

First Baptist Church Montgomery

BEACON

bring them in...build them up...send them out



Volume 69 | Week of April 3, 2016 | Number 14

Easter ENCORE

High Attendance Sunday

April 3 | Goal 2100



Children's Sunday is April 3!

Seeds Family Worship
6:15 PM :: Main Sanctuary

HERE I AM SEND ME.

ISAIAH 6:8

FBC GOAL: \$110,000
GIVEN TO DATE:
\$88,806.40

**ANNIE
ARMSTRONG**
EASTER OFFERING

ANNIEARMSTRONG.COM



CONNECTIONS

— from your Pastor's Heart

Hurt and HOPE in Our Fallen World

Do you remember the startling news story about a man named Jeff Bush, who lived in Florida? On a quiet evening, he was lying in bed when a sinkhole opened beneath his bedroom and swallowed Mr. Bush without warning. His brother attempted a rescue, but to no avail. The next day, workers tried to find him as they probed the depth of the dangerous hole. His body was deemed non-recoverable.

The extraordinary episode of Mr. Bush's bizarre demise vividly reminds us that our fallen world is unpredictable, dangerous and deadly. Other news stories and life experiences underline the fact that life is fragile and fleeting. Last week, sick and senseless terrorist attacks in Brussels suddenly left 32 dead and hundreds wounded. Two fine men linked to families in our church were diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and both gentlemen died within a few days of the evil invader's discovery. A 4-year-old died when the child's mom lost control of her car and the vehicle overturned in Chilton county this week. As you observe the news and review history and your personal experiences, we must conclude that this fallen world is an unpredictable and hurtful place. Jesus affirmed the diagnosis about our dangerous environment when He said, *"In this world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer because I have overcome the world."* (John 16:33)

In our hurt-filled world, we need a Good Shepherd in Jesus to be our constant companion and guide. Easter's empty tomb shouts *"Trust Me! I will take care of you. Since I can conquer death, I can help you through life."* Easter proclaims the message of ultimate hope – that in Christ, there is much more to life than our current existence and God's power will triumph over evil forces and our ultimate enemy of death.

There is an intriguing monument sitting on the western edge of Spain which looks over the expansive Atlantic Ocean. The ancient billboard dates back to the early 1300s. Chiseled in stone is the Latin phrase, *"Ne plus ultra"* which means: *"No more beyond."* The Spaniards believed their western coast bordered the end of the world and nothing existed beyond them except water and desolation. Then came 1492, Columbus discovered a new world beyond Spain. Afterwards, people noted the absurdity and arrogance of the statement *"Ne plus ultra – No more beyond."* When the first coins were minted in the new world, a bold slogan appeared on the currency: *"Plus Ultra – More Beyond!"*

When we trust King Jesus and grant Him access to our central belief system, He stamps upon our hearts the proclamation of *"Plus Ultra – More Beyond!"* There is more beyond the grave. There is a new world coming. There is life eternal. There is resurrection. There is HOPE!

My beloved friends, in our fallen world full of broken hearts and thirsty souls, consistently and passionately share the good news of Easter that because of Jesus, we have the certain hope of *"Plus Ultra – More Beyond!"*

FBC Faithfulness | Sunday, March 27, 2016

ATTENDANCE

Bible Fellowship Enrollment 5102 | **Bible Fellowship Attendance** 2230
Weekly Attendance 2669 | **Discipleship Attendance** 249

OFFERING

Required Weekly \$125,480.77 | **Received Sunday** \$116,113.97
Required To Date \$1,631,250.00 | **Received To Date** \$1,463,532.90
Building Fund Sunday \$120.00 | **Building Fund to Date** \$7,492.51
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering \$88,806.40

Under Budget | \$167,717.10



Ministry Announcements

Student Ministry

Graduate Recognition is Sunday, May 1. The deadline for submitting photos is Friday, April 8. Register online at www.montgomeryfbc.org/event-registration. If you have any questions, contact Russell McCrory at 241.5163.

Senior Ministry

Financial Advisor Jerry Mitchell, Jackson Thornton Inc., will provide an informational seminar on **upcoming changes to Social Security's "File and Suspend" and "Restricted Application" programs** on **Sunday, April 3** from 5:00 to 6:00 PM in room 443. Specifically, these changes apply to: anyone that will be age 66 or older before April 30, 2016, and/or anyone who was born on or before January 1, 1954. Jerry will highlight the changes to the law and discuss how taking action before the April 30 deadline could positively impact your current and future SSI earnings.

The Senior Adult VBS will be held on **Monday, April 25 through Wednesday, April 27** from 10:00 AM to noon in room 413. Facilitated by Kenny Hoomes.

Women's Ministry

Save the date for **The Blessed Banquet**, FBC's Mother/Daughter Dinner, on **Tuesday, May 3** at 6:30 PM in the fellowship hall. This year's speaker is Montgomery's own Stacy Harris (wife, mom of 7, tv contributor/personality, cookbook/sustainability author, blogger, speaker, lover of God). Tickets will be on sale the last two Sundays in April. Contact Sharon Windham at sbwindham@aol.com with any questions.

Missions Ministry

Our First Priority, an account of the history of missions at First Baptist, can be purchased for \$15 each on Sunday mornings in the main sanctuary foyer or online at www.montgomeryfbc.org/ourfirstpriority. Harold and Helen Hancock will be available to autograph your copies on Sunday, April 3.

The Jackie Swan Bible Study Group will meet on **Thursday, April 7** in room 413. Sewing the day gowns for Baptist Hospital stillborn babies begins at 10:30 AM with lunch at noon (bring a sandwich lunch), and the Bible study begins at 12:30 PM. We will be studying Lisa Harper's *HEBREWS, The Nearness of King Jesus*. For more information, contact Sara Jane Lyon at 277.7240 or Beppy Tiller at 263.9491.



First Family Dinner | Wednesday, April 6

No reservations required!

Adult & Children's Meal: Chicken Fingers, French Fries, Salad, Roll, Dessert

Adult Family Meal – \$5; Child's Meal (12 & under) – \$3

Maximum Family Amount – \$20 (immediate family only)

Come hear Jane Ferguson and Rhonda Thompson share about outreach opportunities through the Nehemiah Center and other Community Ministries programs. Learn how you can be involved to help meet needs in our Jerusalem! Bring a sack lunch and a friend to the Huff Building Fellowship Hall, **Monday, April 11** at 11:30 AM until 1:30 PM (sponsored by the **Amy Cooper Women on Mission Group**). Everyone is welcome! Call Karen Quimby, 281.6955, for information.

The **Charlotte Cearley Women on Missions Group** will meet on **Monday, April 11** at 7:00 PM at the home of Pam Newman (2805 Marler Road). Our speaker will be Charlotte Cearley. For more information, contact Kathy Hall at 271.1286.

The **Sarah McCrory Women on Mission Group** will meet on **Wednesday, April 13** at 9:30 AM at the home of Sharon Windham (8316 Chadburn Lane in Sturbridge). Celia Teel will share about her February 2016 Mission Trip to Haiti.

Community Ministries

There will be a **Community Ministries Volunteer Appreciation Brunch** on **Saturday, April 16** from 10:00 to 11:30 AM in the FBC fellowship hall. All Community Ministries volunteers, partners and friends are invited to join us for brunch in your honor! Please RSVP to Jane Ferguson at jferguson@montgomeryfbc.org or 241.5141 by Friday, April 1.

Volunteers are needed to work in the Master's Garden at the Nehemiah Center in Chisholm.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Jane Ferguson at 241.5141 or jferguson@montgomeryfbc.org.

Churchwide News & Events

On **Sunday, April 10** in the evening worship service the church will **Vote to Amend the Articles of Incorporation for Community Ministries, Inc.** This will allow us to expand our ministry opportunities and reach more people for Christ.

Men, join us for the annual **Glenn Gordy Golf Retreat** on **Thursday, April 28**

New Members

By Baptism

Bearden Ellis • Coleman Ellis
417 Merry Way | Pike Road, AL 36064

Christopher Obenhaus
4324 Camp Creek Court | Montgomery, AL 36116

Taylor Petty
2215 US Highway 31 N | Deatsville, AL 36022

By Letter

Will Dowe
35 Bright Spot | Pike Road, AL 36064

Mr. Matt Ellis
Mrs. Matt Ellis (Stacey)
417 Merry Way | Pike Road, AL 36064

Our Church Family

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, contact Carolyn Bryan at 241.5120.

Sympathy Extended to

Mr. & Mrs. Sal Vongphachanh (Rattana) in the death of her uncle

Mr. & Mrs. Jarrod Williams (Rebecca) in the death of his aunt

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Mills (Kim) in the death of his mother, Rose Marie Mills; Hunter Mills in the death of his grandmother; Mr. & Mrs. Craig Mills (Janice) in the death of his mother; Robyn & Kristen in the death of their grandmother

Baptist South

Platt Driskill

Jackson

Macon Brock

HealthSouth

Art Bolin

Tallasse Health and Rehab

Sue Smitherman

Congratulations Extended to

Mr. & Mrs. Carter Weeks (Christine) in the birth of a son; Mr. & Mrs. Kirby Caddell (Robin) in the birth of a grandson

Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Saliba (Brittany) in the birth of a daughter; Mr. & Mrs. Charles Saliba (Beverly) in the birth of a granddaughter

Ministerial Staff Birthdays

Kenny Hoomes (April 9)

Deacon Nominations Due By Sunday, May 1!

Forms are available in the main sanctuary foyers or online at www.montgomeryfbc.org/event-registration.

through Saturday, April 30 at the Bluewater Bay Resort in Niceville, Florida. The cost is \$325, which includes lodging, unlimited green fees, 18-hole cart per day, and prizes. Checks should be made payable to First Baptist Church. Deadline for reservations is Sunday, April 10. Get your check in the mail today. Sign up by calling Steve Dubose at 277.8604 or Chuck Ashley at 241.5161.

Save the date for the **Missions Auction** for Single Adult Mission Scholarships on **Friday, April 29** at 5:30 PM in the fellowship hall. If you would like to donate items for the auction, contact Kathy Cooper at 241.5125 or kcooper@montgomeryfbc.org.

Join us for the **Bible Reading Marathon** on **Thursday, May 5 through Sunday, May 8** on the steps of the State Capitol. Sign up for a reading slot at www.hisvessel.org.

M.I.C. (Membership Information Class)

Sunday, April 10 | 12:15 PM | Fellowship Hall

Thinking of joining First Baptist? The Membership Information Class explains what is involved in becoming effective members of FBC. The class is led by our pastor, Jay, and is an excellent opportunity to ask questions and make new friends. Be our guest for lunch and discover how to become a part of the First Family. For more information or to register, call Will Spivey at 320.0332 or Pat Thurman at 241.5130.

DECISION AMERICA TOUR 2016 with Franklin Graham

APRIL 14, 2016
12:00 PM
STATE CAPITOL



VBS :: JUNE 20-24 :: 9 AM TO NOON
WWW.MONTGOMERYFBC.ORG/VBS

 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT FBC MONTGOMERY

This week at FBC Montgomery

For the complete calendar, visit www.montgomeryfbc.org.

Sunday, April 3

- 8:30 Worship Service
- 9:45 Bible Fellowship Classes
- 10:00 Pastor's Class
- International Ministry Worship
- 11:00 Worship Service
- 4:30 Discipleship Classes
- 5:00 Visitation
- Children's Missions
- Discipleship Classes
- One Voice/One Heart Choirs
- 6:00 Children's Bible Drill
- 6:15 Seeds Family Worship
- 7:15 *Our First Priority* Book Launch Party

Monday, April 4

- 7:30 R.O.M.E.O.
- 8:30 English as a Second Language
- 10:00 JOY Singers Rehearsal
- 5:15 Sanctuary Bells
- 5:30 Men's Bible Study
- 6:00 Freedom in Christ Recovery Group
- Foster Care Training

Tuesday, April 5

- 8:30 English as a Second Language
- 9:30 Ladies Bible Study
- 11:30 Deacon/Widow Banquet
- Children's Hope Prayer Time
- 1:00 Foster Care Ministry Prayer Time
- 2:00 Bell Oaks Bible Study

- 5:30 Women's Support Group
- 6:00 Narcotics Anonymous
- 8:00 College Ministry: Elevate

Wednesday, April 6

- 8:30 English as a Second Language
- 12:10 War Room Prayer Time
- 2:15 Baldwin Bible Study
- 4:45 First Family Dinner
- 5:00 Children's Associational Bible Drill
- 5:22 WMU Leadership Team
- 5:30 Tutoring
- Sanctuary Orchestra
- 5:45 Graded Children's Choirs
- Parenting By Grace Discipleship Class
- 6:00 First Family Prayer Time
- 6:30 Student Ministry: Powerhouse
- 6:35 Sanctuary Choir
- 6:45 DivorceCare
- Ejamat Prayer Time

Thursday, April 7

- 9:00 Conversational English
- 10:00 Caregivers Support Group
- JOY Singers Rehearsal
- 6:00 English as a Second Language

Friday, April 8

- 6:45 Friday Morning Men's Group

Saturday, April 9

- 6:00 Narcotics Anonymous

In Home Ministry Member :: Gwen Sadler

3801 Oak Grove Drive, Apt 210 | Montgomery, Alabama 36116-1170

Morning Worship (8:30 & 11:00 AM)

Call to Worship | Sanctuary Choir

Crown Him Lord of All | Sanctuary Choir

Offertory Solo | Anna Sailors

Message | Jay Wolf

Evening Worship (6:15 PM)

Children's Sunday featuring
Seeds Family Worship

CrossRoads Broadcast Schedule

Watch the sermon at the time below or online at www.montgomeryfbc.org.



Frazer Channel 13 (Montgomery & Prattville)

Bighthouse Channel 122 (Elmore County)

Sunday, 1:30 PM (full hour) & 6:00 PM

Tuesday, 7:30 PM Thursday, 9:30 AM & 6:00 PM

WSFA-TV Channel 12 | Sunday, 10:30 AM

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
montgomery