

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, May 27
 PENTECOST
 8:15 A.M. First Worship
 9:30 A.M. Sunday School
 Hispanic Worship FLC
 10:45 A.M. Second Worship
 6:00 P.M. FAMILY NIGHT
 No Evening Worship

Monday, May 28
 CHURCH OFFICE &
 FLC Closed

Tuesday, May 29
 2:00 P.M. VBS Youth Training

Wednesday, May 30
 5:00 P.M. Supper Line Opens
 Chi Rho
 Youth Track Times
 ESL #145
 6:30 P.M. Sanctuary Choir
 Prayer Meeting
 7:30 P.M. FLC Open until 9:00

Thursday, May 31
 6:30 P.M. Chi Rho Dress Reh.

Friday, June 1
 9:30 A.M. Fun Friday

Saturday, June 2
 8:00 A.M. Chi Rho Choir departs
 for Florida

Sunday, June 3
 8:15 A.M. First Worship
 9:30 A.M. Sunday School
 Hispanic Worship FLC
 10:45 A.M. Second Worship
 6:00 P.M. Evening Worship

55+ Adult Day honorees



Lois and Bob Weatherholt, Tom Little, and Michael Prowse were recognized during 55+ Adult Day on May 6 for their dedicated service at First Baptist Church.

BUDGET & ATTENDANCE REPORTS

| | | | |
|--|----------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Budget (05/20/07) | | Sunday School Attendance | |
| Budget Goal per Week | \$28,919.00 | <i>Attendance Reports (05/20/07)</i> | |
| Budget Gifts this Week | \$24,069.77 | General Officers | 4 |
| Difference from Goal | -\$4,849.23 | Preschool | 59 |
| Total Designated Gifts | \$11,393.00 | Children | 53 |
| Total Gifts this Week | \$35,462.77 | Youth | 34 |
| Budget Goal to Date | \$1,359,193.00 | Adults | 345 |
| Budget Gifts to Date | \$1,355,985.96 | Total | 495 |
| Difference from Goal | -\$3,207.04 | | |
| Budget Gifts to Date Last Year | \$1,325,879.84 | | |
| Increase from Prior Year | \$30,106.12 | | |
| Higher, Greater, Together Year to Date | \$98,682.33 | | |
| Higher, Greater, Together Total Gifts | \$2,531,783.79 | | |

We should give to God in a spirit of joyfulness.
 "...God loves a cheerful giver."
 (2 Corinthians 9:7)

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

DEACONS OF THE WEEK
 Robert Fuller - Chief Deacon
 John Zhu
 Richard Cashion
 Howard Stephenson
7 p.m. Phone Duty: Wayne Leimer

WEDNESDAY DINNER - 05/30
 Taco salad bar, dessert

WEDNESDAY VOLUNTEERS - 05/30
5:00 – Mr. & Mrs. Lonnie Donaldson, Barbara Clouse, Ann Hertzfeldt
5:45 – Mr. & Mrs. Randall Ramsey, Mr. & Mrs. Marlin Collins

EXTENDED SESSION - 05/27
Bed Babies - Ralph & Paige Mills, Sharon King
Creepers - Howard & Melanie Hutcherson
Toddlers - Mike Wilson, Mary Ann Bayless
2's - Linda Wade, Cicely Scott

3's - Megan Trotter, Linda Venturino
 To add prayer requests please call the church or visit our web page at www.fbccookeville.org.

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First Chronicles

Chronicling the life of the First Baptist Family

Shorty Winningham celebrates 100th birthday

Elmer (Shorty) Winningham celebrated his 100th birthday Friday, May 25.



"Shorty" Winningham

Shorty is the longest living member of First Baptist Church. He and his late wife Geneva joined First Baptist in 1954. He is still very active and just recently planted his vegetable garden.

Shorty was reared in Monroe, TN, and started working for the state when he was 14 years old, driving a model T truck and providing supply parts to workers. He spent a number of years in Detroit working for Chrysler and Ford before returning to Cookeville.

Shorty has a very positive outlook on living and says that "every morning when I wake up I say today is a good day, and tomorrow is going to be better."

Chi Rho embarks on Summer Tour

The Chi Rho Youth Choir will be leaving this Saturday, June 2, for their annual summer tour. This year the choir will be traveling to Florida. Chi Rho has been invited to sing as a demonstration choir at the national meeting of the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference. This annual conference will be held at First Baptist Church, Winter Park, Fla. Their performance at the SBCMC will be on Monday afternoon.

Prior to arriving at the conference, the youth choir will be

staying at the Norman Park Baptist Conference Center in southern Georgia. They will be singing at First Baptist, Norman Park on Sunday morning and at First Baptist, Apopka, Fla. on Sunday evening.

Following the conference, Chi Rho will depart Winter Park on Tuesday and drive east to the Kennedy Space Center. After a



See Chi Rho on Page 2

Pastor's Heart

THE CHURCH TODAY

Today brings to an end our quarter long study about our Baptist History and Theology. I pray that you have a stronger grasp of your heritage and faith. If you missed any of the Sunday School lessons or any of the messages, I hope that you will request copies for your personal study and understanding.

This morning we are looking at God's word concerning the local church. God has ordained the church for His worship and our benefit. One of the great blessings of life is the support, prayers, and community of the local church.

Pray for your church, her pastor and her people. Be involved and committed. Grow in your service and leadership. God will bless you through and in your church.

MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day reminds us again of the dedicated lives of those who have served our country through the years. Today, we remember with gratitude those who have given themselves in the cause of freedom so that we might live in freedom and worship freely.

Even now our U.S. soldiers are braving bombs, bullets, and mines (as they have done in past generations) so that we might be here safely raising our children, worshipping our God, and living our lives. We give thanks to God for each of the men and women, past and present, who saw their lives as not so precious as to sacrifice freedom. God bless them and their families.

God bless you who have served in our military.

OUR CHILDREN'S SAFETY

On Wednesday of this week the story broke in our local paper of a former member of First Baptist who is accused of child molestation in the Kingsport area. As always, when something like this is reported my heart is broken and my head is challenged to make sure that we are doing

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Scripture Memory

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6

CHI RHO: Choir to minister in FL

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The Chi Rho Youth Choir ministered at a drug rehabilitation center during the 2006 Tour to the Gulf Coast.

tour of the NASA facility, the choir will visit Cocoa Beach.

On Wednesday, the choir will visit St. Augustine before arriving in Jacksonville for an evening concert. The concert will be held at Southside United Methodist Church, which is where Fran Owen serves as minister of youth. Fran has organized a conclave of 12 churches for the evening. She has invited Methodist, Baptist, and Presbyterian youth groups to the evening concert and fellowship meal.

Activities for Thursday involve returning to Norman Park for the evening. Chi Rho will present a concert at an assisted living home in Moultrie, Ga. in the afternoon. Following dinner, the choir will sing a program for the other guests at the Norman Park Conference Center.

On Friday, June 8, the choir will drive home and should return in the evening. Choir director Jonathan Nelms observes, "Our summer tour is always a great time of ministry, outreach, and fellowship. Our youth grow closer to one another and to the Lord. We ask everyone to pray for the safety and effectiveness of our trip."

A record 51 youth and adults are planning to participate in this year's tour. The seven-day trip will include numerous performances at churches, Christian ministries, and public venues. The choir usually sings a few songs at restaurants, hotels, tourist areas, and anywhere people will listen. Their singing opens doors to witness and share the Gospel. They pray that God will open hearts and minds as they share their faith with others.

Details and daily reports from the choir tour can be found at <http://xpyc.blogspot.com>. Jonathan will be posting prayer requests, comments, and photos to the blog throughout each day of the tour. Prayerful support of the youth choir is essential to its continued success.

The youth choir season will conclude with a home concert and share service on Sunday evening, June 10, at 6:00 p.m. Encompassing the evening worship service, this meaningful annual event is followed by a fellowship where photos, anecdotes, and awards are presented. The service and fellowship is open to all church members and their families.

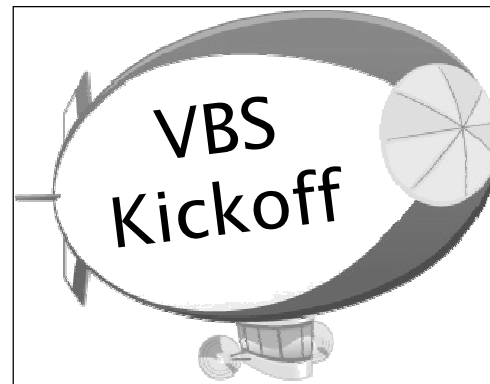
WMU Day Bible Study Group

The WMU Day Bible Study Group will not meet through the summer. The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 7 at 9:30 a.m.

VBS Training for Youth



New Time & Date
Wednesday, May 30
6:30 p.m.
Fourth floor



Sunday, June 17
4:00-6:00 p.m.

Mini sports camps, bounce house, races, music, hotdogs, sno-cones, cotton candy! LOTS OF FUN! Call the church office for more information.

A Mountaintop Marriage

Note: This is the first part of an article written by Marvin Owen, pastor of Lincoya Hills Baptist Church in Nashville, that originally appeared in Deacon Magazine. The second part of this article will appear in next week's Chronicles.

The following e-mail recently arrived from a close friend whose dad had passed away. It spoke as much about a marriage as it did about a death.

I just wanted you to know that my Dad passed away today at about 5:30. I was there with him. It's probably best that Mom wasn't with us because it would have been too hard on her. Mom and Dad had one of the best marriages I have ever witnessed. They were married 32 years, together the whole time, and as happy at the end as in the beginning.

I am still looking for that. Others are looking for that too, but not all are successful. What is it that makes that kind of marriage? Why do many people – including Christians – find so little satisfaction in what should be the most intimate, supportive, fulfilling relationship with another person?

The principles and practices of a great marriage apply whether you're helping another couple or implementing them yourself. But great marriages – mountaintop marriages – don't just happen. They take commitment, work, and perseverance. I'd suggest seven ways you can make it happen in your life.

Save Your Best for Your Marriage

We live in stressful times. The pace of life is frantic. Even with convenience stores, drive-through car washes, microwave dinners, and other time savers, it's hard to find family and personal time. At home, we just want to relax.

Men and women are tired. With responsibilities at church, it can seem insurmount-

able. An important step you can take is to calendar family time. Make an appointment with your wife. Don't give her or your children the leftovers. There may be times that you can't control the commitments in your life, but you can make long-term adjustments to offer your spouse your best. The business you're in doesn't matter much if you can't enjoy it with those you love.

Keep the Fires of Romance Hot

During courtship, the excitement of seeing each other never fades. In marriage, sadly, that's often not the case. People may grow apart. Dating is a rare activity. The romance fades as responsibilities grow. But you can take the initiative to turn that around and share the thrill of romance again.

Bring her a rose or another gift she'll enjoy. Meet after work or at lunch. Think of the things you enjoyed doing together and do them. This might be as simple as having a burger and a milk shake together. Surprise your wife with a night out. Send a thoughtful note. Let her know you still cherish her and enjoy spending moments with her.

Understand and Meet Your Partner's Needs

We all have different needs. You may not know what your wife's are, but she has them. There are several practical ways you can discover her needs. Look at what she does. Listen to the things she expresses-both irritations and dreams. Ask her how you can be a better husband or what would make her life more complete.

When there's something you see that needs to be done, lend a hand. Notice when the dishes need to be washed, the clothes folded, the trash emptied, the bed made, or a pet cared for. She may need a hug and a kiss, or she may want to hold hands. She may need to hear the words, "I love you, and I've missed you today."



PASTOR'S HEART

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everything prudent to insure that our children are safe.

No allegations have surfaced here in regard to this recent case in Kingsport, nor do we have indication that there will be any. Let me assure you that if any were to arise, we would quickly alert the proper people and seek help for all involved. Those involved in the Kingsport incident have not been members in our fellowship for over seven years. Still, if you have concerns or issues involving any possible harm to a child, please call me or one of our staff members.

Making sure that we have adequate policies and procedure to insure that our children are protected has been one of the highest priorities of my ministry. That is why over the last number of years, your church has researched the issue, conducted training, and established policies for all volunteers and staff members who are in contact with children. When I arrived as your pastor, I insisted that the church run a background check on me, first, and then on each of our ministers. All employees are now screened before hiring. We want to be transparent and thorough in our safety measures.

I pray that there has never been nor will there ever be any molestation or abuse associated with our church. We work diligently in all of our programs to make sure that each worker (volunteer or paid) has had a background check and that multiple workers are always present with our children. I continually warn, you as parents, that your children should be monitored as they move through the building on Sunday and at other times. Church buildings, by their nature, are very open and accessible to others.

Sometimes, as a staff, we are criticized for the paperwork, installation of video monitors, safety measures installed for the office staff, or background checks run on members that are now required, but we live in a different world from that which many of us remember. These measures, put in place over the last number of years, were instituted as proactive measures to prevent problems and protect our church family. This incident in Kingsport and the recent assault of a secretary at one of our local churches reminds us again of how prudent these measures are.

Again, I remind you that no measures are foolproof. The protection of our children and our church family is a responsibility that each member needs to embrace. If you ever encounter anything suspicious or dangerous, make sure to report it to the ministers or church office.

Our deacons recently reviewed video training dealing with child safety issues. Our staff is constantly reviewing our policies and procedures concerning children. Safety training is often scheduled for those who work with our children. Protection of our children is a high priority. These incidents reported are a good reminder of why we continue to implement and insist upon such things.

I think that you will find that we at First Baptist have stayed ahead of the issues that are arising in our time. Help us to do so. Pray for us as we do so.

See you in worship.

In His Love,
Pastor Randy