



Vol. XXIX No. 38

First Baptist Church

The Focus

September 27, 2009

Special points of interest:

- “Blessing of the Animals” on Sunday, October 4 at 4:00 PM

ALPHA

If you have an Alpha sign in your yard, you can take it down now. You can either keep the sign until next time or you can drop it off in the church’s common area. Thank you for participating in this very important outreach ministry of our church.

From the Wednesday Night Supper Committee:

Don’t forget you can also make dinner reservations online on the church’s website:

Firstbaptistashland.org

Noteworthy News of the Week

“HOW TO READ THE NEW TESTAMENT”

Presented by Dr. Scott Spencer

(Professor of New Testament and Preaching at Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond)

- October 07 “How to Read the Gospels”
- October 14 “How to Read the Epistles”
- October 21 “How to Read The Book of Revelation”

Come join us for all three presentations beginning at 6:30 PM in Thompson Hall.

The Children’s Department needs 4 Sunday School helpers. Due to new security policies, we need to have 2 adults in each class at all times. A helper is not responsible for teaching the lesson, but is needed to support the teacher. Helping every other month is an option too, so please prayerfully consider helping out with our children. Contact Susan Gerhart to volunteer at 837-1730 or e-mail at susan.gerhart@suntrust.com

SEPT. 27 - OCT. 03, 2009

Sunday - 27

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:45 a.m. “Fireproof Your Marriage”
- 10:45 a.m. Deacon-Led Prayer Time
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 4:00 p.m. “The Inheritance” Bible Study (#208)
- 5:00 p.m. “Praise in Motion” Bell Choir (#246)
- 6:00 p.m. Youth

Monday - 28

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

Tuesday - 29

- 6:00/7:00 a.m. Men’s Prayer Groups
- 7:00 p.m. “The Inheritance” Bible Study at Mitchell’s home

7:15 p.m. Deacon’s Meeting

Wednesday - 30

- 9:30 a.m. “Esther” Bible Study (#208)
- 5:00 p.m. Supper
- 5:45 p.m. Youth Choir
- 6:00-7:45 p.m. Library Open

- 6:00 p.m. GA’s, RA’s (Girls Gr. 1-2: #203; Girls Gr. 3-4: #215; Girls Gr. 5-6: #230; Boys: #217)
- 6:00 p.m. Mission Friends
- 6:00 p.m. “Esther” Bible Study (#208)
- 6:15 p.m. Banner/Sewing/Knitting (#201)
- 6:15 p.m. Prayer & Share (Robert)
- 6:15 p.m. GriefShare (#216)
- 6:15 p.m. Men’s Bible Study (#205)
- 6:30 p.m. “Standing in Grace” Women’s Choir (#135)
- 6:30 p.m. “OK Chorale” Men’s Choir (#241)

6:30 p.m. Italy Mission Trip

- 6:30 p.m. “Standing in Grace” Women’s Choir
- 6:30 p.m. “O.K. Chorale” Men’s Choir in Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. Youth
- 6:45 p.m. Preschool Choir (#130)
- 7:30 p.m. College Bible Study (Chapel)
- 7:40 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Thursday - 01

- 5:00 p.m. ALPHA Course in Ellis Hall

A Word From Our Pastor

500. Five hundred. Five zero, zero. This past week that number has been churning around in my head and heart. It is a goal that I would like for us to reach in Bible Study and worship on **November 1, 2009.** I am not sure why that's the number, but that's the number that seems to have almost been "given" to me. I know it is a big number for us, but it is also a reachable number. We will be having one worship on that particular Sunday as well as it being High Attendance Day in Sunday school. Why not 500? We can do that. What will it take to reach such a goal? **It will take work.** It will **take you and me** inviting people who may have never been to our church before. It will **take you and me** contacting those folks who haven't been to worship and

Bible study for a while. It will **take you and me** making a decision to be present and counted on November 1. Will you share that day with me and the rest of your church family? 500 people worshipping and study the Bible. What a day that will be!

The annual meeting of the Baptist General Association of Virginia will be on November 17 and 18 in Fredericksburg.

Our church is entitled to 15 messengers. If you are interested in being one of those messengers, let the church office know and we will help you know how to get registered. You will be elected by the church.

Next Sunday afternoon we will have our first "Blessing of the Animals" service in front of the

sanctuary. Come, share this time with us. This worship time will be casual as we give thanks to God for our pets that He has given to us.

Have a great week and know I love you.

God bless,

Robert

HELP!

The FBC Food Pantry is in need of paper grocery bags with handles for food stuff given to those in need in our community. Please bring your bags to the office.

youHeadlines

CHOSEN:

Creatively Helping Others by Serving Every Neighbor.

John 15:15 - 17

TODAY: Staff Hunt, after the 11:00 AM service until 3:00 PM

This Wednesday Night: 6:30 PM Bible Study in Chapel

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September:

- **27 Staff Hunt.** Short Pump Mall: Lunch after 11:00 Service at Jason's Deli. All you need is money for lunch.

October:

- **04 Passport sign-ups begin.**
- **25 Pumpkin Carving & Costume Contest**
- **28 Trunk or Treat**

The Chosen Award this week: To our Youth and Karen Rackett for attending the prayer walk. And to Brad Hickman, Michael Mitchell, Lucas Olson, Matt Messina, Catherine Anderson for being at the See You At The Pole. Keep their schools in your prayers!

College/Young Adults Events

Every Wednesday night Fellowship and Bible Study at First Baptist Church, 7:30 PM in the Chapel. Serendipity Bible Study

WED-NITE SUPPER

Menu for September 30

Spaghetti with Meatballs
Garden Salad
Texas Toast and Cake

Child's Special:

Cheese Pizza

All meal reservations, cancellations and changes to standing reservations must be made by Monday at Noon, unless an emergency occurs after that deadline.

Ellis Hall

Italy Mission Report

The Bob Hodges Class will provide volunteers for September 30.

Upcoming Programs:

Oct. 07: "How to Read the NT" Dr. Scott Spencer: Gospels
Oct. 14: Dr. Spencer: Epistles
Oct. 21: Dr. Spencer: Apocalyptic

Parish Nurse

The Blood Drive was a great success with 24 donors.
Thanks for all your support.

Call the church office to sign-up for the **Flu Clinic** held on Wednesday **October 7** from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Any one can sign up, so tell your neighbors and friends. The cost will be \$25.00, however if you have Medicare it is free.

Start collecting **Yoplait Yogurt** labels and put them in the **Commons Area** box. For every

pink lid sent in by December 31, 2009, Yoplait will donate 10 cents to Susan G. Komen for the Cure. They guarantee a donation of at least \$500,000. So grab your friends, coworkers, yoga class or neighbors and start collecting. Please wash and dry the labels before placing them in the collection box. Only **PINK Labels** are acceptable!

Pearl Luck WOM

The Pearl Luck WOM group is selling a new Church Keepsake Ornament. Orders are taken in front of the Parlor Room on Sundays, and in the hall outside the kitchen on Wednesday nights. All proceeds to benefit WMU Ministries.

Grace Sightings . . .
"Begin to know Him now, and finish never." - Oswald Chambers

CCDC News

The children have had fun learning about apples. They read "Ten Apples on Top" and then tried to see how many apples (beanbags) they could put on their heads. Homemade applesauce was a special treat on Friday.
Linda Ficklin, Director

Senior Adult News

Thursday October 15
Book Fair Mount Crawford, VA. Will leave church at 8:00 AM, return around 5:00 PM.
Wednesday, October 28
Riverside Theatre:
"Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"
 Cost: \$50.00
 Will leave church at 10:30 AM
Reservations must be made by Noon on Monday, October 19th

Congratulations

To Roy LeFevre and Nancy Fralinger on their OBX beach wedding on Saturday, September 19, 2009.
We wish them a long loving and blessed life together.

STATISTICS - Financial - Attendance - Budget Requirements

Weekly Data:

Budget Requirements	\$ 15,907.00	BUS FUND (TD)	\$5,699.50
Budget Receipts (09/20/09)	\$ 14,566.80	Memorial Garden	\$50.00
Building Fund (09/20/09)	\$ 1,005.00	State Missions (TD)	\$485.00
Cost of New Sanctuary	\$4,675,000		
Current Loan Balance	\$ 615,000	<u>2009 Budget Requirements</u>	
Less Building Fund Balance	13,840	Needs to Date:	\$ 601,465
Additional Gifts Needed	\$ 601,160	Gifts to Date:	\$ 606,255

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Sunday, September 20, 2009

Worship:

8:30	118
11:00	184

Sunday School:

Members	335
Visitors	09
Total	344

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

800 Thompson Street
Ashland, VA 23005
(804) 798-9014
Fax: 804-798-9043

Email: fbcashland@verizon.net
Website: firstbaptistashland.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH STAFF

Robert E. Thompson, Pastor
James F. Townsend, Associate Pastor
Frederick Horn, Minister of Music
and Family Life
Barbara H. Hollowell, Minister of Youth
and College Ministry
Betty F. Stadnick, Parish Nurse
Linda Ficklin, CCDC Director
Joanie L. Tompkins, Administrative Asst.
Lisa Reckley, Administrative Asst.
Kenneth LeFevre, Focus Editor

Congratulations to our 50+ September Anniversaries

Ed and Hilda Wickham Sept. 04 57 Years
Roy and Peggie Haley Sept. 05 57 Years
Maxey and Fran Slater Sept. 13 63 Years

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Having found it necessary to resign as Coordinator of the "Shoe Box Ministry", I have contacted the Alde Reamy Sunday School class where a member, Jackie Dougherty, has agreed to carry on this worthwhile mission. Thanks for all your help and support over the past years. You may contact Ms. Dougherty at 217-7977.

God Bless, Doris Davis

The Preschool Department is in need of 2 Sunday School teachers. Extended session workers are also needed for 1 hour, once a quarter, during the 11:00 worship. Substitute teachers are always needed.. If you are willing to be called when a teacher is out, please let me know. If you are interested in working with preschoolers, we can find a place for you! Thanks, Tricia Dalton

Prayer Concerns

OUR MEMBERS: Barbara Cochran - Health South; Jim McLean, Nancy Nordin, Robert Crowder, Polly Hollins, Margaret J. Caudle, Charles Baltz, Nancy Melton, Doris Yowell.

FOR OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS: French Maggard and Wilma Horn (Fred Horn); Cathy Waldrop (Gay Blankenship); David Shuck (Tompkins); Ben Hutcheson (Phillip Hutcheson); Barker twins (Joe & Carrie); David Carter (Lydia Collins); Norris Dyke (Opal & Logan Dyke); Kenny Allanson (Roy Saettel); Lizzie Powell (Peggie Haley); Walter Gibson (Harold Brooks); Linda Platt (Jackie Dougherty); Dick McGrew, Charlene Dillard and Kayla Nunnery (Peggy & Rob Dillard); Jerry McGraw, Evelyn Smith and Lee Grant (Pat Ross); Ken Kuniak and Sherri Pollick (Geri Gleeson); Nancy Miffleton (Marti Glave); Carolyn Powell (Luke Powell); Francis Hurdle (Dot Lee); Deb Williams (Lydia Collins); Victor and Elizabeth Sarna, Cindy Richmond (Kay Rooke); Gail Glave (Brandon & Hunter Glave); Jim Hilton (Sara Hilton); Norma Hopper (Crystal Hopper); Gary and Beverly Cash (Derek LeFevre); Polly Raines (Venetia Redd); Joan Nevel (Delores Tignor & Linwood Garris); Ricky Dingus and Gracie Mabery, John and Marie Johnson (Charlotte DeLuke); Frankie Sutton and Rick Ivey (Dick and Lois Ivey); Barry Craig, Sharon, Delvin & Lily Roberts, Thurston & Fairchild families, Shirley Starner, Carrie Harper and Dorothy Bynum (Nancy Melton); Jori Heckman (Tom Ficklin); Wanda Anderson (Bernie Marsh); Adriel Edwards (Bill Chisholm); Charlotte Reynolds (Horn's & Wendy Farmer); Janet Brannon Phillips and John Carwile (Jane & Rob Wait); Web Buchanan (Dot Buchanan); Julie Chapman & family (Travis Edwards); Don Lahy (Steve Owen); Sandra Anderson (Jane McAlexander); Scott Towne (Randy Howard); Chanel Hobbs (Tricia Dalton); Al Willett (Gilmans); Richard Bagby (Jim & Betty Ellis); Ruth Hall (Watson Hall); Shyanne Shane; William Sumner (Freida Bryant); VeraLee Leigers (Caroline Jablonski); Scotty and Dottie Scott (Ginger Collison); George Glenn (Roy & Peggie Haley); Angela DeVoe (Kim Hutcheson); Denver Bridwell (Buddy & Myra Weston); Tammy Trapani (Susan Glisson); Rose Parsley (Joyce Parsley); Jim McLean, Jr. (Jim & Mary McLean); Karen Snyder (Beth Mallory); Zach Fields (Don Fields); Diane Ballard (Kathy Powell); Margaret Oberholtzer (Gail Dail); Ed Walinsky (Mick & Carol Outten); Tommy Clemons (Alison Clemons); Robert Blanchard (Terri Cook); Ryan Southworth (Elsa Gray Thompson). Our military personnel and especially our country.