



First Servant Weekly

Dr. Gil McKee, Senior Pastor

December 4, 2008

Volume 7, Issue 49

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Ministry Opportunities	2
Our Investment	3
Staff Contacts	3
Wednesday Menu	3
Hospital List	3
Schedule of Events	4

50th Anniversary

Celebrating 50 Years of Worship in our Sanctuary
December 7, 2008

Fifty years ago this Sunday First Baptist Church held the Formal Opening of its new Sanctuary. They commemorated this new beginning with a week of special services and important guest speakers, including the president of the WMU; the leaders of the Home (North American) and Foreign (International) Mission Boards, and Dr. Frank Rose, then President of the University of Alabama. During the morning services on Sunday, December 7 we will celebrate the faith, sacrifice and vision of those who made the Sanctuary possible.

This Sunday:

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Prelude

Donna McCown (8:30)

Orchestra (11:00)

Lottie Moon Offering
Emphasis

Welcome to Worship
Dr. Gil McKee

No Other Name

*O For a Thousand
Tongues to Sing*

Sing Noel
with African Noel
Worship Choir

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Offertory Prayer
Dusty Jones
Student Ministry Associate

*Thou Didst Leave
Thy Throne*
Kolson Lamb, Violin

Morning Message
Dr. Gil McKee

Here I Am to Worship

The Doxology

SURVIVAL SUNDAY

December 7

Surviving the Holidays:

Help for the divorced and separated

5:00-7:00 p.m. in Room 313, Children's Center

If you're separated or divorced, the holidays can be a lonely, stressful and depressing time. But there's hope. Join us for an encouraging seminar to discover how to enjoy the holidays again. For more information, visit www.divorcecare.org.

Surviving the Financial Crunch:

Orientation for Dave Ramsey's *Financial Peace University*

5:00-6:00 p.m. in Room 236, Multi-Purpose Building

Our next FPU class will begin on Wednesday, January 14. To find out more about Dave Ramsey's FPU, visit www.daveramsey.com.



Christmas at First
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH TUSCALOOSA



Friday, December 12, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 13, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 14, 4:00 & 7:00 p.m.

To request free tickets please visit our website at www.firsttuscaloosa.org. Completed ticket orders may be picked up from the table in the Eighth Street Welcome Center. Tickets are recommended to guarantee seating.



Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means.
2 Corinthians 8:11

Pledge Update

If you have not yet had an opportunity to complete a pledge card to indicate your planned support of the mission and ministries of First Baptist Church, you may still do so. Simply mail or bring your completed pledge cards to the main church office. Through Sunday, November 30 we have received pledges totaling **\$1,803,576** toward the plan total of **\$3,956,651**.

Christmas Gift Idea

First Ladies cookbook, *Pass the Plate Again*

Special Price: \$10

Available at this price on December 7 and 14 only. Look for the table near the Eighth Street Welcome Center.

Children's Choir and Missions

Sunday, December 7

- The Preschool four's and five's choir will sing in the evening worship service. Please have your child in the Sanctuary at 5:00 p.m. for rehearsal. The worship service will begin at 6:00 p.m.
- Children in first-fifth grade will have a *Bible Skills, Drills and Thrills* Christmas party at 6:00 p.m. in the Children's Center.

Wednesday, December 10

- Preschoolers will follow their regular choir and missions schedule.
- Children in first-fifth grade will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 5:45 p.m. for our International Mission Study. They will remain in the Fellowship Hall at 6:35 p.m. as they assemble into their choir groups for the *Christmas at First* dress rehearsal. They will return to the Fellowship Hall at 7:30 p.m. for pick up.

December 12, 13, 14 - Christmas at First

The first-fifth grade choirs will meet in the Fellowship Hall 30 minutes before each performance.

Wednesday, December 17

- Preschoolers will follow their regular choir and missions schedule.
- First-fifth grade children will carol at local nursing homes from 5:45-7:30 p.m.

International Mission Study

Wednesday, December 10

5:45-6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Special Guests: Jim and Evelyn Sexton

The Sextons serve with the International Mission Board in Santiago, Chile.

Anyone is welcome to attend the mission study.

It will take the place of the Mid-Week Devotion.

Children in first-fifth grade should come directly to the Fellowship

Hall at 5:45 p.m. Parents are invited to stay for this missions event.



Canned Food Drive

The Community Soup Bowl is feeding more people than ever before and they need our help. Our church supports this important mission

financially but we can also help by donating canned vegetables and fruit, and elbow macaroni.

Sunday school classes may help by donating the large industrial-size cans and individuals may bring smaller cans. Please place the items in the marked bins throughout the church.



Word of Thanks

Thank you so much for all the cards, telephone calls and other expressions of love and sympathy during the recent death of my brother. Your care and concern have really helped during this difficult time.

- Martha Henderson

Did you know?

You can read and print the latest edition of this newsletter from our church website on **Wednesday** of each week. **Simply visit www.firsttuscaloosa.org** and click on the **Publications** photo at the bottom left. This will take you to a listing of all the newsletters, brochures and other publications available for download. Select the *First Servant Weekly* to read this newsletter.

In 2009 we will also begin sending this newsletter and other church publications by email. Contact Barbara Smith at 345-7554 or barbara@fbctuscaloosa.org to let her know if you would like to receive your publications from First Baptist by email, or if you need to continue receiving newsletters by U.S. mail.

Minister on Call

In case of an emergency need during the weekend (5:00 p.m. Friday - 8:00 a.m. Monday), please call 535-5988.

Recently Hospitalized

As of 12/02/08:

Children's Hospital:

Addison Brown

Forest Manor Rehab:

Jeanie Newell

Henrietta Marshall

Sympathy to:

- Rita Miller and family in the death of her mother; Heather Zark and family in the death of her grandmother.
- Bobby Booth and family in the death of his mother.
- Brenda Carpenter and family in the death of her father.
- Jack McCown and family in the death of his mother; Christopher and Ellen McCown in the death of their grandmother.

December 7 Volunteers

Russell Special Education

Celia Bracknell

TV Ministry

Mark Gurganus, Jim Hamner, Rick Dowling, Randy Glover

Welcome New Member

by Letter/Statement:

5: Laura Meherg

Wednesday Menu

December 10, 2008

The Family Night Meal is served from 4:45-6:00 p.m.

Fried Chicken

with creamed potatoes and gravy, English peas, pear salad, biscuit, cookies

Baked Chicken

with same sides

Salad Bar

Kids: Pizza and chips

No reservations are needed.



November 30, 2008

Weekly Ministry Budget Need	74,035.75
Ministry Plan Gifts	\$62,738.78
Difference	(\$11,296.97)

Touching Tomorrow Today	\$5,999.00
Designated Gifts	\$2,215.00
Total Gifts	\$70,952.78

2008 Mission/Ministry Plan Summary

Year-to-Date Need	\$3,553,716.00
Actual Year-to-Date Gifts	\$3,003,183.90
Difference	(\$550,532.10)

Gifts given in Memory of:

Mildred Bailey, Bill Patrick, Nell Reed, Jim Sherwood, Edward K. Wood

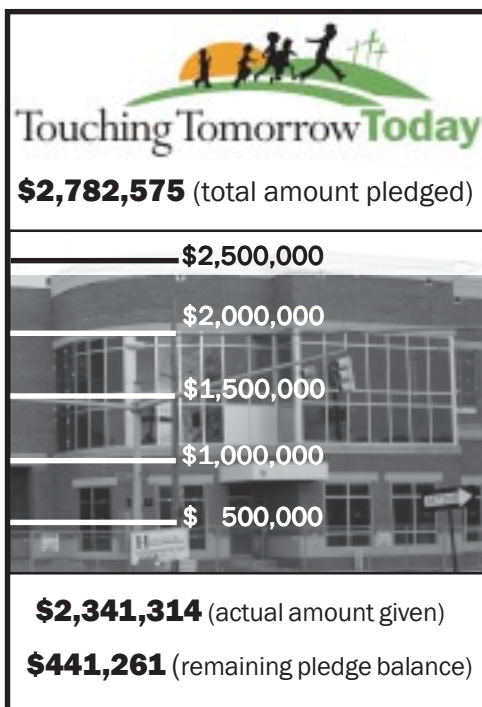
Gifts given in Honor of:

Marianne Bryan, Betty Edwards, Sue Mobley, Mary Helen Terry

Bible Study Attendance

Sunday School - November 30, 2008

	Enrollment	Attendance
Preschool	179	95
Children	204	114
Students	213	124
College	229	76
Adults	1422	595
Total	2247	1004



First Baptist Tuscaloosa

721 Greensboro Ave.
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

205-345-7554

Children's Center:
205-391-3115

Child Development
Program
205-366-4411

www.firsttuscaloosa.org

Gil McKee

Senior Pastor

Gil@fbctuscaloosa.org

Kris Sullivan

Business Administrator

KSullivan@fbctuscaloosa.org

Matt Rouse

Minister of Music

MRouse@fbctuscaloosa.org

Vial Fontenet

Minister of Missions &
Ministry

Vial@fbctuscaloosa.org

Carl Wells

Minister to Senior Adults

Carl@fbctuscaloosa.org

Joe Armour

Minister to Adults &

Outreach

JArmour@fbctuscaloosa.org

Tim Simpson

Minister to College

Tim@fbctuscaloosa.org

John Lowe

Minister to Students

Lowedown@fbctuscaloosa.org

Dusty Jones

Student Ministry Associate

Dusty@fbctuscaloosa.org

Beth Yates

Minister of Childhood

Education

BYates@fbctuscaloosa.org

Lecretia Mitchell

Preschool Ministry

Associate

LMitchell@fbctuscaloosa.org

Sunday, December 7

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:30-11:00 Library Open
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship
- 4:00 p.m. *Christmas at First* rehearsal
- 4:30 ESL classes
- 5:00 FPU Orientation
- 5:00 Surviving the Holidays
- 6:00 Evening Worship
- 6:00 *Bible Skills, Drills, Thrills*
- 7:11 Freshman Bible Study

Tuesday, December 9

- 1:30 p.m. Body Recall

Wednesday, December 10

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer (Chapel)
- 9:00 First Ladies Bible Study
- 2:00-7:30 Library Open
- 3:00 p.m. Pre-Game (Students)
- 4:45-6:00 Family Night Meal
- 5:00 First Ladies Prayer
- 5:30 Spanish Bible study
- 5:45-6:30 Mid-Week Devotion
- 5:45-6:30 International Mission Study
- 5:45-6:30 Preschool Choir
- 6:00-7:15 The Arena (Students)
- 6:15-7:45 ESL classes
- 6:30-7:30 Children's Choirs
- 6:35-8:00 Worship Choir/Orchestra
- 6:40-7:30 Preschool Missions
- 8:00 Chinese Prayer Service

Thursday, December 11

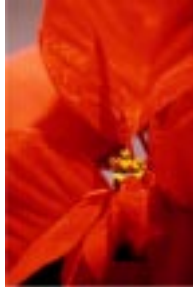
- 9:30 a.m. ESL Classes
- 11:00 First Ladies Prayer shawl
- 1:30 p.m. Body Recall
- 6:30 Deacons' Christmas Banquet
- 7:00 Young Single Adult Bible Study at the Yeagers'

Friday, December 12

- 7:00 p.m. Chinese Bible study
- 7:00 Christmas at First

Saturday, December 13

- 4:00 p.m. Christmas at First
- 6:00 International Ministry Christmas Party



Poinsettia Sunday

The poinsettias are placed in the Sanctuary this Sunday by our Adult Sunday School classes in honor of our homebound members, family and friends.

Discover First

Learn More about First Baptist Church!

An orientation session called "Discover First" will meet Sunday morning, December 14. This special class is for new adult members of First Baptist Church and for those interested in learning more about our church and the Baptist faith. Beginning at 8:45 a.m. in Room 301 on the third floor in the Children's Center, participants will "discover" about our Baptist faith and heritage and about the staff, the ministries, and the ministry opportunities at First Baptist. We will conclude with a luncheon for the entire family at 12:00 noon followed by a brief tour of our church facility. Bible study and activities will be provided for children and youth during the morning session of Discover First. For more information please contact Barbara Smith in the church office at 345-7554 or barbara@fbctuscaloosa.org.

**Lottie Moon Offering
for International Missions
Our Goal: \$75,000
Given to Date: \$2,940**



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

721 Greensboro Avenue ~ Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401
205.345.7554 ~ Fax 205.391.3108 ~ www.fbctuscaloosa.org
~ Prayer Line 205.366.4430 ~

First Servant Weekly

December 4, 2008

First Servant Weekly (USPS 020629) is published weekly except Christmas week by The First Baptist Church of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, 721 Greensboro Ave., Tuscaloosa, AL 35401. Periodicals Postage Paid at Tuscaloosa, AL 35401. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to The First Baptist Church of Tuscaloosa, 721 Greensboro Avenue, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401.

"The Living Word," our Worship Service broadcast -
11:00 a.m. every Sunday

