



the CrossRoads

Coming Home

Our adventures were many. The fun we had will always be cherished. There are memories that we will recount for the remainder of our days. For me, however, the best part of this summer's experiences was knowing that I could come home to BCOC and that I would be welcomed here.

The Sabbatical Committee was masterful in their planning. Their help made it possible for us to have an organized and balanced agenda. The Congregational Life Committee gave tirelessly of their time and energy to plan and coordinate two banquets. The Annual Church Retreat Committee was unselfish in accepting the leadership of Philip Gulley on the beach retreat and carried off this major event without a snag. The church staff was ready with solutions and lent their courage to those in crisis. Others read books, wrote personal stories, sent letters, visited the sick, utilized their theatrics, cared for the grieving, shared flowers from their yard, played host(ess) to our guest preachers, or took a casserole to the infirmed.

As with any organization where people are involved, there was some miscommunication and a little misunderstanding. (These are things to make a note of for the next time.) But the bottom line is, we all pulled together to make a significant event occur within the life of this church: the pastor's and the congregation's joint sabbatical. While I can say "thank you" over and over again, what really stands out to me is that you have paid me the highest form of a compliment. You were church to one another even when I was not around to encourage or supervise it.

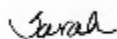
Philip Gulley wrote on his blog on September 4:

I've just returned from leading a retreat for Southern Baptists in Florida. Being theologically liberal, I thought I'd spend the weekend getting in trouble, but they turned out to be like-minded. I've often wondered how far one would have to travel to find a liberal Southern Baptist and now I know—781 miles. A traveling tip: If you're ever in Birmingham, Alabama, stop by the Church of the Covenant at 2117 University Boulevard and see what church should be about.

It's nice to have someone else recognize what I have been fortunate to know for a long time! Thanks for being church, in the best sense of the word.

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

Sincerely yours,



September 13, 2007
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of the Covenant**

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



Internationals Need Volunteers

Be a Teacher

Covenant's oldest ministry, teaching conversational English to newcomers to our country, met for the first time in its new year Monday, September 10th from 7 until 8 p.m. We had many new students as well as some whom we'd become acquainted with last year. Most are Chinese, highly educated, and work in the medical labs at UAB, but there are people from many countries. All are anxious to improve their English. And they need their own individual teachers.

Any one of you reading this can be a teacher! The only pre-requisite is the ability to speak English, preferably American English with a Southern accent. Join us next Monday - or any Monday - at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. For more information, contact Eljee Bentley (eljee1@bellsouth.net or 879-3926) or Carol Dean (cddean@samford.edu or 823-1536).

In Honor of Grace

Friday, September 28, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, there will be a dinner celebrating Grace Marquez, Samuel Mitchell and David Vess. These retired Samford University Professors have been mentors to many. This dinner will give friends and former students an opportunity to express appreciation for the impact these individuals have had on their lives. Reservations are required. Call the church office. Dinner will be \$8 per person. There will not be a nursery.

Fifth Sunday PotLuck and Singing

We will sing your favorite hymns of faith,
as collected by Milburn Price.

Sunday, September 30th, 5:30PM
Fellowship Hall

Prepare your best fall dish.

Bring plenty to share!

We'll eat at 5:30 and sing after dinner.

PLEASE bring your dishes prepared and ready to be served in disposable containers or remember to take your dishes home with you that night.

- Thanks

The Congregational Life Committee

**Mark your calendar for our
Church Picnic, Crestwood Park
Sunday, October 14.**

25th Annual Church-wide Retreat

What a wonderful time the 112 of us had at the retreat in Panama City led by Philip Gulley. A time to relax, get to know one another better, to laugh and to think. It takes a lot of people to make the retreat happen each year. Please thank these people as you see them: Eleanor Traylor, Gay Litton and Denise Gardner--food; Rick Traylor--housing assignments; Melissa Evans, Katie Ponder and Kristen Evans--Sunday night service on the beach; Patrick and Sharon Chappell--Sunday night fun time; Noah Henderson--computer support; Kit Heifner, Cindy Ponder, Stevie Hoven--children's activities; Drew Lasater--youth activities; Denise Jacks--water aerobics. If you have comments or suggestions for next year, email David Henderson at pinsondth@aol.com. Remember to put the retreat on your 2008 calendar, same time/same place.

WMU Program

World Crafts Party

September 20, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Flag Colonnade, Samford University

World Crafts Party is a not-for-profit, fair trade organization marketing handicrafts from over 30 countries around the world and seeks to ensure that the artisans are paid and treated fairly. They will be selling stationery, jewelry, tote bags, candle holders, Christmas items and more!

Preview of Coming Events

A low-tech trailer to let you know that you will soon have an opportunity to participate in a fund-raising campaign to pay off our mortgage on the Cat Haven property. We are assembling a multi-team effort to



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

lead us in this endeavor. If you are

approached to serve, please prayerfully consider doing so. As you consider the choices available for monetary contributions, please remember that you can give to the building fund now. (And thanks to those who have already been giving.)

We will not be hiring folks to run a campaign. We will be celebrating this opportunity, encouraging each other, sacrificing a bit and surprising ourselves at what we can achieve, with God's help. Keep your minds and heart open as you consider how you can help us reach this readily-attainable goal.

Your Ad-Hoc, Enthusiastic, Pre-Fund Raising Campaign Committee: Dennis Day, Joe Dean, Todd Heifner, Monty Hogewood and Jenny Smith

FINANCIAL REPORTS

<i>Week of September 2</i>		<i>Week of September 9</i>	
General Fund	\$11,899	General Fund	\$11,365
Building/Property Purchase	255	Building/Property	280
Organ Fund	25	Organ Fund	50
Rogers Fund	485	Rogers Fund	65
		Gardner Fund	100
		Missions	7
		BHN	145

YTD – August 2007
YTD Receipts - \$323,659.89
YTD Expenditures - \$336,971.58
YTD Budget Requirements - \$370,556.64

Welcome!

BCOC is an educational institution on many levels. Not only do we disciple believers, but we provide on-the-job opportunities for those considering a ministerial vocation.

Brittany Krebs is joining us for a year's internship to meet requirements for her major at Samford University. She will organize and implement our children's choirs, and worship planning. She will receive compensation for a ten hour work week.

Ellen Patterson is a divinity student at Candler School of Theology in Atlanta. She will be a pastoral intern involved in several aspects of the church's life. She will work five hours each week but without pay. She will be with us from September to April.

PASSPORT, Inc. needs your help. They are involved in a contest in which the six charities that get the largest number of donations from different people by **September 16** will receive a \$10,000 grant. The size of the donation doesn't matter; it's the number of donations that matters most. Please go to the following website to make a donation to PASSPORT.

<http://www.networkforgood.org/pca/Badge.aspx?BadgeId=106293>



Children and Youth Outing Six Flags Over Georgia September 29th

Anyone wishing to participate, please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or for information or reservations contact Kit Heifner (children) 424-0600 or Melissa Evans (youth) 585-8065. Children must be 3rd grade or over (unless accompanied by a parent.) Tickets will be \$30 or less. Meet at the church at 7:30 a.m.

At Home

Linda Scott
 Marnie Fisher-Ingram
 Caroline Humphreys
 Bill Stonecypher
 Jimmy Holland



Mexico

Rosalia Marquez

Rehabilitation and Healthcare

Jerry Martin
 2728 South 10th Avenue, 35205

Hong Kong

Jerry and Ruth Moye

Peace Corps, Benin, West Africa

Charles Reeves



September

19-Michaelle Chapman	25-Tim Liptak
Tracie Wade	25-Andy Litton
20-Erin Dawson	26-Jimmy Holland
23-Virginia Jackson	28-Gene Brill
24-Tracy Brill	



Anna Margaret Biss

9-5-2006

Congratulations to the proud grandparents,
 Mary Helen and Joe Dixon!

New Candidates for Membership

Brittany and Kyle Krebs
 2867 H Regal Circle
 Hoover, AL 3216
 859-583-9867

LaVerne and Bryce Sandlin
 St. Martin's in the Pines
 4949 Montevallo Road, # 222
 Birmingham, AL 35213
 951-2770



Business Meeting

There will be a Business Meeting on September 19.

Hear recommendations from
 The Staff Committee.

Week of September 16

Deacon of the Week: Rosalind McClanahan 520-1110

Sunday, September 16

VSP Pickup - Becky Belcher

9:00 a.m. - Morning Worship: New Member Presentation

Lobby Monitor - David Henderson

Ushers - David Young, Liesl Ward

Greeters - Elaine Peterson, Susan Richardson, Karen Stephens

Offering - Bill Bennett, Sara Hoover

Preschool - Cathy Kelly

Offering Counters - Kathy Hollis, Robbie Yarbrough

10:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Coffee Fellowship - Denise Gardner, Jill Holley

10:30 a.m. - Sunday School

Preschool 1 & 2 - Linda Martin, Marsha Henderson

Preschool 3 - Julie Burge

Preschool 4 - Denise Gardner, Kit Heifner

VSP - Bill Smith

Sack Lunches - Dialogue

Building Lockup - Bob Duffy

11:30 a.m. - Deacons Meeting

12:00 noon - JIF Meeting

4:00 p.m. - Finance Sub-Committee

5:00 p.m. - COM

Monday, September 17

12:00 noon - Overeaters Anonymous

7:00 p.m. - Internationals

Tuesday, September 18

1:00 p.m. - Staff Meeting

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

Wednesday, September 19

12:00 noon - Overeaters Anonymous

5:30 p.m. - Fellowship Supper

Menu: BBQ Pulled Pork, Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Cookies and Brownies

Clean Up: Betty Bock, Patrick 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. - Business Meeting

Lockup: Allan Burton

7:15 p.m. - Covenant Choir Rehearsal

Choir Lockup: Morgan Ponder

Saturday, September 22

9:30 a.m. - Saturday Morning Grocery Ministry: Kathy Grissom



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Week of September 23

Deacon of the Week: David Young 699-3715

Sunday, September 23

VSP Pickup - Ellen Dossett

9:00 a.m.- Morning Worship

Lobby Monitor - Walker Grooms

Ushers - Daniel Evans, Bill Bennett

Greeters - Janet Goodwin, Rachel Krech

Offering - Owen Grooms, William Lovechia

Preschool - Carol Dean

Offering Counters - Marvin McConaghy, Frank McCrory

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 - Bill Smith

Sack Lunches - Pathways

Building Lockup - Bob Duffy

Monday, September 24

12:00 noon - Overeaters Anonymous

7:00 p.m. - Internationals

Tuesday, September 25

1:00 p.m. - Staff Meeting

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

Wednesday, September 26

12:00 noon - Overeaters Anonymous

5:30 p.m. - Fellowship Supper

Menu: Baked Potato/Salad Bar: Baked Potatoes, Salad Lettuce, Shredded Cheese, Bacon Bits, Butter/Sour Cream, Chopped Chives, Croutons, Salad Dressings

Clean Up: Joe Dixon, Ellen Dossett

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. - Baptist Center for Ethics Study: *Always...Therefore*

Lockup: Allan Burton

7:15 p.m. - Covenant Choir Rehearsal

Choir Lockup: John Hollis

Saturday, September 29

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

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