



The Lighthouse

Illuminating the mission and ministry of

First Baptist Church

Swainsboro, Georgia

Vol. 7, Issue 403

March 21, 2010

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Special Points of Interest

- Tune in to 97.1 FM, Radio, at 11 AM for "live" Morning Worship each Sunday!
- Watch Ch. 2, TV, each Sunday morning for a service of worship, 8:30 AM!
- A Tape Ministry of Morning Worship -- copies of sermons are

CHILDREN'S

EASTER CELEBRATION

Saturday
MARCH 20

Time
10 AM-12 NOON

Place
THE CADLE BARN
957 W. Main St.

Lunch
PROVIDED

"Celebrate"

LOOKING AHEAD

MARCH 28
PALM SUNDAY
(Children March - Palms)

MARCH 31
No Activities

APRIL 1
Lord's Supper - Maundy Thursday
7 PM

APRIL 4
Easter
"The Living Cross"
No PM Services

YOUTH RETREAT

March 27-31

Vero Beach, Florida

World Changers

Helping Hands

THE PASTOR WRITES

Silhouette - - a representation of a person's profile or an object; the outline of something! Though I did not know the meaning of the word, silhouette, I remember when I first encountered its meaning. It was summertime. Some friends, who had two boys close to my age, were visiting us. A neighbor joined us as we played after supper and into the dark of night. We were playing "hide and seek;" really, the two older of us ran away from the two younger ones. They tried to catch up. From hiding, we jumped out and tried to scare them. We did, though they claimed not. Going over a foot-log to woodlands behind our home, they did not know where to look. We could see them as they ran around the house from porch lights. Finally, we decided to come out of hiding. A large oak tree stood between us, the foot-log (over Fisher's Creek), and the house. As one approached the house from our position, vision was blocked by the cloths' line. Unknown to us, Dad and the visitor had walked outside. One had hung a hat on a post-top, along with what looked like a shirt. As we approached the house, we saw a man's hat and the shirt hanging over the cloths' line. A gentle breeze made the shirt move enough under the hat to image a person standing there. We stopped in our tracks. We didn't move. Who was it? One of us stepped on a limb that broke, but the image of the man did not turn toward us or the sound. Carefully, we moved toward the house, moving toward the right-side so as to miss the man with a hat. After several minutes of slowly moving, we got to the side of the house and literally ran to the back porch light! Our assumption was: if we can make it to the light, then we will be safe. We made it. We were safe! Dad met us at the door, saying, "We were going to look for you. They've got to go home." Never admitting it, but we got the biggest scare!

Later, I learned that Dad had placed his hat and a table cloth on the cloths' line, imaging for us "a man" **silhouetted** in the light-and-darkness. All we saw was "a representation of a person's profile."

I stood on Bourbon Street in New Orleans. The first time I walked on Bourbon Street was when I attended a Baptist Convention. Fulfilling the intrigue of going there, Sharon, myself, and another couple went to Bourbon Street. They had been there before, having graduated from Seminary in New Orleans. I was there, now, for studies toward my D.Min. degree.

Since many other people were there, we parked and walked in from the Mississippi River side, walking about four blocks. The night lights were much brighter on Bourbon Street than the side street we were on. As we turned to the left and started up Bourbon Street, toward Canal, a person came out of a bar-café business. Staggering onto the street, they were able to stand up for a while, but soon the silhouetted figure before us fell to the pavement. I was caught emotionally as to what I should do? About that time another person came from the same business and began helping the man (young or old, I do not know) up. Both were silhouetted against the light beyond.

The moral of all these two tales is that there are people all about us "in silhouette." Though I may not be able to completely "make out" who it is, I know a person is there. I can argue that some people do not desire to be known in any detail, just a side profile. I can argue that as a human being I am silhouetted to others. The larger truth is: I live and move among people reflected in the "light of God's grace!" If others look at me and I at them, we are silhouetted against the light of God's grace. As sacredly as possible, each of us and every person about us is silhouetted in God's creative grace. Individual worth and the value of human experience embodies all of us, even unto: "He has loved you with an everlasting love." How do each of us see people - - silhouetted in God's grace? "Look! The fields are ripe unto harvest."

Faith . . . Family . . .Future

-RJB



Sanctuary Flowers

Flowers will be placed in the church this Sunday in loving memory of Roy & Lillian

Brannon by Marcelle Brannon.

NEW MEMBERS

By Baptism:

Ashton Bellamy, POB 117, Swainsboro 30401

Devin Hall, 727 Old Nunez Rd., Swainsboro 30401

By Transfer:

Tommy, Joy & Andrew Craft, 221 Hwy. 192 N., Twin City 30471

QUOTES

There is only one thing worse than not being able to read; to be able to read but not read. (Samuel Clements - - "Mark Twain")

There are those with all heart, but little in abundance of wealth; then, there are those abounding in wealth, but little heart. (Anonymous)

"Faith...Family...Future" (Theme: FBC)

"No one has ever seen God. (John 1:18; I John 4:12)

Music Notes



ADULT CHOIR

- Thank you, adult choir members, for the lovely anthem Sunday morning. That song is one of the great new tunes, and you sang so well.
- We are down to the wire on Easter music. There's some polishing to do in the remaining time. I'm counting on your help.

YOUTH MUSIC

- ♦ Thank you for the great rehearsal last Sunday. We had very good attendance and you quickly made good progress on learning the new pieces. Please keep up the good work!
- ♦ There will be a rehearsal this Sunday at 5:00. **Girls, you did so well last week. Please keep it up.** The guys continue to set the bar high for us, and it's going to take all of you to balance them.
- ♦ We are still working on the piece to sing with the adults the Sunday after Easter, April 11. In addition, there is another joint piece coming.

MUSIC MAKERS and YOUNG MUSICIANS

Both of these children's choirs are singing with the Adult Choir on Sunday morning, March 28. I was in their rehearsal last week, and both groups have done a super job learning their part. I'm counting on a large number of them to sing with us.

Parents, next Wednesday, March 24, I need the children to come to the sanctuary at 7:30 right after missions for about 10 minutes to practice with the Adult Choir. We won't be long.

NEW GIFTS TO THE BUILDING FUND

In Memory of Beutelle Boatwright by Tobe & Barbara Karrh; by Faithful Tel-Joy Workers Sunday School Class
In Memory of Arlene Dixon by Trailblazers Sunday School Class

FIRST FAMILY NEWS

Anniversaries: No known anniversaries.

Birthdays: **March 21**-Ashton Bellamy, Jean Davis.

March 23-Asa Garrett, Walter Greenway, Clay Price.

March 24-Tal Jones, Gatlin Morris. **March 25**-Bob Brown, Wayne Cannady, Susan Gray. **March 26**-Jerry Lawson. **March 27**-Michael Ely, William Johnson.

Sympathy: Sincere Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Lois Stanfield in their recent loss.

THIS SUNDAY AT WORSHIP

March 21, 2010

Morning Worship, 11:00 AM

Being Forgetful!

Isaiah 43:16-28; Philippians 4:4b-14

Vespers, 6:00 PM

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS - Week of March 21

Ushers: Nick Herrington, Chm., John D. Scott, PM Chm., Greg Barwick, Marcelle Brannon, Barry Burrell, John Claxton, Bill English, Rebecca Harrison, Glenn Hendrix, David Kent, Jerry Lawson, Jr., Freddie McVey, Bessie Neele Rich, Johnny Roberts, Bobby Sasser, Don Wilkes, Doug Wilkinson.

Greeters: Wayne Cannady, Chm., Barry Burrell, Gene Fields, David Kent, Jerry Lawson, Jr., Don Wilkes.

Tape, Audio, TV: Carroll Gambrell, David Morgan, Julian Sconyers, Garland Thompson.

Children's Church: Angela and Marty Ray (Grades 1-3).

Nursery: Paula Cadle, Ladelle Canady. *Mar. 28-Joey and Valerie Claxton, Angie Meeks.*

Offering Counting: Wyatt Rich, Chm., Jimmy Flanders, David Morgan. *Mar. 28—Al Lawson, Sr., Chm., Jimmy Murphy, Gene Simmons, Rod White.*

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

2010: A Year of the Good Book

Sunday, March 21

8:30 AM-TV Cable 2, Northland

9:45 AM-Sunday School

11:00 AM-Worship (Radio, 97.1 FM)

5:00 PM-Youth Choir

6:00 PM-Vespers

Monday, March 22

8:15 AM-Fit for Life I

7:00 PM-Ladies' Bible Study

Tuesday, March 23

3:00 PM-Fit for Life II

Wednesday, March 24

8:15 AM-Fit for Life I

4:30 PM-Student Handbells

5:30 PM-Family Night Supper

6:00-6:45 PM-Acteens

6:00-6:45 PM-Children's Choirs

6:30 PM-Prayer & Devotions

6:45 PM-Adult Handbells

6:45-7:30 PM-G.A.'s, Mission Friends, R.A.'s

6:45-8:00 PM-FOCUS

7:30 PM-Adult Choir

Thursday, March 25

3:00 PM-Fit for Life II

7:00 PM-Church-wide Visitation

Friday, March 26

8:15 AM-Fit for Life I

Saturday, March 27

Youth-Spring Break Mission Trip, Vero Beach, FL (March 27-31)

PAUL'S PORCH

Faith, Family, Future

Since I have been at First Baptist Swainsboro now for a year, I have heard and seen these three words a lot. When you look at them they seem to be just words, but they are more than that.

They are feelings, opportunities and a chance for our church to make a difference in the lives of those living in Swainsboro, GA.

Our Faith is found and grounded in Jesus Christ. "Now faith is the reality of what is hoped for, the proof of what is not seen." (Hebrews 11:1) As the bids for our new Family Life Center are coming in this week, my hope is that First Baptist will put out faith into action and continue to pray for the direction we choose next.

The First Baptist Family has a wonderful opportunity to reach out to the community of Swainsboro with a new Family Life Center. We, with God's direction, have a chance to change a life with this new opportunity. My hope is that the families of First Baptist will pray for the bids that will be coming in this week.

What a bright Future First Baptist Swainsboro has. According to Jeremiah 29:11, God has great plans in store for us as we continue to seek His will for our lives. May we continue to look for God's guidance as we begin to build the future of First Baptist Swainsboro, GA.

In His Grip,
Paul

Hey Hey FBC YOUTH!

E14 Sunday Night at
6:00 PM in Room 134

FOCUS

Every Wednesday Night
6:45-7:30 PM

Youth Choir every
Sunday at 5:00 PM

RELAY
FOR
LIFE

APRIL
23
FRIDAY

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Swainsboro, Georgia 30401

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MENU

Wednesday, March 24: Spaghetti, Toss Salad,
Garlic Bread and Dessert.

MISSION STATEMENT

To be a Christ-centered community, guiding people to a life-changing relationship with God in Christ through Worship, Discipleship, Ministry, Missions and Fellowship.

OUR STEWARDSHIP

MARCH 14, 2010

Sunday School	190
Worship	218
This Week	\$11,097.25
Rcvd. T/D	\$312,439.17
Needs T/D	\$349,669.60
New Bldg. Acct. T/D	\$1,065,090.34
(Pledges & Cash Rcvd.)	\$8,125.00
Annie Armstrong	

MINISTERIAL STAFF

PASTOR: Dr. Robert J. Blankenship
MIN. OF MUSIC: Rev. Gilbert Westberry
MIN. OF YOUTH: Rev. Paul Leigh

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