



# 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.

**2014**



# PASTORAL PONDERINGS

By: Derek Lambert



When God's People Pray...

We concerted our prayers for the Promise People last October and November. Following 40 days of prayer and fasting, we embraced them wishing to see them respond in faith to the Gospel. Our first journey to engage them is upon us. Actually, by the time this article is before you, three of us will be on the island sharing the Gospel!

Allow me to offer you three items for which you can pray:

1. **Current Team:** Pray for the current team on the island to remain sensitive to the Holy Spirit and useful in God's hands. Pray they encounter persons of peace who are open to the Gospel message. Pray for Pastor Paul and his willingness to engage the Promise People with the Gospel.
2. **Future Teams:** I have been approached by two men who believe God is leading them to become part of the next team to serve the Promise People. Another man has indicated he is sensing a leading of the Spirit as well. Pray for God to prompt the hearts of those He would use to spread the Gospel. Pray for obedience in the lives of those who would sow into this ministry financially.
3. **Promise People:** As I type this article, to our knowledge, there are no known believers among the Promise People. We will be engaging many of them over the next couple of weeks. Three of us will be sharing the Gospel, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and undergirded by your prayers! Pray that we will never again be able to say the Promise People have no believers among them. Pray for individuals to respond in faith to the Gospel of Jesus Christ!



## TIM'S NOTES

A couple of years ago Bro. Billy had the youth read a book titled *Not A Fan*. I decided to read it along with them. I sat down like many other times and was interrupted by something that needed to be done. I finally made time to read and this time I sat down and read about three chapters of the book, it gripped my heart. A few days later I sat back down to read again and I came to this story that I want to share with you.



"It's not unusual for me to talk to Christian parents who are concerned because their college-age kids or their grown children don't go to church and show almost no interest in Jesus or anything spiritual for that matter. Often these good churchgoing folks don't understand where thing went wrong. They want to know what happened and what to do now. Well, there are no easy answers. Usually I listen to their story and offer a little encouragement and I pray with them.

A few months ago I was speaking in Houston, Texas, and a good-sized man, with a good-sized belt buckle, came up to me with tears in his eyes. He began to tell me the story of his prodigal daughter, how she went to college and totally turned her back on the faith. As soon as he started the story I knew how it would go. I've heard it so many times, even the details seem predictable. But when he finished, he didn't ask me why she was doing this or what had gone wrong. He wasn't looking for an explanation. Instead, with one sentence he put his finger on what he thought happened. Here is what he said...

*We raised her in Church, but we didn't raise her in Christ. We raised her to look right on the outside but didn't teach her about the inside. We taught her to keep all the rules, but she never really had a relationship. We made her feel guilty for the wrong things she did, but somehow she missed God's amazing grace."*

That story just grips my heart every time I read it. What a statement. As a dad of three, I pray that I am not guilty of doing just that. Thank you for praying for me and my family.

Blessings In Christ, Bro. 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



SUNDAY, MARCH 9TH



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

The Point Student Ministry will be kicking off a new series called "The Plunge Part 2." During this series, we will be taking a "plunge" into the character of Jesus and the attributes that come knowing Jesus. If you have any questions about "The Point," or if you want to get involved, please contact me.

Pastor Nick



During the month of March we will be talking about **FORGIVENESS** – deciding that someone who has wronged you does not have to pay.

The bottom line is everyone needs to be forgiven, even ME.

The basic truth is I can trust GOD not matter what.

The memory verse – "Forgive the things you are holding against one another. Forgive, just as the Lord forgave you." Colossians 3:13

Please feel free to join us in Kingdom Kidz. We would like to encourage you to pray about being a part of this wonderful ministry.

His Servant,  
Betty Radford



Have you ever wanted to help others during a time of disaster? Does your heart yearn to help hurting people who have suffered from the loss of their homes and belongings due to a hurricane, flood, tornado or other natural disaster? The Florida Baptist Convention partners with agencies such as FEMA and the American Red Cross to provide relief and care for families and individuals hurt by natural disasters. In order for you to serve on a team of volunteers, you must be trained and certified by the SBC. The types of training include emergency response team, mass feeding, logistics, spiritual care, cleanup and recovery, chaplaincy, administration and temporary childcare. They offer training at various sites across Florida with the closest one at Fruit Cove Baptist Church, Jacksonville on Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. If you are interested in the training, please contact Stan Stone at 804-432-8002 or [ssstone@fbchighsprings.org](mailto:ssstone@fbchighsprings.org). We can provide church transportation for those interested. The training is also available for students.

I used to think that I had a choice in the things that I would be involved in for God. If it was too uncomfortable or costly then it was someone else's "calling" and not mine. My role was to love God and worship him and live a good life. But that has never been Jesus' calling to his followers.

*And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19 (ESV)*

Notice here that we aren't called to comfort, security, health, and prosperity as some would like to believe. A common viewpoint of Christ is that he came to save us, that we are his primary concern, that if we believe and trust in Him we will be blessed. This is a view of Jesus that is lined up with our cultural view point that it is all about us. We also would like to believe that if we live out our faith before others that we should be blessed. We are not guaranteed anything here on earth except that if we follow Him, His Spirit will change us into Missionaries of His Gospel. He never calls us in to bless us without sending us out. In the Bible this is the way it's been since the beginning. Remember what God said to Abram (Abraham):

*Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." Genesis 12:1-2 (ESV)*

God never calls us in to bless us except to then send us out into the world as His missionaries. Whether we are traveling to Southeast Asia or across the street to Winn Dixie, we are in Mission with the God of this universe to share the good news of the Gospel to those that are lost. As followers of Christ we don't have any choice except to be Missionaries, except to tell others the good news of the Gospel, except to be fishers of men. So, who do you know that needs to hear the Good News?

The upcoming Deacon on call teams:

**February 10<sup>th</sup> – March 9<sup>th</sup>**

*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)

**March 10<sup>th</sup> – April 6<sup>th</sup>**

*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



HEAR US ROAR!  
"No greater joy can I have than this, to HEAR  
that my children follow the truth." 111 John 4"

Library News:

We would like to mention a new movie in theaters called: "Son of God" which began February 28. This is a film from the producers of the record-breaking miniseries **The Bible**, Roma Downey and Mark Burnett. This is the first major motion picture on the complete life of Jesus Christ in nearly 50 years. Don't miss it.

Also we have added two new books to our collection entitled:

**America the Beautiful: Rediscovering What Made This Nation Great**

By Ben Carson: Ben Carson has seen firsthand the best and the worst of what America has to offer. From his own childhood of crippling poverty to his brilliant career as a world-renowned surgeon and humanitarian, Ben Carson has sought to solve problems in his own life and the lives of others through education, hard work, and perseverance. In **America the Beautiful** he turns his attention to many of the issues facing America today—healthcare, education, capitalism and more, to explore what is great about our nation, and what needs to be addressed. You'll gain new insights on our nation's origins, our Judeo - Christian heritage, our educational system and more. **America the Beautiful** is a stirring manifesto of the values that have shaped America's past and must shape her future. You'll be inspired to heed the call to use your God 'given talents to improve your life, the nation, and our world. (Call # 973 Car)

**Godonomics: How To Save Our Country-and Protect Your Wallet-through Biblical Principles of Finance** by Chad Hovind: Pastor Chad Hovind has produced the one resource that finally sets the record straight by tracing capitalism back to its source: the inspired Word of God. Those who accuse capitalism of favoring the rich and privileged while exploiting everyone else are gaining a larger hearing. Sadly, the critics overlook the established fact that America capitalism has built a society that ensures liberty and advances prosperity and opportunity. The economic system that propelled the most respected nation in history is under attack like never before. Even Christians who have been America's capitalistic system make it possible for donors to fund mission work and ministries that are not duplicated anywhere else in the world are being misled. A left-leaning critique of our economic system has taken hold with growing multitudes of uninformed Christians. **Godonomics** will set the record straight and just in time. (Call # 261.3 Hov)

We have added other books and DVDs to our collection as well. Come check them out.

Janet Bridges  
Library

EXCITING UPCOMING EVENTS TO WATCH FOR:

March 6, March 14, and March 17: Faculty and Staff devotions, prayer, praise time in black box theatre, 7:30 a.m.

February 26: special emphasis Chapel to honor great Black Americans

March 2: Dr. Seuss birthday classroom celebrations

March 3: Open enrollment begins

March 4: Student Art Show, 6:30 pm, Family Life Center

March 13: Faculty Meeting

March 14: Half Day of School, teacher workday

March 14: Math Pi Day

March 14 – April 18: FCA Olympic Archery in Schools games with Mr. Pat Combs

March 19: Report Cards go home

March 24 – March 28: Spring Break, FCA closed

March 31: Begin taking applications for FCA Summer Camp

June 9: Opening of new FCA Preschool (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

August 2014: Opening of FCA High School!!

Spelling Bees: FCA held its annual Spelling Bee on Tuesday, January 14 with a total of twenty-four spellers competing. These students had earned their spots in the school wide Bee by placing well in their classroom competitions. The Bee was held in the black box theatre and this in-school competition decided who would be FCA's representatives at the Alachua County Spelling Bee on Wednesday, January 22 in Gainesville. The students left standing were Maggie Zawoy, who represented FCA Middle School and Blake Petteway, who represented the FCA fifth grade class. Maggie has been the school winner for the past three years. She has done an excellent job at the county level placing in the top fifteen and top seven previously. This year, she again improved placing fourth after a long, tough contest. The field of more than 40 had been reduced to the top four. She went multiple rounds with the remaining contestants. Blake Petteway showcased his talents by besting many contestants several years older than he and earning tenth place. FCA is very proud of the efforts of these two young students! We are confident at our school will continue to make its mark in this annual event for the glory of God!

Seven of our students traveled to Jacksonville on Thursday, February 20 to compete in a state-wide ACSI Spelling Bee for students in grades 5-8. They were Blake Petteway, Trey DuBose, Jenna Sullivan, Kaitlyn Petteway, Emily Keene, Maggie Zawoy and Meghan Collins. Congratulations to Meghan Collins for finishing in first place among all 8<sup>th</sup> graders. We are so proud of our students!

(Continue on next page)

Board Members: Kathy Barnes, Shelly Donnelly, Ruth Lord, Drew Mock, Amy Buzbee, Kim Teele and Daniel Shepherd, Chairman.

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). There are currently 10 schools in the FCAL and most will be a good match for FCA's size. They only offer volleyball in the fall, boys and girls basketball in the winter and girls' softball and boy's baseball in the spring. As a result of the limited competitive sports offerings of the FCAL, we will locate and schedule JV meets for cross county and cheerleading with area FHSAA schools. Come join our team!

Archery: FCA will be competing in the Olympic Archery in Schools program (OAS) Florida State League. Our students (grades 6-8) will compete against 2 other area schools; Riverside Christian and Countryside Christian. The season will end with a conference championship and Florida State Championship. FCA will be the host site for the conference championships. Practice is every Tuesday and Thursday in the FCA gym. Contact Coach Pat Combs, for additional information.

Fine Arts, Mrs. Shoran Potter: Our Student Art Show is Tuesday, March 4 from 6:30-7:30 in the FBC Family Life Center.

Town Hall Meetings: Our recent Town Hall meetings were well-attended and we were excited to share what God has accomplished this past year and what He has in store for us this coming year and beyond. We had a Friday night and Saturday morning meeting with great attendance! If you missed these, call our office and schedule a tour of our wonderful school.

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. Each year, we have been able to receive additional money, playground supplies and books for these.

Yearbook Staff: The Yearbook Staff invites students, parents and friends to submit photos for the yearbook. If you have photos of school events of you and your friends just having fun, we would like to consider them. Help us get as many photos as possible to create a terrific book everyone will want to own.

Chapel: Parents and Grandparents are invited to join us for Chapel each week. Our Chapel times are exciting as we sing and hear a message from God's Word. We meet each Wednesday from 12:40-1:10 for students in grades 4-8 and 1:15-1:45 for students in Kindergarten-grade 3.

### Teachers at FCA are reporting some very exciting things:

Mrs. Cammey Hinton, VPK Classes: "We have completed our mid-year VPK assessments and have seen much improvement in the abilities of our children! We enjoyed a fieldtrip to Publix on Archer Road where we visited the bakery, produce, and seafood departments and where each child was able to act as 'cashier' for a simple transaction. We recently celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> Day of

school with special activities and ice cream treats. We looked forward to a special presentation on Dental health as we

observed Dental health month. We are busily finishing up our "Art in the Park" projects that will be on display in early March. We are also looking forward to celebrating Dr. Seuss week the first of March and making and wearing "Cat in the hat" headbands for a special storytelling in the theater."

Mrs. Lori Clark, and Mrs. Katie West, Kindergarten: "Kindergarten will be celebrating Dr. Seuss the first week in March with lots of books and fun. We will be dressing up for different books and cooking green eggs and ham. The children have been memorizing Psalm 23 and are doing a fantastic job! Amazingly, we have already celebrated our 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School! We had many activities of counting and sharing collections of 100 and making our own snack by counting 10 pieces of 10 different snack items. We ended our celebration with a trip to the Santa Fe College Planetarium and teaching Zoo. "

Mrs. Kate Kieszek, First Grade: "The First Graders have enjoyed a science study of Plants by doing experiments and sprouting dried beans. The students included an oral presentation on leaves they had gathered. These students love to read and have enjoyed a study of George Washington Carver, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln."

Mrs. Kim Friar and Mrs. DeDe Stephens, Second Grades: "We just finished the Judges and Ruth series and will now begin Jonah. We have also begun creative writing lessons and have written about ice cream shops, George Washington and Abe Lincoln. In math, we have started multiplication and subtracting three digit numbers

Mrs. Kelli Rumore, Third Grade: "Third grade enjoyed a wonderful time spending Valentine's Day at the Olustee Festival! We loved the old fashioned toys and hearing the cannons fire! Our class also put together a lovely Valentine care package for our former classmate, Sophia that recently moved to Texas with her family. It has been fun writing her friendly letters and receiving mail from her."

Mrs. Melody Petteway, Middle School: "Spring is in the air!! What a beautiful time of the year and reminder of the creativity of our God. In 7<sup>th</sup> grade, we are creating bulletin board of God's amazing Arthropods as we study insects and arthropods. In Math, the students are learning about geometry, graphing linear equations, and polynomials. The 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders recently had a field trip to the Museum of Science and History (MOSH) in Jacksonville. We enjoyed visiting the Planetarium, as well as engaging in two wonderful special shows: Volts and Jolts and Wild Weather. The trip was a lot of fun, as well as very educational. We enjoy opening God's Word each morning with a short devotional and prayer time. Recently we have been reminded that TRUST and THANKFULNESS are choices. Let us all seek to trust God in all things and to count our many blessings daily.

Written by Linda Petteway