



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.**

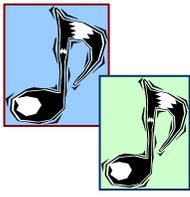
JUNE 2014



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 23 – 27, 2014

9:00 am – 12:30 pm



NOTES from our Worship Pastor

The Fruit of the Spirit "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" (Gal. 5:22).

In John 15:5 Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches he that abideth in me and I in him will bear much fruit". When our lives are totally committed to God and we are determined to obey him, we will bear the fruit of Christ because he is the Vine! We cannot help bearing all the fruit of the Spirit when we remain in him. Jesus said that we will know his disciples by the fruit they yield. Matt. 7:15-23

Ravi Zacharias wrote in his book *Deliver Us from Evil* "It is imperative that the Christian learn to differentiate in his or her own beliefs between opinion and conviction. An opinion is merely a preference in a continuum of options. A person may prefer one color to another or one style to another. A conviction, on the other hand, is rooted in the conscience and cannot be changed without changing that which essentially defines the person. In a pluralistic culture, an opinion should not be given the same passion as the weight of a conviction. And every conviction held must be done so with the clear and required teaching of Scripture. Once these differences are made in a Christian's mind then a very important logical consequence follows: Every conviction that is held should be undergirded by love..."

God is always working in me... always speaking to me. I have more questions now than when I began my journey with Him some 46 years ago. Looking at my own life, I have had times when I doubted whether I really belonged to Him. 1 Corinthians 14:33 (ESV) says, *For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.* So, who causes confusion? Satan!

I remember one day I saw myself in the mirror for who I really was. I was horrified! Sin is ugly... I know the sin I committed and the sin I will commit has all been forgiven at the cross. The difference between being a Christ follower and not is conviction, when a Christ follower sins the Holy Spirit convicts.

I began studying the Fruit of the Spirit just a short time ago and I immediately realized this would be difficult. It's difficult because I understand the impact we make when others watch us. When I look at myself I see myself and all the times I was so selfish...and still am at times. We are His light in this dark world. Jesus paid a horrific price for our sin. It cost him everything! Has being a Christian or Christ follower cost you anything lately? Do we stand on God's word when decisions are being made or do we just go along with our friends in whatever decisions we make? Do we look more and more like Jesus? If a non Christian were to try and pick us out as being different would they recognize us or would we blend in with the world?

Many years ago I watched a skit unfold before my eyes in church. The gist of the skit was this: If we could lock arms with Jesus and He were to actually go with us wherever we go would we go there? Would we do what we do? Would we say what we say? If the answer is no, why do we?

There are many things that we may question because the Bible doesn't say yes or no. But when we look are we really looking for the answer or an excuse to get a pass to do that particular thing or to go to that particular place?

While the bible may not say not to do this or that it does say things like...your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. It does say not to do anything to cause your brother to stumble. It does say we are set apart. We all have struggles. We are all tempted but with Christ all things are possible. He overcame the world and with Christ we can over come anything.

If He indeed is the vine and we are His branches then what does that really mean? If the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control and these are to naturally flow from us and they aren't what does that mean?

To die to self is to set aside what we want in this moment and focus instead on loving God with everything we've got and valuing others as highly as we value ourselves. This moves us away from self-centeredness and closer to becoming openhearted followers of Christ who care deeply for others. It's much easier to pay attention to the concerns, interests and needs of people when our own interests no longer consume us.

Jesus described us dying to ourselves as part of following Him: *"If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me"* Matthew 16:24. He continues: *"For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."* Matthew 16:25.

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

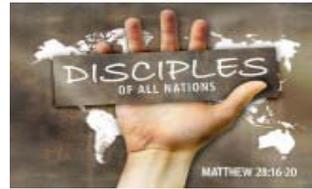


THE POINT NICK CARTER

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



Wednesday, June 4th, from 6-8 pm stop by *The Talented Cookie* in High Springs and grab a cookie, a cup of coffee or a cold drink to help us raise support for the mission trip to Haiti. We will be hosting a summer camp for about 300 Haitian students. Point students, this is where you will pick up your summer calendar. You do not want to miss this! Middle-schoolers bring your parents from 6-7 pm and high-schoolers from 7-8 pm. Hope to see you at *The Talented Cookie*. Please contact Bro. Nick for more information.



BILLY STEPHENS

I am a creature of habit. I am most comfortable when I am doing things I am used to. Routines for me are like sitting on the beach at sunset listening to the waves roll in. Structure is my stress reliever and for years I have drawn comfort in the fact that God is the God of structure and consistency. Paul wrote, *"And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together."* Col. 1:17. God holding all things together is God being consistent. His love is consistent. His grace is consistent. His laws are consistent and God's consistency is comforting to me.

Not only are his actions consistent, He himself is consistent. Hebrews 13:8 says it this way, *"Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday and today and forever."* Therefore, I don't have to worry about whether His thoughts towards me change from day to day. If God's thoughts about His people in Jeremiah 29:11, *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope"* were true then and they are true now. His love for me is not circumstantial, based on my inconsistencies in "performance." His love is consistent and that gives me comfort.

While He is always consistent and His love for me is always consistent, I am not so sure He wants me to be comfortable with routine. What I mean is this, consistency with Him is comforting. Finding comfort in consistency or routines in life can actually keep us from following Him. Every time God has called me to a new adventure it has been anything but consistent and comfortable. It is uncomfortable because God is asking us to trust Him, to *"walk by faith and not by sight."*

Have you ever noticed the GETTING OUT OF THE FAMILIAR CAUSES FEAR? Let me say it again, getting out of the familiar causes fear. Fear is felt when we face the unknown. Fear is also what will keep you from taking up your cross and following Him. To take up our cross means we must crucify the plans we have for us (the known) in order to embrace the plans He has for us (the unknown).

On January 1, 2006, I had some fears as I stood in front of a congregation of people at FBC High Springs and you all cheered as I was introduced as a new staff member. I was excited but at the same time I had a lot of fears coming here. I accepted the call to come and serve with a lot of reservations about my own qualifications and abilities. After all, I didn't even have a degree at the time. I was uncomfortable and scared of failing. In my eyes I was the most undeserving and least qualified of all of the staff to be here. As I look back on my 8+ years here, I see the fruit of my ministry that I could not see then. I know the fruit is not because I was super qualified for this. My success here has been because I was CALLED to this.

(Continued on next page)

In March of this year I accepted the call to go to Groveland, FL to pastor. Comfortable for me was staying in High Springs. We had our "routine" of life here. But God has called me to the unknown. Are there fears? You bet. But my experience tells me that since God has called me, God has got me. And though I am a creature of habit and find comfort in consistency I have discovered that the most comfortable place to be is consistently on His heels, following Him.

To High Springs, thank you for being a vessel of God's consistency. Through you all, He has consistently loved me and my family. You will always be dear to our hearts. "So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God, but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us." 1 Thess. 2:8. Remember us in your prayers.

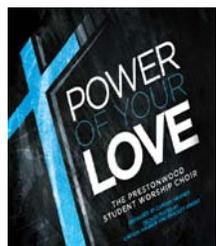


Dear Friends in Christ,

We at Alpha Center in Pensacola, Florida, greatly appreciate your generosity in the donation of diapers, wipes, formula, baby shampoo and other items to benefit many families in need. Your kindness allows us to offer support at a time in our clients' lives when it is needed most. It was such a grace and an blessing that you gathered these much needed items from the Crossroads Pregnancy Center and other organizations and kind individuals and even drove them here to us.

We were even touched by the sweet, loving letters from the children at FCA! We thank God for you and appreciate your joining us in prayer, service and education of those needing assistance throughout our communities. May God immensely bless you and all your families!

Together in the service of life,
Valerie Schumm
Executive Director



The Student Choir Dinner Theater will be Sunday evening, June 8, 2014 at 5:30 pm in the FLC. The Student Choir will present "*Power of Your Love.*"



**FROM YOUR
DEACONS**

We all tend to want to be inspired by God to do his work. We have these glorious mountaintop experiences and we are suddenly on fire for God, looking for opportunities to serve. Then the drudgery and constant assault of the fast paced culture that we live in tends to steal our desire to be used by God. Biblically this is what Jesus called the seeds who fell among the thorns in Luke 8, who were choked out by the cares and worries of this world. We sometimes think that we need some sort of revelation like Moses burning bush to engage in the work of Christian ministry. But He commands us to be ready and willing to do his work whether we feel like it or not.

Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season.... 2 Timothy 4:2

I used to think this verse meant whenever the opportunity presented itself. But it has taken on new meaning for me. In season is when you feel like serving God and out of season is when your life is fruitless and you don't necessarily feel like serving God. He warns us that this Christian life that He has called us to will consist of a constant change of seasons. But when the seasons of our life change, He never does. When our emotions and desires trick us into thinking He isn't on our side we need to recall what He's done for us in Christ, before we ever knew Him, He died for us (Romans 5:6).

So regardless of where you are, whether you're on fire for God or in a spiritual desert, be ready to give Him Glory for the things he's done for you. If you will serve Him whether you feel like it or not He will bless you and use you for his Glory.

The upcoming Deacon on call teams:

May 12th – June 8th

*Garrett Buzbee 386-454-2031 (h) 352-318-4700 (c)
Pace Emerson 386-454-4036 (h) 386-588-4286 (c)
Matthew Humphries 352-514-6830 (c)
Rick Jefferson 386-497-1149 (h) 386-853-5633 (c)
Jose Valdes 386-454-9753 (h) 352-562-5633 (c)

June 9th – July 6th

*David Friar 386-497-4307 (h) 352-262-1773 (c)
Brent Douglas 386-454-1577 (h) 352-665-5638 (c)
Rex Hancock 386-935-2261 (h) 352-318-2389 (c)
David Rendek 386-454-3010 (h) 352-494-2971 (c)
Tim Staley 386-462-7000 (h) 352-317-2495 (c)

* Team Leader



Library News:

Two more days of school and I believe we are all ready for it to be over. It's been a good year and a blessing to work with the students. We would like to get all books returned back to the library before school is out if at all possible.

Our new library hours for the summer will be:

Wednesday 9:00 am – 8:15 pm
Sunday 9:30 – 11:00 am and 5:00 – 6:00 pm

We are planning to have a short summer reading program for the kids. More on this to come.

Here's a new book we would like to recommend for great reading: **The Insanity of God: A True Story of Faith Resurrected** by Nik Ripken – "This book is the personal and lifelong journey of an ordinary couple from rural Kentucky who thought they were going on just your ordinary missionary pilgrimage, but discovered it would be anything but. After spending over six hard years doing relief work in Somalia, and experiencing life where it looked like God had turned away completely and He was clueless about the tragedies of life, the couple had a crisis of faith and left Africa asking God, "Does the gospel work anywhere when it is really a hard place? It sure didn't work in Somalia."

"Nik recalls that, "God had always been so real to me, to Ruth, and to our boys. But was He enough, for the utter weariness of soul I experienced at that time, in that place, under those circumstances?" It is a question that many have asked and one that, if answered, can lead us to a whole new world of faith."

"How does faith survive, let alone flourish in a place like the Middle East? How can Good truly overcome such evil? How do you maintain hope when all is darkness around you? How can we say "greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world" when it may not be visibly true in that place at that time?"

How does anyone live an abundant, victorious Christian life in our world's toughest places? Can Christianity even work outside of Western, dressed-up, ordered nations? If so, how?"

"The Insanity of God tells a story—a remarkable and unique story to be sure, yet at heart a very human story—of the Ripkens' own spiritual and emotional odyssey. The gripping, narrative account of a personal pilgrimage into some of the toughest places on earth, combined with sobering and insightful stories of the remarkable people of faith Nik and Ruth encountered on their journeys, will serve as a powerful course of revelation, growth, and challenge for anyone who wants to know whether God truly is enough." (Call # B Rip)

We will be adding quite a number of new books and DVDs to our collection this summer. Please stop by and inquire. A lot of these will be for our school. Also, the library still has cookbooks that the WOW Sunday School Class put together to raise money for the Florida Baptist Children Home in LaCrosse, FL. They are \$10.00 each. If you have not yet purchased one please do so. They are great for giving to a new bride, a graduate, etc. I even went ahead and purchased one for my grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Janet H. Bridges
Library



*Alex Carter
150 SW Endicott Way
Lake city, FL 32024
352-226-5235
Baptized at a later date

*August Paige Reece
Tracy Smith Reece
20327 NW 248th Drive
High Springs, FL 32643
386-454-3702
Joined by profession

*Mrs. Renee Cruse
Ms. Alexis Cruse
5449 NE CR 337
High Springs, FL 32643
386-454-0501
Joined by letter and profession

*Mr. Michael A. Shaw
14715 NW 144th Street
Alachua, FL 32615
386-462-3266
Joined by statement



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:

June 2 -6: Post planning for teachers; Report cards will be mailed home along with the results of our Stanford Achievement Tests and OLSAT Tests.

June 5: Prekindergarten (VPK) Graduation, 10:00 am, FBC sanctuary and last day of VPK school.

June 6: Final Email Newsletter for school year from Mr. Stone

June 9: Opening of new FCA Preschool Babies (six week old) bed babies, one and two year old enrollees.

June 9 – August 15: FCA Summer Camp, ages 3 through Grade 8, 7:00 am – 6:00 pm, Misty Emerson, camp director.

June 17: Open House, Tuesday, 9:00 am (We now have grown to three VPK classes, two first grade classes, and two kindergarten classes for August! Waiting lists possible for most grades. PTL!)

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

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

August 2014: Opening of FCA High School

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

Faithful Servants: FCA bids a farewell to Brother Billy Stephens and DeDe. They have been faithful servants and supporters of our school. We send them with grateful hearts to their new pastorate with love and prayers.

Welcome: The newest member of our FCA staff is Amanda Moore. She is our new bookkeeper. She and her husband, Mike are FCA parents, as well. She is doing an outstanding job in her new role and we are grateful for her willingness to serve us in this important position.

Teacher Appreciation: Mrs. Patty Earnhart coordinated our annual Teacher Appreciation Week, May 5-9 and she did a wonderful job. We love our teachers! Please, offer thanks to these folks and businesses for making this a great week: Jennifer Green, Britta Gruenwald, Randi Crews, Wallis Simmons, Elizabeth Coleman, Patty Earnhart, Linda Petteway, Mary Talton, The Browns, Megan Swilley, Laurie Willis, Beverly Mikell, Theresa Stone, Pam Radder, Margo Baggs, Christy Skaggs, Kelli Reustle, Hitchcock's Grocery, Chick-Fil-A (Oaks Mall and Archer Road)), Shannon DuBose, Kristina Shine, Marni Emerson, Laura Barelle, Monica Thompson, Jennifer Green, Nicole Lambert, Nikki Noah, Tina Blair, Tammy Swing, Secret Garden Bakery, The Talented Cookie, Zoe's Kitchen, Zaxby's, SarabethVaughn,

Laurie Listzwan, Andreia Fleming, Pepperoni's, Alachua Subway and FCA School Board.

Oasis Summer Camp, Misty Phelps Emerson, Director: The program includes Kindergarten through Eighth Graders. You may choose one or all 10 weeks (Monday through Friday) beginning June 9 and ending August 15. Camp will be closed July 4. Hours are 7:00 am to 6:00 pm. There is a one-time registration fee of \$75 per child. The cost is \$125 per week and includes 2 snacks per day and 2 field trips per week. The program will focus on spiritual, creative, and leadership development. Contact the school office for more information.

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!

Fine Arts, Mrs. Shoran Potter: We were blessed to have wonderful performances by our students at "The Little Red Hen" and the "Sinfonietta" presentations in May! The theater was packed both days with parents, grandparents and friends of FCA.

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. Because of you, we recently received a check for \$630 (total amount for this year was \$1500!) from BoxTops. Thank you and please keep up the great work of donating to FCA.

Teachers at FCA are reporting some very exciting things:

Mrs. Cammey Hinton, Margaret McQuatters, Shelby Waldron:

VPK Classes: "All of the VPK students are hard at work on their graduation performance on June 5! We are preparing songs, Bible verse, Bible stories, and poems to share with family and friends. It should be a wonderful time! Each of the three VPK classes have enjoyed learning about the spring season. Some of our favorite activities were studying reptiles, seeing a bearded dragon, and getting to hold earthworms. We have also enjoyed the beautiful weather outside and had a couple of class picnics! We would like to thank Marcy Shepherd for taking graduation photos of our VPK students in their caps and gowns and making those available to parents! Beautiful job, Marcy!"

Mrs. Lori Clark, and Mrs. Katie West, Kindergarten:

"Kindergarten has completed all 26 verses and 3 biblical passages for this year. We are so proud of them! We took a field trip to the Greathouse Butterfly Farm in Melrose on Friday, May 23 to see the different stages of a butterfly's life cycle up close and personal. We also enjoyed a picnic on the last day of school at the Alachua Rec Center's Spray Park. We finished the year by studying Ocean Life and learning about animals of the sea and how they depend on each other.

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Mrs. Kim Friar and Mrs. Natalie Carter, Second Grades: "We enjoyed watching the "Little Red Hen" being performed by our Kindergarten classes. We also enjoyed participating in and watching the 2-5 grades in the Sinfonetta. Our students are musically talented and we give a great big thank you to Mrs. Potter for her talented skills in teaching the children music. The 2nd graders took an end-of-the-year field trip to Splitz to enjoy a day of bowling and fellowship. God has blessed us through seeing these children grow throughout the school year. Please, continue to pray for FCA. Thank you, Church Family for your support and prayers!

Mrs. Vicki Johnson, Fourth Grade and Mrs. Cindy Collins, Fifth Grade: Students and many parents enjoyed an educational field trip to St. Augustine on Tuesday, May 27th. Participants left FCA at 6:30 am and returned at 6:00 pm. It was a long and fun-filled day. We were so proud of our wonderful student behavior! Go Lions!

Mrs. Melody Petteway, Middle School: The 2013-2014 has been a great year! It is hard to believe that it is over. God continues to bless FCA in so many ways. We are so grateful to the Lord for sending Headmaster Stan Stone and his family to FCA. His leadership and vision for FCA bring a renewed excitement to our campus. God continues to bless FCA with new families for next year. Enrollment is strong and for this we are thankful. Sixth through eighth grades took our end of the year field trip to Camp Kulaqua. We enjoyed a beautiful and relaxing day floating down the lazy river and enjoying the fun in the wave pool. We are again blessed to have such a wonderful facility just miles from the school. Thank you, Camp Kulaqua for allowing us to enjoy your beautiful facilities. I just want to express my love for each family represented at FCA, especially the 6th – 8th graders. It has been such a pleasure and honor teaching your children this year. I look forward to seeing how each one of them continues to grow in their relationship with Christ. Parents – challenge your children this summer to stay in God's Word and seek Him in all they do. "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:33. Have a wonderful summer!

Colossians 3:17 – "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

Written by Linda Petteway



BABY SHOWER INVITE

You are welcome to join Nick and Natalie Carter for a baby shower at 16075 NW 222nd St. on Saturday, June 7th at 10:00 am. If you plan on attending, please RSVP to 454-3939.

VBS MEETING

A meeting for all VBS workers will be Wednesday, June 4th at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. Room decorations and teacher guide books will be given out at that time.

BIBLICAL COUNSELING TRAINING

Crossroads Pregnancy Center is offering a Biblical Counseling Training for volunteers. *Focus on the Heart* is a two day training, June 6-7 and will be taught by Mary Lou Hendry, Director of Florida Baptist Children's Home Sanctity of Human Life. If you are interested in attending, please fill out the registration form, available in the Church Office or Church Foyer. You can mail your registration form or bring it to the CPC office. The training manual fee is \$27. We are looking forward to the pleasure of presenting this Christ-centered training with all who are considering volunteering. For more information, contact Catherine Estes at 386-454-0411.



Raising children is not easy. There is no rewind button, no undo button, or easy button. To complicate matters no two children are the same. Our parent ministry is offering a class, ***Effective Parenting in a Defective World***. This class, taught by Robbie and Kim Teele, begins Sunday, June 8, 2014 during the Life Connection hour (9:45 - 10:45 am). A sign-up sheet is available in the church Foyer. For more information, contact Robbie at 352-215-3999 or Kim at 352-215-5261.