



The FIRST BAPTIST BUILDER

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First Baptist Church Mission Statement

To exalt the Savior, equip the saints, and evangelize the world
through the power of God's Word.

JULY 2014



July 13 – 17, 2014
Registration at 3:00 pm

PASTORAL PONDERINGS

By: Derek Lambert

Ever heard of it before? If you like me, no, but now you're wondering what in the world a "caber" is and why should one be tossed? Usually made from a Larch tree, a caber is typically 19 feet 6 inches tall and weighs 175 pounds. The term "caber" simply means wooden beam. The toss is a traditional game practiced during the Scottish Highland Games.



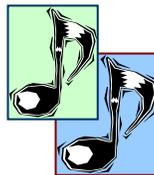
So, why the lesson on such an obscure sporting event, you ask?

I have been evaluating the caber in my eye lately. You will recall that Jesus mentioned our propensity to remove specks from the eyes of others while straining to see around the log in our own eyes (Matthew 7). The recent leg of my journey with Jesus has demanded pause in my spirit to look at me, rather than those around me. Perhaps you know how uncomfortable such an exercise can be to a person.

I have described the past two months as follows: God has been at work IN me lately at a pace equal to the days following my new birth. Having no church background before professing faith in Christ, everything about Christianity was brand new. God was at work. He was teaching me. He was changing me. Might I add...it was incredible! And for the very same reasons His working in me was incredible then, it remains incredible today. I am thankful, albeit through tears at times, as the Gardner prunes the branches.

May I be so bold as to invite your prayers on my behalf? Please don't shy away from my transparency. I need you. I need your prayers.

I desire to celebrate a personal caber toss! I remain yielded to the Spirit of God requesting His guidance and strength to see me through this process. My goal, of course, is Christ likeness. My pursuit includes His words on my tongue and in my heart, His actions displayed in my living, and His love to saturate EVERYTHING about me.



NOTES from our Worship Pastor

Last month I mentioned to you that I had begun reading a book titled, ***The Fruit of the Spirit: Becoming the Person God Wants You to Be*** by Thomas Trask. It has been a challenging book for me. It's not because it's hard to understand the content, but because I do understand it and the impact it has made or makes on others because of who I claim to be in Christ.

For 46 years I have walked with Christ. The question for me is *how much more like Him do I look?* Looking back on my life, questions come to mind: How have the decisions I've made influenced other around me because of my claim to belonging to Him? Have they seen Jesus or have they seen a genuine imitation? Our lives impact those who know us way beyond the present that we live in. I'm so thankful for His grace.

The following is an excerpt from the book:

I have never known a time when Christians have been more mad about more things than we are now. We're so angry about values, politics, television, media, education, the violation of the unborn, condoms, and criminals. The anger has given rise to a warrior instinct in the Body of Christ that has left us with a radical profile. We're shouting more, and we're shooting at doctors of abortion clinics. Publicly we are perceived to be long on madness and short on mercy, to be more committed to our consternation than we are to compassion.

All of us have a sinful nature, and this nature has tremendous potential to do or say the wrong thing. Paul said, "I die everyday – I mean that" (1 Cor. 15:31), meaning that he not only risked his physical life for the sake of the gospel, but he died daily to his sinful nature. It has been said that more people have been killed with the tongue than in all the wars in human history. Words can be as deadly as actions. Our sinful nature from which these deadly words spring, can be controlled because we are connected to the Vine: however, we need to continually evaluate our attitudes, behavior, and feelings. The Holy Spirit will let us know when we are being unloving, unkind, and unrighteously angry. When he does, we must obey and do the loving thing.

As we die to ourselves, we no longer try to get our own way or try to get people to look up to us. We let go of trying to make a good impression on others. When we die to self, we're no longer obsessed with self. It really is the beginning of life in Christ.

Blessings, Pastor Tim

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jer. 29:11 NIV

THE POINT NICK CARTER



FROM YOUR DEACONS

Student Ministry, Nick Carter
Leadership in Student Ministry (and life)

JUNE

- (4) @ THE TALENTED COOKIE
- (11) MTTA MEETING IN FLC
- (18) @ THE THEATER
- (25) ON THE FIELD

JULY

- (2) 2ND OF JULY PARTY
- (9) @ THE THEATER
- (16) CAMP RESET WEEK
- (23) NIGHT OF WORSHIP
- (30) @ THE THEATER

Where is it that you feel right with God? Is it in church on Sunday, or may be when you are serving in the ministry that God put you in, on a mission trip, while singing praise songs with hands lifted high. It is only natural to want to be involved in those things where you feel like you are being useful to God. And if you have ever experienced that mountain top experience where God showed you something or you felt his presence you are ever longing for that feeling again. What is it that motivates you to do those things? Is it a feeling of accomplishment, or usefulness in Kingdom Work? His word reminds us that the only place that we are right with God is in Christ Jesus.

For in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God through faith. Galatians 3:26

It's easy to get caught up in serving and forget that the goal is Jesus and that the good news of the Gospel is that we are reconciled to God through Him. He has given us all that we need – Himself! So if you're trying to feel right or get right with God out of your own effort and you aren't seeking Him, coming to Him, realizing your lack of sufficiency and having faith in Christ life, death, and resurrection for your salvation. Then you will always be on a treadmill instead of resting in his peace (John 14:27). Paul reminds us that nothing else matters except knowing Jesus (Philippians 3:8). It's easier to serve him than it is to seek him. Are you seeking him today?



Dear FBCHS Family,

God has been so incredibly faithful to your church as well as ours – to meet needs, direct in His ways, answer prayers, strengthen the bonds of love, etc... We are grateful more than words can express for not only the blessing to worship together in May, but also for the privilege of seeing in action your love for Billy Stephens and his dear family,

As our anticipation and enthusiasm for his arrival on June 1 grew, we realize your church family will miss his family and their part in your body of believers. Our prayer for you church has been and will continue to be during this time of transition that God's grace and peace flood your souls. Billy is truly, uniquely equipped and gifted by God for the ministry and we look forward to hearing how God brings the man to FBCHS who will further that ministry for the Kingdom of God. With Pastor Derek's recent kidney donation surgery, your church is going through some days of growth, but many Christians are praying for God to be glorified during his recovery, as will as this time of transition with Billy.

We care about your church family and will continue to do so.

Because of Christ,
First Baptist Church of Groveland Pastor Transition Team

The upcoming Deacon on call teams:

July 7th – August 10

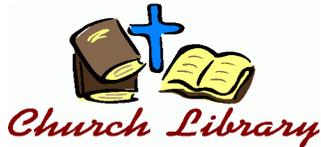
*Dick Bridges	386-462-3123 (h) 352-870-2112 (c)
Jeff Friar	386-462-1482 (h) 352-318-1577 (c)
George Hall	386-454-3660 (h) 352-354-4252 (c)
Wayne Hollingsworth	386-454-4187 (h) 352-317-5657 (c)
Robbie Teele	386-497-3360 (h) 352-215-3999 (c)

* Team Leader



MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

Ari Rix is raising funds for Michael Gilbert, who has recently been diagnosed with leukemia. Chocolate Chip Cookie Mix Jars will be available for \$7.00, on Sunday, July 13th in the Sanctuary Foyer. Thank you so much for your contribution.



Library News:

Just a reminder of Library hours: Wednesday 9:00 am – 8:15 pm and Sunday 9:30 – 11:00 am and 5:00 – 6:00 pm.

Here is a book we would like to recommend for good reading in the month of July and a DVD for your family to watch about America in the 1880's:

God Less America by Todd Starnes: "American Christians are facing uncertain times. Our nation's values are under assault. Religious liberty has been undermined. We live in a day when right is now wrong in now right. The vicious leftwing attack against the recent traditional marriage stance of Chick-fil-A should serve as a wakeup call to people of faith. It's not about a chicken sandwich. It's about religious liberty. It's about free speech. It's about the future of our nation." (Call #323.44 Sta)

America in the 1880s: What was life like in America in the 1880s? Certainly nothing like today, yet many of the things we cherish now had their roots during this significant and often neglected decade in history. The film will transport you back, just like a time machine, to discover the people and events that shaped this exciting decade such as the Washington Monument, Brooklyn Bridge, Statue of Liberty, Mark Twain, and many others. Through the use of live e-enactments, rare historical photographs and drawings, and award-winning photography you'll be amazed, amused, entertained and educated about many little known facts and some life changing events that have become part of the foundation of our society today. (Call # DVD 973 Ame)

We also have other books and movies about our great country.

We must constantly pray for our leaders, our churches, and our country. Thank goodness **God is still in control.**



Janet H. Bridges
Library



HEAR US ROAR! "No greater joy can I have than this, to HEAR that my children follow the truth. 3 John 4

EXCITING UPCOMING EVENTS TO WATCH FOR:

July 4: FCA Office Closed

July 19: Open House, 10:00 a.m., FCA Theater

August 1-3: Our Florida governor has announced tax-free shopping days for school supplies: August 1 – 3, 2014

August 11-15: Teacher/Staff Orientation

August 15: FCA Summer Camp ends

August 15: FCA Open House, 6:00 p.m.

August 18: First Day of School and opening of our High School!

August: Pre-ordered Yearbooks arrive and may be picked up at our fun Yearbook Signing Party!

Summer Office Hours: The FCA office will be open all summer, five days a week except for July 4. Our hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

FCA School Board Members: Kathy Barnes, Shelly Donnelly, David Friar, Ruth Lord, Drew Mock, Kim Teele, and Chairman Daniel Shepherd.

Sports: As we continue to plan for the opening of our high school in August 2014, we have joined two athletic associations—FHSAA (Florida High School Athletic Association) and FCAL (Florida Christian Athletic League). Come join our team!

Ongoing Fundraisers: Here at FCA, we have several fundraisers that go on year round. We appreciate all of our parents and church family helping in the collection of the following: Campbell's Soup Labels, Box Tops for Education, Tyson Project A+ labels, Sunny D labels, Coke Rewards. Thank you and please keep up the great work of donating to FCA!!

Advantages of Attending FCA: We strive to be a premier provider of spiritual and academic excellence. FCA is committed to creating a warm, loving, family environment led by certified and caring staff. At FCA, we aspire to train today's children to be tomorrow's leaders with a desire to serve God and others. We offer before and after school care, computer lab instruction, extensive fine arts program, tutoring availability, physical education, exciting field trips, hot lunch program, weekly chapel and full sports programs for grades 6-9. Come join our team!

Submitted by Linda Petteway

VE FUN WAYS TO ENJOY THE FOURTH



The Fourth of July is a special time of year when American families gather beneath the sweltering summer sun to express their patriotism by way of all-day barbecues, watermelon eating contests, and hour-long firework displays. All that may sound glorious, but let's face it: Some Independence Day celebrations are as old as Old Glory herself.

So here are five fresh family-friendly ideas for making the most of your celebration.

1. **Try New Food.** Add some spice to your menu this year and replace the classic American barbecue staples with chili or Texan cuisine. What better way to bond with your family and neighbors than by challenging their taste buds with spice? Host a chili cook-off and set off the culinary fireworks with fresh peppers, herbs, and vegetables. But remember, too much spice is not nice.
2. **Not-so-ordinary Backyard Games.** Lawn games like horse-shoes, corn hole, and Wiffle ball are fun for the whole family, but what if you want to break away from the ordinary? Try geocaching, a real-world outdoor treasure hunting game. Log in at geocaching.com, search for nearby caches, and track them down with your GPS. This is a great (and free) way to exercise after a full meal and spend quality time in nature with you family.
3. **Decorate.** If you're hosting a party, it can be a hassle to prepare food, much less decorate. This year, get creative and let your desserts be the décor. If you're going to do pastries, bake cupcakes with red, white, and blue frosting and display them like the American flag. Or use fresh fruits like blueberries, strawberries, and raspberries, and combine them with Cool Whip for a layered patriotic dessert
4. **Not-so-ordinary Fireworks.** Instead of dropping tons of money on dangerous fireworks that only last three seconds, spread your money out and be unique with your purchases. For example, get parachutes or Chinese lanterns (the kind that fly). They're cheap and if you have an adventurous spirit, you can follow them in flight and catch them when they land.
5. **Adopt New Traditions.** If you're bored with your family's tradition, spend the holiday with a friend from work or with a neighboring family and adopt their method of celebrating. Whether it's a standard barbecue or a trip to the beach, it will be a good excuse to do something exciting, learn something new, and spend time with loved ones.

BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG

Crossroads Pregnancy Center Baby Bottle Boomerang raised \$2,733.78 to help their ministry. If you still have any full or empty bottles, please drop them off in the Church Foyer, for next year. Thank you so much for your contributions!

CONNECT BRUNCH

If you have been visiting First Baptist Church, but have not yet decided to become a member, we invite you to join our staff for brunch, Sunday, July 13, 2014 at 10:00 am in the FLC. It would be our pleasure to share with you our vision as well as the many worship opportunities for your and your family. Please RSVP by calling the Church Office.



If you are a Sr. Adult, please join us for this year's conference in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, October 26 – 30, 2014 at the Smoky Mountain Convention Center. Lodging is at The Comfort Inn & Suites in Pigeon Forge. The trip cost, includes room, breakfast meal only, conference fee and transportation.

A Non Refundable \$25.00 deposit is due immediately. There are information sheets available with details and cost, in the Sanctuary Foyer and a sign-up sheet, if you plan on attending.

SR. TRIP MEETING

There will be a meeting for those going on trip to Pigeon Forge, Wednesday, July 9th at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

The next Quarterly Business Meeting will be Sunday, July 20, 2014 at 6:00 pm.

RESET MEETING

There will be a meeting for ALL parents of students attending RESET, Wednesday, July 9th at 6:00 pm in the Theater. Medical forms and packing lists will be handed out at that time.