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Reflections

VOLUME XXXX

January 19, 2012

No. 3

From the Heart...

In my work with Blackaby Ministries, we define spiritual leadership as the "moving of people onto God's agenda". That is indeed a significant statement, because the key difference in leadership that is "spiritual" in nature and in content is that focus on God's agenda as opposed to human preference.

As we ordain several first time deacons this Sunday, I would ask you to consider the places in your life that God has given to you as the opportunity to exercise spiritual leadership/influence in another person's life. If you are a parent/grandparent, you are a spiritual leader. If you take your faith seriously in the marketplace, the classroom, the neighborhood, the civic club, the sports arena – then you have the opportunity to be a spiritual leader – to live and speak in such a way as to influence others toward God's plan (agenda) for their lives.

Certainly, we see deacons and other positions of service in the church as "leaders", but let's not forget the roles that God gives to all of us and each of us – II Corinthians 2:14 spells it out for us – "Thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him." What a joy and privilege that God chooses to "partner" with you and me in the great cause of flavoring our world for His glory!

See you Sunday in Bible Study and Worship!
Pastor Rick

Wednesday Prayer Service

6:45 p.m., in the Chapel
Message on January 25 by Sonny Eppes

This Sunday at Berea First Baptist Church

10:30 a.m.

Ordination of New Deacons
Message by Rev. Rick Fisher
"The Highway of Holiness"

One of the spiritual markers that characterizes the move toward holiness by the people of God is not only the "fear of God", a reverence and honor for His truth, but also *a reverence for the name and person of Jesus*. This week, we look at the significance of His name and the power of His presence in our lives.

6:00pm

In the Sanctuary
Message by Rev. Rick Fisher
"Prayer That Transforms Your Life"

Last week, we had an increase in attendance for our study! It is exciting to gather with members of the FBC family and look at what it means to have a life-changing relationship with our Lord through the conversation of prayer. This week, we focus on the work of the Holy Spirit as He affects our prayer life at the deepest levels.

A **Called Church Conference** will be held on Sunday, January 22, at the beginning of the evening worship service to elect church committees.

Church Administrator Named

The Personnel Committee of Berea First Baptist Church is pleased to announce that **Mike Parker** has been selected to fill the position of Church Administrator. He has been the Interim Administrator over the past six months and has had oversight of the daily operations of the church during this transitional time. We applaud his hard work, long hours, and dedication to helping make Berea First the best that she can be.

Mike, of course, is not new to Berea, having joined the staff in 1980 as Director of Recreation. He later added the role of Information Systems Manager and is in charge of the technology needs of the church. He will retain these responsibilities along with his new duties as Administrator. We are fortunate indeed to have one who has proven himself a faithful servant of the Lord and His Church for over three decades. Pray for Mike and all of our staff as we step into 2012 together.

2012 Deacon Ministry Team

Charles Jones, Chairman
Rocky Dreibrodt, Vice Chairman
Alan Myers, Secretary

Jad Anthony, Terry Anderson, J.J. Arrowood, Richard Babb, Harold Batson, James Blakely, Jim Blakely, Joe Blakely, Randy Blair, John Bolt, Ken Bridwell, Gary Brock, Jack Brock, Rodney Bruton, Jim Cagle, Doug Cannon, Charles Ducker, Neil Duncan, Sonny Eppes, Charles Hall, Von Hallman, John Hamilton, Jim Harrill, Alvin Henson, Wayne Horton, Scott Humphreys, Al Lee, Joe Lemons, Adam Lezan, Drake Jordan, Jeff Maness, Jamie Mann, Bill Mathis, Mike Nix, Ernest Reece, Bobby Reid, Jim Southerland, Kevin Styles, Mac Styles, Shep Tallon, Clyde Thompson, David Watson, Elbert Watson, Richard Whitlock, Frank Woodruff.

Build-A-Doll Workshop

Tuesday, January 24, 3:00-9:00 p.m.
 Senior Adult Building

Join us as we meet together to cut, sew, stuff, and paint faces on boy and girl dolls that will be used by mission teams to share a gift of love and a witness to our faith. Hotdogs, chips, and dessert will be available at 6:00 p.m. Adult plates are \$2 and children's plates are \$1.

Youth Ski Trip

Sugar Mountain
 February 19-20

\$50 deposit due by Wednesday, Jan. 25
 Total cost: \$150

The Very Newest

Congratulations to Cheryl Cowart Taylor on the birth of a granddaughter, Emerson Margaret, born January 9 to George and Jamie Cowart.

Sonny Eppes Honored

The Sonny Eppes Sunday School Class honored Sonny on Saturday night, January 7th at their annual belated Christmas Party with a monetary gift given to the Boy Scouts of America in honor of him. He was also presented with his 55-Year Boy Scout Veteran Award. Sonny is very active with the Boy Scouts training and with Troop 282.

LAST WEEK AT A GLANCE January 15, 2012

Weekly Required Budget Giving... \$28,521.83
 Budget Gifts Received.....\$21,838.60
 Budget Shortage.....\$6,683.23

Pass It On Giving.....\$993.00
 Designated/Reimbursements.....\$3,380.50
 TOTAL DEPOSIT.....\$26,212.10

Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to:

The family of **Mary Kirksey**.

John Groome in the death of his father, Lee Groome.

Dena Nally in the death of her mother, Hazel Crain.

Memorial Gifts

Gifts given in memory of:

Doris Blakeney by:
 Fidelis Sunday School Class

Leon Johnson by:
 Ken and Linda Watson
 Marion Johnson
 John and Connie Johnson
 Mens Senior Adult Class
 Nancy J. Williams
 Paul and Jean Stegall

Trills and Treats

*A Matinee Performance
 by the Children of
 Berea First Baptist Church*
Saturday, January 28, 4:00 p.m.
 In the Crosswalk

Come and witness the unique talents of our children as they perform their individual acts for you on the stage at the Crosswalk! Our children's choir will also be performing. Popcorn, candy bars, and drinks will accompany our afternoon of "red carpet" celebrities. All proceeds from the \$5 admission fee will go to support our Reaching Center.

Opportunities

SUNDAY

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Morning Worship Service
5:30 pm Ignite Student Choir
6:00 pm Evening Worship Service

WEDNESDAY

10:30 am New Horizons Choir
5:15—6:30 pm Supper
6:00—6:45 pm Preschool Choir
 1st—5th Grade Choir
 3—5 Year Mission Friends
 1st—5th Grade G.A.'s
 1st—5th Grade R.A.'s
 Prayer Ministry and Bible Study
 Rejoice
7:35-9:00 pm Adult Choir

Student Ministry, Grades 6-12

WEDNESDAYS

6:30-7:30 pm Fun Time and Worship

SUNDAYS

6:00-7:00 pm Small Group Meetings

WEDNESDAY SUPPER

Menu for January 25

Adults: Beef Stew, Creamed Potatoes, Green Peas, Fruit, Biscuit

Kids: Steak Fingers, Creamed Potatoes, Fruit, Biscuit

Contribution Statements for 2011 have been mailed. Please take a moment to review your statement and call Margaret Mathis in the church office if you notice any errors or omissions. Also, please call Margaret if you failed to receive your statement. If you see a problem on your statement, please let us know by January 31 so that we can correct it.

January

Mission Action Project

The Reaching Center

Blankets and Cold-Weather Clothing
Food: fruit, jelly, tomatoes, turnip greens, corn, macaroni and cheese, soup

Lottie Moon Post Office



Thank you Berea First Baptist Church for using our Lottie Moon Post Office for mailing your Christmas cards. The Children's Missions Groups enjoyed sorting the cards and making your deliveries. Together we raised **\$551.75** for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Please plan to use our mail service again next Christmas.