

FIRST
BAPTIST
CHURCH

Let Us Share First
With You.

Together

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Sacred Moments



One good idea. That's all it takes many times to be the basis of a good book, company, a career. Henry Blackaby was one such person

who benefited from this truth. He took one concept and turned it into Christian publishing empire known as Experiencing God. The idea? The key to experiencing God is understanding that God is not hiding from us, that God is continually present in our lives, and generally is up to something. Seeking to bless, encourage, correct, etc. We don't have to so much find God as become aware of God's presence and seek to get in step with what God is doing.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning put it this way: *Earth's crammed with heaven, And every common bush afire with God; But only he who sees takes off his shoes – The rest sit 'round it and pluck blackberries.*

The crisp cool weather of fall and the changing of the leaves, al-

ways brings such opportunities for me. This past weekend Seth and I were fishing, totally alone, on a friend's lake in kayaks at sunset. Totally quiet, totally beautiful, totally non-anxious moment. The music from September 11, first at Ray Hattons's celebration (DVDs available) and then at Idlewild that afternoon—Barber's *Adagio for Strings*, Rene Clausen's *Memorial*. Carol Richardson shared the stories of her sabbatical with me, the experiences of the New Mexico desert, the cliffs of Nova Scotia, seeing a grandchild born. In all of these, God seems to do more than just wink. It's as if you can't avoid the divine, even if you try.

But its not just those moments, states Blackaby, that God is present. God is always present. We're just more aware sometimes, and less aware others. There is a rather popular invocation that you will hear in many churches, especially African American ones, that refers to all the moments those present have already encountered God's grace that day—"You gave me a good night's sleep, You enabled me to get up, You gave me food to eat, and clothes to wear. You gave me the health and ability to come.

Rev. Dr. David Breckenridge, Pastor

You helped me get here, and here I am surrounded by a family of faith that loves me and upholds me..." God is present in such moments. In the smile of a neighbor, child, the tears of a friend, the challenge of a professor, the question of your child. A failure? Yes even, maybe especially, there, God is active comforting, encouraging, teaching.

So may you have eyes to see and ears to hear and hearts and arms open to embrace all the grace and all the truth God has for you...even now.

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Letters

Dear First Baptist Family,

We want to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who made our 25th anniversary celebration so very special. We will never forget all the wonderful surprises which the day held for us!

We really appreciate Tom Pitman, (Choir President), the Choir Officers, and Personnel Committee who planned it all to perfection! We were thrilled at the music by all the different accompanists, the Sanctuary Choir, the Chapel Chorale, the First Five, and Jennifer Mason.

How special it was that the Choir commissioned one of our favorite composers, Mary McDonald, to write an anthem in our honor. "Only God" was just magnificent. What glorious worship!

We were touched by the kind and loving words of those who spoke and prayed that day.

We rejoiced at the beautifully decorated reception. The special love gift from the congregation was munificent, and we will enjoy planning how to spend it.

We are richly blessed to serve this great church! God bless you all.

Ray and Trudy Hatton

Dear Friends,

Carlene, Bill, Jill and I want to express our heartfelt thanks to the Connect 4 Sunday School Class and many others in the church family who have helped us in so many ways with painting, and work around their house. We also appreciate

your prayers and comforting expressions of concern for our family during these difficult times.

Blessings,

Turner Hopkins

Dear First Baptist Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$150.25 to the Hospitality HUB. We will put your contribution to good use in support of our basic mission: to connect individuals with resources they need to begin their journey out of homelessness. We appreciate your generosity and your concern for the homeless.

Sincerely,

**Beatrice Kimmons,
Exec. Director, Hospitality HUB**

THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC PRESENTS DAVID CAUDILL, AN ORGAN RECITAL Sunday, October 9, 4 p.m.

As you probably know, our church is blessed to have one of the finest pipe organs in the Mid-South right here in our Sanctuary. On October 9, we will enjoy hearing it with all its variety of sounds, as David Caudill plays a recital for us. David is a member of our church, and is giving us the gift of this concert.



David has chosen a variety of music for the occasion, including classics by Theodore Dubois, Louis Vierne and Charles-Marie Widor. We will also enjoy some sing alongs including *Hello Dolly* and *Edleweiss*.

Put this date on your calendar now, and invite friends for an afternoon of marvelous music on the king of instruments.

Missions Banquet Silent Auction

Missions Week is fast approaching, and now is a great time to begin praying for this special week in the life of our church. As we pray and plan, the Missions/Ministry team will once again be organizing a silent auction to raise funds for the various agencies that our church will help support. Please consider making a donation of something wonderful for the auction. We will once again need items such as: knitted creations, other handmade crafts, paintings, jewelry, services, gift certificates, antiques, baked goods, etc. You may give your items to one of the members of our auction committee: **Holly Hatton, Trudy Hatton, or Jan Lewis** or drop your items by the church office by Sunday, Nov. 6, in order for these to be included in the auction booklet. For fresh baked goods, just let an auction committee member know what you are planning to bring. With your items, please include the name of the contributor, the value of the item, and the minimum bid you desire. If you have questions, please contact **Holly Hatton** at 428-4068.

Missions Week 2011

Our Missions Week emphasis this year is on Community. As we spend the week of November 6 thinking and praying about how much we can give toward our Missions Offering, we will also be working together as a congregation to serve our community and consider giving more of our time and talents toward being "missionaries" here in Memphis.

Missions Week

November 6-13 Schedule

Sunday, Nov. 6 – **Community Breakfast** 9 a.m.

Morning Worship led by Sarah Jobe

Tuesday, Nov. 8 – **WMU Luncheon and Mission Project**

Wednesday, Nov. 9 – **Serving MIFA: Christmas Bags for Meals on Wheels** in Fellowship Hall
6 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 13 – **Missions Banquet/Silent Auction**
6 p.m., tickets \$15

Family Picnic at Shelby Farms

All young adults and their families are invited to COME PLAY WITH US! Saturday, October 1 at Shelby Farms by the new playground.

- 8:30 a.m. If you wish to ride bikes on the Greenline, meet at Highpoint Terrace. We'll ride our bikes to Shelby Farms.

- 10:00 a.m. Families gather at the new Shelby Farms playground area for a time of play and fellowship.

- 11:30 a.m. Bring a **picnic lunch**, a table cloth to spread, chairs etc. Cold drinks will be provided.

FBC welcomes New Members

Ken & Linda Haywood joined May 29, 2011

Clay & Jennifer Wilson joined August 21, 2011

Paul Travis joined September 18, 2011

Fall Festival

Our annual family fall tradition is back! Join us Saturday, **October 29** from 10 a.m. until noon. There will be candy, a moon bounce, face painting and a movie.

We are in need of baked goods for a cake walk, decorated trunks and candy. Items can be dropped off at the church office.



Creating with God

First Baptist is hosting an intergenerational event for women: A Brunch, Book Study and Signing featuring brand new author, **Sarah Jobe**. She will discuss her new book, *Creating with God* as she leads us on a journey in motherhood. November 5 from 9 a.m. - noon in the Welcome Center and Parlor.

The event is FREE for all mothers, mothers-to-be, grandmothers and great grands. **Make your Reservation** by Wednesday, November 2 by calling the church office, 454-1131. **CHILDCARE IS PROVIDED** with a reservation, please.

Sarah is an ordained minister, prison chaplain, birth doula and author of the book *Creating With God: the Holy, Confusing Gift of Pregnancy*. She is a Duke University educated Old Testament scholar as well as a spiritual and social advocate for women's issues. Her journey through motherhood and ministry inspired this boldly truthful, sometimes funny, and deeply spiritual account of where babies come from and where babies take us. *Creating With God* reveals the ways in which pregnancy is at the heart of God's work in the world. Sarah lives with her husband and two daughters at the Rutba House in Durham, NC.

Boiler Campaign Report

WE'RE ALMOST THERE!!! When the *Get Fired Up!* campaign to replace our boiler system and make improvements to our heating system was announced in June, we were challenged to match \$100,000 which had been donated to First Baptist by the Wills of some dear departed members who had the foresight to remember their church with funds that could help make capital improvements to our beautiful buildings. We took that challenge and, in typical First Baptist fashion, we prayed, dug deep, made sacrifices, and came through with gifts totaling \$54,331 as of Sunday, September 25.

Our *Get Fired Up!* campaign fund will remain open for gifts to continue to be received through 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, **October 12**.

The Finance Committee is so very grateful for ALL gifts received -- the initial \$100,000 in donations from Estates, as well as the additional \$54,331. **To God Be the Glory!!** Some were large gifts made at one time; some were small gifts made on a weekly basis. All were equally sacrificial gifts which were made over and above the regular weekly tithes and offerings which are necessary to continue our ongoing church budget.

The Finance Committee would like to extend its sincere thanks for our members continuing to financially support the 2011 church budget while also making the necessary sacrifices to help our Get Fired Up campaign reach its goal.

Work on installing the new boiler system has already begun and should be completed in time for the heating season. Because of your faithful giving, and the generous gifts from the Estates of our deceased members, we have been able so far to pay the bills received from the heating contractor for these needed improvements to our church buildings. Won't you prayerfully consider how you can help put us "over the top" so that we can be comfortable and warm in our church buildings when winter's chill comes upon us?

4 Memorial & Honoraria, Prayer Partners

Memorials

<u>Given in Memory of:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>
Harry Ward Estes	Mr. & Mrs. Marc Pendley
Ray Young.....	Mr. & Mrs. Marc Pendley Ms. Jean Breedlove Ms. Margaret Jordan
Dewey Middleton.....	Mr. & Mrs. Chester Middleton Ms. Fran Nothern Kris Azlin and Jim Azlin Ms. Kathleene Sims Anonymous Ms. Elizabeth Linder Ms. Bettye Robinson Mr. & Mrs. Howard Schoggen Lee & Rose Bizzel Library Staff Mr. & Mrs. Marc Pendley
Rachel Everett.....	Mr. & Mrs. Joe Powell The LLL Club
Grace Nelson.....	Ms. Betty Drummond Ms. Genevieve Adams
Gladys Thornton	Ms. Virgie Moss
Bob Bracey.....	Ms. Cynthia Spangler

Memory

Honorarias

<u>Given in Honor of:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>
Bobby Rogers.....	Basketball Team
Kathleen Feaster.....	The LLL Club
Ray & Trudy Hatton.....	Dr. & Mrs. David Lewis Dr. & Mrs. John McCall, III

Honor



Prayer Room Partners: SS Leadership

For the month of:
October: Coed Class

Prayer Room Partners: During morning worship

Oct. 2	Margaret Jordan
9	Frances Marks
16	Lois Sandusky
23	Austin Jeter
30	Jan Lewis

Skip Howard Honored

Skip Howard has been named Volunteer of the Year by Friends for Life. He has served as project coordinator for the annual World AIDS Day Marker Project and NAMES Ceremony on our church lawn. The installation this year will be on November 20 and the special ceremony will be December 1.

Hope and Healing Service

Calvary Episcopal Church will host their annual Hope and Healing Service, Sunday, October 23 at 6 p.m.

SCC Welcomes New Board Members

Ted Bruno, CPA at Dixon Hughes Goodman, PLLC joins **Dr. Betty Winter** on the board of the Samaritan Counseling Centers of the Mid-South.

Needlework Group October 27

On the last Thursday of each month from 10 a.m. until noon join us for a time of fun and fellowship to get together and do needlework in the Family Life Center.

Bring a snack to share, your knitting, crocheting, smocking, embroidery, anything you are working on, or want to learn to do, and let's have fun getting to know each other.



Needlework Group

FBDS Collecting Plastic Bags

First Baptist Church member, we need you help! We are collecting plastic bags from stores like, Kroger, Target, Wal-Mart, etc... We will be using them in the classrooms to dispose of diapers in the trash cans. There will be a collection box located on the church's welcome center desk. Please fill free to drop off any bags that you are not using.

We will continually be using these bags in the classrooms, so please feel free to donate throughout the year. Thank you in advance for your contribution.

Offering Bearers, Library Corner 5

Richard Wright's Roast



The Youth of First Baptist posed with Rev. Richard Wright at the conclusion of his Roast & BBQ Dinner on Aug. 28. A celebratory dinner of BBQ and key lime pie was followed by skits from the youth and reflections from church members.

Offering Bearers for October

Oct. 2: Noah Sewell and
Carson Wright

Oct. 9: Ben and Nathan
Payson

Oct. 16: JP Tyner and
Patrick Bruno

Oct. 23: Justin Jabbour and
Ellis Rich

Oct. 30: Jessica Weaver

TBCH Food Drive

Sunday, October 2 is the last day to bring in non-perishable food for our annual Tennessee Baptist Children's Home Food Drive.

Items can be left at the Welcome Center desk on that Sunday. All items collected will be taken to the Children's Home October 3.

Thank you for your continual dedication to this ministry.



TN CBH
Food Drive

Sunday Brunch Back by Demand

Many who attended the brunch Sept. 18 asked us to do this again soon. So, please mark your calendars **October 16**. Please RSVP by October 12.

Getting to Know Your Neighbors

The Church of the Holy Communion will be hosting a Public Service Event: *Getting to Know Our Muslim Neighbors* on Tuesday, October 4 at 7 p.m.

MJMRC Library Corner

Children's Books

- *No Dogs Allowed* by Anne Davis
- *Look Out Suzy Goose* by Petr Horacek
- *The Baby In the Hat* by Allan Ahlberg
- *How the Tiny People Grew Tall* by Nancy Wood
- *This First Thanksgiving Day* by Laura Melmed

Adult's Books

- *The Judgement* by Beverly Lewis
- *Beginner's Grace* by Kate Braestrup
- *The Evangelist* by Lewis A Drummond
- *The Symphony of Scripture* by Mark Strom
- *Life-Style Evangelism* by Joseph C. Adrick

Ray & Trudy Hatton's 25th Anniversary



Ray and Trudy Hatton pose with their family at a reception in honor of 25 years of service to First Baptist Church. A special service was held with reflections, "surprise" guests, songs written by Ray Hatton and beautiful music. During the reception a love offering given by the Church was presented to them.