

the CrossRoads

Right Under Our Noses

The Staff Committee has been diligent in its duties to find just the right individual to call for the new staff position, the Minister of Preschoolers, Children and Youth. This part-time position has the responsibility for the planning and implementation of the educational programs and calendar events of those eighteen years and younger. The Committee contacted the placement offices of Birmingham's local universities and asked church members to spread the news that we were looking. As resumes were received, one stood out from all the rest. We were amazed that this candidate was right here under our very noses! After an excellent interview, prayer and conversation, the Committee is ready to present to the church the name of Valerie Burton.

Valerie is a graduate of the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond and Belmont University of Nashville. She was ordained to the ministry by the First Baptist Church of Ashland, Virginia where she served as Minister of Youth from 1997 – 2001. Valerie has served as an Interim Minister to College Students at Brookwood Baptist Church in Birmingham. Since 2003, she has been the Regional Coordinator for the Initiative for Ministerial Excellence of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and she has served as the Emerge Coordinator of the Center for Congregational Health since 2007. Valerie is married to Allan. They are the proud parents of Carter and soon to arrive Baby Boy Burton.

While we know Valerie on a personal basis, she has asked (and rightly so) that we realize the difference in calling her to be a member of our professional ministry team. Therefore, there are several opportunities listed below for church members to meet Valerie and ask her questions regarding this new area of focus for our church. We hope that you will make it a priority to come, listen, ask, and pray. The vote to call Valerie will be on Wednesday night, March 26, 2008. Should it be the desire of the church to call Valerie Burton as the Minister of Preschoolers, Children and Youth, she will begin mid-April. The particulars of her salary package will be presented at the business meeting.

March 16, 2008

- 11:30 a.m. Questions and Answers with Deacons
- 12:30 p.m. Questions and Answers with Council on Mission
- 6:30 p.m. Dessert Party for parents; older children; youth; teachers of preschoolers, children & youth; the Education Committee; and other church members who would like to be a part of the informal question and answer time, as well as fellowship.

March 18, 2008

- 10:30 a.m. Interview with John Duke
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch with Sarah Shelton
- 1:00 p.m. Meeting with the church staff

March 25, 2008

- 6:30 p.m. Church-wide business meeting

With appreciation for the opportunity to serve you, we are sincerely yours,

Joyce Mitchell, chair
Jean Thomason
Kathy Grissom

Bart Grooms
Randall Richardson
Matt Ponder

Connie Hogewood
Ellen Dossett
Mark Foster

March 13, 2008
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Baptist Church of the Covenant

2117 University Boulevard
Birmingham, AL
35233-3188

PHONE 205-328-0644
FAX 205-328-6060
www.bcoc.net



*The Reverend Sarah
Jackson Shelton*
Pastor
sjshelton@bcoc.net

The Reverend John Duke
Minister of Education & Ministries
jduke@bcoc.net

Dr. Milburn Price
Interim Minister of Music
smpriec@samford.edu

Mr. Mark David Jackson
Interim Organist
markdavidjackson@hotmail.com

Mrs. Susan Palmer
Office Administrator
shpalmer@bcoc.net

Mrs. Ann Morris
Assistant Office Administrator
ammorris@bcoc.net

Mr. James W. Hawley
Facilities Manager
jwhawley@bcoc.net

Miss Melissa Evans
Youth Activities Director
maevans00@hotmail.com

Mrs. Brittany Krebs
Children's Music Director
bmstillw@samford.edu

Mrs. Ellen Patterson
Interim for Pastoral Ministry
etpatte@leamlink.emory.edu



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



**HOLY
WEEK
SERVICES**

Sunday, March 16

- 9:00 a.m. Worship with palm processional
New Member Presentation
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday, March 19

- 5:30 p.m. Fellowship Supper
- 6:30 p.m. Worship in the sanctuary:
"The Last Word from the Cross"
Children and adults will have
choir rehearsal.

Sunday, March 23

- 9:00 a.m. Easter Celebration
Bring flowers from your yard
to adorn the cross.
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School

PASSPORTkids Camp

It is time to make plans for our children's camp this summer. Our children will be going to the PASSPORTkids camp on July 24-27 at Pensacola. This is for children who will have completed third to sixth grades by this summer. The total cost for the camp is \$225 per child. We hope to have a fundraiser to try to reduce the costs for parents in the late spring. We need to go ahead and let PASSPORT know about our specific numbers going to camp. Anyone who would like for their child, grandchild, or other special child in the third to sixth grades to go to this camp this summer needs to get a \$60 deposit in to the church office by the end of March. (Should you find that your child can't go, and you let us know before May 1 - a deadline set by PASSPORT - you can get your deposit back. After May 1, you would forfeit your deposit). This has always been a camp our children have enjoyed. If you have any questions about this, please contact John Duke.

"Save the Date"
Alabama CBF Spring Meeting
Saturday, May 3rd
Columbiana 4-H Center
"Let All Creation Sing:
Environmental Responsibility
and the Local Church"
10:00am-3:30pm

See the poster on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for more information.

CROP Walk Coming

The annual CROP Walk (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) is coming on Sunday, April 13, at 2:30 p.m. Participants in the event walk for 5K (just over 3 miles) to raise money for world hunger causes. 25% of the funds will go to Greater Birmingham Ministries. The rest goes to Church World Service, which fights hunger across the globe. BCOC has had many participants in this since it was initiated three years ago. In fact, BCOC has been the top church fundraiser for the last two years (a distinction I would like to see us repeat this year). Graham Heifner was the top individual fundraiser last year. Individuals obtain sponsors who agree to pay them to walk. Those who would like to walk this year can get their walker envelopes from John Duke .



The Ministries Committee wants to know if you are interested in a new opportunity to connect with our church family, particularly those who are not able to be with us consistently. We are looking for folks who are willing to make short visits (less than an hour) one to four times a year. You qualify if you are willing to share a gift of music, listening, or hospitality. You qualify if you enjoy helping us all to feel included, no matter what our current circumstance may be. If we get enough interest, we will have a quick organizational meeting. So, the initial canvas is beginning. If you are interested in making time to try this, call or email John Duke.

2008 ALLIANCE OF BAPTISTS CONVOCATION

Called to
Create:
The Commission of Art and Page

March 28-30, 2008
 St. Charles Avenue Baptist Church
 New Orleans, Louisiana

For more information about the convocation or to register, go to www.allianceofbaptists.org or call the Alliance office at 202-745-7609.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

| Week of March 2 | | Week of March 9 | |
|-------------------------|----------|-------------------------|-------------|
| General Fund | \$18,494 | Budget | \$14,161.20 |
| Bld/Property Purchase | 4,955 | Bldg /Property Purchase | 7,584.81 |
| Rogers Benevolence Fund | 453 | Rogers Fund | 135 |
| Gardner Mission Fund | 100 | | |
| CBF Mission Fund | 50 | | |

YTD – February 2008

YTD Receipts - \$76,125.52

YTD Expenditures - \$76,472.08

YTD Budget Requirements - \$96,000

Come and meet Valerie Burton,
the proposed Minister to
Preschoolers, Children and Youth!
Dessert Fellowship
Sunday, March 16, 2008
6:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

Valerie Burton will be available to answer questions. Children, fourth grade and up, are encouraged to participate in the discussion. Younger children may watch a movie in the nursery.

CD orders for SFCL

Anyone wishing to order a CD of any of the School for Christian Living classes should place their order by contacting John Duke or Ann Morris in the church office. There will be no charge for the CDs.



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

The shoes may be new or gently used and tied with a blue ribbon for boys and pink ribbon for girls. Bring them Easter Sunday or put in the collection box in the Fellowship Hall.

**The church office will be closed on
Monday, March 24.
John Duke will be on call. In case of a
pastoral emergency call 482-6280.**

Quarterly Business Meeting
Wednesday, March 26
6:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall



At Home
Bryce Sandlin
Bill Stonecypher

Brookwood Hospital
Linda Scott

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

Hong Kong
Jerry and Ruth Moye



March

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 16-Jo Grantland | 24-Dennis Day |
| 17-Ann Wade | 25-Pam Baggett |
| 18-Eljee Bentley | Allyssa McNiel |
| 22-Jill Holley | 28-LaVerne Sandlin |
| 24-Betty Bock | Ellen Dossett |
| Billvia Henderson | |



BCOC Annual Easter Egg Hunt



Hosts: The Chappells 945-8580
Where: Ross Park, in Ross Bridge
(behind the Welcome Center)*
When: Saturday, March 15th
When: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Children through 6th Grade

Come to search for those sneaky eggs, play in the park, and enjoy some Easter cupcakes with friends!

Directions: Travel Lakeshore Drive toward Bessemer and Hwy. 150. Look for the green Robert Trent Jones sign; turn left at the flashing yellow light onto Shannon Road. Continue straight as the name of the road changes to Ross Bridge Parkway for 2 miles until you reach the Ross Bridge subdivision at the Welcome Center. (This is the second Ross Bridge neighborhood sign on the right side of the road). Turn right into the subdivision onto Grand Avenue. Ross Park will be on your right as you approach the stop sign. We'll have a table set up near the playground equipment.



Week of March 16

Deacon of the Week: Sara Hoover 620-2838

Sunday, March 16

VSP Pickup - Becky Belcher

9:00 a.m. - Morning Worship: Palm Sunday,

New Member Presentation

Lobby Monitor - Rick Mitchell

Ushers - Kelly Mitchell, David Young

Greeters - Elaine Peterson, Susan Richardson

Offering - Bill Bennett, Sara Hoover

Preschool - Janet Goodwin

Offering Counters - Kathy Hollis, Carol Johnson

10:00 a.m. - 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 - Elaine Peterson

Sack Lunches - Youth

Building Lockup - Lloyd Shelton

11:30 a.m. - Deacons Meeting

Finance Sub-committee

JIF

12:30 p.m. - COM

2:00 p.m. - Music Search Committee

6:00 p.m. - Hispanic Bible Missionary Church

6:30 p.m. - Dessert Fellowship

Monday, March 17

12:00 noon - Overeaters Anonymous

7:00 p.m. - Internationals

Tuesday, March 18

1:00 p.m. - Staff Meeting

6:30 p.m. - Exchange Club Parenting Class

Wednesday, March 19

12:00 noon - Alabama Kidney Foundation - Executive Committee

12:00 noon - Overeaters Anonymous

5:30 p.m. - Fellowship Supper

Menu: Pasta Bar with Marinara Sauce, Grilled Chicken Strips,
Italian Sausage, Meatballs, Italian Green Beans, Tossed
Salad, Italian Bread, Lemon Ice Box Pie

Clean Up: Betty Bock, Sharon Chappell, Carol Dean, David Wilson

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. - Worship in the Sanctuary, *The Last Word from the Cross*

Lockup: Monty Hogewood

7:15 p.m. - Covenant Choir Rehearsal - Lockup: Morgan Ponder

Saturday, March 22

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

Week of March 23

Deacon of the Week: Denise Jacks 836-9159

Sunday, March 23

VSP Pickup - Ellen Dossett

9:00 a.m. - Morning Worship: Easter

Lobby Monitor - Walker Grooms

Ushers - Shirley Brymer, Marie McKinley

Greeters - Janet Goodwin, Carol Johnson

Offering - William Lovechia, Mary Oswald

Preschool - Connie McCrory

Offering Counters - Harvey Love, Robbie Yarbrough

10:00 a.m. - 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 - Elaine Peterson

Sack Lunches - God's Lighthouse & Quaker

Building Lockup - Lloyd Shelton

6:00 p.m. - Hispanic Bible Missionary Church

Monday, March 24

Church Office closed. John Duke on call, 482-6280.

7:00 p.m. - Internationals

Tuesday, March 25

1:00 p.m. - Staff Meeting

6:30 p.m. - Exchange Club Parenting Class

Wednesday, March 26

12:00 noon - Overeaters Anonymous

5:30 p.m. - Fellowship Supper

Menu: Beef Tips with Rice, Steamed Broccoli with Cheese Sauce,
Black Eyed Peas, Cole Slaw, Rolls, 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)

6:15 p.m. - Business Meeting

Lockup: Monty Hogewood

7:15 p.m. - Covenant Choir Rehearsal - Lockup: Larry FitzGerald

Thursday, March 27

6:00 p.m. - CROP Walk Meeting

Friday, March 28 - Sunday, March 30

Alliance of Baptist Convocation in New Orleans

Saturday, March 29

9:30 a.m. - Saturday Morning Grocery Ministry:
John & Kathy Hollis



Baptist Church of the Covenant
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Birmingham, Alabama 35233-3188

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