

A Monthly Publication of the First Baptist Church of Pelham

The new year is our opportunity to refresh our relationship with the One who says, "See, I am making all things new" (Revelation 21:5, NRSV).

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Sign up on-line today.



2012 The Year of the Bible

*"And since He bids us
seek His face (2011)*

believe His word (2012)

and trust His grace . . . " (2013)

Last year Brother Mike took these words from the Hymn "Sweet Hour of Prayer" to use as a three-year focus in our church. In the year 2011, First Baptist of Pelham focused on seeking His face.

This year, we turn our attention to the second portion of the heart of this hymn, "Believe His Word". Brother Mike is challenging each and every member of First Baptist to read through the Bible in the coming year. Whether we have never read all the way through the Bible, or whether we have done it several times, we are challenged to read it cover to cover this year.

One of our adult discipleship training classes beginning January 8th will be a "Survey of the Old Testament" in chronological order. Later in the year, there will be a "Survey of the New Testament".

Please commit now to reading the Word of God this year.

"Becoming Great Commission Christians by Making Much of Jesus"



Dr. Mike Shaw
Senior Pastor

As 2011 fades into the annals of history, we have a new year and new challenges to spread the gospel. 2012 is a leap year, so we all get one extra day and people like Paulette Bush who were

Hello 2012!

born on February 29th get to celebrate a birthday finally. Even though Paulette was born the same year I was, she has only had fifteen birthdays, so she will have her sixteenth this year!

It is an election year in the USA and in many municipalities. We get to exercise our right to vote, and I would suggest we all spend much time in prayer before we vote.

As a church family, we have many opportunities to serve the Lord. I hope 2012 finds more of our people involved in missions, locally, nationally and globally. Remember that Missions depends upon stewardship, and stewardship depends upon us, and we must depend upon God.

November, 2012 will mark the end of my service as President of the

Alabama Baptist State Convention. I want to finish strong as president and as your pastor so thank you, thank you, thank you in advance for your prayer.

I love you, I love you, I love you.
God bless you and God bless America!

Bra. Mike

P.S. Paulette Bush is the mother of our preacher-boy, Dr. Scott Bush, and worked as a ministry assistant in our office. She always loved to tell me that even though she was born before me, she never had as many birthdays as I had! She is also the mother of Kim, and wife of Harold. I'm sure she will hear about this article!

Dave Says

Dear Dave,

Would you explain your 15 percent requirement on retirement contributions as listed in the Baby Steps?

Melanie

Dear Melanie,

When I talk about Baby Step 4, which is saving 15 percent of your income for retirement, I'm talking about 15 percent of your gross annual pay. Now, you don't have to get too nerdy about it. It's not like you're going to die a pauper if you only save 14 percent, or be ridiculously extra-wealthy if you save 16 percent. The bottom line is you should be able to save \$7,500 a year if you make \$50,000 annually. That's only about \$600 a month. But, the only way you can do this is if you lose stupid things like car payments and credit cards. Get out of the land of MasterCard bondage and American Distress! When you get out of debt, it's easy to set aside an emergency fund of three to six months of expenses and breeze right along pumping 15 percent into retirement. By the way, did you know you can retire with about \$7 million if you save 15 percent of a \$50,000 a year



Dave Ramsey

income and invest it in good growth stock mutual funds starting at age 30? Sounds like it's worth doing to me!

Dave

Dear Dave,

My stepdaughter is 17 and will be starting college this fall. Her dad and I want to help her with expenses, but she's chosen a private university (with the help of her other parents) that costs \$250,000 for an undergraduate degree. We don't want her going into student loan debt, but we can't afford that kind of money, and she's really pressing the issue. What do you suggest?

Christina

Dear Christina,

The biggest problem I see is that you've got a 17-year-old girl waging the dog. I can tell you right now this wouldn't happen at my house. When it comes to the parent-child relationship at that age, the adults tell the children what to do. It doesn't happen the other way around. If this child is going to take your money, then she needs to take your advice too. If she's not willing to be reasonable and take your advice, then she gets none of the money. There's no undergraduate degree on the planet worth \$250,000. The whole idea is absurd, and nobody needs to say that out loud. The girl can work, and she can go to a state school and get a great education for about a fourth of that price. Since you're in Texas, there's absolutely nothing wrong with the University of Texas or Texas A&M. They're great schools. And at that price range, I'm sure it would allow you guys to pitch in and help out some. But seriously, a quarter of a million dollars for an undergrad degree? I don't think so!

Dave

***For more financial advice, you may visit www.davesays.org.**

It's always exciting to start a new year! 2012 looks to be such an exciting time, filled with great opportunities. As you decide what ministries you will be involved in, remember to pray for God to lead you in every decision. Each of us has been given specific gifts to use for the Lord. I am certain that if we will all serve according to God's will, every need will be met.

We ended 2011 with a celebration of Jesus' birth and people were saved as well as lives changed forever. Thank you to all those who helped with the Christmas musical, including those who brought food and served those of us who were involved in the program. Our children were a tremendous blessing as they sang praise to God! If you were unable to attend the musical, or you would like to see it again, you can request a DVD by filling out a request on the pew pad.



I want to recognize three young ladies: Anna Claire Griffin, Trinity Lairson and Abby Mahon, who auditioned and were selected for the 2012 Alabama Baptist All-State Children's Choir. They are pictured above. These three girls will have the opportunity to rehearse with the choir, as well as perform at various locations in 2012. We are all so proud of them for their effort and hope that many more children will audition next year.

I love you all,
Paula



January Choir Rehearsal Schedule

- Musicmakerz Choir (Preschool) — Wednesday at 6:30
- Praisemakerz Kids Choir (Elementary) — Sunday, 4 pm
- Student Ensemble (Teens) — Sunday, 6 pm
- Celebration Choir (Adults) — Wednesday at 6:30
- Handbell Choir — Sunday, 5 pm

The Counselor's Corner

Thoughts to Ponder

"Many people look forward to the New Year for a new start on old habits."

~Author Unknown

"One resolution I have made, and try always to keep, is this: to rise above the little things."

~John Burroughs

"Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each New Year find you a better man (or woman)."

~Benjamin Franklin

"Every man should be born again on the first day of January. Start with a fresh page. Take up one hole more in the buckle if necessary, or let down one, according to circumstances; but on the first of January let every man gird himself once more, with his face to the front, and take

no interest in the things that were and are past."

~Henry Ward Beecher

"And ye, who have met with Adversity's blast; And been bow'd to the earth by its fury;

To whom the Twelve Months, that have recently pass'd; Were as harsh as a prejudiced jury -

Still, fill to the Future! and join in our chime; The regrets of remembrance to cozen,

And having obtained a New Trial of Time; Shout in hopes of a kindlier dozen."

~Thomas Hood

"A happy New Year! Grant that I may bring no tear to any eye.

When this New Year in time shall end

let it be said I've played the friend,

Have lived and loved and labored here, and made of it a happy year."

~Edgar Guest

Each of these quotes expresses a common theme: Second chances. God gives us, young and old, second chances. Each new day is an opportunity to get it right. If we understood that kind of grace, perhaps we wouldn't be so hard on ourselves, our children, or others. Each day is an opportunity to wipe the slate clean, do it right and extend God's grace.

May God bless you and send you a Happy New Year!!!

—Linda Story

The HOPE Center — 663-2779

Thoughts on Church Attendance

There was a newspaper story about a woman in Tel Aviv who decided to do something nice for her elderly mother. She bought her a new mattress. The woman's bed was hard and lumpy; so as a surprise this woman had her mother's old mattress carted off to the junk yard, and she replaced it with a brand new one. As it turns out, the older woman had hidden her life's savings in that mattress. It was stuffed with over one million dollars.

Sometimes new, younger, succeeding generations of people can toss away something that's very valuable without realizing its worth. Take church attendance, for example. Sometimes we avoid or discard the very thing we need the most. During challenging times, it's vital for us to stay connected to a healthy church where we can be encouraged, nurtured, and helped. Let's not forsake the assembling of ourselves together.

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:25

—taken from TODAY'S TURNING POINT with David Jeremiah, Thursday, October 15, 2009

"We don't go to church; we are the church." — Ernest Southcott

"Remember, we are to be ministers of grace to each other." — Jerry Bridges

[We should be present in order to minister to one another.]

Student/Activities Ministry

Happy New Year!

This is an exciting time of resolutions and new goals.

I hope you are planning to be more involved this year than ever before.

—Donnie

Refuge is back underway!

Donnie will be teaching a series entitled, "Tough Jesus". It is a look at how the human side and the God side of Jesus came together.

2012 Discipleship Training and Creative Ministries begin Sunday, January 8

We will begin the year with a town hall informational meeting on January 8. Those who attend get first choice of classes. It all starts at 5:00. We will meet, and then just hang out.

Family Ski Trip

February 17-19

(leave Friday at 3:45; return late Sunday)

Maggi Valley, N.C.

Cost: \$200.00

(includes two ski sessions, food and lodging)

Deposit of \$50 due by January 15

(open to all FBCP members!)



Spring Break Mission Trips March 17-24

Team meetings have begun for both Spring Break Trips.

Senior High — **Tokyo, Japan**

Middle School — **International**

Village

in Doraville, GA

Upward Basketball is underway

Come and join the action every Saturday in January and February from 8:30 until 3:30 in the Annex. Upward is an excellent ministry opportunity. Help us cheer on the players or just take an opportunity to meet potential church members. Plan to join us for our Upward Awards Ceremony on Sunday night, February 26, at 5 PM in the Auditorium.

Dear Senior Adults,

Can you believe it is 2012? If I had known that I would live this long, I would have taken better care of myself! That is probably the sentiment of most senior adults, but we are still here and there is much to do. Let's determine to make the church year of 2012 greater than 2011 for God's glory!



Thank you for being faithful to the senior adult ministry in 2011. We could not have accomplished all the things that God allowed us to do if you had not been a part of this ministry. So thanks to all our senior adults and others who assisted us. It was a job well done. We especially want to thank John Jones for cooking for our seniors every other month during the year. Thanks for how you supported the nursing home ministry this past Christmas. It was a blessing to those patients to whom we were able to minister, but more so to us. And finally, thank you very much for your generous gift this Christmas!

Our **luncheon** will be on January 10. John Jones will be cooking for that meal. Remember to call in your reservations whenever John is cooking, so that he will know just how many peas to put into the pot.

It is not too early for you to **begin praying for our spring mission trip**. This year it will be on March 18-23. We will fill you in on the details when our plans are complete.

I love you dearly!
For His Glory, Bro. Paul

Children's Ministry



January 4, 2012
9:30 AM
The first meeting
of the new year!

**The Crew and Musicmakerz Choir
resume at 6:30 PM on January 4**



**Children's
Winter Swim**

January 16

12:30 - 4:00

UAB Indoor Pool

In Touch With the Church Family

To our dear Church Family at Pelham,

The Tallent family would like to say “thanks” for all of the cards, emails, text messages, phone calls, etc. before and after the passing of my mom, Marian Tallent. Your expression of love to us during that time is what my mom’s life was all about – showing love and concern for others. My mother was 90 years old and left a tremendous Christian legacy to her family and friends. She was known as the “Card Lady” and sent cards as encouragement to many folks for many different occasions; probably numerous thousands

during her lifetime. We will truly miss her and her wonderful ministry that she had. Thanks again to all.

Mike, Vickie, & Joseph Tallent
and family

The family of Hazel Wooley wishes to thank Bro. Mike and all the church family for the flowers and prayers during my mother’s illness and death. Thanks to Bro. Mike for a wonderful service.

Love in Christ
Janice Lawson and family



**Our Goal for
Lottie Moon
Christmas**

Offering: \$46,700

This amount supports
an international missionary for one full
year. Given as of 12-27-11: **\$36,251.29**

2011 Church Family Giving

(through 12-27-11)

General Fund given to date
\$ 2,259,940.46
Year to Date Expenses
\$ 2,232,203.70
Debt Retirement given in 2011
\$ 62,022.45
Loan Balance as of 12/15/2011
\$ 8,574,721.80



Mike Tallent in the death of his mother, Marian Tallent,
Andrea Troxell in the death of her grandmother,
Friends and family of former pastor, Cecil Brown, in his death.
Joe Searcy in the death of his step-father.

Applications for the Annye Maddox Sawyer Memorial scholarship are available at www.tbfa.org.

Our Newest Members



Betty White
by letter



Mallory Seale
for baptism



Trey Seale
by letter



Lindsey Adams
by letter



Mady Bright
for baptism



Jordan McMahan
for baptism



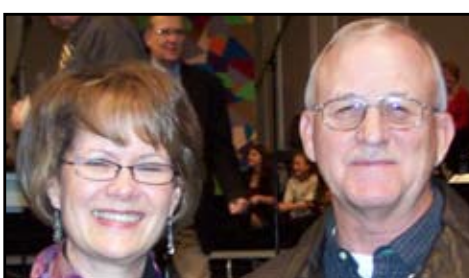
Matthew Sisk
for baptism



Brenda Adams
by letter



Chelsea Lindsay
by letter



Dee and Ottis Grant
by letter



Louis and Bridget Rhodes
for baptism

January Schedule

7

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10 AM Service ONLY	2 CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED 6 PM Upward Basketball (Annex)	3 6 PM Upward Basketball (Annex)	4 Shelby County Schools Resume 9:30 AM MOPS (Quad Room) Wednesday Night Activities Resume	5 6 PM Upward Basketball (Annex)	6	7 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM Upward Basketball Games (Annex) Saturday
8 4 PM Church Council New and Continuing Discipleship Training Classes	9 9 AM Job Concerns Ministry 10 AM Women on Mission 1 PM "Crafty Chicks 6 PM Upward"	10 11:00 AM Senior Adult Luncheon 6 PM Upward Basketball (Annex)	11	12 6 PM Upward Basketball (Annex)	13	14 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM Upward Basketball Games (Annex) Saturday
15	16 9 AM Job Concerns 12:30 - 4 PM Children's Winter Swim (UAB) 1 PM "Crafty Chicks" 6 PM Upward Basketball 7 PM Deacons Meeting	17 6 PM Upward Basketball (Annex)	18 9:30 AM MOPS (Quad Room)	19 6 PM Upward Basketball (Annex)	20 6-midnight Proverbs 31 (Quad Room)	21 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM Upward Basketball Games (Annex) Saturday
22 Sanctity of Life Sunday	23 9 AM Job Concerns Ministry 1 PM "Crafty Chicks" 6 PM Upward Basketball (Annex)	24 6 PM Upward Basketball (Annex)	25	26 6 PM Upward Basketball (Annex)	27	28 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM Upward Basketball Games (Annex) Saturday
29	30 9 AM Job Concerns Ministry 1 PM "Crafty Chicks" 6 PM Upward Basketball (Annex)	31				

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

7 AM Prayer Team
8, 9:15, 10:45 AM Sunday School & Morning Worship
4 PM Praisemakerz Kids Choir (for Elementary)
5 PM Bible Drills (for Elementary)
Faith Weavers (FW Friends for Preschool)
Student and Adult Discipleship Training
Handbell Choir Rehearsal
6 PM Creative Ministries
Adult Discipleship Training

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

5 PM Wednesday Night Church Family Meals
6 PM Prayer Meeting (Annex)
6:30 Musicmakerz Choir (for Preschool)
The C.R.E.W. (for Elementary)
Refuge (Students)
Celebration Choir Rehearsal
Adult Discipleship Training

January Ministry Staff Weekend Hospital Rotation

Jan. 7 & 8 - Mike Shaw - Home 663-1788, Cell 283-4749 Jan. 21 & 22 - Jonathan Williams - Home 663-4325, Cell 223-4277
Jan. 14 & 15 - Ben Birdsong - 907-6623 Jan. 28 & 29 - Paula Kornegay - 230-8987



Pelham

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Dated Material

Monthly publications are subject to change. Please check www.fbcpelham.org for the latest information.

Wednesday Night Meals

Church Family Meal at 5 p.m.
Prayer at 6 p.m.

Please check the First Baptist Church of Pelham web site and/or your Sunday bulletin for current menus.



Prices: Adults ----- \$ 5.00
Children (12 and under) - \$ 3.50
Family maximum (one household) \$18.00

Reservations:

Before **noon** on Monday (no exceptions, please)
Standing reservations payable *in advance monthly*

Serving time: 5:00-5:45 PM

This is a volunteer, self-supporting ministry (non-profit) from our church cook team.

(Complimentary dinner for 1st time visitors *by reservation.*)

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Mike Shaw, *Pastor*
Dr. Paul Moore, *Assoc. Pastor: Ministry/Senior Adults*
Rev. Donnie Sisk, *Pastor to Students/Activities*
Rev. Jonathan Williams, *Preschool/Children's Director*
Paula Kornegay, *Worship Leader*
Linda Kennemore, *Administrator*

GENERAL INFORMATION

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:00
Church Office Phone: 664-0237
Children's Offices: 216-0028
Fax: 621-2351
HOPE Center: 663-2779
School of Fine Arts: 664-2466
Sunday School Annex: 664-0237, ext. 5020
(All phones are area code 205)
Web Site - www.fbcpelham.org

A New Year's desire

Grant that I may bring no tear to any eye,
When this New Year in time shall end.
Let it be said I've played the friend,
Have lived and loved and labored here,
And made of it a happy year.

—Edgar A. Guest

Pelham Vision is published one time per month. Items for publication are accepted on a space-available basis and are subject to Post Office regulations for our class of mail. Please submit in writing or email pat@fbcpelham.org. No phone submissions, please.

Pelham Vision exists to inform and to show the Good News in action.

Check out all our activities and read us online at www.fbcpelham.org.
Editor: Pat MacKay