

FIRST FOCUS

PRAISE GOD

Praise the Lord for his abundant blessings in 2015. After I wrote to you in November, you as a church family stepped up your financial support to the budget and Thanksgiving offering. Our staff reduced spending, and we were able to finish last year in great financial shape.

Let me share a few details with you. Our Thanksgiving Offering totaled over \$207,000, and our December giving to the budget exceeded 2014's December giving. Our budget receipts totaled just over \$22,000 below budget expenses. That's quite a difference from where we were in November. Because of your giving, we only needed approximately \$22,000 from the Thanksgiving offering to cover our budget shortfall.

As promised, because we did not need to use most of the Thanksgiving offering for the budget, we will use the remainder to pay down our line of credit. We borrowed money for the sound system and the Duval Air Conditioning project, and we will use the remainder of the offering to reduce debt. By being good stewards of God's resources, we will save future interest payments and be prepared for the next maintenance project that comes our way.

There's even more good news. You will recall that we changed the name of the CLC's "Priority Wellness" program to "Downtown Fitness" to appeal to the downtown business and residential neighbors. CLC income increased more than 30% in 2015 under the leadership of Josh Hall, Dianne Butts, Lindsey Sheets, and our Downtown Fitness team. Our Weekday and Food Service ministries also had another excellent year.

By ending 2015 with no deficit and resources on hand, you once again demonstrated how generous you are as a congregation. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Come to business meeting on Wednesday night, January 27, for a full report of all of these good things.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

SPECIAL CALLED BUSINESS MEETING

We will have a special business meeting in anticipation of the calling of a new children's minister in both services on Sunday, January 31.

DESSERT THEATRE, JANUARY 22-24 2016

Dessert Theatre will be performed THIS weekend (January 22-24)! Performances will include Disney songs from Mary Poppins, High School Musical and Frozen! There will be 4 performances: Friday evening at 7:00 pm, Saturday evening at 7:00 pm, Sunday Matinée at 2:00 pm and Sunday evening at 6:00 pm.

Our shows are sold out and we thank you for your amazing response to this show. Your support of these youth is remarkable!

GRIEF SHARE

Grief Share meets Sundays at 3:00PM in the Conference Room. This class is for those who want or need help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend.

Grief Share is a thirteen week series that incorporates the use of a facilitator, video, discussion and a workbook. For more information contact Jackie Perrin at (850) 893-4655 or via email at jacquebp@aol.com.

PRAYER GUIDE

If you would like any prayers requests, or changes, in The Prayer Guide, please visit <http://fbctlh.org/i-need-prayer>. After February 1, you may also make these requests by contacting Joy Stein at joy@fbctlh.org or x131. Thank you!

NEW SERIES: "Questions Children Ask"

Beginning January 6, Dr. Shiell will begin preaching a new series from Exodus titled, "Questions Children Ask." The book of Exodus hinges on a question in Exodus 10:2 and 12:26. Children and grandchildren ask, "What do these things mean?" Exodus is written to people who wonder and worry if their grandchildren will share their faith—or have any faith at all.

As we seek to build strong homes as a church, Exodus teaches how to explain God's power and deliverance so that future generations will know and believe in the living God. Join us on Wednesday nights as we study God's work in Exodus and learn to share our faith across the generations.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

8:00AM Median Adult III Bible Study, Parlor
9:00AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
10:00AM Church-wide Bible Study Options
11:15AM Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary
2:00PM Dessert Theatre Matinée, CLC
3:00PM Grief Share, Conference Room
6:00PM Dessert Theatre evening performance, CLC

MONDAY, JANUARY 25

9:30AM Homebound Visitation, Conference Room
10:30AM First Joy, C-2201
5:00PM First Brass, A-200 Choir Room
6:00PM Bells of Praise, Adams 211
6:00PM Deacon's Meeting, Sanctuary

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

7:30AM Children's Week Kiwanis Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
9:30AM Knitting Ministry, C-2201
6:00PM Childcare for Internationals, D-209
6:30PM Internationals English Classes, Adams 211
7:00PM Capital Bells, Adams 211

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

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 Business Meeting, Sanctuary
6:00PM Mom's Connect, Adams Basement, Room 1, 2, 3
6:30PM Praise Team Singers, C-2203
7:00PM Youth Collide, CLC Quad
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, JANUARY 28

9:00AM Childcare for Internationals, D-209
9:00AM International English Classes, C2201

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

9:00AM CLC Open
7:00PM Dessert Theatre, CLC-QUAD

COMING SOON

CONNECTIONS WEEKEND

We hope you are able to join us for 2016's Connections Weekend. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Chapman "Chap" Clark, the professor and chair of the Youth, Family, and Culture Department in the School of Theology at Fuller Theological Seminary. Mark your calendars for February 5-7 for a weekend of main sessions and breakouts on strengthening your connection with GOD and others.

Register now, online or in person. Visit fbctlh.org/connections for more information.

Breakout Sessions for Connections Weekend

- what I wish my parents knew
- what I wish my teen knew
- exploring vocational ministry
- communication in relationships
- dating and waiting
- strengthening your marriage
- adoption and foster care
- how to dad
- family Bible study and prayer
- family mission projects
- local resources for parents
- racial reconciliation with families
- help for families in crisis
- dealing with divorce
- ministry with an empty nest
- parenting your grandkids
- parenting your parents
- intergenerational connections
- aging with grace
- dealing with grief
- personal financial planning
- how to share your faith
- help for victims of human trafficking

WMU/WOM FEBRUARY MISSION PROJECT

On Tuesday, February 9, from 9:30AM – 11:00AM WMU/WOM will meet at the Library of Florida Baptists Children's Home (8415 Buck Lake Road) to make Valentine goodie bags for residents and hear an update from an FBCTLH staff member. All supplies will be furnished for the bags.

If you would like to ride the church bus, call Linda Wheeler at (850) 877-4839. Call Beckie Maynard at (850) 539-5079 if you need additional information.

DEATH AND BIRTH NOTICES

As part of the new strategic plan, we will begin notifying the congregation of the death of church members and the birth of babies with their family's permission. If you would like to subscribe to this email newsletter, please visit <http://fbctlh.org/i-need-prayer/> to sign up. We'll continue to communicate to family members and extended family by the prayer list and through SMBS classes and other normal channels of communication.

Members and friends of First Baptist may call the information into the church and may distribute info to their SMBS groups and email lists. However, only members of immediate family have permission to ask the church to send out church-wide death or birth notices.

SERVE

FLORIDA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

For the month of February, we will join the Children's Home in providing paper goods such as toilet paper, boxed tissues, and paper towels. 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.

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
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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.

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 hello@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

January 27 - Meatloaf, scalloped potatoes, green beans, salad bar, rolls, dessert

Kid's Corner – hot dog or hamburger

FINANCIALS

YTD budget: \$107,970

Receipts: \$58,304

YTD receipts: \$108,697

2015 YTD Winter Mission Offering: \$23,472.50

DEACON SCHEDULE

Deacon of the Day – Howard Rhodes

Deacons of the Week

- 9AM Charles Silcox
- 10AM Lee Scarboro
- 11AM Zack Summerlin

SECURITY SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 24

- 8AM Tim Barry
- 10AM Lyle Ragans
- 11AM Erik Eikeland

Wednesday, January 27

- 6PM Charles Maynard

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

9:00AM

BIBLE STUDY

10:00AM

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

11:15AM

CONDUCT
YOURSELF
GENTLY
AND
REVERENTLY

1 Peter 4:12-19