

Space for standard masthead

Worship Service

Times

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

6:00 p.m.

Morning Service

*Broadcast on WJLT
(105.3 FM) at 10:00 am
and on Channel 72*

Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School

9:45 a.m.

Minister on Call

685-3681

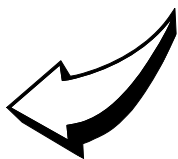
Jan. 26-Feb. 2

Bob Farmer

February 2-9

Mark Slaughter

See inside
this issue for
more exciting
news about the
Church.



WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY OF FAITH! Savannah Samuel made her decision to follow Christ public last Sunday and we welcome her into our family. She is the daughter of **Felecia Samuel** and we are proud of her decision. I want to ask that you pray for her and her family as she follows the Lord Jesus in baptism and obedience.

DEACON SELECTION! Any time you make changes there will be questions as to the how and why. We are moving forward in our new process of selecting new Deacons for 2009. We sent out some 140 plus letters along with questionnaires for potential new deacons. We received several back and are taking the necessary time to interview each applicant who returned the questionnaire and meet the qualifications. Is there room for improvement and will there be more changes in the process next year? The answer to both of those questions is a resounding YES! We are in a learning curve, so I covet your prayers and patience in this area.

AN ARTICLE ON EVANGELISM! This article comes from the blog of Dr. Al Mohler, President of Southern Seminary in Louisville. I found it timely and beneficial! Responding to a recent report from the Barna Research Group indicating that Americans Christians are increasingly unwilling to believe that their non-Christian neighbors are going to hell, Boston College sociologist Alan Wolfe explained: "It's just part of a 200-year working out of ideas about personal autonomy and equality that are sort of built into the American experience. The notion that someone is going to burn in hell because they have their own beliefs is just not resonant within our larger political ideals. "Wolfe, who directs the Boisi Center for Religion and American Public Life at Boston College, suggests that Americans are confusing the American experience with the ways of God. Without doubt, assumptions about autonomy and equality "are sort of built into the American experience." These ideas are now just taken for granted. Americans generally assume themselves and their fellow citizens to be unconditionally autonomous, free to make and remake themselves in protean fashion, and thus the unfettered captains of their own souls.

Americans are not sure what to do with ideals of equality and fairness, but we are generally certain that equality and fairness are the right categories to employ, regardless of the idea or context. People who think themselves autonomous will claim the right to define all meaning for themselves. Any truth claim they reject or resist is simply ruled out of bounds. We will make our own world of meaning and dare anyone to violate our autonomy. The same research report indicates that a majority of American Christians pick and choose doctrines, more or less on the basis of those they like as opposed to those they dislike.

This certainly explains a great deal about the current shape of Christianity in American today. Specifically, it points to at least one fundamental reason that so many Christians -- including a significant number who claim to be evangelical -- no longer believe that faith in Jesus Christ is the only way to heaven. That reason: Eternal punishment in hell is not consistent with "the American experience" or "the American way." The God of the Bible, in other words, does not act in ways consistent with what many people consider to be American ideals. Sending people to hell is just not fair. The Bible never claims that God acts fairly, of course. Fairness is the best we mortals can often hope to achieve. We want our children to learn to play fairly and each child learns all too quickly to cry out, "No fair!" But God does not claim to be fair. The God of the Bible is infinitely greater than we are. He is faithful, just, holy, merciful, gracious, and righteous. A morally perfect being does not operate at the level of mere and faulty human fairness, but at the level of his own omnipotent righteousness. We hope to make things fair. God makes things right.

I think Alan Wolfe is on to something really important here, and Christians should think carefully about what he is saying. The Holy One of Israel, the ruler of all and the sovereign of universe, is now to be judged by his own sinful creatures by the standard of fairness. Doctrines ruled to be "unfair" are cast aside and overridden by our cherished cultural assumptions. Evangelism will die the thousand deaths of cultural awkwardness. As much as Christians in this blessed nation should respect and cherish our democratic ideals and system of government, we must keep ever in mind that the Kingdom of God is ruled by a higher and infinitely more perfect law and system of governance.

Be warned: God is not running for office, and heaven is not a democracy.

Paul Strahan

Christian Women Connecting...

Attention all young adult ladies and women of the church

Calling all Frazzled Females...

Frazzled Female Conference and Lunch

Saturday, February 28

9:15 am-3:00 pm



Guest Speaker:

Cindi Wood

Author of

"Frazzled Female" and
"Victoriously Frazzled"

Tickets are \$5
and available at FBC
and LifeWay

Nursery Provided
and FREE
Registration Required

Sponsored by the Women's Ministry of First Baptist Church



230 J. R. Miller Blvd.
PO Box 904
Owensboro, Kentucky 42302
Phone: (270) 683-3505
Fax: (270) 683-8067
Web site: www.fbcowb.org

January 29, 2009
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First Baptist Church

Live FOR One...

New Church Members

Sunday, January 18

Profession of Faith/Baptism

Savannah Samuel

Sunday, January 25

Profession of Faith/Baptism

Davis Dodson
Anthony Hamilton
Michelle Hamilton
Zac Ferrell

Newsletter information must be submitted in writing no later than Friday at 9:00 a.m. for the following week's newsletter.

You may fax your information (683-8067) or email it to myoung@fbcowb.org.



SUPER BOWL SUNDAY

February 1
5:00 p.m. until the game clock hits 0:00

Host Homes:

High School

Kent and Kathryn Fruge
1525 Miller Court

College

Andrew Blanco
2568 Heartland Greens Pt

Adult 123

Ed and Cheryl Walls
2202 S. Stratford Drive

Adult 1 & 2

CLC

Adult 3

Leigh Ann Crume
1914 Eaton Avenue

Adult 5

Kenny and Judy Stodghill
1603 Chapel Lane

Live FOR One

This is an outreach opportunity for your Sunday School Class as well as First Baptist. Please feel free to invite guests and share with them the warmth of your fellowship and the love of Christ.

Evening Service at 5:00 pm

For those not attending a SS party

PROMISE KEEPERS

Tuesday Mornings
6:00 am to 7:00 am
Fellowship Hall
Breakfast

All men welcome

Come join us for a 6 month study on **The Truth Project** by Focus On The Family

For additional information contact Avery Wedding at 684-9345

Children's Church

If you are in grade K-3rd please come and join us during the 11:00 service for Children's Church in Room 300.

Wednesday Night Ladies Study

6:00 pm

Lead by: Gwen Shelton and Sharon Johnson
Location: Room across from library

Need a little extra income? The CLC Zumba classes have several openings mornings and evenings for childcare workers. For further information please contact Suzie Horner in the church office at 683-3505.

Calendar of Activities

Thursday, January 29

CLC open 8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.
5:00 p.m.....Ladies Game Night
7:00 p.m.....Men's Fastbreak

Friday, January 30

CLC open 7:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 31

CLC open 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 1

CLC Closed

Library open 9:15 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

8:30 a.m.....Morning Worship

9:45 a.m.....Bible Study

11:00 a.m.....Morning Worship

5:00 p.m.....K-12 Choirs

6:00 p.m.....Evening Service

Monday, February 2

CLC open 7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m.....Upward

8:00 p.m.....Men's Fastbreak

Tuesday, February 3

CLC open 8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

6:00 a.m.....Promise Keepers

5:00 p.m.....Upward

8:00 p.m.....Men's Fastbreak

Wednesday, February 4

CLC open 7:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

4:45 p.m.....Family Supper

5:30 p.m.....TeamKid & Orchestra

6:00 p.m.....Bible Study & Youth

6:15 p.m.....Celebration Choir

7:05 p.m.....Sanctuary Choir

Ministry Reports

Sunday, January 18, 2009

Sunday School..... 640
Nursing Home 38
Jail..... 79
Total..... 757
D.T..... 432

Our Stewardship

Weekly Budget Requirements:\$49,293.88
Weekly Budget Offering:\$41,812.68
Designated:\$ 1,740.00
STV Offering:.....\$ 192.50
FOM Offering:\$ 1,080.50
Total Offering:.....\$44,825.68
Budget Goal to Date: \$147,881.64
Budget Offering to Date:.....\$114,115.63
Amount Under:.....\$ 33,766.01
YTD STV Offering\$ 631.00
YTD FOM.....\$ 6,628.01

In the Hospital...Joseph Hicks & Betty Gabbert.

Sympathy...Christian love and sympathy to Becky Danhauer, T.D. Whittinghill & Sally Danhauer in the death of Ann Whittinghill, sister-in-law, wife and aunt respectively; and Sally Plain and family in the death of her mother, Betty Wilson.

Congratulations...Howard & Shelia Sanders on the birth of their grandson, John Parker. *Parents are Derek & Sarah Sanders Hetherington; and Clay & Diane Ford* on the birth of their son, Wendell John Clay. *Grandparents are Steve & Sarah Ford. Great-grandparents are Wendell H. & Jean Ford.*

Thank You...A note of appreciation has been received from: Nancy Gordon stating, *Guy wanted to express his appreciation for the visits. Continue to remember us in prayer; and Art and Mildred Hale and the Melhiser-Fieldon families* stating, *We want to express our appreciation for your thoughtfulness in sending the tray of sandwiches for our nourishment at the funeral of Opal Melhiser Fieldon. Opal would have been very pleased.*

Do you have a valid drivers license, the ability to tune out noise around you, and do you have at least one buddy? Then we can use you.

Do you know some table manners, the difference between walking and running, and can you sit and watch others eat without going for a second meal? Then we can use you.

Do you enjoy listening to a Bible story or principle being taught, letting a child sit on your lap or receiving a bear hug, and does sitting in a chair that might be a bit too small not intimidate you? Then we can use you.

Do you wake yourself up in the middle of the night saying the words, "please sit down and be quiet"? Then we can use you.

If you answered yes to any of the above then the Children's Ministry can use you on Wednesday nights to drive a van, sit with children as they eat their supper, sit with them during lesson time, or just help with crowd control.

Contact Suzie if you can help. If you are willing God can do the rest.