

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FBC TO PRESENT SCHOLARSHIPS

First Baptist Church has the privilege of presenting three scholarships to graduating high school seniors this spring. On Sunday, May 20, 2007, which is Graduate Recognition Sunday, our church will present these scholarships. Below is a brief description for each.

#### Harvey L. Hammond

##### Memorial Education Scholarship

Since 1985, First Baptist Church has been generously provided with the funds for a scholarship by the family of Harvey L. Hammond. The details on this scholarship have been mailed to all graduating seniors who are members of First Baptist Church. **Deadline for application—Sunday, April 15, 2007.**

#### The Karen Nasworthy Scholarship

The Nasworthy family has established an annual educational resource scholarship in memory of Karen Nasworthy to be awarded to a member of the First Baptist Church who is graduating from high school in 2007. Every senior will be eligible upon receipt of a written nomination from a member of First Baptist.

No applications are necessary. The Coordinating Committee of the Karen Nasworthy Sunday School Class will evaluate each student on the basis of the letter of nomination and determine the scholarship recipient.

The scholarship is designed to pay for textbooks for the student over the course of their educational endeavor. The funds will be placed in the First Baptist Foundation. As the student purchases textbooks, they will be reimbursed by the foundation upon submission of a bill of sale.

The type of education the student pursues is not limited to colleges and universities, but may include other types of accredited educational institutions.

Nominees will be judged on elements of personality and character as portrayed by the winsome qualities of Karen Nasworthy. Neither financial need nor intensity of involvement in the youth program of the church will be considered as prime factors by the Coordinating Committee.

The rewarding of the Nasworthy scholarship will be made on Graduate Recognition Sunday at First Baptist Church, Sunday, May 20, 2007. A suitable plaque will be placed in the youth section of the church where the names of those receiving this scholarship will be posted.

**Nominations for the 2007 scholarship must be in the office of the church to be forwarded to the Karen Class Coordinating Committee by Sunday, April 15, 2007.** Nominations must be in letter form indicating why the student should be considered for the scholarship.

#### Pansy Nigh Torrance and Ellen Torrance Steele Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship, established by E. Paul Torrance in October 2002, is an endowment from which the interest is to be awarded annually to a graduating senior who is a member of First Baptist Church and will be attending an institution of higher education. The award is intended to be a one time cash award to the recipient and is to be used for tuition, books, and related expenses. The details on this scholarship have been mailed to all graduating seniors who are members of First Baptist Church. **Deadline for application is Sunday, April 15, 2007.**

## HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS FOR HOLY WEEK

The Flower Committee is offering an opportunity to remember loved ones during Holy Week. Your \$15 donation will be used to purchase Easter lilies and greenery to decorate the sanctuary. Please submit a completed form and your donation to Suzy by the March 21 deadline. To ensure accuracy, we ask that all requests be made in writing on the form. Forms may be obtained in the church office and foyer. On Sunday, April 8, an insert with the names of those being honored will be in the worship bulletin.

### HONORING THE MILITARY

In honoring the military of our church family, the Creative Arts Committee would also like to recognize those soldiers not only away in foreign countries, but those who are also stationed in the United States. If you have family members and close family friends who are serving our country in this capacity, please telephone Jane Houston with this information at 706-543-9496 or email to [janehouston@charter.net](mailto:janehouston@charter.net). Thank you.

### OUR NEWSLETTER IS NOW AVAILABLE BY E-MAIL. SUBSCRIBE ON-LINE AT [www.firstbaptistathens.org](http://www.firstbaptistathens.org)

We are now offering you the opportunity to receive our church newsletter (in the form and layout it is published) by e-mail. Go to the Events page under Fellowship menu button, or click on "Calendar" on the left side of the web page. The address is <http://www.acswebnetworks.com/firstbaptistathens/events>. Either of these links will lead you to the Newsletter Subscription information. Click on "Newsletter Subscription Form" and you will be asked to simply supply your name and e-mail address. This will automatically add your name to the subscription list.

### COMMUNITY LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Each Lent the Downtown Churches of Athens have offered a Lenten Worship experience and lunch during the Thursdays of Lent. This year's services will be hosted by Emmanuel Episcopal Church and their new rector Robert Salamone. The theme this year is "To Live the Word—Inspired and Incarnate." Worship begins promptly at noon followed by lunch in the Fellowship Hall at 12:30 for a nominal fee. No reservations are needed for lunch.

#### Lenten Service Schedule

- March 8** Patrick Chandler, First Christian  
*The Word of Conversion*, Luke 15:11-32
- March 15** Bill Britt, First United Methodist  
*The Word of Forgiveness*, Matthew 18:21-35
- March 22** Glenn Doak, First Presbyterian  
*The Word of Salvation*, Luke 17:11-19
- March 29** Richard Washington, First African Methodist Episcopal  
*The Word of Discipleship*, Matthew 25:31-46

### SPECIAL ALERT

The Deacon Nominating Ballot has been completed. The ballot will contain the names of the top twenty-four (24) nominees and three (3) nominees for the FBC Foundation. Your personal ballot, along with biographical sketches of the Deacon nominees, will be mailed to you the week of March 5th. Through Frank Granger's sharing of the Associate Deacons' list of Deacon qualities as reported in a recent Newsletter, I would remind the church body to look at the list of nominees, reflect on these qualities needed for Deacon, pray specifically about your selections, and VOTE! CAST YOUR BALLOTS!

Becky Snow  
Board of Deacons Chair

## Bill's Corner

At the February Deacon's meeting, the Board of Deacons voted to license Bailey Nelson to the Gospel Ministry. Bailey is our part-time Minister of Children, and she is a full-time student at McAfee Baptist Theological Seminary. It was a most pleasant experience to see the deacon's action to license Bailey with such enthusiasm.

For years, Baptists have practiced licensing a person to the gospel ministry as a sign that they believe this person to have experienced a call from God to go into full-time Christian ministry. This is not an ordination but it is a step in that direction. Usually when one is ordained into the gospel ministry, they go before an ordination committee, and the church will vote for ordination, followed by an ordination service. This action of licensing by the deacons is a method of encouragement to the person being licensed to continue to pursue their calling and develop their gifts for ministry.

This Sunday we will recognize Bailey in both worship services acknowledging her call, encouraging her to continue in this direction.

Also this Sunday, our children's choir will join the choir from First Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina, in both worship services. Last year our children were a part of the worship at FBC Greenville, and now it is our opportunity to be host for the children from Greenville. We will have a wonderful celebration of worship as we continue to go through the season of Lent.

There is the story about the little boy who was so engrossed in drawing that his mother finally asked him what it was he was drawing. "God," the little boy responded. "But no one has ever seen God," Mom said. "Well, they will when I am finished," replied the boy. There is much confidence in such a child and much wisdom. Each of us as Christians is to allow others to see God in us.

See you Sunday,  
Bill

### UPCOMING SERMONS

- March 4**  
*Wednesday with Jesus - The Plan of Betrayal* - Mark 14:1-10
- March 11**  
*Thursday with Jesus - The Last Meal* - Mark 14:12-72
- March 18**  
*Friday with Jesus - The Cross* - Mark 15
- March 25**  
Dr. Walter Shurden, guest speaker. Bill is speaking for the 75th Anniversary at FBC Hillsville, Virginia.
- April 1**  
*Palm Sunday - Sunday with Jesus - An Entrance with a Purpose* - Mark 11:1-11
- April 8**  
Easter - *Life with Jesus* - Mark 16:1-8

## 55+

### FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 23, 2007 DINNER AND SPEAKER

Call the church (706-548-1359) now to reserve a place for you and your guests to attend our dinner on Friday, March 23, at 6 p.m. in the Church Fellowship Hall. Darrell Huckaby (*As Southern As Cotton*), Athens Banner-Herald columnist, educator, author, and public speaker, will be our speaker. Reservations and cancellations are required before March 15. Cost is \$6. Mr. Huckaby will bring his books to sell and has agreed to autograph them for you. If you need transportation for the evening, let the receptionist know when you make your reservation(s). We are considering inviting senior adults from other churches, but want to give you first chance for reservations. So please call now and pay before the 15th. Call Jan Brown at 543-5208 if you have questions.

## WOMEN IN THE THIRD AGE

A seminar co-sponsored by the Samaritan Counseling Center and the Mind Body Institute of Athens Regional Medical Center will support women over 50 in affirming the wisdom they have developed and strengthen their direction for the third stage of life. The leaders are Robin Bewley and Lacy Camp. The seminar is Friday, March 2, 6:00-8:30 p.m., and Saturday, March 3, 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The charge is \$115 for this seminar. Call the Samaritan office to register at 706-369-7911, ext. 219.

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The FBC family welcomes its newest members, **Clare and Travis Eggleston**. They come to us by transfer of letter from St. Andrews Baptist Church in Columbia, SC. Welcome, Clare and Travis.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

**George O'Kelley** now resides at Winterville Assisted Living Center, 102 Avery St., Winterville, GA.



### SYMPATHY

The church extends their love and support to **Linda Moon** and her family in the loss of her brother, Larry Walker, of Peachtree City; to **Wally Smith** and his family in the loss of Wally's mother, Evelyn C. Smith, of Greenville, SC; and to **Virginia Quig**, spouse, and **Terry Ward**, daughter, in the loss of **John Quig**. John passed away on Tuesday, February 26. John had been a member of FBC for the past seven years.

## MISSIONS

### IHNA HOST WEEK—MARCH 4-11

Interfaith Hospitality Network Host Week is Sunday, March 4-11! Please sign up on the board in the main hall or check the FBC website. If you are available to help set up the living space for our guests, come to the Youth area on Sunday, March 4, at 2 p.m. It will take about one hour. Thank you for your help!

Fifteen people attended the IHNA volunteer training last Sunday! That brings our total to 113 trained FBC volunteers!!

### THANK YOU

The Community Missions Committee would like to thank all those who helped with the Homeless Day Center personal hygiene kits. Thanks to those who brought in items for the packets, and thanks to those who helped sort items and place them into bags to be distributed. With all of us working together, we were able to put together 27 bags. Thanks!

### Doing Missions in Our Community—MARCH

**Athens Area Food Bank: March 13-14:** Covenant Class

**March 27-28:** Covenant Class

**Soup Kitchen: March 8:** Deacons

**April 12:** Disciples Class

## FINANCIAL & ATTENDANCE REPORT

Week of February 18, 2007		Attendance
Weekly Receipts:	\$9,821.02	9:00 83
		11:00 214
Week of February 25, 2007		Attendance
Weekly Receipts:	\$10,242.54	9:00 106
		11:00 229

## Education Ministry

### FOCUS GROUP FOR ADULTS

**March 7, 2007 at 7:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall**

**For those adults who have not yet had opportunity to attend**

We are inviting you to join us for the final focus group meeting we have scheduled. We offer a variety of experiences and seek to offer more for you as an adult in our church. We want to know of your interests, your needs, and your ideas for our adult ministry here at First Baptist. We especially want to know what additional offerings and opportunities you would like to see planned and offered.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

**Open Session - Time: 7:30 p.m.**

**This session is open to any and all adults in our church.**

The session will be held in the Church Fellowship Hall. We look forward to hearing from you.

### WEDNESDAY EVENING COLLOQUIUM Lent 2007

**Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall**

**March 7, 2007: *Streams of Living Water***, Melanie Nogalski, Assistant Professor of Spiritual Formation, School of Divinity, Gardner-Webb University, Boiling Springs, NC

**March 14, 2007: *Prophecy in the Hebrew Scriptures***, David Garber, Assistant Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew, McAfee, Atlanta, GA

**March 21, 2007: *Prophecy as Fulfillment in the New Testament***, Tom Slater, Professor of New Testament, Atlanta, GA

**March 28, 2007: *Preparation for the Seder***, Frank Granger, Minister of Education, First Baptist Church, Athens, GA

**April 5, 2007 (A Thursday Evening): *Seder Meal***, Nancy deClassie-Walford, Associate Professor of Old Testament and Biblical Languages, McAfee School of Theology, Atlanta, GA

## A MUSICAL NOTE...

### CHILDREN'S CHOIR FESTIVAL AT FBC ATHENS

The Joyful Singers Choir and the Sixth Grade Ensemble will combine with the children's choir of FBC Greenville, SC for a weekend festival this Saturday, March 3 through Sunday, March 4. I am grateful to our Children's Choir Coordinator, Teresa Granger, and Jill Fuson of FBC Greenville for planning this excellent musical event for our children. The combined choirs will sing in both worship services on Sunday, March 4.

**Parents, please note the schedule for Saturday, March 3:**

**4:00 p.m.** Festival begins at FBC with rehearsals, activities, and dinner

**8:00 p.m.** Leave church for fun time at "Pump It Up"

**10:00 p.m.** Meet parents at FBC

Blessings,  
Randy

### COME RUN (OR WALK) WITH US

Every Thursday afternoon at 4:30 p.m., FBC Athens members gather at the UGA Intramural fields for a little exercise. Some run and some walk, but all enjoy the fellowship. Meet us at the tennis courts and we guarantee a good time—money back if you are not satisfied!

Daniel Haygood

## KID'S CORNER

### Easter Egg Hunt and Luncheon!

**When:** Sunday, April 1st at 12 noon immediately following the worship service

**Who:** All families with children ages birth through 5th grade

**Where:** Please meet downstairs at the entrance to the Preschool area as soon as the service is over. We will hunt for eggs and then travel to the Fellowship Hall for lunch!

**What to Bring:** A basket to put all of your eggs in! Also, please bring a side dish of some kind to share with the entire group! The church will provide the main meat, dessert, and drinks!

**Why:** To enjoy food, fun, and fellowship together as families. We would love to have all of our children that are on roll present with their families. We will be giving away some fabulous door prizes during lunch! Be there!

## COLLEGE MOVES

### College Spring Break Mission Trip March 10th-15th

Ten college students, plus Matt and Caroline, will be traveling to New Orleans over the week of UGA's Spring Break. They will be participating in the ongoing relief efforts that continue in the immediate New Orleans area. Our college students have committed their financial resources to this trip as well as their time off during the semester. Please pray for our safety as we travel and work. If you would like to offer some financial support for our trip, please contact the church. Thank you for your support of our college ministry!

## OUR CHURCH AT WORK

### Co-Deacons for the Weeks of:

**March 4-March 10:** Shaun O'Rear, LaReece Reynolds

**March 11-March 17:** Robin O'Rear, Ches Smith

**Fellowship Team—March:** Shaun O'Rear, Carol Rayburn, LaReece Reynolds and Sherman Reynolds

### THE EVENTS BOX

3/4	IHNA Host Week Begins	
3/4	First Worship	9:00
3/4	Classic Worship	11:00
3/4	Children's Choir Festival - Sanctuary	11:00
3/4	Communications Committee Mtg. - Fellowship Hall	12:30
3/4	Prayer Group - Prayer Room	5:00
3/4	Music Committee Mtg. - Knowlton's home	5:00
3/4	9th and 10th Grade Family Group - Youth Area	5:00
3/4	High School Snack Supper - Youth Area	5:45
3/4	11th and 12th Grade Family Group - Youth Area	6:15
3/5	Spanish Class - Fellowship Hall	7:00
3/6	Nominating Committee - Farrall Conf. Room	5:30
3/7	Wednesday Evening Activities	5:00
3/7	Property Management - Farrall Conf. Room	7:30
3/7	Focus Group Open Session - Fellowship Hall	7:30
3/8	Lenten Services at Emmanuel Episcopal Church	12:00
3/9	Georgia CBF - March 9 and 10 - Off Site	
3/10	College Mission Trip to New Orleans - March 10-15	
3/11	Athens Symphony Choir Rehearsal	2:30
3/11	9th and 10th Grade Family Group - Youth Area	5:00
3/11	High School Snack Supper - Youth Area	5:45
3/11	11th and 12th Grade Family Group - Youth Area	6:15
3/12	Newsletter Info Deadline	12:00
3/12	Spanish Class - Fellowship Hall	7:00
3/14	Wednesday Evening Activities	5:00
3/14	Finance Committee	5:15
3/14	Associate Deacons' Meeting - E112/113	7:15
3/14	Deacons' Meeting - F319	7:30

### Ministers

<b>Bill Ross</b> Senior Minister	<b>Frank Granger</b> Minister of Education	<b>Bailey Nelson</b> Minister of Children
<b>Randy Brittain</b> Minister of Music	<b>Matt DuVall</b> Minister of Youth/Young Adults	<b>Jon Appleton</b> Pastor Emeritus
<b>Anne Brittain</b> Organist/Music Associate		

[www.firstbaptistathens.org](http://www.firstbaptistathens.org)

FIRST BAPTIST NEWS

(USPS 193-040)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

355 Pulaski Street

Athens, Georgia 30601-2860

706-548-1359

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Periodicals

POSTAGE PAID

Athens, Ga. 30601

FIRST BAPTIST NEWS (USPS 193-040) is published bi-weekly at no charge by First Baptist Church, 355 Pulaski St., Athens, GA 30601-2860. Periodicals postage paid at Athens, GA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to FIRST BAPTIST NEWS, 355 Pulaski St., Athens, GA 30601-2860.

VOL. LI

March 3, 2007

No. 5

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**First Baptist News**  
ATHENS, GEORGIA