

First Chronicles

Chronicling the life of the First Baptist Family

Chi Rho on the move

The Chi Rho Youth Choir of First Baptist continues to grow in many ways. This Friday, this choir of seventh through 12th graders will be traveling to Jefferson City, Tennessee for the annual Youth Choir Project. This statewide festival is sponsored by the Tennessee Baptist Convention and Carson-Newman College. More than 500 youth have already registered for the event, which encompasses two days of rehearsal, worship, and recreation. The event culminates in the recording of a compact disc featuring all of the music rehearsed at the project.

Last June, Chi Rho traveled to Winter Park, Florida to serve as the



The Chi Rho Youth Choir worked with Dr. Jeffery Redding at the national Baptist Church Music Conference in Winter Park, Florida last June (above). Dr. Redding will also be conducting rehearsals at the Youth Project this week.

Chi Rho will be singing in the evening service tonight at 6:00 p.m. This service is one of many in which the choir will provide worship leadership. Chi Rho will sing again on Sunday morning, February 3. Each of these services as well as special events such as the choir retreat last November and the Youth Project helps prepare youth choir members for their annual summer mission tour.

Tentative plans for this year's summer tour include a stay in Savannah, Georgia. Scheduled for May 31 through June 6, this trip will include opportunities to sing in churches, nursing homes, homeless shelters, and public venues around the historic city. Plans are already being made for the choir to perform in Savannah's beautiful cathedral. The cost of the trip will be \$275 plus money for some traveling meals.

Associate Pastor/Music Dr. Jonathan Nelms conducts the choir. He comments, "Chi Rho is certainly a joy. I love to see these youth grow musically, but I am most proud of their spiritual growth. I only regret that so many are graduating this year. We have nine great seniors in Chi Rho and I am going to miss each of them."

Chi Rho is open to all youth in grades seven through twelve. Rehearsals are held each Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. in the choir room. See Jonathan for more information.

Pastor's Heart

This week brought the return of *American Idol*, a multimillion dollar producing talent contest on FOX television. With sponsors like Coke and AT&T paying a reported \$35 million apiece for branding rights and with 30 second commercials selling for between \$750,000 and \$900,000 each, the real winners in this contest are not hard to figure out.

People would sell their soul, and many do, for a few moments of fame. Look at the former-Baptist girl from Louisiana as headlines scream each week of her fight with demons. Reportedly, Britney missed another court appointment this week and has lost all visitation rights with her children. She lost all dignity long ago.

Still we boast of our envy of steroid injected athletes and silicone-injected stars. Idol worship didn't stop with the Old Testament, and the devil is enticing many to come and dance around his altars.

Do you have idols hiding in your life? For what would you sell your soul, your family, your reputation, or your faith? An ungodly relationship, a ticket to fame, a golden parachute, or a sizable return on investment is often enough to reveal the true nature of the heart.

Jesus demands our full allegiance. With words like "take up your cross and follow me" and "count the cost," He reminded His followers that only "those who persevere to the end" are truly numbered among the saved.

In the end, of course, those who gain the "world" lose everything. Idols have always been "false" by their very nature. Only God is worthy of our worship and our allegiance. Only He keeps His promises of abundant life.

And this thirty-second commercial didn't cost you a dime!

In His Love,
Pastor Randy

New Committees and Ministries Manual to be presented

After many months of hard work, the Committee on Committees will present a motion at the January 30 Quarterly Business Meeting to adopt a new Committees and Ministries Manual. The new manual seeks to incorporate uniformity in the format of Committees/Ministries descriptions and to clarify in some instances the responsibilities of each Committee/Ministry team. Copies of this proposed manual are available in the central lobby for your review prior to the business meeting. Also, copies of the current committee descriptions are available from the church office if you would like to compare the two documents. The Committee on Committees will hold "town hall" meetings in Room 145 at 5:30 pm on January 23 and January 27 to answer any questions or concerns you might have.

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

March 7-14

Grenada

Coordinators: Bill Stone/Steve Farris

April 27-May 2

Disaster Relief

Chalmette, LA

Coordinator: Wade Raines

June 7-14

Builders for Christ

Logan, Ohio

Coordinators: Bob Weatherholt

Dennis Matheny

July 20-26

Townsend

Coordinator: Brenda Boyington

July 24-Aug. 2

Medical Missions

Rio, Brazil

Coordinator: Jeff Robinson/TBC

September 15-26

India

Coordinator: Steve Farris

October (TBA)

Disaster Relief

Chalmette, LA

Coordinator: Wade Raines

**Last Tuesday of
each month**

Cookeville Rescue Mission

Coordinator: Brenda Boyington

🎵 Nelms Notes 🎵

Sanctuary Choir Starts Strong: The Sanctuary Choir is off to a great start. We are so happy to see more men singing in choir. However, we still need more guys, especially tenors. Rehearsals begin at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday and last only 60 minutes. Music and rehearsal CDs are available for everyone who attends. This choir is open to all youth and adults. We are already working on some great music for Easter. I hope you can join us.

Orchestra Needs Brass Players: The FBC Orchestra needs brass players, particularly trumpets. Some loaner instruments are available and parts are open for all band and orchestra instruments. The orchestra is open to high school and adult players. We will patiently meet you where you are musically and help you improve. Rehearsals are held each Sunday at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

- Jonathan Nelms

**55+ Birthday
Celebration**

Luncheon
(meal furnished)

January 27

Fellowship Hall

RSVP to the

Church Office by

Jan. 23

Give your birthday
month.



Quarterly Business Meeting

Wednesday, January 30

6:30 p.m.

Agenda: Committee on Committees - Ministries and Committee Manual; Nominating Committee - Election of General Officers; Missions/Stewardship Committees - Care Center Proposal

Happy Travelers

Tuesday, Feb. 12

Lunch at Joe's Place in Woodbury

Cost: lunch

Call Sue Johnson at 372-8279 by
Feb. 4 for reservations.

Mission Friends need your help



For their January mission project Mission Friends is collecting canned soup to help feed the needy in our community. Donation sacks are located throughout the church until January 30. Please drop in a can!

Scripture Memory

The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. (2 Peter 3:9)

Centrifuge Camp

July 7-11

Panama City Beach, FL

Total cost: \$284

Reserve your space with a \$50 deposit paid to FBC before Jan. 30. Camp includes Bible study, team-building recreation, track times, worship, fellowship and free time at the beach.



You're invited to Women on Mission Night Bible Study Group

Monday, Jan. 21

6:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Judy Dronebarger will be preparing her famous Cincinnati Chili for us and Ginny Gaddy will be sharing her experiences from a mission trip to Moldova.

Beth Moore Study

“Stepping Up”

Study of the Psalms of Ascent

Facilitator: Lisa Hammons

Seven-week study

Begins Feb. 3

4:30 p.m.

Cost: \$13



Cancer Relay for Life Team Meeting

Monday, Jan. 21

5:00-6:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

For information call Lois Weatherholt at 537-9112 or the Church Office.



For 4th-6th graders

June 16-20

Campbellsville, KY

Limited to 15 spots

Total cost: \$240

Reserve your spot by turning a \$50 deposit into the Church Office by Friday, Jan. 25

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday, Jan. 20

8:15 A.M. First Worship
 9:30 A.M. Sunday School
 Hispanic Worship-
 Chapel
 10:45 A.M. Second Worship
 4:00 P.M. Orchestra
 Choir Chimes
 4:30 P.M. Adult Handbells
 5:00 P.M. Children's Bible Drill
 Youth Bible Drill #330
 6:00 P.M. Evening Worship

Monday, Jan. 21

9:30 A.M. Evangelism Conference
 @ Stevens Street
 10:00 A.M. Yth Trip to Nashville
 5:00 P.M. Harp Ensemble
 6:00 P.M. WOM Night Group
 7:00 P.M. CBS Night Bible Study

Tuesday, Jan. 22

8:45 A.M. MDO

Wednesday, Jan. 23

3:00 P.M. FLC Opens
 5:00 P.M. Children's Choirs
 Youth Choir
 Youth on Mission
 5:30 P.M. Stewardship Com. Mtg.
 Town Hall Mtg. with
 Comm on Comm. #145
 6:30 P.M. GROW Teams FH
 Grenada Outreach
 Youth Bible Study
 Mission Groups
 Sanctuary Choir
 7:30 P.M. FLC Open until 9:00

Thursday, Jan. 24

9:30 A.M. CBS
 10:00 A.M. Happy Tones

Friday, Jan. 25

8:45 A.M. MDO
 9:30 A.M. Fun Friday

Saturday, Jan. 26

Upward Basketball
 Picture Day

Sunday, Jan. 27

8:15 A.M. First Worship
 9:30 A.M. Sunday School
 Hispanic Worship-
 Chapel
 10:45 A.M. Second Worship
 12:00 P.M. 55+ Birthday Lunch
 4:00 P.M. Choir Chimes
 Orchestra
 4:30 P.M. Adult Handbells
 5:00 P.M. Children's Bible Drill
 Youth Bible Drill #330
 5:30 P.M. Town Hall Mtg. with
 Comm on Comm. #145
 6:00 P.M. Evening Worship

Riverside-Stone-Union Associations

2nd Annual Evangelism

Conference

Monday, January 21

Stevens Street Baptist Church

9:30-11:30 a.m.; 1:45-4:30 p.m.; 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Featured Speakers: Dr. Bruce G. Chesser, Dr. Tom McCoy, Arden Taylor, Steve H. Dearson
 Breakout sessions offered from 10:00-11:30 a.m.

BUDGET & ATTENDANCE REPORTS

Budget (01/13/08)

Budget Goal per Week	\$29,225.62
Budget Gifts this Week	\$18,297.80
Difference from Goal	-\$10,927.82
Total Designated Gifts	\$1,462.50
Total Gifts this Week	\$19,760.30
Budget Goal to Date	\$847,542.98
Budget Gifts to Date	\$807,035.36
Difference from Goal	-\$40,507.62
Budget Gifts to Date Last Year	\$849,997.84
Decrease from Prior Year	\$42,962.48
Higher, Greater, Together Year to Date	\$95,050.94
Higher, Greater, Together Total Gifts	\$2,632,310.36

Sunday School Attendance

<i>Attendance Reports (01/13/08)</i>	
General Officers	5
Preschool	69
Children	68
Youth	51
Adults	393
Total	586

Because all that we have belongs to God, our goal in using that which belongs to Him is to glorify Him.

"Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." (I Cor. 10:31)

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

John Zhu - Chief Deacon
 David Hutcherson
 Larry Taylor
 Neil Alcorn
7 p.m. Phone Duty: Donnie King

WEDNESDAY DINNER - 01/23

Turkey casserole, mixed veggies, salad, cranberry sauce, dessert

WEDNESDAY VOLUNTEERS - 1/23

5:00 - Arleda Hunter, Jeanette Phillips, Mr. & Mrs. Marlin Collins
5:45 - Mr. & Mrs. Ed Griggs, Murray Cunningham, Ruth Ann Southerlan

EXTENDED SESSION - 01/20

Bed Babies - Marta Sliger, Haley Sliger, Betty Suiter

Creepers/Toddlers - Marcie Manzano, Jenny Holmes

2's - Neal & Melissa Marcum

3's - Rosa Aranda, Deborah Austin-Ervin

Mark your calendar
VBS 2008
July 14-18