

FIRST
BAPTIST
CHURCH

Let Us Share First
With You.

Together

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Follow Through



Back when I was in Little League, I played with this guy who was quite talented. He played second base, batted second on the team...one of our best all around players, no doubt. But he had this weird way of swinging, hitting the ball, and then immediately dropping the bat. He had a great batting average, but I don't think he ever hit a home run. And no matter how much the coach tried to convince him of his potential if he just "followed through" on his swing...he would never change.

Follow through is important. Beginning new things is important, but following through is just as important. Otherwise the effort in overcoming the inertia to get something started is largely for naught. And a pattern of such behavior can, over time, take its toll. Folks just begin to assume that's how things are and begin to self program accordingly.

Well this spring, in the midst of numerous other wonderful services, emphases, and events, we began

two distinctly new things. The first is an emphasis on outreach, growth, and yes, properly understood, evangelism. Our church-wide study of Martha Grace Reese's book *Unbinding the Gospel* placed the need for such an emphasis squarely on our plate. But this must continue to be an emphasis for us if it is ever to make an impact. We are talking about an Evangelism/Outreach Team, about Wednesday evening classes, about small groups continuing with Martha Grace Reese's follow up--*Unbinding Your Soul*. But more important than all of this is how

We're all in this together, and we will all need be committed to these principles as we move forward.

we as individuals remain committed to principles encountered in this study. Read, re-read, read further. Pray. Invite. Engage. Suggest. We're all in this together, and we will all need be committed to these principles as we move forward.

The second "new" thing, of course, is our Family Life Center. What a great Sunday we had together on the 11th! What joy, what laughter, what spirit! We celebrated what had been, the work that is presently going on, and what could be. As all facilities, the FLC is nothing more than a resource,

Rev. Dr. David Breckenridge, Pastor

an incredibly valuable resource, but just a resource nonetheless. It is a space that offers us the possibility of personal re-creation and community connection as no other space we have. But we must follow through and begin utilizing it for those purposes. Our initial vision (in addition to reserved church program, team, and individual usage) is for regular Open FLC days on Saturdays and Parent's Night Out programs on Friday evenings. Not every week. What we'd like to build toward, I think, is alternating those events each week. These events will require our presence and participation, our invitations to others to come, and our sponsorship. We will have to follow through if this valuable resource is to aid us in moving forward.

And of course through all of this, we will be praying, and listening to the Spirit. If some other new opportunity becomes available, we will hopefully take it. If some of the ideas above don't work out, we will hopefully have the wisdom to drop them. And we will do whatever we do together, which is not only the most effective way, but the most fun too.

I'm looking forward to following through. How about you?

Grace,
David

2 Letters, 2010 Graduates

LETTERS

Dear First Baptist Friends,

On behalf of MIFA, deepest thanks for your support of MIFAST this year. MIFAST is a unique form of giving which offers the opportunity to combine an inner journey of reflection with an outward expression of sacrifice. The \$707.00 contributed by First Baptist members will provide the food for over 300 MIFA Meals. As disciples, we recognize that the transformation of the world begins with each transformative act of individuals---each meal, each greeting, each spirit touching another. Thank you for sharing Christ's love

from our members and friends...

"across the street" in this beautiful way.

Linda Marks

Inter-Faith Coordinator, MIFA

Dear FBC Family,

The Connect Four Sunday School class would like to thank you all for participating in our 2nd annual Great American Bake Sale. We raised \$900 for Share Our Strength's feeding programs for hungry children. You will be happy to know that I have requested that this money be put to use in our home state of Tennessee.

All of the baked goods looked delicious

and the contributions were generous. We couldn't be prouder of our church's servant heart and talent in the kitchen!

Love and Easter blessings to you all,

Holly Hatton

Dear Church Family,

I want to thank everyone who helped in any way with the Easter Flower Cross. It was a blessing to all who saw it.

Much Love,

Dede Rader

Flower Cross Chair

FBC congratulates the following 2010 Graduates

Hannah Breckenridge

White Station High School
Graduation Date: May 23
College: Rhodes College

Ryan B. Hanson

MBA from the University of Memphis
Graduation Date: May 1
Grandparents: Mr. & Mrs. O. B. Manley

James Kyle Manley

MBA from Southern Methodist University
Graduation Date: May 15
Grandparents: Mr. & Mrs. O. B. Manley

Thi Mitsamphanh

Masters of Divinity
Mid-America Baptist Seminary
Graduation Date: May 21

Anson Purdy

Cum Laude graduate with a BA in International Studies & minor in Religious Studies
Rhodes College
Graduation Date: May 15
Teach for America

Camille Varner

JD in Law from Baylor University
Graduation Date: May 1
Grandparents: Mr. & Mrs. Merrill Varner

James Zasowski

MBA from Pepperdine University
Graduation Date: April 17
Grandparents: Dr. & Mrs. David Cunningham

Special Gifts to Enhance Worship and Ministry

There are many different ways to make special gifts to the church. Perhaps you would like to give a gift in memory or in honor of someone special. Here are just a few of the opportunities.

GIFTS FOR WORSHIP:

Gifts for worship will be printed in the Sunday order of worship. You may give altar flowers by calling **Gloria Hodges** (725-7335). You may give a choir anthem or a television service by calling **Rev. Ray Hatton** (454-1131).

GIFTS FOR MINISTRY:

Gifts for any of the many ministries or programs of our church will be printed on a special page of the monthly *Together* newsletter. Just a few possibilities are The Church Library, The Global Mission Offering, the Children's and Youth Ministries, Special Mission Projects, The Building Fund, The General Fund, and the Endowment Funds. To give special gifts to any of these areas, contact **Lisa Butts** (454-1131) or one of the ministers.

Prayer Partners, Bible Drill, Library Corner 3



Prayer Partners Prayer Room Partners: Sunday School Leadership

For the month of:
May: Encouragers

Prayer Room Partners: During morning worship

May 2	Karen Thomas
9	Amy Doville
16	Imogene McFadin
23	John McCall
30	Austin Jeter

Bibles for Binghampton

Do you have any extra Bibles around the house? Perhaps you would even be willing to purchase a Bible or two for this important Midtown ministry. Marlin "Big Dog" Brown, a friend of First Baptist and one of our Missions Week Guest Speakers, has expressed the need for additional Bibles for his ministry to the needy in this community. Bibles may be brought to the Welcome Center and placed in the donation box provided. Let's focus on this ministry for the month of May. The Missions/Ministry Team thanks you for your help with this project.

**Tuesday Morning
Prayer
8 a.m.
Caudill Chapel**

ABC's Bible Drillers

The 4th - 6th graders have completed another successful year of studying the Bible and memorizing scripture verses. Pictured are Mary Ashley Austria, Grace Ward, Margot Weslee Cronk, Amanda Sivilay, Micah Breckenridge and Austin Panyanouvong. Not pictured but also participating in the Bible Drill program were Callaway Rogers and Noah Sewell.

Our church hosted the Mid-South Associational Bible Drill on April 10 where we were represented by Mary Ashley Austria, Margot Weslee Cronk, Callaway Rogers and Grace Ward. Three of our drillers, Grace Ward, Margot Weslee Cronk and Mary Ashley Austria also represented First Baptist at the Tennessee State Drill on April 24.

Congratulations to all of our children who learned the meaning of Psalm 119:11 – hiding God's Word in your heart!



Baptist Women Group Meeting

The next Baptist Women's Group meeting will be Tuesday, **May 4**. Group meetings begin a 10:30 a.m. Coffee and snacks are served at 11 a.m., and the program begins at 11:30 a.m. The speaker will be **Philip Walkley**, Executive Director of Service over Self, (S.O.S.) a Christian organization dedicated to urban home repair in our FBC neighborhood. Our mission project for May is Opportunity Camp.

MJMRC Library Corner

Children Books

Tornado Alert by Franklyn Branley
Slinky Scaley Snakes by Jennifer Dussling
Oscar Otter by Nathaniel Benchley
Why Do Leaves Change Color by Betsy Maestro
A Blessing From Above by Patti Henderson
The Biggest Easter Basket by Steven Knoll

Adult Books

Take Three by Karen Kingsbury
The Lucky One by Nickolas Sparks
Do the Right Thing by Mike Huckabee
Stones into Schools by Greg Mortenson
Faith Alone by R. C. Sprout

4 Memorials & Honoraria, Arwings

Memorials

<u>Given in Memory of:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>
Thomas Turner	Mr. Howard Lee Ms. Elaine Arnis LLL Clayton & Pat Turner Ellendale Baptist Church
Leonard Elder.....	Mr. Austin Jeter
Jim Black.....	Mr. Austin Jeter Ms. Nancy Burch Mr. & Mrs. Vinson Cobb Mr. & Mrs. Milton Ray Mr. & Mrs. Joe Powell Ms. Juanita Bristow Mr. & Mrs. Kelton Morris Ms. Norma Marrs Mr. Howard Lee Mr. & Mrs. Mark Smith Ms. Jean Breedlove Mr. & Mrs. Al Henderson Mr. & Mrs. Andy Simmons Ms. Joan Monday Ms. Glenda Tarver Mrs. James Lester Ms. Elizabeth Linder
Lyn Smith.....	Ms. Gracie Willingham

Dorothy Scott..... Ms. Lynda Assink

Honoraria

<u>Given in Honor of:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>
Carol Richardson	Mr. & Mrs. Ernie Elder
Martha Hawkes	Dr. & Mrs. John McCall, III
Janie Pople	Dr. & Mrs. John McCall, III
Helen Ruth Bourgoyne.....	Dr. & Mrs. John McCall, III
Ralph Raney.....	Mr. & Mrs. Milton Ray
Betty Bedsole.....	Mr. Austin Jeter
Jo Bracey.....	Mr. Austin Jeter
Martha Dozier.....	Mr. Austin Jeter
Grace Dinstuhl.....	Mr. Austin Jeter
Jimmie Harris.....	Mr. Austin Jeter
Susan Herron.....	Mr. Austin Jeter
Jill Hopkins.....	Mr. Austin Jeter
Betty Bedsole.....	Mr. Austin Jeter
Michael Lander.....	Mr. Austin Jeter
Paul Martin.....	Mr. Austin Jeter
Beverly Mattingly.....	Mr. Austin Jeter
Jenny Pendley.....	Mr. Austin Jeter
Karen Thomas.....	Mr. Austin Jeter

Arkwings Retreat Pilgrimage August 14-21

Come experience a Rocky Mountain “body, mind, and spiritual” high in New Mexico “Land of Enchantment.” Join 15 other adults in a pilgrimage to “Old Town” Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Taos, and San Louis. The retreat’s theme “Taking Care of Self to Care for Others” will emphasize that “wellness is more than the absence of illness” but is a dynamic state of being.

Wellness of Body: Relax and feast your eyes on 13,000 ft peaks on a 2,200 acre alpine lake at Eagle Nest and Angel Fire Resort. Take time to play golf, fish, take meditative walks, read, and rest in between nutritious and delicious meals and snacks.

Wellness of Mind: Participate in optional freewheeling discussions based on the Arkwings Wellness Model in addition to topics ranging from history, to culture, to local geography. Interact with local guest artists in between visits to breathtaking natural settings and ancient Indian pueblos.

Wellness of Spirit: Explore some of the oldest and most historical churches, missions and sacred places in the United States and learn about their history. Take time for personal prayer and meditation.

Cost: \$985.00 for the first 16 with a \$200 paid deposit. The price includes all ground transportation in NM, deluxe room (double occupancy), two meals a day plus snacks, and all session materials. Participants arrange their own transportation to New Mexico. Contact: John McCall 628-6690 cell or arkwings1@gmail.com

Arkwings Foundation is looking for Volunteers!

- Mentors: inner city youth
- Speakers: youth development and health and wellness topics
- Chaperons: local and out-of-state field trips and retreats
- Skilled and unskilled assistance: programs and projects adm. and conference center improvements and maintenance
- Team members: national and international ministry projects

Please complete Sign-up form or contact us for further details:
Drs. John McCall: 628-6690 or Rick Thomas: 458-8061 or Bill Byrne: 626-6008. E-mail: arkwings@gmail.com and on the web: www.arkwings.com

Senior Banquet, VBS, Family Picnic 5

Offering Bearers for May*

May 2: Natalie Austria and
Lottie Rich

May 9: Noah Sewell and
Carson Wright

May 16: Claire Pellegrin and
Hannah Stein

May 23: Margot Weslee and
Lydia Michelle Cronk

May 30: Hannah Sewell and
Grace Ward

**If you cannot attend, please call
one of the following to fill in for
you: Lottie Rich, Main Bracey,
or Hannah Breckenridge.*

Family Life Day on May 8

Don't miss this church-family event! We will have everything open and available for you and your friends to enjoy! Coffee and doughnuts in the morning, Nintendo Wii play, bowling, board games, cards, basketball, volleyball, racquetball, and light snacks available for purchase will all be available. The Family Life Center will open at 9 a.m. and close at 3 p.m. All ages are encouraged to attend and invite a friend.

Graded Choir Spring Concert Wednesday, May 19, 6 p.m.

Hear our children share their gifts and musical talents as the Kinderchoir (ages 4-5) and Young Musicians (Grades 1-6) lead us in worship and celebration. Following our Wednesday Family Supper, we will move to Caudill Chapel for singing and the playing of instruments.

Children's Mission Recognition Service

Join us Wednesday, May 26 for the Children's Mission Recognition Service in the Chapel at 6 p.m.

Senior Banquet May 22

All youth please attend this fun and meaningful event as we honor Hannah Breckenridge for her commitment to the youth group. We wish Hannah the best!



High Seas Expedition

Vacation Bible School June 14-18

Start getting the word out about VBS. If you would like to help then please call Tiffany Wright. You can sign up for the entire week or you can sign up for one or two days. The starting time each morning is 9 a.m. and it ends at noon. On Friday evening there will be a VBS cookout.

Mission Serve in Jackson, MI • July 10-18

We are heading to Michigan to work in a community that needs the help from young, energetic people! We will spend the night on the way up and spend the night on the way back. The cost is \$280. Please call Richard if you have any questions about scholarship opportunities. We want all youth to attend.

Passport Kids • July 5-8 Murray, KY

All completed 3rd – 6th graders are invited to attend Passport Kids for a wonderful time of learning about missions, participating in worship, meeting new friends, and recreation opportunities. The cost is \$225 per person. If you have scholarship questions, please call Richard.

Family Picnic at Peabody Park on May 23

Everyone pack a lunch and join together at Peabody Park right off of Cooper Avenue. If the weather cooperates, we will meet there immediately after church. The picnic is very simple. Arrive, eat together, and if you would like you can participate in a host of activities

such as Frisbee, football, bocce ball, and playing on the playground.



Help our Children & Youth this Summer!

Mission trips to camp are expensive for our parents. If you are interested in offering scholarship money, please let Richard know. In addition, the youth will be asked to bring a few supplies to Michigan. As Mission-Serve realizes their needs during June, we would love meet these needs. Some of the supplies may be caulk, gloves, paint brushes, buckets, Gatorade, scrapers, etc. Richard will provide a list at the beginning of the summer.



Youth
Mission Serve