



The Messenger

600 Governors Drive SW • Huntsville, AL 35801 • 256-428-9400 • www.fbchsv.org
Weekend Minister on Call: 256-428-9457 • 24-Hour Prayer Line: 256-428-9460

December 16, 2010

Merry
Christmas



From
Your
Church
Staff

From Top Left, Row 1: Jud Reasons, Jay Gardner, Jamie Mackey, Billy Orton, Chris Sims, Mike Pearce, **Row 2:** Andrew Bush, Jared Robinson, Nancy Moore, Reta Tumlin, Cindy Thompson, Hope Davis, Pam McDaniel, Amanda Allen, Laura Roberts, Jeremy Wilkerson, David Hull, **Row 3:** Misty Hall, Susan Temple, Catherine Miller, Pam LaPier, Joy Moore, Joyce Zackie, Yulonda Douglas, Lea Anne Hardy, **Row 4:** Elizabeth Hostetter, Dottie Richardson, Bailey Alderson, Susan Williams, Angela Seanor, Joycice Hill, **Row 5:** Alison Hoskins, Cindy Russell (**Not Pictured:** Debbie Bell, Terri Garrison, Kelley Gattis, Scott Goosby, Roger Hayes, Michel Hopkins, David Langley, Susan McClung, Darryl McLaughlin, Lee Nast, Mark Seanor, Jim Sharp, Ollie Steger, Edna Zimmerman)

Holiday Schedule

December 22 - No Wednesday Evening Service

December 23 - Office Closed

December 24 - Office Closed
Christmas Eve Service, 5:00 p.m.

December 26 - No Evening Activities

December 29 - No Wednesday Evening Service

December 31 - Office Closed

January 2 - No Evening Activities

There will be no Messenger next week due to Christmas.

Sunday, December 19, 2010

Fourth Sunday of Advent Sermon

"Simple Grace"

Romans 1:1-7 and Matthew 1:18-25

Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.

Sanctuary Worship - 10:30 a.m.

Living Christmas Tree - 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Details on page 2

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service

Friday, December 24 - 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Sunday morning, December 26, 2010

Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.

Sanctuary Worship - 10:30 a.m.

Ministry Calendar

Sunday, Dec. 19

College Breakfast/CLC	8:30 AM
Library Open	9-9:15 AM
Sunday School	9:15 AM
Library Open	10:10 AM-10:45 AM
Sanctuary Worship/Sanct.	10:30 AM
Library Open	11:40 AM-12:00 PM
LCT/Sanct	5:00 PM

Monday, Dec. 20

ADK/CLC	12:00 PM
Letter Writing/ 242	9:00 AM
Hallelujah Choir/CR	10:30 AM
CODA/140	6:30 PM

Tuesday, Dec. 21

Tues. Morn. Intercess./242	7:00 AM
Toastmasters/342	12:00 PM
Boy Scout Trp. 70/ 343	7:00 PM
Barbershop Grp./114	7:00 PM

Wednesday, Dec. 22

NO EVENING ACTIVITIES

Thursday, Dec. 23

CLOSED

Friday, Dec. 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service/ Sanct.	5:00 PM
Offices Closed	

Saturday, Dec. 25

Merry Christmas!!!

Music and Worship

Billy Orton, Minister of Music and Worship; Elizabeth Hostetter, Associate Minister of Music and Organist; Jeremy Wilkerson, Contemporary Worship Leader; Amanda Allen, Minister of Children's Music and Missions

SIMPLICITY AND SPLENDOR

These two words provide such insight into the meaning of Christmas. Philippians 2 tells us that Christ Jesus, "being in very nature God," became human and took the simple form of a servant. He became obedient even unto death on a cross. The chapter continues with words of splendor: "Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name...."

Our theme for this year's Living Christmas Tree—*Simplicity and Splendor*—is borrowed from our special guest, Calvin Miller. He paired those two words in a beautiful devotional he recently penned for the Advent/Christmas season. How we will enjoy his insights during the LCT! Dr. Miller has the poetic ability to communicate the Christmas message in such a succinct and direct manner.

Our choir and orchestra members have been exploring the concepts of simplicity and splendor during these months of preparation (one of the great benefits of involvement in a music ministry group, by the way). We have discovered that the LCT music is filled with both. We have learned that simplicity is a gift and that simplicity is also a discipline. We have learned that splendor is to be cherished and shared. We have learned that it takes both words to help capture the essence of Jesus' birth. The fully divine became fully human. The high and exalted King of heaven entered our world as a helpless baby, born in a simple manger.

Hallelujah!

Celebrate with us during this year's Living Christmas Tree!

***Merry Christmas,
Billy Orton
Minister of Music and Worship***

SPECIAL GUEST ~ Calvin Miller



Dr. Calvin Miller is the author of more than forty books of popular theology and inspiration. His poems and free-lance articles have appeared in various journals and magazines such as Christianity Today, Campus Life, Leadership, etc.

He recently retired as Professor of Preaching and Pastoral Ministry at Samford University's Beeson Divinity School where he served since 1999.

Dr. Miller has sought to be a contemporary apologist, helping the church provide answers to a secular culture, and the equiper of the contemporary church for the task of missions and evangelism. His most recent books and articles have dealt with spirituality as a journey and the pilgrimage which strives for union with Christ. He and his wife Barbara celebrate more than 50 years of marriage. They live in Trussville, AL and have two adult children.

Dr. Miller will have his books, "The Christ of Christmas" and "Life is Mostly Edges: A Memoir" in addition to his children's books, "When the Aardvark Parked on the Ark" and "Apples, Snakes, and Bellyaches" for sale before and after each performance in front of the library in the hallway beside the sanctuary.

CELEBRATING WITH US

A number of special guests from performing arts organizations in our city are joining us in featured capacities this year. We are honored by their presence, inspired by their performances, and delighted to share their names and points of contact below:

Grissom Steel Drum Band

All LCT performances

G.U.S. (Grissom Unofficial Steel) is a steel band that was assembled especially for this event.

The Huntsville Brass Band

Thursday LCT performance

Huntsville Ballet Company

Thursday evening, Saturday afternoon, and Sunday evening LCT performances

Alabama Youth Ballet

Friday evening and Saturday evening LCT performances

The Huntsville Community Chorus Children's Chorale

Sunday afternoon LCT performance (A Tree for the Children)

The Brotherhood Chorus from First Missionary Baptist Church, Blue Spring

Sunday evening final LCT performance

Living Christmas Tree Presentations

Thursday, December 16, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, December 17, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 18, 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 19, 3:00 p.m.

(abbreviated for young children)

Sunday, December 19, 5:00 p.m.

(This performance will be interpreted for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing by Hannah Alderson.)

Student Ministries

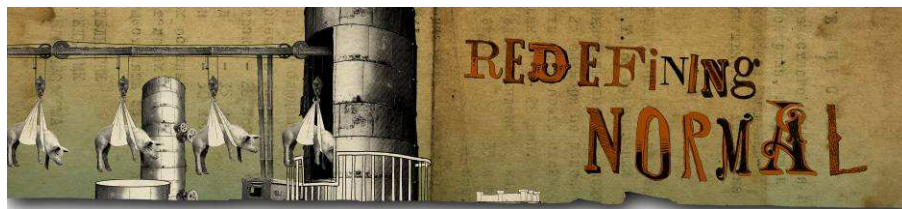
Jamie Mackey, Minister to Students

Pictures from the Student Christmas Party.



College Christmas Breakfast

Sunday, December 19 in the CLC—9:15 AM



D-Now weekend

Invite a Friend!

January 14-16
Cost: \$40.00

A Disciple-Now Weekend is an "in-town" retreat where students stay in host homes by their gender & grade. It's filled with lots of fun, worship, small group Bible studies, & more!

Preschool Ministries

Joy Moore, Minister to Preschool

Activities to Encourage Giving with Children

The Gift of Time

A commitment of time to help those in need can be a meaningful way to teach children to be less selfish and to be more grateful.

TRY THIS: Volunteer at a local charity, church, or soup kitchen and explain to your child how important it is to give back something of what we have been given. Help children to think of their own volunteer projects--making craft items or toys for a hospital or church charity, doing yard work for an elderly neighbor, cleaning up a vacant lot near your home, or volunteering to watch and care for someone else's pet while he is on vacation

"Pass-It-On Field Trip"

If you donate to a charity, discuss with your child the importance of sharing and supporting those who have experienced the tragedies of war, famine, and natural disasters.

TRY THIS: When a child outgrows clothing and shoes, let them help pack their used items with other family clothes or household goods that are no longer needed, and take a family trip to Goodwill or Salvation Army.

Share the Joy

Children exhibit much natural joy and affection. Nowhere are those lovely, youthful qualities more appreciated than at nursing homes.

TRY THIS: If you already have friends or relatives at nursing homes, it is natural to take your children with you to visit and bring comfort to those living there. If your children are learning piano or other instruments, they can play for the residents.

"Nudging" Questions

A simple question repeated each day over a period of time can accomplish much in the way of letting your child know what you value without lecturing.

TRY THIS: Ask your child a question at dinner or when s/he comes home from school, a question such as, "Who were you especially nice to today?" or "Did you help anyone today?" At first the question may seem strange to the child. If there is no response or the child says, "No one," just move on to discussion of the day's events or the task at hand. Ask again the next day. Soon the child will begin to notice their own kind deeds or find ways to be more helpful or kind.

By Sharon Vincz Andrews, Ph.D. Professor, Indiana State University
Author, Teach Your Children Values: 95 Things Parents Can Do
Author, Teaching Kids to Care: Exploring Values Through Literature and Inquiry

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Week # 11

Year-to-Date Goal:	\$964,740.00
Offering:	
This Week	\$91,233.27
YTD	\$828,640.25
Debt Retirement:	
This Week	\$5,900.00
YTD	\$20,062.00
Faith Steps to the Future:	
This Week	\$123,196.76
YTD	\$620,279.45
To Date	\$806,758.75

ATTENDANCE

Sunday School

Preschool	68
Children	103
Students	129
Adults	594
Brookdale—Regular Attenders	18
New Members	5
Visitors	35
TOTAL	952

Worship Services

Sanctuary Worship	980
TOTAL	980

Thank You

Thank You notes have been received from Fountain, Parker, Harbarger & Associates, Mary and Tommy Owen, and Yumi Linn. They have been placed on the bulletin board across from the church office.

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Early Adulthood Ministry

Pam McDaniel, Minister to Young and Median Adults

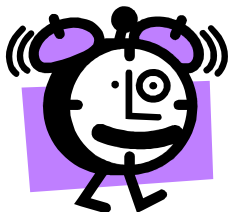
Nearly...wed? Newly...wed?

You are invited to join us for
"LET'S TALK ABOUT MARRIAGE!"
...AS WE LEARN TO BE HUSBAND AND WIFE



Sunday afternoons
Jan. 9-Feb. 20
4:00-6:00 PM

Facilitated by: Pam McDaniel
Cost: \$10/couple
Registration deadline: **Jan. 2**
Contact: Adult Ministry Office
256.428.9403; pam@fbchsv.org



Year-End Contributions: The offices of FBC will close on **December 30** at 5 pm. Therefore, **contributions to be posted for 2010 should be received in the Finance Office by Thursday, December 30.** Of course, any donations post-marked by

December 31 will also be counted. If you have any questions, please contact Alison at 428-9417 or alison@fbchsv.org. You may also give online at www.fbchsv.org/give

**Remember that stock gifts, IRAs, and other appreciated securities are a great way to donate!
Call Alison if you have questions.

Family Matters

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Mike Wilkinson
40 Maple Grove Blvd SW
Huntsville AL 35824-4023

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Family and friends of our member, **Wilma Calhoun**, especially to her son, **David & Tina Calhoun**, and her grandchildren, **Valerie and Dylan Calhoun**

Thomas & Christie Harmon in the loss of his father and **Sarah Cate, Lillie Grace, Thomas Alexander, and Samuel Harmon** in the loss of their grandfather, **James Harmon**

Mark & Michelle Reavis in the loss of his sister, **Mary Catherine Godin**

Fay & Van White in the loss of her brother-in-law, **Chester Hale**

Living Well FBC

Put Life Back in Your Life!

Call now to sign-up for a LIVING WELL Workshop, designed for adults age 60 and older who want to take charge of their ongoing health problems and learn to manage the effects of chronic illness. A free six-week workshop will be offered at First Baptist Church on Tuesday from January 11-February 15, 9-11:30. To register or to receive for more information, call Adult Ministry Office 256-428-9403



Alaska Date Changes

Because of the changes in the Perry County mission work we will need to move the dates for the Alaska Mission Trip. We had scheduled the trip for June 26 -July 2. Now we are planning the trip for **July 17-23**. The deadline for the \$100 deposit for an individual and the \$200 deposit for a family is due Monday, January 17. These weeks fill up fast so don't wait to get your deposit to the Adult Ministry office or the Publicity Ministry office.