at 7:30 in the fellowship hall, and the discussion begins at 8:00. For more info and upcoming topics, go to [fbctlh.org/events/theology-culture-science](http://fbctlh.org/events/theology-culture-science).

## COLLEGE STUDENTS

Join us for some community building events over the next several Fridays. Get to know some new friends in the College Ministry & make some fun memories!

Our Friday Parks & Recreation series:

**8/28:** Madison Blue Springs State Park (bring your bathing suit, towel, clothes & money for dinner...we'll leave from the FSU BCM at 4pm)

**9/4:** Wakulla Springs State Park (bring your bathing suit, towel, clothes & money for dinner...we'll leave from the FSU BCM at 4pm)

**9/11:** Aggressive Dinner (bring your appetite & knowledge of random trivia in this battle of guys versus girls...meet at the FSU BCM at 7pm)

**9/18:** FSU vs Boston College watch party (join us at the Ragans' house to eat wings & watch the Seminoles put a hurting on the Eagles)

**9/25:** Sportsfest at Tom Brown Park (a conglomeration of games will be played & then we'll head to dinner afterwards)

We hope you will join us for these exciting events! For more information, contact Zach Allen ([zach@fbctlh.org](mailto:zach@fbctlh.org)).

## CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

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

### MONDAY, AUGUST 31

9:30AM Homebound Visitation, Connect Center

10:30AM First Joy Choir Rehearsal, Chason 2201

5:00PM First Brass, Adams 200

6:00PM Bells of Praise, Adams 211

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

4:45PM Fellowship Meal, Fellowship Hall

6:00PM Childcare, Duval 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

6:00PM Preschool Class, Duval 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

6:00PM Elementary Music & Missions, Duval 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

6:00PM Youth Collide, CLC 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

6:00PM Adult Bible Study, Sanctuary

6:00PM Moms Connect, Adams Basement

6:00PM Women's Bible Study, Adams 301

7:00PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Chason 2201

7:00PM Chamber Players Rehearsal, Adams 200

7:15PM Praise Team Rehearsal, Sanctuary

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

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# COMING SOON

## **WEEK OF PRAYER/2015 MAGUIRE STATE MISSION OFFERING**

September 6 - 12 is the Week of Prayer for Florida Missions, and an opportunity to contribute to mission work in Florida. Offering envelopes will be available in the Connect Center. On September 8, all ladies of the church are invited to join WOM groups in the church parlor at 9 am for a time of fellowship, followed by a program in the chapel at 10 am.

## **WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

Begins September 9th – Believing God: A Fresh Explosion of Faith, by Beth Moore. Do you just believe IN God or do you believe God? This 10-week study, based on Isaiah 43:10, explores what it means to believe God. Looking at the lives of Abraham, Moses, and others from Hebrews 11 as examples of persons who believed God, Beth encourages women to deepen their own trust in God and receive a fresh word from Him. The study takes place on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. and is led by Patsy Faircloth at the home of Betty Gardner. All women of all ages are welcome! Participant books are \$15.00. Registration will take place at the first session. Questions? Contact Patsy Faircloth at [ptfaircloth1946@comcast.net](mailto:ptfaircloth1946@comcast.net).

## **GRIEFSHARE**

Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend. This is a thirteen week series that incorporates the use of a facilitator, video, discussion and a workbook. Join us starting Sunday, September 13 from 3:00-4:30PM for our Fall series. Contact Lindsey ([lindsey@fbctlh.org](mailto:lindsey@fbctlh.org)) for more information.

## **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, September 16, in Adams 315 from 6:00-7:30PM. Contact Lindsey ([lindsey@fbctlh.org](mailto:lindsey@fbctlh.org)) for more information.

## **OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN CHOIR**

Our Sanctuary Choir is open to all adults, college-age through senior adults, and meets on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30 pm in C-2201. This active choir performs a wide variety of challenging and inspiring music and leads our congregation in worship most every Sunday at the 9:00 traditional service. We are gearing up to kick off the fall with special music on August 23 to welcome our college students back, and on September 13 to launch the Think, Act, Be series. Then on Wednesday, September 16, we will introduce and sing through our Christmas Musical program (to be presented December 13). We invite you to join the Sanctuary Choir just for Christmas, or for all year round. For more information, contact Penny ([penny@fbctlh.org](mailto:penny@fbctlh.org)) or Lenoir ([lbrewer@fbctlh.org](mailto:lbrewer@fbctlh.org)).

If you are retired or semi-retired, First Joy Choir may be the right fit for you. We meet on Monday mornings, 10:30-12:00 in C-2201, and spend our time enjoying snacks, planning activities, having a time of prayer and devotion, and of course, singing our hearts out! We are primarily an outreach choir, enjoying monthly "sing-outs" in various locations around the Big Bend, including Assisted Living and Retirement Facilities. We are planning to be a performing choir at The Celebrating Grace National *Inspire!* Choral Festival in Jacksonville next April 14-16. We need to take 50 singers, so now is a good time to get involved and learn the music with us!

## **BECOME A FOSTER PARENT**

Is God calling you to be a foster parent to one of the hundreds of children in need of foster homes in Florida? Are you ready to show God's love to these children? Florida Baptist Children's Homes has an opportunity for you! Start by joining us for an orientation. For more information contact Jennifer at [Jennifer.Register@FBCHomes.org](mailto:Jennifer.Register@FBCHomes.org) or call (850)878-1458

**SERVE**

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

For the month of September, we will join the Children's Home in providing boxed tissues, hand sanitizer, 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.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TALLAHASSEE

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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](mailto:hello@fbctlh.org).

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

September 2 - chicken tetrazzini, steamed broccoli, spiced apples, rolls, salad bar, dessert

**FINANCIALS**

YTD budget: 1,865,444  
Budget Receipts On 8/23/15: \$43,310  
YTD receipts: \$1,625,050

**DEACON SCHEDULE**

Deacon of the Day – John Schanbacher

Deacons of the Week

- 9AM Bob Snyder
- 10AM Steve Williams
- 11AM Charles Silcox

**SECURITY SCHEDULE**

Sunday, August 30

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

Wednesday, September 2

- 6PM Lee Vickery

**TRADITIONAL WORSHIP**

9:00AM

**BIBLE STUDY**

10:00AM

**CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP**

11:15AM

A VISION  
WITH  
JESUS

2 Peter 1:16-20