



the CrossRoads

July 2, 2008
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Baptist Church of the Covenant

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

How Can I Serve?

The energy in the room was palpable. Our third and fourth graders were peppering me with questions about how our church works: “What do deacons do? What is the Council on Mission? What does a pastor do during the week?” As we talked, we finally got down to the question that most good church goers, adult or children, finally ask: “What can I do to serve?” I was pleasantly surprised that the children wanted more than the standard “Sunday School” answers. Their desire was to do something more and out of the ordinary.

Our children have me wondering about all of us adults. Are we asking ourselves: “How can I serve?” It is important to periodically visit this question and the answers that it invites. Maybe it is time to give up one place of service in order to take on a new challenge. Maybe there is a new passion that evokes new forms of service. Maybe it is time to re-enter a place of service and give it another chance to not only serve another, but to create personal change and growth.

It seems to me that there are many opportunities to serve at BCOC. Perhaps you would put on your list of consideration:

- * Filling out the Interest Survey for service in our ministries and administration of the church. These can be found in the Fellowship Hall and Foyer. They are due to the Church Office by July 15 in order for the Nominating Committee to begin their work in a timely manner.
- * Loyal attendance in worship and Sunday School, even though it is the summer!
- * Faithful giving. Travel and vacations may take us away physically, but the church continues to meet and carry on! Our expenses do not decrease, they usually increase with retreats, camps, and utility needs. Your consistent financial gifts are a way to serve even though you may not be present.
- * Sharing new dreams and concepts that may prove to be a visionary spark.

The children, under the direction of their teachers, Ann Wade and Lynda Grooms, finally came up with a way to serve that was their very own. They have “taken charge” over the flower beds at the University Boulevard entrance to the sanctuary. The planting of the beautiful gold and white flowers, and their maintenance, are the children’s unique way of serving. As you are greeted by these flowers, may they remind you to ask yourself: “How can I serve?”

With appreciation for the opportunity to serve alongside of you, I am

Sincerely yours,



From the Ministry Committee

Food Drive

We are having a Food Drive for the food pantry at Greater Birmingham Ministries through July 6. Please bring non-perishable items. The items may be left at the back of the Fellowship Hall. Some of the needed items are canned vegetables, fruit, meat and soup; dry drink mixes, cereal and beans along with staples like flour and pasta. A complete list of desired items is on the piano in the Fellowship Hall and in the sanctuary foyer.



2008 BCOC Annual Labor Day Retreat

Friday, August 29 - Monday, September 1
Join your church family for
Fun, Sun & Fellowship!

Fisher Humphreys will lead the Adult Bible Study while Pastor Sarah and Big Mama (Lloyd) will lead fellowship games for our Labor Day Retreat. The early bird special is \$90.00 per person for three nights lodging and food for Saturday morning through Monday morning when paid by August 17th. After August 17th, the retreat fee is \$95 per person. Children, under 2, are \$20 unless their food is provided by their parents. For those who wish to stay off campus but eat with us, the cost is \$40.00. Pre and post retreat lodging is \$24 per person per day. **Registration forms must be received by Sunday, August 17. All money must be paid by Sunday, August 24.** Registration forms are in the Fellowship Hall and in the church office. If you have questions, call David Henderson, 681-0351 or Rick Traylor, 995-9963.

The Seventh Annual Birmingham Hospitality Network
(BHN) Auction

Thursday, July 24, 2008, B & A Warehouse
6:00pm Door Open 7:15pm Live Auction
\$25 tickets (includes wine and hors d'oeuvres)



Pictorial Directory

The Communications Committee needs your help in developing a pictorial directory. Pictures will be taken every Sunday and Wednesday in August. Please sign up for a time slot on the sheets in the back of the Fellowship Hall. The other important item is updating your information for the directory. Please review your information, indicate any changes or check that it is correct.

Lake Day for Senior Adults

A day at Ellen Dossett's and Ann Wade's lake house for Seniors will be on Tuesday, July 15. Sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board and plan to bring food that will go with hamburgers and hot dogs. Meet at the church at 8:30 a.m. The first twelve who sign up will get to ride the church bus. Car pooling will be planned for others.



We want to thank Brittany Krebs for the fine job she has done this past year as Children's Music Director. Best wishes to her as she begins her new position as Choral Director at Irondale Middle School. We are fortunate to have had her work with our children this past year and are glad that she and Kyle have decided to stay here at BCOC.

In August we will welcome Kathryn Hoppe-McQueen as the new Children's Music Director. Kathryn is a graduate student at Samford University. She is majoring in Music Education and also working toward a performer's certificate in harp. Kathryn comes to us with a strong background in children's music. Kathryn and her husband, Noah, will be a great addition to BCOC.

Handbell/handchime ringers get your gloves ready to begin ringing the first of August. More details in the next few weeks.

Covenant Choir I must thank you for your faithfulness this summer. You have sung so beautifully and I am so thankful for your support and enthusiasm.

Looking forward to what's ahead,

Dan

**Deacons Meeting
July 20, 2008**

Noon

Cook-out at the Sheltons' home

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Week of June 22

Week of June 29

Budget	\$5,866	Budget	\$7206
Bldg/Property Purchase	3,991	Bldg/Property Purchase	1127
Rogers Fund	10	Rogers Fund	110

YTD – May 2008

YTD Receipts - \$212,727.88

YTD Expenditures - \$224,366.88

YTD Budget Requirements - \$240,000

Youth News

July 6: SNL 6 - 8:00 p.m., for the Middle School at the Sheltons' home. Remember to bring disposable diapers for Baby Boy Burton!

July 11-12: Youth Retreat

At the Dossett/Wade lake house, *RSVP to Valerie*

July 13: SNL 6-8:00 p.m., for the Middle School at the Chappells' home

August 10: BCOC Annual Talent Show

“Get Your Act Together!”



At Home

Bill Stonecypher
Elaine Peterson

Lakeshore

Grafton Keeney

Rehabilitation and Healthcare

Jerry Martin
2728 South 10th Avenue, 35205

Hong Kong

Jerry and Ruth Moye

Remember Our Mission teams

Mt. Meru, June 19-July 13

Betty Bock, Carol Dean, Alex, Laurie and Michael White

Africa, June 23-July 21

Graham & Todd Heifner

Iringa, Tanzania, June 30-July 10, joining a group from Covenant Community Church, Elba, AL with Suzanah Raffield

Cape Town, South Africa, July 11-July 21

Mission Friends 08-09

August 6th will be the Kick Off for a new year of Children's Missions and Music. Leaders for Preschool Mission Friends and 1st - 3rd grade Missions are still needed.

Would you be interested in serving in this role for the Fall and/or Spring semesters 08-09? Preschoolers will meet for Mission Friends 6:00 - 6:30 PM. 1st - 3rd grades will meet for Missions 6:30 - 7:00 PM. Contact Allison Hawley, allison.hawley@va.gov, 822-4826 or Valerie Burton, vburton@bcoc.net, 328-0644.



July

6-Owen Grooms	14-Wallace Davis
Brendan Meyer	Jill Blach
7-Rick Mitchell	Alea Bondarenko
Deidre Gunn	Ava Touchstone
8-Joy Bonnie	15-Rod Davis
9-Malcolm Marler	17-Mary W. Davis
11-Chuck Green	18-Louise Andrews
12-Andrew Evans	

Shower for Corita's baby

Corita Blanco, the pastor of our sister church in Cuba is going to have a baby! Since it takes packages a very long time to get to Cuba, we need to start collecting now. Corita needs the following things: clothing, blankets, flat crib sheets, cloth diapers, and Vitamin C (for herself). We don't know if it's a boy or girl yet, but that news is imminent! Corita likes neutral colors, if you'd like to get started: yellow, green, and beige.

PLEASE do not wrap, as this will just add to the bulk and shipping costs. Place gifts on the table at the back of the fellowship hall by July 23.

Thanks so much,
The Ministries Committee

BBBB

(Bill Brill Brown Bag)

Wednesday Nights, July 2 through July 30

Bring your brown bag supper at 5:30 p.m. Enjoy fellowship followed by prayers, music and devotional.

July 9: The Singing Angels

July 16: Betty Bock - pictures from Africa
Tim Liptak & Mark Cobb - Special Music

July 23: Grace Marquez - devotional
Faye Wilson - Special Music

July 30: Joyce Mitchell - devotional
Mary Helen Dixon - Special Music

You Made a Difference! Many thanks to this summer's Vacation Bible School leaders for your energy, excellent teaching, compassion toward the children, and steadfast preparation over the 5 weeks. You helped our children learn some basic Bible "Be-attitudes" while also making fun memories - surfing and singing in the fellowship hall, playing beach-ball kick-ball in our "back-yard", making sand candles and tossing water balloons in our final Beach Party celebration! These are the things they will remember about growing up in BCOC! Thank you! **Valerie**

Week of July 6

Deacon of the Week: Shirley Brymer 824-6431

Sunday, July 6

VSP Pickup - Tex Hawley
 9:00 a.m. - Morning Worship: Communion,
 Food Drive for GBM concludes
 Lobby Monitor - Don Yates
 Ushers - Deacons
 Greeters - Deacons
 Offering - Deacons
 Preschool - Mary Helen Dixon, John McLendon, Rachel
 Richardson, Susan Richardson
 Offering Counters - Harvey Love, Cindy Ponder
 10:00 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship - Shirley Brymer, Carol Watson
 10:30 a.m. - Sunday School
 Preschool 1 & 2 - Room 103 - Dana McNiell, Tracie Wade
 Preschool 3 - Room 101-102 - Linda Martin, Stacey Young
 Preschool 4 - Room 108 - Denise Gardner, Janet Goodwin,
 Stevie Hoven
 VSP - Liesl Ward
 Sack Lunches - Youngsters
 Building Lockup - Lloyd Shelton
 11:30 a.m. - Urban Ministry Strategy Team
 11:45 a.m. - Education Committee
 12:00 noon - Bethel Baptist Church Worship in the sanctuary
 6-8:00 p.m. - Youth Sunday Nite Lite - for Middle School at the
 Sheltons' home, 3512 Spring Valley Court, 967-1021

Monday, July 7

12:00 noon - Overeaters Anonymous

Tuesday, July 8

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

Wednesday, July 9

12:00 noon - Overeaters Anonymous
 5:30 p.m. - BBBB (Bill Brill Brown Bag)
 The Singing Angels
 Lockup: Monty Hogewood
 6:00 p.m. - Bethel Baptist Bible Study in the Stone Building

Friday, July 11

5:00 - Youth retreat at Wade/Dossett lake house

Saturday, July 12

9:30 a.m. - Saturday Morning Grocery Ministry:
 Betty Bock, Liesl Ward

Week of July 13

Deacon of the Week: Mark Burge 655-5424

Sunday, July 13

VSP Pickup - Bill Smith
 9:00 a.m.- Morning Worship
 Lobby Monitor - David Litton
 Ushers - David Groom, Karen Stephens
 Greeters - Monty Hogewood, Jean Thomason
 Offering - Frances Ferguson, Lynn Groom
 Preschool - Peggy Sanderford-Ponder, Kelly Mitchell, Jill Holley,
 Cindy Ponder
 Offering Counters - David Henderson, Carol Johnson
 10:00 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship - Denise Gardner, Carol Watson
 10:30 a.m. - Sunday School
 Preschool 1 & 2 - Room 103 - Lauren Snyder, Melissa Evans
 Preschool 3 - Room 101-102 - Linda Martin, Stacey Young
 Preschool 4 - Room 108 - Denise Gardner, Janet Goodwin,
 Drew Lasater
 VSP - Liesl Ward
 Sack Lunches - Dialogue
 Building Lockup - Lloyd Shelton
 11:45 a.m. - Ministries Committee
 12:00 noon - Bethel Baptist Church Worship in the sanctuary
 6-8:00 p.m. - Youth Sunday Nite Lite - for Middle School at the
 Chappells' home, 2370 Freestone Ridge Cove, 945-8580

Monday, July 14

12:00 noon - Overeaters Anonymous

Tuesday, July 15

8:30 a.m. - Senior Adults to Wade/Dossett lake house
 1:00 p.m. - Staff Meeting
 6:30 p.m. - Exchange Club Parenting Class

Wednesday, July 16

12:00 noon - Overeaters Anonymous
 5:30 p.m. - BBBB
 Betty Bock's pictures from Africa, Tim Liptak and
 Mark Cobb special music
 Lockup: Monty Hogewood
 6:00 p.m. - Bethel Baptist Bible Study in the Stone Building

Saturday, July 19

9:30 a.m. - Saturday Morning Grocery Ministry:
 Sharon & Patrick Chappell



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