



the CrossRoads

December 20, 2007
Vol. 14, No. 26



**Baptist Church
of the Covenant**

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

Baptist Church of the Covenant 2008 Officers and Committees

Moderator – Gayle Watts

Trustees – Rebecca Richardson (1 year term), Ronald Williams (2 year term),
Kit Heifner (3 year term)

Church Treasurer – Morgan Ponder

Assistant Church Treasurer – Jenny Smith

Church Clerk – Pat Hawley

Assistant Church Clerk – Suzann Smith

Council On Mission

(1 year term)

Joe Dixon

Paul Hall

Rebecca Richardson

(2 year term)

Ronald Williams

Kristen Evans

Bob Duffy, Chair

(3 year term)

David Goodwin

Kit Heifner

John Hollis

Deacons: Carol Dean – Chair, Larry FitzGerald – Vice Chair Communion, Mark
Driskill - Vice Chair New Members, Denise Gardner - Secretary

(1 year term)

Denise Gardner

Gail Hill

Denise Jacks

David Litton

Katie Ponder

Rosalind McClanahan

Jean Thomason

Sarah Wilson

Tim Liptak

(2 year term)

Ann Yates

Carol Dean

Mark Driskill

Larry FitzGerald

Mike Martin

Cindy Ponder

Suzann Smith

Rick Traylor

Dennis Wilson

(3 year term)

Judy Bridgers

Shirley Brymer

Mark Burge

Paula Heifner

Marsha Henderson

Sara Hoover

Carol Johnson

Mark McClintock

Education Committee

Patrick Chappell, Chair

Michaelle Chapman

Denise Gardner

Donna Glidewell

Janet Goodwin

Allison Hawley

Stevie Hoven

Gay Litton

Sally McElroy

Andy McNiel

B.J. Melton

Worship Committee

Mark Cobb, Chair

George Crear

Sharon Chappell

Suzanne Martin

Mary Oswald

Ronald Williams

Ministries Committee

Robin Geurs, Chair

Lynda Grooms

Jill Holley

Brian Vaughn

(Continued on Page 2)

Advent/Christmas Opportunities

Fourth Sunday in Advent, December 23

9:00 a.m. - Worship only, no other activities

Sarah Shelton preaching

No Coffee Fellowship or Sunday School

Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24

5:00 p.m. - Candlelight Service with communion

Sarah Shelton preaching

Sunday, December 30

9:00 a.m. - Worship, John Duke preaching

10:30 a.m. - Sunday School

Paying It Forward

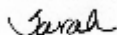
The news yesterday carried a neat story about a Starbucks into which a customer arrived and started the store's day by leaving extra money with the barrister so that the next person's coffee of choice was already paid for when they came in to order. This person was so touched that they did the same for the next person. The practice of paying it forward continued throughout the day without a break in the chain.

The image of this occurring struck me as the same as our plan to pay off the debt on the Cat Haven property. We do not know who will walk in the door, what their needs will be, or who will serve them, but we are making an investment so that our presence on this corner will be welcoming and attempting to relevantly bring the gospel to address the needs of any who enter our doors.

In January, our church family will be involved in an intensive capital campaign. You will be asked to make a three year monetary pledge, so that we might pay off the \$400,000 indebtedness that we incurred by purchasing the Cat Haven property. There will be letters, articles in the CrossRoads, a celebration banquet, and many testimonials. Just as the Company of the Committed paid it forward for us, we are being asked to continue their commitment by paying it forward for those who will follow us.

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

Sincerely yours,



2008 Officers and Committee Chairman (Continued from Page 1)

Congregational Life Committee

Eleanor Traylor & Rick Traylor: Co-Chairs

Eljee Bentley, Judy Bridgers, Jack Brymer, George Crear, Bob Duffy, Lynn Duffy, Mark Foster, Denise Gardner, David Goodwin, David Henderson, Mary Hines, Monty Hogewood, Faye Wilson, Ann Yates

Property Committee – David Henderson

Communications Committee

Julie Burge: Chair

Valerie Burton, Michaelle Chapman, Daniel Ingram, Cathy Kelly, Orbie Medders, Nancy Yarbrough

Counting Committee - Robbie Yarbrough

Staff Committee

Joyce Mitchell: Chair

Ellen Dossett, Mark Foster, Kathy Grissom, Connie Hogewood, Matthew Ponder, Randall Richardson, Jean Thomason

***There will be no Wednesday
night activities on
December 26 & January 2***

***The Church Office will be closed
Monday, December 24-Thursday, December 27
Sarah Shelton on call, 482-6280***

Tuesday, January 1

John Duke on call, 482-6280

Friday, December 28-Tuesday January 1

ChariTree

ChariTree offers an opportunity to give loved ones a Christmas gift of a financial donation in their honor to our own church ministries or to ministries with which our church has connections: **Alabama Arise, Birmingham Hospitality Network, Community Kitchens, Cuba Partnership, Gardner Fund, Garumtoney Orphanage, Habitat for Humanity, Heifer International, Rogers Fund, and Starlight Ministries.** Please see one of our JIF volunteers in the Fellowship Hall during fellowship time after Sunday worship or on Wednesday evenings. Donations will be received from December through 31.

Susan Palmer will be available on Friday, December 28 and Monday, December 31 to receive end-of-the-year contributions. Only those contributions delivered/postmarked on or before December 31 can be counted as a charitable contribution for 2007.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

<i>Week of December 9</i>		<i>Week of December 16</i>	
Budget	\$10,715	Budget	\$13,206
Bldg/Property Purchase	1,260	Bldg/Property Purchase	4,240
CBF Global Missions	102	Rogers Fund	1,100
Rogers Fund	20	Garumtoney Orphanage	1,350
Youth Activities	10	Alliance of Baptist	50
Gardner Mission Fund	200	Cuba Partnership	50
Garumtoney Orphanage	30	Charitree	495
Charitree	1,355	Children's Choir Robes	15
		CBF Global Missions	1
		Passport	30
		Gardner Fund	50

YTD – November 2007

YTD Receipts - \$436,157.63
 YTD Expenditures - \$457,434.95
 YTD Budget Requirements - \$509,515.38

Pledge Cards Received 137
Percentage Pledged 87%
Pledged Amount \$503,350
2008 Budget \$576,011

Pledge Cards are available in
 the Fellowship Hall & Foyer.

Note from the Treasurer:

Since the summer, income for BCOC has lagged behind expenditures. Unless giving in December is unusually strong, we will finish the year with a deficit. This situation has prompted the finance subcommittee to discuss recommending that the church reduce its budget for 2008. We have not yet considered specific amounts or items to be trimmed, but we wanted you to be aware of this possibility. Our financial picture is far from dire, but the finance subcommittee feels that it would be unwise to continue the current pattern of giving and spending indefinitely. We appreciate the sacrifices that many of you have made and continue to make to support the church financially. We wish to be good stewards of your gifts.

Morgan Ponder

Internationals Needs Teachers

More students keep coming to Internationals—students needing to learn how to listen to and converse in English. We will be particularly short of teachers this month and in January as our Birmingham Southern volunteers will be on holiday followed by Jan Term. Please come 7 p.m. on Mondays, January 14th, 21st, and 28th. For more information, contact Eljee Bentley (eljee1@bellsouth.net or 879-3926), Mary Helen Dixon (mhjdixon@bellsouth.net), or Carol Dean (cddean@samford.edu).



At Home

Sharon Chappell
 Bill Stonecypher
 Mary Hines
 Margaret Ward
 Linda Scott
 Wynell King
 Joy Bonnie
 Bryce Sandlin
 Annie Gamble
 Logan Hawley

Mexico

Rosalia Marquez

Rehabilitation and Healthcare

Jerry Martin
 2728 South 10th Avenue, 35205

Hong Kong

Jerry and Ruth Moye

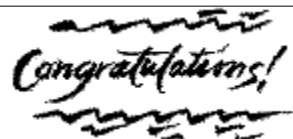


December

23-Janet Goodwin
 Alisha Damron
 Logan Hawley
 24-Barri Burbridge
 25-John Duke
 28-Carol Dean
 31-Paula Heifner

January

1-Maggie McClintock
 4-Kara Young
 Jacob Watson
 5-Mary Hines
 Matt Ponder



Congratulations to Joyce Mitchell for the publication of her book Teams Work, published by New Hope Press.



Andrew Brayden Farrell

Born 12-12-2007

Congratulations to the proud grandparents,
 Connie & Monty Hogewood

Save These Dates!

January 13: Deacon Ordination & Affirmation
January 20: State of the Church Address
February 5: Fat Tuesday Extravaganza
February 6: Ash Wednesday
Feb 24, Mar 2, 9: School for Christian Living

Week of December 23

Deacon of the Week: Cindy Ponder 916-0417

Church Office Closed December 24-27
Sarah Shelton on-call: 482-6280

Sunday, December 23

VSP Pickup - Ellen Dossett
9:00 a.m. - Morning Worship, Fourth Sunday in Advent
Lobby Monitor - Walker Grooms
Ushers - Daniel Evans, Bill Bennett
Greeters - Janet Goodwin, Rachel Krech
Offering - Owen Grooms, William Lovechia
Preschool - Connie McCrory
Offering Counters - Marvin McConaghy, Cindy Ponder
No Sunday School or Coffee Fellowship
Sack Lunches - Seekers
Building Lockup - David Goodwin
6:00 p.m. - Hispanic Bible Missionary Church

Monday, December 24

5:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service

Saturday, December 29

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

Week of December 30

Deacon of the Week: Carol Dean 823-1536

Church Office Closed January 1
John Duke on-call December 28-January 1: 482-6280

Sunday, December 30

VSP Pickup - Elaine Peterson, Tex Hawley
9:00 a.m.- Morning Worship
Lobby Monitor - Bob Duffy
Ushers - Youth
Greeters - Youth
Offering - Youth
Preschool - TBA
Offering Counters - Faye Wilson, Pam Baggett
10:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Coffee Fellowship - Denise Gardner
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 - Liesl Ward
Sack Lunches - Youth
Building Lockup - David Goodwin
6:00 p.m. - Hispanic Bible Missionary Church

Wednesday, January 2

12:00 noon - Overeaters Anonymous
No Wednesday Evening Activities

Saturday, January 5

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



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