



# First Servant Weekly

Dr. Gil McKee, Senior Pastor

November 26, 2008

Volume 7, Issue 48

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## This Sunday:

**8:30 & 11:00 a.m.**

Prelude  
Donna McCown

Lottie Moon Offering  
Emphasis

*Brethren, We Have  
Met to Worship*

Welcome to Worship  
Dr. Gil McKee

*Friend of God*

*How Can I Keep  
From Singing*  
Worship Choir

*To God Be the Glory*

Offertory Prayer  
Joe Armour  
Minister to Adults & Outreach

*He Loved Me with a Cross*  
Candy Hocutt

**Morning Message**  
**Dr. Gil McKee**

*Just As I Am*

*The Bond of Love*

**GO TELL**  
the story of Jesus

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS  
AND INTERNATIONAL MISSION STUDY  
NOV. 30 - DEC. 7, 2008

National Goal: \$170 million  
**LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING®**

**Our Goal: \$75,000**

## 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](http://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](http://www.daveramsey.com).

## Christmas Gift to Parents

**Parents' Morning Out:** Saturday, December 6 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Visit the Children's Center to sign up your children for this fun event. Cost is \$6.00 per child (\$18 per family maximum) and must be paid at the time of reservation. The deadline to pay and sign up is Sunday, November 30.

## Word from the Pastor...

As you know, there are two very important events taking place this week – Thanksgiving and “The Iron Bowl.” Now you are probably wondering why I would mention those two totally different and unrelated events in the same sentence, aren’t you? Well, they may not be as totally unrelated as you might think. Here’s what I mean.



The wise King Solomon wrote these words of wisdom: **“As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.”** Proverbs 27:17 (NIV) At a time like Thanksgiving, when we all should once again count our many blessings, I cannot but include at the top of my own list of blessings the wonderful joy and privilege it is to serve as your pastor.

It is hard to believe that almost nine years have passed since we began our journey together. During those years we have experienced many wonderful times along with some tough times as well. But the outcome has been, and continues to be, a sharpening of one another.

I hope that each of you can identify some ways in which my relationship with you has sharpened and blessed your life, whether through a sermon, or a phone call or note on a special occasion, or a visit during a time of bereavement or illness, or a passing word of encouragement in the hallway, or in some way of which I may not even be aware. I just hope that God has used me in some way to bless your life.

But you can be absolutely sure that the people of First Baptist Church have been a blessing to me. You have sharpened and blessed me in so many ways. You have encouraged me, supported me with your prayers, been patient with me, and overlooked my faults and mistakes at times.

And you have also sharpened me and made me a better pastor. Sometimes that sharpening has come through a note or call or visit or a constructive suggestion. But God has used it all to continue his sharpening and refining in my life. And I want to thank you for the blessing it has been to me.

As we begin to wind down another year and prepare to start a new year of ministry together, I just want you to know how much I love you and how thankful I am to be known in Tuscaloosa as the pastor of First Baptist Church. Other than the titles “husband” and “dad,” I can’t think of a title I would be more proud of. And I look forward to many more years of iron sharpening. Happy Thanksgiving!

*Bro. Gil*

P.S. “ROLL TIDE!”

## 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 will meet in the Fellowship Hall for this study and then go to Children’s Choir to practice for *Christmas at First*.



## Coats for our Community

Share the warmth by donating new or gently used coats, jackets, hats, mittens, gloves and new socks. All sizes – infants through adults – are needed. Please be sure the items are clean and in good repair. The collection box will be in the Children’s Center Lobby through Sunday, November 30.

## 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, canned fruit, and elbow macaroni. Sunday school classes can help by donating the large industrial-size cans and individuals can bring smaller cans. Please place the items in the marked bins throughout the church. We will continue this food drive through December.

## Senior Adventure Ministry

Triple L Monthly Meeting and Lunch: Tuesday, December 2 at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

## Christmas at First

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 email Diane Gaddy at [dgaddy@fbctuscaloosa.org](mailto:dgaddy@fbctuscaloosa.org); visit our website at [www.firsttuscaloosa.org](http://www.firsttuscaloosa.org) or stop by the table in the Eighth Street Welcome Center. Completed ticket orders may also be picked up from the table in the Welcome Center. Tickets are recommended to guarantee seating.

## 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 11/24/08:

### DCH Regional Med Center:

Addison Brown  
Henrietta Marshall

### Northport Med Center:

Jeanie Newell

### Baptist East - Memphis:

Summer Riles

### Glen Haven Rehab:

Sam McGee

### Forest Manor Rehab:

Claude Hendrickson

## Sympathy to:

Meryl Sherwood and family in the death of her husband, Jim Sherwood.

## Congratulations to:

Rhett and Casey Jordan in the birth of a baby girl, Mary Price Jordan, on Thursday, November 20, 2008.

## November 30 Volunteers

### Russell Special Education

Midy Holt

## Welcome New Member

by Baptism:

2: Virginia Burch

## Wednesday Menu

December 3, 2008

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

### Beef Spaghetti

with green beans, tossed salad, garlic bread, strawberry shortcake

### Baked Chicken

with same sides plus rice pilaf

### Salad Bar

Kids: Hot dog and fries

*No reservations are needed.*



### November 23, 2008

Weekly Ministry Budget Need	74,035.75
Ministry Plan Gifts	\$41,002.15
Difference	(\$33,033.60)

Touching Tomorrow Today	\$2,846.83
Designated Gifts	\$6,016.00
<b>Total Gifts</b>	<b>\$49,864.98</b>

### 2008 Mission/Ministry Plan Summary

Year-to-Date Need	\$3,479,680.25
Actual Year-to-Date Gifts	\$2,940,755.12
Difference	(\$538,925.13)

### Gifts given in Memory of:

Mildred Bailey, L.A. Brown,  
Sandra Drummond, Anne Johnston,  
Charlene Myers, Nell Reed

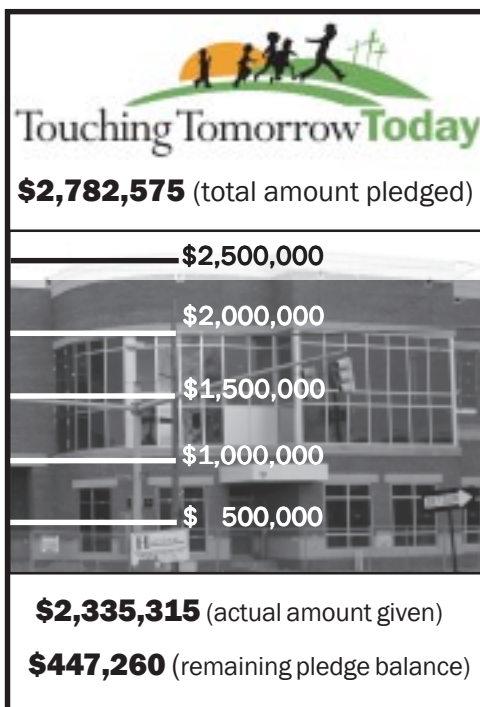
### Gifts given in Honor of:

Emmie Steele Avery, Martha Henderson,  
Elizabeth Mills

## Bible Study Attendance

### Sunday School - November 23, 2008

	Enrollment	Attendance
Preschool	179	97
Children	204	85
Students	213	111
College	229	63
Adults	1422	669
<b>Total</b>	<b>2247</b>	<b>1025</b>



### First Baptist Tuscaloosa

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## Sunday, November 30

8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:30-11:00 Library Open  
9:45 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship  
12:00 p.m. Spanish church luncheon  
4:00 p.m. *Christmas at First*  
rehearsal  
6:00 NO evening worship or  
other activities

## Tuesday, December 2

10:30 a.m. Triple L Monthly meeting  
1:30 p.m. Body Recall  
7:00 Epic: College Bible study

## Wednesday, December 3

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  
5:00-6:00 Stewardship Committee  
5:30 Spanish Bible study  
5:45-6:30 Mid-Week Devotion  
5:45-6:30 Preschool Choir  
5:45-7:30 Children's Choirs  
5:45-7:15 First Ladies Bible studies  
6:00-7:00 Adult DiscipleLife  
6:00-7:15 The Arena (Students)  
6:15-7:45 ESL classes  
6:35-8:00 Worship Choir/Orchestra  
6:40-7:30 Preschool Missions  
8:00 Chinese Prayer Service

## Thursday, December 4

9:30 a.m. ESL Classes  
12:00 p.m. First Ladies Luncheon  
1:30 Body Recall  
7:00 Young Single Adult Bible  
Study at the Yeagers'

## Friday, December 5

7:00 p.m. Chinese Bible study

## Saturday, December 6

9:00 a.m. Parents' Morning Out  
2:30 p.m. Student Ministry Tailgate

### **Mission Statement:**

First Baptist Church meets to **magnify** Jesus Christ and **multiply** His Kingdom, to mature believers into effective Christ-followers, and to **minister** to others in Jesus' name.

## 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. Reservations are required by Wednesday, December 3. For more information or to sign up, please contact Barbara Smith in the church office at 345-7554 or [barbara@fbctuscaloosa.org](mailto:barbara@fbctuscaloosa.org).

## First Ladies Luncheon

### **with special guest Cindy Mayfield, Missionary to Honduras**

First Ladies Noon Luncheon is Thursday, December 4 in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch is served beginning at 11:45 a.m. Please call the office for a reservation. Our speaker will be Cindy Mayfield, who along with her husband, Mark, serves with Baptist Medical-Dental Mission International. They were the hosts for our Honduras mission team in July. Cindy graciously agreed to drive from Florence to speak to our group. Please help us have a good attendance to show our support for Cindy and her family.



*The flowers are placed in the Sanctuary this Sunday  
in loving memory of Ryan Jones by Chuck and Annette Jones.*

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

721 Greensboro Avenue ~ Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401  
205.345.7554 ~ Fax 205.391.3108 ~ [www.fbctuscaloosa.org](http://www.fbctuscaloosa.org)  
~ Prayer Line 205.366.4430 ~

## *First Servant Weekly*

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