

the CrossRoads

Preparing the Way...Continuing the Commitment

The Mardi Gras jubilee celebration is over, and now I face the days leading up to our Savior's ultimate sacrifice. Moreover, I recently participated in the Ash Wednesday service, and I made my annual ceremonial "sacrifice" commitment for Lent.

Sacrifice...do I really understand this word? I look at the evening news tonight, and I am reminded once again that a brave soldier has given the ultimate sacrifice for his Country. I call my mother and I catch up on her work day and on what she and my niece have planned for the evening. Upon ending the call, I marvel at how my mother's life has changed completely over the last three years. A loved one was taken away much too early on April 5, 2005, and yet my mother has found a new life in providing love and stability to a teenager. I remember another time three years ago when Jenny Smith, Larry FitzGerald, Marvin McConaghy, Ricky Strickland, Don Yates, Ann Yates, Eljee Bentley, Jimmy Kelley, Chuck Green, Ronald Williams, and Terri Sherrer gave the gift of time and love to Polly Wells during Polly's last year. Polly Wells was one of the original "Walkers." I remember Polly as a strong lady with a very big heart. Even when Polly broke her hip and when we were all gathered at Baptist Montclair to comfort and protect her, Polly never complained. Polly kept on thanking everybody for their concern and for being there for her.

This past Sunday morning, I hugged my former neighbor, Winifred Bryant, and I stepped back to see someone who had the courage to stand up and be counted in 1970 while sitting back in the status quo would have been so much easier. I also saw the hurt and the pain in Winifred's eyes due to the recent loss of her granddaughter. Yet, I see that same courage every Sunday morning as Winifred brings her great grandsons to a loving church. Likewise, I look around at the original "Walkers," and I realize that they gave up the comforts of routine and the "known" for a journey of faith. They joyfully share this journey with us. I passed by Linda Martin in the hallway along with her wonderful children that she claims for herself and for Covenant. Lastly, I have the privilege of teaching the Dialogue Sunday School class in which both Walter and Gloria Furman attend. These two charter members of the church and of the Dialogue Sunday School class encourage all of us with their faithful service and with their words of wisdom. This past Sunday was no exception as Walter and Gloria shared stories of Bill and Marie Rogers and also passed around an early 1970's church directory with pictures of several of our original members.

These are the true "Walkers." These "Walkers" demonstrate how to sacrifice with unconditional, unselfish love. I am very humbled to be associated with Baptist Church of the Covenant and I am very excited that with the new property, along with the existing property, we are in a better position to increase the ministries of the church. As I look to fulfill my pledge for the Cat Haven Capital campaign, I imagine myself walking with the walkers of yesteryear. I imagine walking with Judge and Angie Grooms, Bill and Marie Rogers. I also remember walking reverently with Roy Lambert, Polly Wells and Francisco Marquez. I continue to walk lovingly with Bart and Linda Grooms, Mary Hines, and Mary Ann Kirkpatrick. With great anticipation, I look forward to walking (and maybe even running) with Alan, Valerie, Carter and a new addition to the family very soon.

Walking with you, the committed,

Dennis Day

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**Baptist Church of the
Covenant**
Where Faith Comes
to Life



Capital Campaign Update

In the Spring of 2007, Baptist Church of the Covenant purchased property on our block. It has affectionately been named "The Cat Haven Property." Wanting to be responsible for the debt we incurred at the bank in order to purchase the property, a Capital Campaign was launched in January of 2008. The Capital Campaign goal was \$400,000. After many testimonies, prayer, and reflection, the congregation of Baptist Church of the Covenant has exceeded expectations once again! As of February 11, pledges in the amount of \$415,054.40 have been made. This represents 177 individuals with 126 pledge cards turned in. \$58,717.16 has already been received. Thank you for your generous giving and commitment to Baptist Church of the Covenant.

School for Christian Living

The School for Christian Living will take place on Sunday evenings February 24, March 2 and March 9, from 5:00-7:30. The options for adults are (1) "Invitation to a Journey" (on spirituality), taught by Dr. Norfleete Day of Beeson Divinity School, (2) "Parenting with Pleasure", led by Dr. Kristie Chandler of Samford's Family Studies Department, and (3) "Faith and Politics", led by different individuals each night - Danny Jones of Alabama Arise, Dr. William Collins of Samford's Political Science Department, and Brent Walker of the Baptist Joint Committee in Washington D.C. The youth will be looking at "Navigating the Deep Channels of Relationships" with the help of Anna Stanley, a licensed counselor. The children will be learning about service to the church, to family, to God and to others with the help of Brittany Krebs and other volunteers. **We ask everyone to sign up for the classes and for meals in order to help us prepare.** The sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall. Further details on each of the classes are on yellow flyers found in the sanctuary lobby and the church office and the front foyer. All adult classes will be taped for those who would like to get CD's when the School is over.

Caffe C - THURSDAY, MARCH 6 Doors Open at 6:30 PM: Show at 7:00 PM.

Tickets \$15 at the door.

For reservations, call Todd Heifner at 425-8985.

Ellis Paul in Concert at Caffe C in the fellowship hall at Baptist Church of the Covenant. Ellis Paul is a critically-acclaimed singer, songwriter, poet, and troubadour originally from northern Maine. He is the recipient of thirteen Boston Music Awards. *USA Today's* national feature on Ellis was titled "Best Bet For Stardom" which has come true after years of non-stop touring. Ellis has averaged 150 shows a year and regularly travels across America and Europe.

Opening for Ellis Paul is German-born Antje Duvokot. This year, Antje won the "Best New Folk Award" at the world-renowned Kerrville Folk Festival. Former Rolling Stone music editor Dave Marsh says about Antje that she is a "terrific writer and singer, with the instincts to do things right, over and over and over."

Come support Caffe C at Covenant and these two world-class artists.



ALABAMA ARISE

Lobby Day

Alabama Arise, the organization that lobbies for just laws in Alabama legislature, is having a Lobby Day on February 28. People are invited to join others in Montgomery on that day to meet with legislators to encourage them to pass just laws that benefit those most in need in our state. Registration is at 9:30, followed by a briefing at 10:00 when Alabama Arise will make participants aware of forthcoming issues and bills. From 11:30 to 1:00, there is a reception in which participants can meet and talk with legislators. If you are interested in going, or want more information, you may contact Alabama Arise at 1-800-832-9060.

Alliance Convocation

The annual Alliance of Baptists convocation will be March 28-30 in New Orleans this year. The theme is "Called to Create: The Communion of Art and Faith." Prior to the convocation itself, there will be days to help rebuild in New Orleans. During the meeting, there will be worship and workshops. Some of the workshops being offered are on discernment in the church, spirituality, team leadership, and others. For more information about the convocation or to register, pick up one of the brochures in the magazine rack next to the elevator on the first floor, or go to www.allianceofbaptists.org or call the Alliance office at 202-745-7609.

Ministry Emphasis

During February, we will have a ministry emphasis at BCOC. The purpose of this is to educate church members about our ministries and to encourage persons to find a ministry here to be involved with if they have not already. On Wednesday evenings, we will hear testimonies from those involved in some of our ministries. We will have a ministries "fair" on Sunday, Feb. 24, at which leaders of our current ministries will be available to answer questions or to sign you up to help. We are asking our Sunday School teachers to engage their class members in some discussion about ministries they would like to do. (to be provided) And on March 2, we will have a "Ministry Pledge Day," asking members to commit to participating in at least one ministry of our church this year. We hope you will participate in this emphasis and consider seriously how you will serve others through BCOC this year.



FINANCIAL REPORTS

Week of February 3		Week of February 10	
Budget	\$16,732.74	Budget	\$9,355.75
Bldg/Property	\$14,998.00	Building/Property	\$4,286.87
Bldg/Property		Gardner Fund (Zachariah)	200.00
Children's Banks	117.16	Gardner Fund (Jadita)	20.00
Rogers Fund	733.00	Garumtoney Orphanage	80.00
Gardner Mission Fund	600.00	Rogers Fund	21.04



At Home

Margaret Ward
Bryce Sandlin
Bill Stonecypher
Tracie Wade

Physicians

Medical Center Carraway
Linda Scott

Rehabilitation and Healthcare
Jerry Martin
2728 South 10th Avenue, 35205

Hong Kong



February

18-Bob Litton	25-Valerie Burton
20-Sarah Kay Lowman	26-David Litton
21-Allison Hawley	Linda Martin
22-Lori Bateman	Mark Cobb
23-Pat Hawley	Allan Burton
Cindy Jones	27-Cathy Kelly
24-Carly Glidewell	28-John Henson
25-Dan Johnson	

March

1-Morgan Ponder



Rod Davis received the
2008 George Macon Memorial Award
for excellence in teaching
at Samford University.

Easter Lilies



Place your Easter Lily order by completing the form on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall and enclosing it along with your check in the envelope provided. All orders must be received in the church office by Sunday, March 9th. The Easter Lilies provide a wonderful way to honor and remember your loved ones while beautifully adorning our sanctuary on Easter morning.

Wednesday Nights at BCOC

Fellowship Supper for all begins at 5:30 p.m.

Children's Programming

6:00 p.m.

Music

4 year olds/kindergarten - Room 203 - Brittany Krebs

Mission Friends

1st/3rd grade - Room 205-

Nancy Yarbrough & Cindy Ponder

4th/6th grade - Room 204 -

Robin Geurs & Lori Bateman

6:25 p.m.

Music

1st grade/6th grade - Room 203 - Brittany Krebs

Mission Friends

4 year olds/kindergarten - Room 212 - Lori White

Youth Programming

6:15 p.m.

7th/12th grade - Room 210 - Melissa Evans

Adult Programming

6:15 p.m.

February 13 - March 19

Sarah Shelton - Bible Study

"The Seven Last Words from the Cross"

Easter Sunday Shoe Collection for Alabama Foster Homes and Sowing Seeds of Hope March 23rd

Please join Alabama CBF and area churches in collecting 6,000 pairs of shoes for Alabama's foster home children and Sowing Seeds of Hope. The shoes may be new or gently used and must be tied with a blue ribbon for boys and pink ribbon for girls. The collection box will be in the Fellowship Hall. You may drop off your shoes March 9th-16th if you are unable to be with us on Easter Sunday.



Help Wanted!!

Do you want to play in "God's Big Backyard?" See Brittany Krebs if you want to help teach in a place where "kids have a blast serving Jesus" during School for Christian Living February 24, March 2, and March 9. You can contact Brittany at (859) 583-9867 or bmstillw@samford.edu.

Week of February 17

Deacon of the Week: Mark Driskill 836-9159

Sunday, February 17

VSP Pickup - Becky Belcher
 9:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
 Lobby Monitor - Rick Mitchell
 Ushers - Kelly Mitchell, David Young
 Greeters - Elaine Peterson, Susan Richardson
 Offering - Bill Bennett, Sara Hoover
 Preschool - Janet Goodwin
 Offering Counters - TBA
 10:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Coffee Fellowship - Monty Hogewood
 10:30 a.m. - Sunday School
 Preschool 1 & 2 - Linda Martin, Marsha Henderson
 Preschool 3 - Julie Burge, Eleanor Traylor
 Preschool 4 - Denise Gardner, Kit Heifner
 VSP - Marvin McConaghy, Ricky Stricklin
 Sack Lunches - Dialogue
 Building Lockup - David Young
 11:30 a.m. - JIF
 12:00 noon - Finance Subcommittee
 1:00 p.m. - COM
 1:30 p.m. - Music Search Committee
 6:00 p.m. - Hispanic Bible Missionary Church

Monday, February 18

12:00 noon - Overeaters Anonymous
 7:00 p.m. - Internationals

Tuesday, February 19

1:00 p.m. - Staff Meeting
 6:30 p.m. - Exchange Club Parenting Class

Wednesday, February 20

12:00 noon - Overeaters Anonymous
 5:30 p.m. - Fellowship Supper
 Menu: Char-Grilled Pork Tenders, Roasted New Potatoes, Yellow Corn, Green Bean Casserole, Cole Slaw, Rolls, Lemon Pie
 Clean Up: Betty Bock, Sharon Chappell, Carol Dean, John Hollis
 6:00 p.m. - Children - Music (4 yr olds-K) Missions (1st-6th grade)
 6:15 p.m. - Youth Program
 6:25 p.m. - Children - Music (1st-6th grade) Missions (4 yr olds-K)
 6:30 p.m. - Lenten Bible Study, Sarah Shelton
 7:15 p.m. - Covenant Choir Rehearsal
 Choir Lockup: Joe Dixon

Saturday, February 23

9:30 a.m. - Saturday Morning Grocery Ministry: Ellen Dossett

Week of February 24

Deacon of the Week: Paula Heifner 205/980-2237

Sunday, February 24

VSP Pickup - Ellen Dossett
 9:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
 Lobby Monitor - Walker Grooms
 Ushers - Shirley Brymer, Marie McKinley
 Greeters - Janet Goodwin, Carol Johnson
 Offering - William Lovechia, Mary Oswald
 Preschool - Connie McCrory
 Offering Counters - TBA
 10:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Coffee Fellowship - George Crear
 10:30 a.m. - Sunday School
 Preschool 1 & 2 - Linda Martin, Marsha Henderson
 Preschool 3 - Julie Burge, Eleanor Traylor
 Preschool 4 - Denise Gardner, Kit Heifner
 VSP - Marvin McConaghy, Ricky Stricklin
 Sack Lunches - Pathways
 Building Lockup - David Young
 1:30 p.m. - Music Search Committee
 5:00 p.m. - School for Christian Living
 6:00 p.m. - Hispanic Bible Missionary Church

Monday, February 25

12:00 noon - Overeaters Anonymous
 7:00 p.m. - Internationals

Tuesday, February 26

10:00 a.m. - Senior Saunterings - Business Meeting followed by lunch at the Bright Star
 1:00 p.m. - Staff Meeting
 6:30 p.m. - Exchange Club Parenting Class

Wednesday, February 27

12:00 noon - Overeaters Anonymous
 5:30 p.m. - Fellowship Supper
 Menu: Fried Chicken, Green Beans, Yellow Corn, Potato Salad, Cookies and Brownies
 Clean Up: Joe Dixon, Ellen Dossett, Eleanor Traylor, Rick Traylor
 6:00 p.m. - Children - Music (4 yr olds-K) Missions (1st-6th grade)
 6:15 p.m. - Youth Program
 6:25 p.m. - Children - Music (1st-6th grade) Missions (4 yr olds-K)
 6:30 p.m. - Lenten Bible Study, Sarah Shelton
 7:15 p.m. - Covenant Choir Rehearsal
 Choir Lockup: Patrick Chappell

Saturday, March 1

9:30 a.m. - Saturday Morning Grocery Ministry: David Groom



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