



The Forerunner

NEWSLETTER OF WESTERN DISTRICT BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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VOL. 8

November 2011

NO.11

**EXALTING
JESUS THROUGH
FRESH VISION**

**2011
ANNUAL
MEETING**

First Baptist Church,
Hendersonville
Nov. 15-16, 2011



TENNESSEE
BAPTIST
CONVENTION

**PASTORS
CONFERENCE**

Monday, November 14, 2011
First Baptist Church, Hendersonville



As we celebrate this Thanksgiving season there are many in our world who are protesting because they are dissatisfied with life. But Paul writes us in 1 Tim 4:4 and says "everything is created by God and ...it should be received with Thanksgiving." I think as we approach this Thanksgiving we need to stop and look around at all that God has created and how truly blessed we are despite all the hardships we may be going through.

As I write this I am preparing for our mission trip to W Africa. The missionaries that we are working with asked if we could bring Turkey and Ham with us so they can celebrate a traditional American Thanksgiving. Some of the things we take for granted our missionaries sacrifice so they can take the Gospel to other parts of world. Pray for our team: Larry Simmons, Ed Brazelton and myself. Pray that God will give us divine appointments to share the gospel. Also pray that God will show us His divine will. As you know because of the world wide economic downturn it has even effected the work of the IMB and our missionaries. In the part of the W Africa that we will be in there is a mission compound that the IMB currently owns. Because of funding they are thinking of selling it. The missionaries would like to keep it and have hopes of an association or church buying it and helping to keep it running. We will look at it and pray about how God wants us to proceed with this.

I have been amazed at your overwhelming response to Operation Christmas Child. I believe this may be our best year yet. If your church is not participating but would like to just call the office and we can help you get the materials. All shoe boxes need to be delivered to Paris First Baptist by the week of Nov 14 - 18. This is a great way to minister to children around our world and it cost so little. You can also go online to www.samritanspurse.org and register your box and they will send you emails letting you

know what country your box went to.

Paris First Baptist is cooking our Community Thanksgiving Meal on Nov 24 Thanksgiving day for those who are needy or alone. If you would like to help please call First Baptist at 642-5074. This mission opportunity is really a blessing and takes a lot to do. If your church would like to help it can do so by sending a financial gift to Paris First Baptist. We also need people who will help serve or deliver meals. If you know of someone in need have them sign up at Family Resource Center.

I know we are all learning to do more with less these days. The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering theme is "His Heart, His Hands, His Voice." I realize for many of us to give to this offering is a sacrifice, yet if are to be "His Heart, His Hands and His voice" in our world it will take sacrificial giving. Set your goals and pray that God will abundantly pour out his blessings as we give to further His Work. I pray that each of our churches will give more to this offering this year than we have ever given before. 100% of this offering goes directly to the field to support our missionaries.

Another opportunity to minister is through the Christmas Food Baskets. This year we will be distributing names on Dec 3 at 9 am at Paris First Baptist. Each year we have approximately 800 names of people who asked for a food basket. I have already received calls from people who are asking for help this Christmas. I hope your churches will consider helping with this ministry.

In this season of Thanksgiving let me say thank you to all of you and your churches. We had a great celebration at our 189 Annual meeting because of your commitment to what God is doing through our Association. I want to personally thank everyone who had a part in the Annual Meeting. Bro. Larry and Johnathan brought very timely messages. Welcome to our two new churches McCrae's Outdoorsman and Oak Grove. Also Thank you because I have seen first hand of how your "love has abound more and more." (Phil 1:9). Let us receive everything with Thanksgiving as we minister to our community.

<>< In Him, Bro. Jim



Sunday School
Fred Shackelford, Director



I wanted to take some time this month to remind you why we have Sunday School and small group ministries within our churches. The answer, put simply, is community. God did not design his children to walk through the valleys and victories of life alone. We are built for community.

Why then, you might ask, is it such a temptation to live out our faith alone? Why are developing relationships within communities so difficult? You see, our enemy does not want this for us. Our enemy would have us stay in bondage to our own selfishness and unfulfilled desires. He would have us walk through this life thinking only of ourselves, thinking only of our own problems and our own pain. He would have us end our lives in complete emptiness and dissatisfaction, which is what inevitably comes when we live only for ourselves.

But this is not God's plan. God's plan is that we live outside ourselves, that we live, first of all, for his glory. But in order for that to happen, we must first simply learn to love others, to be a part of community. Community living teaches us to put someone else first besides ourselves, and while communities do not necessarily point us to Christ, I would argue that it is very difficult to live for Christ apart from community.

That's why Sunday Schools and small groups are so important in the local church. As important as it is to attend worship services (and it is important!), worship services do not require much in the way of community. Yes, we have to attend, but we do not have to give anything. Very little is required of us. In most churches (including my own) we sit, sing, and listen to the sermon. And if we don't feel like singing, we don't have to.

Sunday School and small groups, however, are a different story, or at least they should be. In a good Sunday School class operating as it should be, it should be difficult to blend in. Dis-

cussion should be encouraged, and real interaction should be expected, otherwise all you have is a smaller version of the worship service.

So, what are some ways to build community into your Sunday school class or small group? I would encourage you to serve together, fellowship together, and simply live life together. Go out of your way to plan events together and times of service. And do these things, not just on occasion, but often.

Worship is important, vitally important. But worship cannot really happen until we learn to live outside of ourselves, and the way we learn to do that is through community, and the best place to learn community in the local church is through Sunday School and/or small groups.

Do you need or know someone who needs any type of Biblical Counseling?

Contact: **Wayne Smith at 731-642-2191**
Or email at **wakesmith@gmail.com**

Executive Board Banquet

Changed to
Friday, November 11
6:30 pm
Please RSVP 642-4641

Daylight Savings Time
Ends...

Change clocks back
Sunday, November 6

Praying Scripture

“Can two walk together, except they be agreed?”

- Amos 3:3

“If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.”

-John 15:7

As Christians, we all desire to have an awesome prayer life, one where our prayers go beyond the height of the ceiling of our prayer closets. Richard A. Burr, author of *Developing Your Secret Closet of Prayer*, states, “One’s spiritual life will never be above the practice of one’s private prayer life.” This is so true. Our ultimate goal is an intimate relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Prayer, along with the other spiritual disciplines, becomes a key to entering the holy of holies. One of the ways we are able to do this is through Scripture praying.

“What is Scripture praying?”

Scripture praying is the practice of using God’s Word as the foundation for shaping our prayers for communion with Him and for intercession for others. It is communicating with Him in His own words. Scripture praying is putting equal emphasis on both the Word and prayer. It is realizing that prayer is a dialogue between our Lord and us.

“Why should we Scripture pray?”

So many times we do not have the words to adequately express our thoughts, feelings, emotions and His Word allows us to express those in keeping with His heart. Praying Scriptures like the Psalm 51 can effectively express our heart’s cry for forgiveness and healing as a result of sin. When we allow God’s Word to be the vehicle of our prayers, it is capable of declaring deep inner desires and thoughts.

“How do I Scripture pray?”

Praying Scripture is not something new, nor is it meant to be complicated. Throughout God’s Word we discover His people praying what God has said to them. Using the 6 “P’s” of Praying Scriptures maybe helpful.

Pray as you have your quiet time that God would speak to you through His Word. Listen for Him to do so. Be attentive and open to Him speaking. Prayer is not a monologue, but a dialogue.

Personalize the Word as you read it.

Ponder the Word. Whenever you receive a word from Him take time to internalize it. Mediate on its personal meaning. As we pray through Scripture, we must observe the context of the passage, interpret it as to what the writer was talking about and not from our viewpoint, and then apply it personally.

Pray the received word.

Print the received word. Keep a journal to record the personal messages you receive, you will be surprised how often God speaks when we listen.

Proclaim the received word. The more you share what God has said the more He will make His message clear.

Try it!

Tnbaptist.org



Church News

BETHANY: We celebrated Homecoming Oct 9. Guest speaker with lunch and singing. Participating in Operation Christmas Child. Recognized our pastor each Sun in Oct for PAD. Oct 19 Choir began practice for Christmas program. **Johnny Farmer**, pastor.

BIG SANDY 1ST: Oct 2 held 97 year homecoming with James Deason bringing message and music by "Bless" with a fish fry. Eight new members by letter. PAD had evening meal for pastor family with a monetary gift. Built a new youth room.

Gerald Scott, pastor.

BIRDS CREEK: Homecoming Oct 23 with Steve Gallimore bringing the message. Oct 8 & 10 - Church members painted the sanctuary, baptistery and front doors, trimmed shrubs, washed outside of church and steeple and cleaned the carpets. Oct 12 - We had a fish fry dinner before Wed church service. Oct 15 - Children and Youth baked cookies for a cookie sale to benefit the Mississippi River Ministry. Oct 16 - Children and Youth delivered pumpkin jars to Paris Health Care. Collecting food for the HOPE closet for Christmas baskets. Wrapped shoe boxes have already been given out to members to fill for Samaritans Purse. Our goal is to fill 150 boxes.

Craig Peevyhouse, pastor.

CENTRAL POINT: Oct 12 held our services at Henry County Healthcare. Pastor Appreciation Day, Bro. Jimmy was presented with two gift cards. Oct 20, youth met at Dad's Docks for an evening of fun. Ms. Doris Snow is writing and printing a monthly church newsletter to send to our members that cannot come worship with us.

Jimmy Allison, Interim.

FRIENDSHIP: Church Wide Yard Sale held to raise money for the building fund on 9/10 was a success. Swim party and cookout held on 9/11 at church members' home. Teen Lock-in, pizza party, & Bible Study held on 9/16. Trip to Lambert's Café on 9/24. Chili Supper on 9/28. Women's Group began meeting on Wed. nights. Church voted and approved beginning stage of building project. Young Adults Meeting held on 9/30. Work day held on 10/1 to prepare for building project to begin. Women's Group met weekly. Pastor and wife recognized for Pastor Appreciation Month. Fall Festival held 10/29. On 10/30 Ice cream social, finger foods and 5th Sunday singing fellowship held. **Joe Ed Smith**, pastor.

HENRY: Met our goal for Golden Offering. Messengers attended both sessions of annual meeting. Fall Festival Oct 22 and a community-wide trunk or treat Oct 31. Bro. George Hill and Bro. Chad Kennedy filled pulpit this month. Bro. Hill will continue to fill in until God sends us a pastor. Youth had a pumpkin carving on the 21st.

JONES CHAPEL: 2 members by letter. Observed Lord's Supper. Presented Bro Mitch love gift for pastor appreciation. AWANA Thanksgiving dinner Nov 9. Volleyball on Friday nights. Stocking pantry for needed baskets. Great attendance for harvest festival. Special thanks to Sheriff Monte Belew, Reserve Squad, and Drug Team for their support at the festival. **Mitch Fiscus**, pastor.

MANSFIELD: Collected snacks for HCMC surgery waiting area. 5th Sunday night singing. Supplies for the month were Bro. Gerry Gallimore and Bro. Christopher Hefner.

MAPLEWOOD: Young at Heart Senior Adults held monthly "Lunch & More" at Memorial Park. Sweet Monday ladies group held monthly meeting. The youth hosted a potato bar for our Mission Meal of the Month. Participated in Run, Preacher, Run event. Had 6 new additions...4 by letter, 2 by baptism

Corey Cain, pastor.

MT SINAI: Held work day on Sept 17. Youth canvassed community on Sept 24. Held community ice cream social on Oct. 1. Celebrated Harvest Day on Oct. 2nd with Bro. Jimmy Furr as guest speaker and Bethany Ellis bringing special music following fellowship meal. Held fifth Sunday Fellowship and singing on Oct. 30th. **Virgil Bishop**, pastor.

POINT PLEASANT: Oct. 2 Baby Dedication. Oct. 7 Bro. Larry and Christopher Hines took part in Run Preacher Run. Oct 8 First presentation of the Puppet Ministry. Oct 9 Bro. Dwight Mercer brought message in am and pm services. Oct. 11 Super Seniors traveled to Fort Campbell for lunch. Oct 13-14 Took part in Association Meetings. Oct 15 WMU sponsored Turban Workshop for Cancer Patients, Dorcas Club Provided lunch. Youth Bonfire held at the Highlands. Oct 16 Bro. Larry & Karen and Christopher and Kimberley Hines were presented with gifts for PAD. Pounding held for one of own going on a 6 month mission trip to West Virginia. Oct 29 Trunk or Treat. Collecting items for Operation Christmas Child. WMU and Brotherhood collecting non-perishable items for



Woman's Missionary Union
Pat Nanney, Director

WMU Watchword: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" Hebrews 12:1-2 NIV

It's hard to realize it is November already and the next thing we know it will be January. Time will go so fast these next 2 months for us. I hope we will be sure to do the important things like pray for our missionaries and our mission projects and lets not forget our mission leaders, church leaders, pastors and our missionaries on their birthdays.

Thanksgiving will be here in a few days so while we are thanking God for so many blessings lets remember to thank the people in our lives who help us throughout the year.

I hope we will take the time on Monday, November 7th to pray for Baptist women around the world realizing that for many it is not an easy life. For program information and prayer guide go to bwaed.org.

It is a good time to check out 'World crafts', this is a division of WMU and its local partners who have developed fair-trade businesses that provide sustainable income and offer eternal hope for impoverished people throughout the world. All 300+ items in this product line are handmade by over 70 artisan groups around the world.

The annual Week of Prayer for International Missions is December 4-11 and the Lottie Moon Missions Offering will be taken up during the month of December. For more information about the missions emphasis for 2011 go to

page 19 in this years WMU Yearbook. I hope each church will have at least one.

Our International Mission Study is on London, a city of 300 languages, 8 million people with diverse needs that are great. There is hope because of God's everlasting love.

Our Lottie Moon Mission Night for December 8 has had to be postponed. I hope each church will observe it according to their own schedules.

Thank you for all you do in WMU and if I can help you in any way please let me know.

Blessings, Pat

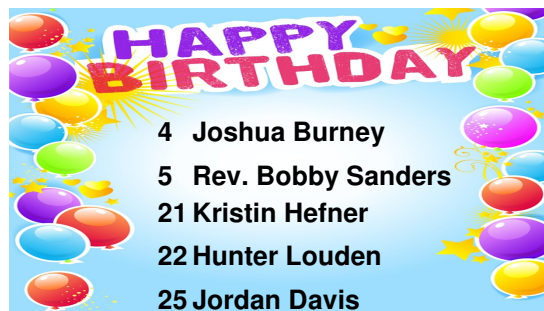


2011 **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®**
 National Goal: \$175 million

Week of Prayer for International Missions: December 4 – 11, 2011

Our church goal: _____

The International Mission Board is a Southern Baptist Convention entity supported by the Cooperative Program and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® is a registered trademark of WMU.



Thanksgiving baskets. Two (2) were baptized .

Larry Dukes, pastor.

PURYEAR: Family night Sept 11. Had fellowship meal, registration of AWANA kids, followed by showing of film "Soul Surfer". Week of Prayer for State missions was observed. Exceeded our goal of \$1750. Church is in the process of having a church Directory printed. YAH went to Ryan's at Murray for lunch on Sept. 27th. WOM have been collecting Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. The Hammonds hosted our annual Stump Burning Oct. 9. Annual Association meeting was held at our church Oct. 13th with a large attendance.

Mike Rhodes, pastor.

RAMBLE CREEK: Exceeded goal for Golden State Missions. 9/18 Bro. Ted Duffey filled pulpit while Bro. Darrel was on vacation. 9/30 Several families went to see the movie Courageous. 10/8 Annual Hayride and Winnie Roast. 10/9 Bro Marc Patterson filled pulpit for Bro. Darrel to hold a Revival. Several attended the WDBA annual meeting. 10/30 Fellowship dinner following morning service with Sunday Night singing.

Darrel Joyner, pastor.

SPRING CREEK: One baptism. One new member. Adult supper was enjoyed with large turnout. youth attended See You at the Pole, large turnout from youth group who attended See You After the Pole at Kpac.

Grant Ostrom, pastor.

UNION FRIENDSHIP: Enjoyed hearing a Gideon representative in a Sun Morning service. Pastor and three other members attended all sessions of the Annual Assoc. Mtg. One person was saved and is a candidate for baptism. Had good revival services. Finished the roofing of the older section of the church building.

Tom Winchester, pastor.

WEST PARIS: Oct 2 Observed Lord's Supper. Oct 9 Church Supper with Mexican food theme. Oct 13 Five messengers attended WDBA Annual Meeting. Oct 16 Evening service held at Morningside of Paris. Oct 30 Fifth Sunday Night Singing.

Scotty Davis, pastor.

Christmas Open House

December 9th, 12:00 noon - 6:00 pm

WDBA Ministry Center
Everyone welcome to come by!

Lite 'n Easy Pumpkin Cobbler



- 1 can (15 oz) pumpkin (not pumpkin pie mix)
- 1 can (12 oz) evaporated low-fat milk
- 2 whole eggs
- 2 egg whites
- 3 teaspoons vanilla
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup artificial no-calorie sweetener
- 3 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 box Betty Crocker® SuperMoist® yellow cake mix
- 2/3 cup fat-free or light spread, melted
- 1 cup chopped pecans

1. Heat oven to 350°F (325°F for dark or nonstick pan). Spray 13x9-inch pan with cooking spray.
2. In large bowl, mix all ingredients except cake mix, spread and pecans with whisk; pour into pan. In medium bowl, mix cake mix and spread with fork until blended; spoon tablespoonfuls of batter randomly over mixture in pan. Sprinkle with pecans.
3. Bake 48 to 55 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool on cooling rack 30 minutes. Serve warm with whipped topping or vanilla ice cream, if desired. Store covered in refrigerator.

Ministers Wives Luncheon



Featured Speaker:
Shawnah Shingleton,
conference leader and life coach

Long Hollow Baptist Church
3031 Long Hollow Pike
Hendersonville, TN
November 15, 2011
Noon-1:30

Music by:
Long Hollow Praise Team

Special gift bags and many door prizes: Free night at a B&B, free weekend at one of our conference centers; free registration for Ministers Wives Retreat, 2012.

Cost is \$15. Registration online at www.ministerswives.org beginning September 1. Registration deadline is November 9th. To register by mail, send check payable to Tennessee Baptist Convention, PO Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024 to Bernie Baker. Please include your name and church. For more information contact Lano Rose at lrose@mbaptist.org or by calling 615-371-2008.

Mission Project:
Bring old eye glasses to send to a foreign country in need.

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PARIS, TENNESSEE
PERMIT NO. 35

Western District Baptist Association
1160 Tyson Avenue
Paris, TN 38242

Return Service Requested

November

- 6: Daylight Savings Time
- 11: Veteran's Day
- 11: Executive Board Banquet, 6:30pm
Ministry Center
- 14-16: TBC Annual Meeting, First
Baptist Church,
Hendersonville, TN
- 21: Forerunner News Due
- 24: Thanksgiving
- 23-25: Office Closed

December

- 5-9: Week of Prayer - International
Missions - Lottie Moon
- 9: 12 noon to 6:00 pm - Open
House at WDBA
- 15: Forerunner News Due
- 22: First Day of Winter
- 24: Christmas Eve
- 25: Christmas Day
- Dec 21 thru Jan 3 - OFFICE
CLOSED

January

- 1: New Years Day
 - 1-7: Mission Trip to Louisiana
 - 3: Office Re-Open
 - 10: W TN Pastors Conf, Union U
 - 12: Tax Seminar, Richard Skidmore
 - 15: Sanctity of Human Life
 - 16: Martin Luther King Day
 - 20: Forerunner News
 - 29: Day of Prayer
- Collecting Disaster Box Items**