



THE CALENDAR

Expressing the Mission and Ministry of First Baptist Church
Chippewa Square Savannah, Georgia

***Beyond Mary and Martha:
A Spiritual Retreat for Women
Who Think Outside the Box***

Women's Retreat

February 3-4, 2012

Wesley Gardens on

Burnside Island

Led by Dr. Karen Massey



FIRST THOUGHTS

The ordination service for Josh Brewer this past Sunday was one of those memorable occasions in the life of a church that stays with a local congregation of believers for a long time. Although we ordain new deacons nearly every year, not since the ordination of James Richardson had First Baptist Church ordained a person to the Christian ministry, and the closest experience we have had in recent years perhaps was the “commissioning” of Jane Jennings as she prepared for foreign mission service in Pakistan. Thanks to everyone who made last Sunday’s worship service a truly amazing hour, full of challenge and affirmation for us all. May God’s blessings be upon Josh, Nicki, and Caedie in this next chapter of their lives.

As this edition of *The Calendar* is posted to the website or reaches your home, thirteen of us will have arrived in Havana, Cuba, en route to our sister congregation in Sancti Spiritus. Believe it or not, this is our twenty-seventh mission trip to Cuba since 1995. Joining me on this adventure are Fran Arnsdorff, Eve and Lem Brawner, Jimmy Burnsed, Jack Eades, Margaret Hardy, Paul Lambert, Curtis Lewis, Janis Lewis, Trey Smith, Steve Stramm, and Andy Thompson. The majority of these persons are First Baptist Church members who are seasoned Cuba travelers, some are associate members of our church who have traveled with us before, and Paul Lambert is son Matthew’s future father-in-law and the father of the exceptional Megan Lambert. Paul is the Bishop Suffragan of the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, Texas, and joins our group in visiting numerous Baptist churches while also scouting out Anglican congregations on the island for possible future relationships.

Our travel itinerary this time includes two days in Havana upon arrival where we plan to visit Baptist leaders at the headquarters of the Fraternity of Baptist Churches of Cuba and William Carey Baptist Church, as well as other Cuban friends we have met on previous trips. On Friday, February 3, we will make the long 300 kilometer journey from Havana to Sancti Spiritus, stopping first to visit our brothers and sisters at the Emanuel Christian Community in San Jose de las Lajas, before arriving at Genesaret Baptist Church in time for dinner. On Monday, February 6, we will make our way back to Havana and prepare for our return to the United States on Wednesday, February 8. In next week’s newsletter, I will describe more about our Cuban adventure, including a description of how we spent the weekend with our sister congregation. Pray for us.

– John Finley

Hospitalizations

We are grateful that as this issue of *The Calendar* is being prepared, no members are known to be hospitalized.

Acolytes for February 5

John Foxx Willhite
Claire Zipperer

Lay Reader for February 5

Rob Kilgore

Greeters for February 5

Van and June Pool

Family Night Menu Wednesday, February 8, 2012

sweet and sour chicken
fried rice
jello salad
green beans
roll
dessert
iced tea, coffee, and milk

Hospitality Hosts
Bays Anderson and Will Hodges

Sanctuary Flowers

given to the glory of God
and in honor of
Earl Lawhorne’s birthday
by Jeanne Lawhorne

Ushers Serving in February

Bill Sutton, captain
Earl Kirkley
Matthew McClain
Beth Wright

Deacons Serving in February

Dale Willhite, captain
Shirley Allen
Doug Craig
Emily Garrard
Bettie Hodges
Bill Roberts
Ashley Williams

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IN FEBRUARY

As Wednesday Family Night activities continue in February, the Youth and Children's choirs, Adult Choir, and Adult Handbell Choir will be back to their normal practice schedules and will be preparing for Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter.

During the first three weeks of February, Adults will hear about different mission and ministry endeavors involving Morningstar Treatment Services, the Philippines, and Weddings for Warriors. The youth will continue with their study of Rob Bell's *Nooma* series while the Preteens begin a study of *Emotions and the Psalms*. Younger children will continue with their First Steps program.

On Wednesday, February 22, the entire church will take part in our annual Ash Wednesday service which follows Tuesday night's Shrove Tuesday celebration. February 29 will then begin a Lenten study. Join us for all of these activities which all begin with a fellowship meal at 5:00 in Lewis Hall.

CLASSICS VALENTINE PROGRAM

The Classics Valentine program is scheduled for Tuesday, February 14, at 11:00 a.m. in Lewis Hall. The program will be presented by Huxie Scott and the cost for the program and meal is \$10.00. Please call the church office to make a reservation. Be sure to note that this is a date change from the fourth Tuesday to the second Tuesday this month.



February Responsibilities

Audio Task Force
Bill Wright

Greeters Task Force
Emily Garrard

Ordinances Task Force
Liz Palles

Sanctuary Task Force
Lem Brawner

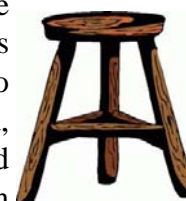
ALTAR GUILD REQUEST

If you have extra vases, oasis, floral wire or tape, or any other equipment that could be of use to the Altar Guild, they would appreciate having these supplies available at the church. Bring any items directly to the sacristy, or give them to Bill Roberts.



ACCOUNTABLE DISCIPLESHIP GROUP

If you are still interested in being part of the accountable discipleship group, it is not too late. The first gathering will take place Monday, February 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Library. If you missed the exploratory meeting, you may contact Charlie Benton for more information. Participants in the accountable discipleship group will experience disciplines of the Christian faith that allow them to explore engagement with themselves, God, and others. Each participant will be engaged in an outward ministry each week, an experience of daily silence and prayer, and regular study in Scripture and reflection. Near the end of the experience the group will join for a two-day silent retreat.



WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

The Women of the Church Bible Study Group will meet Tuesday, February 7 at 11:00 a.m. in Lewis Hall. Call the church office to make a lunch reservation.

DIACONATE RETREAT

Saturday, February 11, the active deacons of First Baptist Church will participate in a morning of retreat and reflection regarding the duties of a deacon and the current challenges and opportunities faced by our congregation. Leading the group will be Dr. Brett Younger, Associate Professor of Preaching at the McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University in Atlanta. The following day, Dr. Younger will join us in the 11:00 a.m. worship service to offer the charge to our two deacons being ordained, Jeb Bush and Geneen Gibson.

In addition to his Saturday and Sunday engagements with our congregation, Dr. Younger will also be addressing the American Guild of Organists at its Musician and Clergy Banquet on Friday evening. Our own Rev. James Richardson is the current dean of the AGO while Rev. Lauren Colwell serves as its chaplain. Dr. Younger promises to bring intrigue, entertainment, challenge, and inspiration to all three of these events. We are delighted to welcome him once again to the city of Savannah.

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The Calendar

Lauren Colwell, Editor

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**Schedule of Activities
February 5-11, 2012**

SUNDAY, February 5

9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Morning Worship
12:15 Fellowship Hour

MONDAY, February 6

10:00 Staff Meeting
Conference Room
6:30 Covenant Discipleship
Group
Church Library

TUESDAY, February 7

11:00 Women of the Church
Lewis Hall

WEDNESDAY, February 8

5:00 Family Night Activities
5:15 Youth and Children's
Committee
Conference Room
7:00 Adult Choir

SATURDAY, February 11

8:30 Deacons' Retreat
Lewis Hall

The Worship of God

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 5, 2012

Eleven O'clock

Meditation:

"Everyone Is Looking for You"

Rev. Lauren Colwell

First Lesson:

Isaiah 40:21-31

Second Lesson:

I Corinthians 9:16-23

Gospel:

Mark 1:29-39

Anthem:

"Without the Fire,
There Is No Burning"
David Ashley White

**Family Night Activities
February 8, 2012**

5:00 Family Night Meal
Lewis Hall
5:30 Nursery Opens
Room 201
5:45 Children's Missions
Room 401
5:45 Youth Choir
Room 300
5:45 Prayer Concerns
Lewis Hall
6:00 Mission Program on the
Philippines
Lewis Hall
6:00 Adult Handbell Choir
Room 305
6:15 First Steps
Room 205
6:15 Children's Choir
Room 300
6:15 Youth Missions
Room 402
7:00 Adult Choir
Room 300