



*Together in Christ... Sharing His Love*  
**CONNECTIONS**

firstbaptistdalton.com

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(706) 278-2911

THE NEWSLETTER OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DALTON

## **WORSHIP AT FIRST BAPTIST**

### **SUNDAY MORNINGS**

8:30 a.m. and 10:55 a.m. Worship Services

August 30 One Service at 10:55 a.m.  
Led by Dr. Bill Wilson  
Why We Do What We Do:  
Baptism  
Matthew 28:19-20

September 6 One Service at 10:55 a.m.  
Led by Rev. Phillip Cannon  
What Now? What Next?  
2 Kings 2:1-15

September 13 Led by Dr. Brett Younger

September 20 Led by Dr. Brett Younger

### **SUNDAY EVENINGS**

6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

September 13 Called Business Meeting

### **WEDNESDAY EVENINGS**

6:15 p.m. Church-Wide Prayer

6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study  
Fellowship Hall  
Led by Phillip Cannon and  
Walt Windley

6:30 p.m. Strong Kids, Strong Families  
Room 233 (Series begins  
September 9)

*Please join us as we  
celebrate the ministries  
of*

*Bill and Kathy Wilson*

*as Bill leaves for his new position as  
President of the  
Center for Congregational Health  
Winston Salem, North Carolina*

*Sunday, August 30, 2009  
2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.*

*Fellowship Hall*

### **Day Away Returns**

After an incredible first year of monthly spiritual retreats, **Day Away** returns on September 11, as we head to Winshape Retreat Center in Rome, Georgia, for a morning of personal renewal and rest. We will leave from the church parking lot at 8:30 a.m. and return no later than 2:30 p.m. that afternoon. Cost of this **Day Away** is \$15 and includes your lunch prepared by the Master Chef at Winshape. Spend a morning of your week reading a good book, visiting a historic chapel, and/or walking around a serene lake as we quiet our hearts and minds to the moving of God's Spirit. Please RSVP by Tuesday, September 8, to Walt via email at [wwindley@firstbaptistdalton.com](mailto:wwindley@firstbaptistdalton.com) or by calling him at 706-278-2911, extension 133.

*From our Pastor . . .*

In the mix of emotions (sadness, gratitude and joy) I have felt over these last few weeks, I have been reminded of a lesson I have been learning and relearning all of my ministerial life. John Claypool started many of us down this path with his mantra: “**All of life is a gift.**” I have tried to believe it, live it, and cling to it no matter what life brings to my door. Across the years I have watched you struggle to embrace the idea of the essential goodness of God and giftedness of life as we have buried loved ones, listened to discouraging medical test results, worried over wayward children, watched shrinking bank accounts, and lamented broken relationships. It’s easy to believe that when the sun is shining and the job is humming and all is right in our world. The real test of our faith in Christ and his love for us, of course, comes when our plans or expectations go awry and we are left to deal with the consequences.

Claypool’s favorite story in this regard is one you’ve heard more than once: During WW2 his family stored a soldier’s furniture in their home. Included in those belongings was a washing machine that the Claypools were allowed to use. John told how he remembered the day the Bendix washer came and was placed in the basement. It became a good friend of the family, for it enabled them to do things quicker and better, and part of the responsibility was his. Over the course of two years, the washing machine became a fixture in the household.

Then the day came when a truck pulled up and took it away, for the soldier had returned home. John was infuriated, and expressed hostility and anger that “their” machine had been taken away. He expressed some of this to his mother, and her response taught him a great deal. She said “**John, I am ashamed of you, of what you’re feeling and the way you’re acting. You must remember that we never did own that washing machine, it never did belong to us. From the day it arrived to the day it left, it never was ours, and the sheer fact that we had it at all is a reason for gratitude.**”

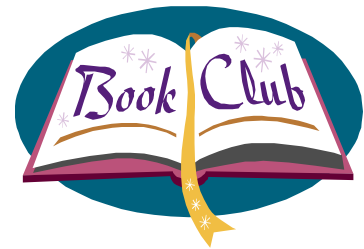
Claypool said that this perspective, of seeing all of life as a gift, was what enabled him years later to cope with the loss of their young daughter to leukemia. He said he got plenty of counsel during that time that was of no help, but that this thought, that life is a gift, enabled him to tell his congregation and the world: “**the fact that we had her at all is a reason for gratitude, she never was ours, she was a gift from God’s goodness and providence.**”

Part of what I claim today is that you have been a gift from God to me and my family. Through the grace of God’s providence, we were always on loan to one another. Indeed, we were always a gift to each other. For that, I am eternally grateful.

*Bice*

**The Staff Committee** has been at work scheduling pulpit supply for the next several Sundays. Please pray for the Committee as they continue their work in identifying an interim minister. Please also pray for these who will share God’s Word with us in worship:

September 6	Phillip Cannon
September 13	Dr. Brett Younger, Professor Of Theology at McAfee School of Theology
September 20	Dr. Brett Younger
September 27	Walt Windley



The next meeting of the Book Club will be this Sunday, August 30, at **5:00 p.m.** in the Cafe Area outside the Media Center. Please note new time. The book will be Redeeming Love by Francine Rivers. Angie Norman will be the facilitator.

On September 27, Donella Lowery will be the facilitator of the biography, In the Footsteps of Jesus by Bruce Marchiano. The meeting will be at 5:00 p.m.

### Family Promise

It’s almost that time again for First Baptist to play host to our partner organization Family Promise, as we assist in the housing of clients in our Youth Center. From setting up beds to washing sheets, volunteers are needed for a myriad of jobs to help our week run smoothly. If you have not signed up to volunteer, visit the information kiosk located in the Atrium to view a list of possible opportunities available during our week of September 27<sup>th</sup> through October 4<sup>th</sup>. It is our hope to shower these families with overflowing hospitality as we welcome them through the doors of First Baptist.

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES BEGIN ON SEPTEMBER 2

The schedule for Wednesday nights is as follows:

- 4:00 p.m. Children's Handbells
- 4:45 p.m. Supper Lines Open
- 5:30 p.m. Children's Choirs
- 5:30 p.m. Orchestra Practice in the Sanctuary
- 6:15 p.m. Church-wide Prayer Time in the Fellowship Hall
- 6:25 p.m. Children's Missions Groups
- 6:30 p.m. Adult Study/Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study/Youth Center
- 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room



Our Wednesday night dinners will consist of a meat with two or three vegetables and a salad bar or a potato/soup bar with salad. Pizza will also be available for the children. Meal prices are:

- Ages 3 and under eat for free
- Ages 4-11 - \$3.00 (includes regular meal or 3 pieces of pizza; additional slices are 75 cents each.)
- Ages 12 and up - \$5.00

Permanent reservations are suggested because they help us prepare the correct amount of food. Reservation cards will be available this Sunday or you may call Paula Brazil, Food Service Manager at 706-278-2911 or email her at [pbrazil@firstbaptistdalton.com](mailto:pbrazil@firstbaptistdalton.com). If you do not choose to make permanent reservations, please call or email Paula by noon on Tuesday to let us know of your plans. Cancellations should also be made to Paula by noon on Tuesdays.

### Wednesday Nights for Adults

**6:15 p.m. Church-wide Prayer Time**      **6:30 p.m. Adult Studies**

#### Adult Bible Study - Fellowship Hall

Phillip Cannon and Walt Windley will lead these

#### Strong Kids, Strong Families Series - Beginning September 9

This series is designed specifically to strengthen the parenting and grandparenting skills of adults in our church and community. From September 9-30, The Five Love Languages series will be shown and taught. Strong parenting begins with a strong marriage. This series will enable couples to feel and express their love to one another in positive and reinforcing ways. This class will meet in Room 233.

Beginning October 14, we will utilize the skills of some of the members of our Christian Counseling Center staff. We are also pleased that Dr. Kay Shurden will lead one of our Wednesday nights for us. A full calendar of these studies with topics will be available soon.

## OPPORTUNITIES NEXT WEEK

### *Sunday, August 30*

- 8:30 a.m. **NO EARLY SERVICE**
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School/Bible Study
- 10:55 a.m. Morning Worship/Sanctuary
- 12:00 pm RA Leaders' Meeting/Fireside Room
- 2:00 p.m. Reception for Bill and Kathy Wilson
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal/Choir Suite
- 5:00 p.m. Book Club/Café Area
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study/Youth Area

### *Monday, August 31*

- 8:30 a.m. Aerobics/Gym
- 1:30 p.m. Ministerial Staff Meeting
- 4:00 p.m. Soccer Practices/Gym
- 5:30 p.m. Adult Handbells

### *Tuesday, September 1*

- 4:00 p.m. Soul Food/Fellowship Hall
- 4:00 p.m. Soccer Practices/Gym

### *Wednesday, September 2*

- 4:00 p.m. Children's Handbells
- 4:45 p.m. Supper Lines Open
- 5:30 p.m. Children's Choirs
- 5:30 p.m. Orchestra/Sanctuary
- 6:15 p.m. Church-wide Prayer Time/  
Fellowship Hall
- 6:25 p.m. Children's Mission Groups
- 6:30 p.m. Adult Study/Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study/Youth Center
- 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/  
Choir Room

### *Thursday, September 3*

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast/Oakwood
- 4:00 p.m. Soccer Practices/Gym

### *Friday, September 4*

- 7:00 a.m. Youth Prayer Breakfast/Youth Center
- 7:30 p.m. Arabic Congregation/Chapel

### *Saturday, September 5*

- 7:00 p.m. College Football Kick-off Party for  
Youth/Youth Center

## CALLED CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING SEPTEMBER 13 AT 6:30 P.M.

There will be a called church business meeting on Sunday, September 13, in the Fellowship Hall. The purpose of this meeting is to review, discuss, and approve the Pastor Search Process and Pastor Profile. Copies of these documents will be available after worship on September 13.

**MINSTER ON CALL**  
**The Week of August 31**  
**Derrell Grantham 706-270-2868**

Christian Byrd 706-260-5349  
 Phillip Cannon 706-260-5351  
 Derrell Grantham 706-270-2868  
 Janice Kiehm 706-260-5351  
 Walt Windley 706-581-5152

**312 Center**

The 312 Center is open on Thursday mornings 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. to accept any donations you might have for our benevolence ministries. The Center is located at 312 North Glenwood Avenue. If you have any questions, please contact Odell or Johnnie Riddle at 706-278-3208.

**FIRST TOUCH TEAM VISITS**  
**August 30, 2009**

Debbie Headrick

**MENU FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2**

Rosemary Chicken	Baked Potato Bar	Pizza
Wild Rice	Salad Bar	Dessert
Vegetable Medley	Rolls	

*New Members*

We welcome the following new members to First Baptist:

**Maddie Lowery** on profession of faith, **Brogen Ballew** on profession of faith, and **Dot Vinsant** on transfer of her letter from another local church.

*Christian Sympathy* is extended to Mrs. Kathleen Rogers in the death of her husband, Charlie; to Charles Rogers in the death of his father; and to Dot Vinsant in the death of her niece.

**Our Very Newest...**  
 Congratulations to Ron and Helen Nix upon the birth of their grandson, Preston Emerson Nix. Preston's parents are Andrew and Jennifer Nix.



**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**  
**Through August 23**

August 23 Budget Gifts	\$ 19,782.34
Budget Gifts to Date 2009	\$ 1,160,687.22
Budget Gifts to Date 2008	\$ 1,216,302.63
Expenditures to Date 2009	\$ 1,183,210.47
<i>Open Doors/Open Hearts</i> Pledge	\$ 3,727,575.00
<i>Open Doors/Open Hearts</i> Gifts	\$ 2,754.00
<i>Open Doors/Open Hearts</i> to Date	\$ 622,608.01

**A LOOK AT LAST SUNDAY**

Sunday School	432
Morning Worship	
8:30 a.m.	87
10:55 a.m.	<u>607</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>694</b>

**FALL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Friday, September 25  
 Nob North Golf Course



A great time is in store for all beginning at 1:00 p.m. Line up your twosome, foursome, or sign up as an individual. The cost is \$38 for 18 holes. We will be using a points system. Call the Family Life Center at 706-278-2076 to register or for further information.