**In the Spotlight**

You’ve Got the Time: 
A Journey of Biblical Faithfulness

A 40-Day Commitment to Listen to Scripture
28 Minutes a Day

40 Days from February 17–April 3

Information and Presentation on February 3 at 6:00 P.M.

You are invited to join in making a 40-day commitment to listen to the entire New Testament during the season of Lent. The audio Bible is produced by Faith Comes by Hearing and is made available to us, at no charge, through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Each member of the congregation is provided the opportunity to receive a recording of the New Testament for listening. You’ve Got the Time is our opportunity to devote 28 minutes a day for 40 days to listen to God’s word.

The audio Bible, recorded digitally on a disc, is available to you at no charge. You simply need to pick up one of these in the coming weeks or contact us through the church office to reserve a copy for you.

The audio Bible is recorded on a disc in a format that can be listened to on a personal or laptop computer, most home DVD players, any car CD player that is MP3 compatible, and can be downloaded onto an Iphone, Ipod, or another MP3 player.

Also available for young children is the Kidz Bible audio Bible for children. This is also recorded in an MP3 format. The Kidz Bible contains a collection of major Bible stories in both the Old and New Testaments, as well as recordings of over 80 songs. If you wish to reserve one of these for your child, please let us know.

Members of our Discipleship Ministry Team will be hosting two times for members to gather for discussion and dialogue about our experiences in listening to scripture. One will be on Sunday afternoons at 5:00 p.m. at the church, and the other will be on Tuesday mornings at 8:00 a.m. at 2 Story Coffee in Five Points. These are open to any and all who wish to attend.

**2010 Deacon Election**

In accordance with church policy, the 2010 Deacon Election will begin in February. Each resident member will first receive in the mail a nominating ballot which will provide the opportunity to nominate individuals that you feel should be placed on the election ballot. The election ballot will then be mailed to all resident members for the final selection of Deacons to serve a 3-year term. The schedule for this year’s ballot mailings is as follows:

- **Tuesday, February 2**: Deacon Nominating Ballots will be mailed to each resident member along with a copy of the Resident Eligible Members list.
- **Tuesday, February 16**: Nominating Ballots due back in the church office for counting.
- **Monday, March 8**: Deacon Election Ballots will be mailed out.
- **Sunday, March 21**: Deacon Election Ballots due back in the church office for counting.

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**Reflections**

Dr. Ron Higdon

I always hesitate to recommend books and movies, but I am going to recommend one of each in this reflection. Many of you have already seen “The Blind Side,” but, if you haven’t, it is an absolute must. It is the kind of movie that would make a great topic for small group discussion because there is much for reflection in this truly remarkable and entertaining film.

The book I want to recommend is A Gathering of Memories by Charles R. Pinches. The subtitle is: Family, Nation, and Church in a Forgetful World. I will be using a couple of ideas from this book in a sermon I am working on for February 28 titled “Reframing the Past in Order to Live in the Present and Have Hope for the Future.” In our individual lives, in the life of our family, and in the life of the church as you prepare to welcome a new senior pastor, I can think of no more timely book.

Pinches’ book is not a tough read, but it requires a careful read. As a blurb on the dust jacket says, In this highly provocative and skillfully crafted work, Charlie Pinches speaks to one of the most pressing problems of our postmodern world – the loss of memory. The solution offered in A Gathering of Memories will leave you with a fresh appreciation of how the Christian faith speaks cogently to the recovery of memory for the healing of family, nation, and church, as well as the recovery of our baptismal life.

A variety of topics will fill the slots on Wednesday nights during Lent. I am working on a series I call: “Some Surprising Things You Might Not Have Known Are in the Bible and What They Can Teach Us.” I have a list of about 100 biblical texts and will be selecting from that list the ones I think will generate the most questions and discussion.

A personal note: Pat and I will be taking a vacation beginning February 15 and returning to Athens on February 26. Ray Austin will be supplying the pulpit on February 21. We’re hoping to bring Spring back with us from our trip to the south!

Continue to pray daily for the Senior Pastor Search Committee and all of the staff as we seek to make this interim time a productive time.

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THE DEADLINE FOR INCLUSION IN 
THE MARCH NEWSLETTER IS 
FEBRUARY 23 AT NOON.
Send all news items to Donna Smith
donna@firstbaptistathens.org
Children's Ministry Calendar

- **January 29**
  - Winter Olympic Lock-In, Drop-off 5:30 p.m.

- **February 19, 21**
  - Discipleship Class, 3rd-5th Grades

- **March 6-7**
  - Choir Retreat to Greenville, SC

- **March 28**
  - Palm Sunday Service, Lunch, and Egg Hunt

- **April 4**
  - Easter

- **June 7-10**
  - Vacation Bible School

- **June 28-July 1**
  - Passport Camp at Wingate University, North Carolina

**Children**

**MINISTRY AREAS**

**Youth**

**Children**

**MINISTRY AREAS**

**Youth**

**Student Ministries**

Hannah Coe

We find ourselves in the midst of an event-heavy season. Please take a careful look at what’s going on in Youth and College Ministry(s) in the coming month to see how you might be involved!

**Youth**

**February Youth Events**

**YARD SALE**

**Yard Sale**

February 6, 2010 • FBC Fellowship Hall
8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

The Biannual Youth Yard Sale will take place on Saturday, February 6. Please SAVE YOUR STUFF to donate to the yard sale. Contact Hannah with any questions at Hannah@firstbaptistathens.org. The youth proceeds from the yard sale will go toward the registration fee for Passport Youth 2010!

Parents...please plan for your student(s) to be at FBC on Wednesday, February 3, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. to help move and organize sale items in the Fellowship Hall.

**Youth Super Bowl Party 2010**

February 7, 2010, Time: 6:00 p.m.
Cathy and David Graves’ Home
**Potluck**

**College**

**February College Events**

**College Super Bowl Party**

February 7th, 6:00 p.m.
Genie and Pete Chamberlin’s Home
**Hope to see you there!**

**LOOKING FORWARD**

- **February 28**
  - Celebrating Grace Hymn Festival at FBC Athens! 5:00 p.m.

- **March 12-14**
  - Youth attending March Mission Madness, Macon

- **July 18-23**
  - Youth attending Passport Choices

**College**

**February College Events**

**A missions, worship, and fellowship opportunity for college and graduate students.**

February 19-20 (Friday-Saturday)
Mercer University Atlanta Campus
**Please RSVP to Hannah**
**WEEK 1—JANUARY 31-FEBRUARY 6**

**Sunday, January 31**
9:00-12:00 noon Regular Sunday Morning Schedule
2:30 pm Sunday School at Denney Towers
4:00 pm Youth & College Ministry Team - Youth Area
4:30 pm Adult Sunday School Teacher Meeting - E108/109
5:15 pm Youth Choir - F-316
5:00 pm Adult Handbells - Handbell Room
6:00-7:30 pm Youth Activities - Fellowship Hall
8:00-9:30 pm College Activities - Pete and Genie Chamberlin's Home

**Tuesday, February 2**
10:30 am Staff Meeting - Farrall Conference Room
7:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 22 Meeting - Youth Area

**Wednesday, February 3**
7:30 am Prayer Breakfast - Covenant Carpenter
5:00 pm Wednesday Evening Activities
5:00 pm Wednesday Night Dinner - Fellowship Hall
5:30 pm Athens Symphony Board - Farrall Conference Room
5:45 pm Gather for Prayer and Announcements - Fellowship Hall
6:00-6:50 pm Schedule for Adults - Topic: Reading the Bible with Our Hearts - Led by Frank Granger
5:45-7:00 pm Youth Activities - Youth Area/Fellowship Hall
6:00-7:15 pm Children's Choirs and Missions
7:00-8:15 pm Sanctuary Choir - Choir Room

**Saturday, February 6**
8:00-12:00 noon Youth Yard/Bake Sale - Fellowship Hall

**WEEK 2—FEBRUARY 7-13**

**Sunday, February 7—Communion Sunday (both Worship Services)**
9:00 am Sanctuary Choir Brunch - Choir Room
9:00-12:00 noon Regular Sunday Morning Schedule
11:00 am Worship Service - Sanctuary
Boy Scouts Sunday
5:00 pm Children's Ministry Team Meeting - Farrall Conference Room
6:00 pm Youth Super Bowl Party - David and Cathy Graves' Home
6:00 pm College Super Bowl Party - Pete and Genie Chamberlin's Home

**Monday, February 8**
10:00 am AIM Board Meeting - Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday, February 9**
10:30 am Staff Meeting - Farrall Conference Room
7:00 pm Explorer Scouts Meeting - E112/113
7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop Court of Honor - Fellowship Hall

**Wednesday, February 10**
5:00 pm Wednesday Evening Activities
5:00 pm Wednesday Night Dinner - Fellowship Hall
5:15 pm Property Management Meeting - Farrall Conference Room
5:45 pm Gather for Prayer and Announcements - Fellowship Hall
6:00-6:50 pm Schedule for Adults - Topic: Some Surprising Things You Might Not Have Known Are in the Bible and What They Can Teach Us - Led by Ron Higdon
5:45-7:00 pm Youth Activities - Youth Area/Fellowship Hall
6:00-7:15 pm Children's Choirs and Missions
7:00-8:15 pm Sanctuary Choir - Choir Room

**WEEK 3—FEBRUARY 14-20**

**Sunday, February 14**
9:00-12:00 noon Regular Sunday Morning Schedule
5:15 pm Youth Choir - F-316
6:00 pm Adult Handbells - Handbell Room
6:00-7:30 pm Youth Activities - Fellowship Hall

**Monday, February 15**
10:00 am FBC Quilters - S-104
6:30 pm Sr. Adults’ Valentine Banquet - Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday, February 16**
10:00 am Circle 5 - Disciples Classroom
10:30 am Staff Meeting - Farrall Conference Room
5:00 pm Parkview Play school Board Meeting - Farrall Conference Room
6:00 pm Virginia Appleton Circle helping at International Valentine Banquet - Fellowship Hall

**WEEK 4—FEBRUARY 21-27**

**Sunday, February 21**
9:00-12:00 noon Regular Sunday Morning Schedule
12:30 pm Missions Committee Meeting - Farrall Conference Room
5:00 pm You’ve Got the Time Discussion Session at the church - hosted by Ray Noblet and Johnathan McGinty
5:00 pm Being a Disciple - Fellowship Hall / Other locations
5:15 pm Youth Choir - F-316
6:00 pm Adult Handbells - Handbell Room
6:30-7:30 pm Youth Activities

**Monday, February 22**
10:00 am Embroidery Guild - F-316
6:00 pm Deacons’ Meeting - Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday, February 23**
8:00 am You’ve Got the Time Discussion Session at 2 Story Coffee - hosted by Genie Chamberlin and Frank Granger
10:30 am MEF Circle Meeting - Fellowship Hall
10:30 am Staff Meeting - Farrall Conference Room
12:00 noon March Newsletter Deadline
7:00 pm Explorer Scouts Meeting - E112/113
7:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 22 Meeting - Youth Area

**Wednesday, February 24**
5:00 pm Wednesday Evening Activities
5:00 pm Wednesday Night Dinner - Fellowship Hall
5:45 pm Gather for Prayer and Announcements - Fellowship Hall
6:00-6:50 pm Schedule for Adults - Topic: A Scriptural View on the Office and Ministry of Deacon - Led by Frank Granger
5:45-7:00 pm Youth Activities - Youth Area/Fellowship Hall
6:00-7:15 pm Children's Choirs and Missions
7:00-8:15 pm Sanctuary Choir - Choir Room

**Thursday, February 25**
12:00 noon Senior Adult Covered Dish Luncheon - Fellowship Hall

**WEEK 5—FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 6**

**Sunday, February 28**
No Worship Service at 9:00 am
9:00 am Stephen Ministry Information Drop-In - Fellowship Hall
9:45-10:45 am Sunday School and Bible Study
11:00 am Worship Service with Dr. Al Travis - Sanctuary
3:00 pm Choirs Rehearsal - Sanctuary
4:00 pm Choirs Break - Fellowship Hall
5:00 pm Celebrating Grace Hymn Festival - Sanctuary

**Monday, March 1**
4:30 pm Discipleship Team Meeting - Farrall Conference Room

**Tuesday, March 2**
8:00 am You’ve Got the Time Discussion Session at 2 Story Coffee - hosted by Genie Chamberlin and Frank Granger
10:30 am Staff Meeting - Farrall Conference Room
7:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 22 Meeting - Youth Area

**Wednesday, March 3**
5:00 pm Regular Sunday Morning Schedule

**Saturday, March 6**
Children's Choir Festival with FBC in Greenville, SC - March 6-7

**REGULAR SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE**
9:00 a.m. Worship Service - Fellowship Hall
9:45-10:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study
11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Worship Service - Sanctuary

**REGULAR WEDNESDAY EVENING SCHEDULE**
5:00-6:00 pm Wednesday Evening Dinner
5:45 pm Gather for Prayer and Announcements
5:45-7:00 pm Youth Activities Grades 6-12 - Youth Area
6:00-6:50 pm Schedule for Adults
6:00-7:15 pm Children’s Choirs & Missions
6:00-6:45 pm - Children's Choirs
Pre-K & 3 & 4: Brownie Bears; Gr. K-1: Music Makers; Gr. 2-5: Joyful Singers
Farrall Conference Room - MISSIONkids!
Pre-K & 3 & 4: Hearts; Gr. K-1: Hands; Gr. 2-5: Voices
7:00-8:15 pm Sanctuary Choir - Choir Room
Welcome New Members
Kenneth C. Allen, Jr. and Katherine H. Allen joined by transfer of letter from Joy Baptist Church, Hull, Georgia, on January 17, 2010.

Welcome New Babies
Congratulations to Laura (Dawson) Ullrich and Brian Ullrich on the birth of their son, Allen Reese Daniel Ullrich, on January 10, 2010. The paternal grandparents are Andy and Debbie Ullrich and the maternal grandparents are Rick and Jill Dawson.

Congratulations to Jacki Macker and Cash V. Morris on the birth of their son, Lachlan Vandiver Morris, on January 13, 2010. The paternal grandparents are Libby V. and C. Vandiver Morris and the maternal grandmother is Patricia Macker.

Our Sympathy
We extend our Christian love and sympathy to Dallas Cannady and Karen and Ashley Whitley in the loss of their wife, mother, and grandmother, Joan Cannady, on December 28, 2009. Funeral services were held on January 2, 2010 at First Baptist Church.

We extend our Christian love and sympathy to Kathy, Tom, and Steven Barrow; Donna, Bill, Bevan and McGee Hopper; Patsy Hogan; Wayne, Arlene, Jon, Andy, and Laura Kathrynne Hogan; Chad and Wes Hogan; and Drew, Carol and Lexie Harvey in the loss of Jane Hogan, who passed away on Friday, January 22, 2010. Funeral services were held on January 24, 2010 at First Baptist Church.

We extend our Christian love and sympathy to Tyler Quinn in the loss of his grandfather, William E. (Ed) Kelley, of Augusta, Georgia, on January 21, 2010.

A Special Thank You
Dear Church Family,

We want to say thank you for being such loving and caring people. You were all so wonderful to our family during Joan’s illness and passing. We can never thank you enough for the visits, calls, prayers, and all the delicious food you brought. You are very special people to us, and may God bless you all with the same love and caring that you so generously showed us. A very special thank you to Dr. Higdon and Dr. Appleton for being there and the beautiful service you held for a beautiful lady. And to you all, please tell the ones you love that you love them. You may not get a chance later.

The Cannady Family

Co-Deacon for the Weeks of:
January 31-February 6: Richard Coleman and Ed Dempsey
February 7-13: Nancy Dempsey and Wilson Denney
February 14-20: Sherri Divers and Tal DuVall
February 21-27: Jim Ebert and Joyce Gravel

Welcome Center Team for February
Janice Kopp, Wanda Grogan, Carol Huff, Jackie Thomason

Update from Senior Minister Search Committee
As the new year begins, the Senior Minister Search Committee has redirected our efforts in the search for our next minister. After meeting, interviewing, and visiting with some highly qualified candidates whom we liked very much, the committee decided unanimously that we had not yet met the person who best fit our pastor profile. As a result, the committee has contacted persons that have given us new names to consider, and we are at work, talking with these potential candidates, reviewing resumes, and listening to sermon tapes. The committee is very encouraged about the quality of these candidates, and we are determined to move the process along as effectively and efficiently as possible.

We have asked for your patience and support many times, and we ask that of you again. We appreciate that you as a congregation are willing to wait with us on the candidate that God would have us call.
Adult Discipleship

Frank Granger

**Wednesday Evening Discipleship in February**

6:00 P.M. – Fellowship Hall

**February 3**  
**Reading the Bible with Our Heart**, Led by Frank Granger. This will include a presentation of the *You’ve Got the Time* Bible listening materials and our 40-day commitment to listening to scripture.

**February 10**  
**Some Surprising Things You Might Not Have Known Are in the Bible and What They Can Teach Us**, Led by Ron Higdon

**February 17**  
**Ash Wednesday Worship** (Sanctuary)

**February 24**  
**A Scriptural View on the Office and Ministry of Deacon**, Led by Frank Granger

Music Ministry

Randy Brittain

**Celebrating Grace: Hymnal for Baptist Worship**

FBC Athens is hosting a Hymn Festival to celebrate the new hymnal, *Celebrating Grace: Hymnal for Baptist Worship*, on Sunday, February 28, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. This is a regional roll-out event for the new hymnal, under the auspices of the *Celebrating Grace* Hymnal Committee. The choirs and congregations of FBC Gainesville and Milledge Avenue Baptist Church will join us for this festival service. Worship leadership includes Mark Edwards, Managing Editor of the *Celebrating Grace* Hymnal; Al Travis, retired Distinguished Professor of Organ at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, organist; Mark Green, Minister of Music at FBC Gainesville, pianist; Anne and Randy Brittain, soloists; and the combined Sanctuary Choirs, with flute, brass quintet, and timpani.

Dr. Al Travis will also be our guest organist for the 11:00 a.m. worship service on February 28 as we gather for one service that morning. We will sing together his musical arrangements for choir and congregation of *I Stand Amazed in the Presence* and *Shall We Gather at the River*. You will not want to miss this special day of worship.

Young Adult Study

**Sunday Mornings at 9:45 A.M.**

**Practicing Our Faith: A Way of Life for a Searching People**  
Led by Frank Granger

Our Young Adult Class on Sunday mornings is beginning a new study entitled “Practicing Our Faith: A Way of Life for a Searching People.” The book by this title will be our guide for the next few months. Christians, for centuries, have followed many practices for living faithfully. The book places these practices in our current context.

What is a Christian practice? “Christian practices are things Christian people do together over time in response to and in light of God’s active presence for the life of the world in Christ Jesus” (Bass), each week we will review and discuss one of the practices, such as Hospitality, Household Economics, Keeping Sabbath, Discernment, Forgiveness, Healing, and others. If you are interested in joining in our young adult group this spring, please come. We meet in Room E-112/113. You may also contact Frank Granger at frank@firstbaptistathens.org.

CBF Georgia Youth Choir Festival

Fourteen Youth Choir members and five chaperones from FBC Athens attended the CBF Georgia Youth Choir Festival in Hampton, Georgia, January 15-17. The festival choir included 140 students from 10 CBF churches across Georgia. Anne Brittain served as Festival Accompanist for the weekend. Concerts were presented on Sunday, January 17 at FBC Griffin and FBC Columbus.

Youth Choir members included Christopher Adams, Kate Adams, Rhett Brittain, Mitchell Graves, Lori Hanna, Laura Kathyne Hogan, Matthew Hubert, Michael Richardson, Jr., Caroline Sanders, Brookes Shelton, Maggi Shelton, Mary Jane Young, Molly Young, and Owen Young. Chaperones included Anne and Randy Brittain, Hannah Coe, and Julie and Rusty Shelton.

55+

55+ Annual Valentine Banquet

The Board of Deacons cordially invites everyone 55+ to the 37th Annual Valentine Banquet on Monday, February 15, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. Call the church office to make your reservation by Monday, February 8. Please let the church office know if you need transportation.

Cape Cod/Plymouth Trip, May 22-30!

Space is still available for this fabulous 9 day/8 night trip. $689/person includes 8 breakfasts and 6 dinners. Call Vickie Horton (706-540-2803) ASAP.

Covered Dish Luncheon

Thursday, February 25, 12:00 Noon at FBC with Gail Stevens (AARP) regarding home health care. Please bring a covered dish; chicken provided. Call the church office for a reservation by Monday, February 22.

Looking Forward…

March 18: “One Day Outing”  
Lunch at Blue Willow Inn, then a visit to Double Acres in Madison, Georgia. Cost $45.
Worshipping Together

9:00 a.m. Worship - Fellowship Hall
11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

January 31
Is the Future Open or
Do You Simply Need a Crystal Ball?
Exodus 32:9-14

February 7
What God Begins We Are Expected to Finish
Philippians 1:3-6; 2:12-13

February 14
What Really Changes People?
Luke 19:1-10

February 21
Ray Austin, Guest Speaker

February 28
11:00 A.M. Community Worship with Al Travis
(No 9:00 a.m. Worship)
Reframing the Past in Order to Live in the Present
and Have Hope for the Future
Genesis 50:15-21; Luke 15:25-32

OUR CHURCH ON MISSION

Interfaith Hospitality Network
La Tablé
A Benefit Ladies’ Luncheon for
Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens

Thursday, February 25, 10:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Trumps Catering on South Milledge Avenue—$40

Each IHNA congregation will decorate their table on a theme of their choice. Genie Chamberlin will decorate the FBC table! A silent auction will be held with an emphasis on culinary and hospitality items, which relates to the two things that our IHNA volunteers and congregations provide during their IHNA host week—food and hospitality. A one-week time share with worldwide options and a one-week stay at a condo in St. Simon’s will be auctioned. The program during the luncheon, which begins at 12:15 p.m., will include remarks by the Executive Director, as well as a former guest of the Network. If you are interested in donating an item for the silent auction or would like to attend, please contact Linda Lacy (706-543-4299) by February 12.

Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen
Joe Callaway Class to serve February 11.

Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen has 14 available dates open this year. They are: April 22; June 22, 24; July 22; August 9, 11; September 23, 28; October 11, 13; November 23; December 13, 23, 28.
If any group can help out with serving on any of these dates, please let the office know. Thanks for your help.

Wilson Denney
Missions Committee Chair

Athens Area Emergency Food Bank (Barber Street)
Senior Adult Committee to serve February 9-10 and 23-24.
The Food Bank is in desperate need of canned pork and beans and dried pasta. Please bring to the Missions Room.

The Healing Place of Athens
The Healing Place of Athens needs the following items to serve its clients: Bath soap, deodorant, laundry detergent, disposable razors, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo. Please bring to the Missions Room and place in the container labeled “Healing Place.”
THPA currently has to turn away homeless men every night because the overnight shelter space can accommodate only 12 individuals on single cots. If anyone has bunk beds that they wish to donate, the facility would be very interested in receiving these. The beds will help provide additional overnight shelter for homeless men. If you have any bunk beds that you could donate, please contact Jon Ambrose at 706-338-9548. He can arrange to have the beds picked up and delivered to THPA.

Annual International Valentine Banquet
Sponsored by the AIM Board
Tuesday, February 16, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Everyone is invited. Please call the office by Friday, February 12 for reservations.