

A SPECIAL EDITION OF THE ALABAMA BAPTIST

The Lifeline



A PUBLICATION FOR FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GULF SHORES

August 2006

Pastor's Corner



Seven years. It seems like a blink of the eye since August of 1999 when God connected the Stilley family to First Baptist Church of Gulf Shores. I'll never forget the Search Committee that introduced me to this precious church: Joe Raines, with his unstoppable enthusiasm. Billy Duke, with his kind concern. Andrew Cooper, with his joyful seriousness. Linda Bateman, with her vivacious outspokenness. Jennifer Duke, with her youthful interest. And Charlie Parrott, with his unpredictable wit. In all our hearts, God confirmed that this was the time, the place, and people that He wanted to knit together for His purposes.

What a trip we have taken since! We have experienced more together in these 2555 days than many churches do in three times that many years. The number God has added to His church has opened scores of opportunities for ministry, required us to build and then to build some more, and expanded our ministerial staff. The mission fervor that has become a regular aspect of our church's life has ignited a venturing spirit among us, ready to go with God into His world with the Good News.

As we look ahead to the future, God is imparting a fresh vision of why we are here on this island. We are looking into the face of unprecedented possibility as a Body of believers. We are already becoming a regional church rather than just a local, community church. That means we must stretch ourselves to reach people in our area we are not currently reaching for Christ. That means we must "color outside the lines" of that to which we've grown accustomed, lay down our lives with fresh sacrifice, and prepare for what God has in store for us.

Make no mistake, change is a hard business. It takes Spirit-filled believers to navigate change without become territorial, hard-nosed, and ornery. But when we keep our eyes on Jesus and love people, change just means joining God where He is moving.

Every morning, when they exited their tents, Israel would look to see the great cloud of God's presence. Is the cloud stationary, or is God on the move? Many times, perhaps just as they were

getting used to a particular setting, it was time to strike the tents to go with God. I am so blessed to pastor a church that is ready to do the same! In His grip,
Thank you for that privilege! Bro. Lloyd

August Up-Coming Events

- ▶ **August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**
Men's Lunchbox Bible Study
- ▶ **August 2 -**
Church Council Meeting - 4:30 p.m.
- ▶ **August 4-5 -**
PromiseKeepers in Jackson, MS
- ▶ **August 6 -**
Youth Camp Report - 6:00 p.m.
- ▶ **August 9 -**
Finance Committee Meeting - 4:30 p.m.
Gary McSpadden in Concert - 6:00 p.m.
- ▶ **August 10 -**
KeenAgers-Eastern Shore BC - 10:30 a.m.
- ▶ **August 11**
Youth - Faith Night at Bay Bears Stadium
- ▶ **August 23 -**
We Care Ministries Meeting - 5:00 p.m.
Choir, Christmas in August - 6:45 p.m.
- ▶ **August 27**
Deacons Meeting - 4:30 p.m.

Ministry Opportunities

WEEKLY ON SUNDAYS

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|------------|--------------------------------|
| 8:30 A.M. | Early Worship Service |
| 9:30 A.M. | Bible Study for All Ages |
| 10:45 A.M. | Morning Worship Service |
| 5:00 P.M. | Handbell Choir Rehearsal |
| 5:00 P.M. | Spanish Class |
| 6:00 P.M. | Veggie Connection |
| 6:00 P.M. | Children's Ministry Activities |
| 6:00 P.M. | Evening Worship Service |
| 6:00 P.M. | Youth Ministry Activities |

WEEKLY ON WEDNESDAYS

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|-----------|------------------------------------|
| 6:00 P.M. | Bible Study/Prayer Time |
| 6:00 P.M. | Children's Ministry Activities |
| 6:00 P.M. | Jr. and Sr. High BREAKPOINT |
| 6:45 P.M. | Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal |
| 8:00 P.M. | AA/Al-Anon Meeting |

Project Nehemiah Recovery Ministries . . . is a new organization on the Gulf Coast that will address the needs of disaster preparedness, training, relief, and recovery. Their mission is to act as the unified, coordinated body of Christ in providing preparedness training and meeting the short-term and long-term needs of disaster-stricken people. PNRM will be working with area churches and volunteers who come to our region to assist in relief and recovery efforts, as well as to provide training. Project Nehemiah is a non-profit organization. If you would like to make a contribution to this ministry you may contact Mindy Stringfield at 251-968-9115 or email her at: mindy@nehemiahsgate.com. Check out their website www.nehemiahsgate.com

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE @ WWW.FBCGULF.COM



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

That's actually not as strange as it sounds. We are having our annual "Christmas in August" on Wednesday night, August 23rd. We will be listening to and singing along with our adult choir Christmas musical. This would be the perfect night for you to join us and see if choir is an area where the Lord would like you to begin using your gifts for Him. Join us at 6:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary and let's get in the holiday mood together.

M & M's (Music and Missions) will begin again on Wednesday, August 16th. This is for all children age 4 thru 5th grade. We'll meet from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., with music from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. and a Mission's emphasis from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. Bring your children and let them experience a great time of singing and learning together.

Are you a closet musician? Well you need to come out of the closet... musically speaking. We'd love to start a church orchestra again. But we need to know who would be interested in participating. Please let me know if you play or if you used to play an instrument. Go ahead and pull that instrument out of the attic, dust it off and start warming up! Let's have fun praising Him together.
Bro. Craig <><



TURNING HEARTS
TOUR MALACHI 4:16

Attention All Parents and Teens!
August 26th at FBC, Montgomery, AL
Come and experience the life-changing weekend that is this & more! Leading youth ministry spokesman Richard Ross, worship leader Joel Engle, and worship artist Tyra Lokey have teamed up to bring you the **Turning Hearts Tour** to bring healing to the relationships between parents & their teenagers. Cost for early registration is \$30 /person Register online at Turningheartstour.com or see Bro. Bobby!

FAITH NIGHT!
AUGUST 11TH
CONCERT
AND THE GAME!

