

**Combined Service  
at the ROC  
Sunday, March 29  
10:00 AM**

*Come and hear  
the spiritual journey of  
Mary Kay Beard*

*At 27, she was on the  
FBI's "10 Most Wanted List".*

*Hear about her spiritual transformation.*

**Then...join us for  
Soup and Salad Lunch  
11:30 AM — 1:30 PM**

Tickets are \$6 and available at the Resource Center, The ROC and the church office.

Chili, soup, stew, salad,  
cornbread/crackers, dessert, drink  
Dine-in or carry-out

All proceeds go toward the  
indebtedness of the ROC.



**Holy Week Services**

**April 6-10**

**12:00 Service; 12:30 Lunch**

Monday: First Baptist Church  
Tuesday: First United Methodist  
Wednesday: Believer's Fellowship  
Thursday: Tates Chapel  
Friday: TBA

**Easter Sunrise Service  
6:30 AM**

**Cherokee Memory Gardens**

Breakfast by the Brotherhood in Fellowship Hall  
following the service

**Easter Sunday  
8:40 AM & 11:00 AM**

Invite your friends and let them see and hear  
how Christ changes lives!  
*No Evening Service*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Numbers, what do they mean? Let's look at a few.

10% - The tithe we are responsible for giving to our Lord. This is not to be just of our money but also our time. Do we give the Lord 2.4 hours a day or 16.8 hours a week?

8 hours - The normal workday. Did you know that this is also the normal amount of preparation required by a teacher or instructor for an hour of instruction. Do you spend an appropriate amount of time preparing for the Sunday School lesson? The time we spend in preparation for the lesson is an indicator of our appreciation for the teacher. Without preparation you will not be able to actively participate in the lesson.

700 - The Sunday School enrollment as of February 28, 2009.

335 - The average attendance at Sunday School during the month of February. This is 47.8% of the enrollment but it also means that 365 or 52.2% are not attending. When we increase our average attendance to 400 we will be at 57% of our enrollment.

Let's all get involved in reaching out to our members who are not attending. We can do this through postcards, phone calls, and personal visits. By contacting our members we will be showing that we care and our reaching out to others will be increased.

Let me challenge each class to contact all the inactive members on their class roll at least once by the end of April. A simple contact may be all someone needs to get back into church.

Don Price  
Sunday School Director



Jensen Alexander  
Stone Alexander  
Bayley Blanchard  
Andrew Bolton  
Ted & Marilyn Bridges  
Jerry Jr. & Laure Clemons  
Spencer & Vicki Gilman  
Melanie & Kendall Jones  
Chris, Susan & Spencer King  
Donnie, Trudy & Patrick Lowe  
Lora & Kameron Mackey, Kayla Banks  
Gary & Barb Sarratt  
Bill Steele  
Jenette Stegall  
Barry, Susie & Granger Surrent  
Joshua Whitmire

# Steven's

# SCOOP



## Vacation Bible School

June 1-5

9 AM-12 Noon

We need your help...

- Bible Bayou (teachers)
- Gator Games (recreation)
- Crawfish Crafts & Missions
- Dockside Drive-In (Chadder Theatre)
- Snack Shack (kitchen help)
- Crew leaders

Contact Steven at 927-6342 or 266-3456

## GA Bake Sale

Sunday, April 5  
Welcome Center

Immediately following IMPACT and Traditional services. All proceeds will go toward GA camp. Thank you for your support!



## Easter Egg Hunt

Sat., April 11  
10:30 AM -12 Noon  
Jimmy & Betty Singleton's Home  
265 Jordan Drive

4 age divisions

- Walking—2 year olds
- 3 year olds— Kindergarten
- 1st—2nd Grade
- 3rd— 6th Grade

Lunch will be provided—hotdogs, chips, drinks.  
Resurrection egg story will be presented.

## Youth Events

- April 5—Association Bible Drill
- April 8—Youth Bible Study Friend Night
- April 10—Youth meeting to hide eggs, 11 AM at the Singletons, lunch provided
- April 13-17—Going to be painting house (dates to be determined by weather)
- April 17—Youth fun night
- April 19—Youth Council meeting 5 PM Conference Rm
- April 25—State Bible Drill



# Brandon's Beat

**Cease Fire** Continued from last month's Beacon....

What about the use of "rock and roll" instruments in church? Is it morally wrong to have electric guitars, drums, and the like in a house of worship? Be assured this question is nothing new. Hundreds of years ago there was a huge rift in the organized church when the choir started singing in harmony versus unison. After all, people were all of a sudden paying attention to the music, instead of focusing on God. It was just too loud, too complicated, and it had no place in the church. Fast forward a few centuries. What in the Devil's name is that "thing" sitting over by the altar? Is that a piano? I can't believe it! I saw one of those in a bar last weekend (obviously shouldn't have been in a bar)! And what is the choir singing? For the love of St. Peter! How dare they set "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" to a tune they sing over in the local PUB! Ridiculous isn't it? Yet that's the response we foster in our church music if we aren't careful. It isn't about what is right and wrong as much as what we like or dislike on a personal level. Often we pick these preferences as "hills to die upon", when our attention could be focused and more productively used elsewhere in the ministry. I realize drums and electric guitars CAN be loud and obnoxious, but they aren't any louder or any more obnoxious than many southern gospel quartets. I find that the number of decibels our ears are able to withstand directly correlates to what we most like or dislike.

These things being considered, and all genres and styles of music set aside let's consider the place of music in the church. Why do we even bother? What's the point of all the trouble? Why does the minister of music rehearse with the adult choir 1.5 hours a week? What's the point of all the trouble they go to make the IMPACT and CHAOS bands work, all the direct boxes, ¼ inch cables, sound boards, effects, wireless systems, special lighting, fog machines, microphones, and all that other stuff that looks so complicated? After all God doesn't NEED music to make Him happy. And we CAN worship in complete silence without music, message, or any other sort of liturgical invention. Do you remember the second paragraph of this article? We discussed how music has the ability to bypass the intellectual and speak directly to the "inner-person". We go to all the trouble that music causes us because we know that giving the gift of music back to the originator has the potential to open up floodgates of worship that bow our souls to His throne and start to bend our minds around who He is as melodies and rhythms begin to paint with sparkling clarity a picture of the one who give us such a wonderful and complex gift. Music is a tool, that if pointed toward God, can be used by Him to explain things to our souls that words alone can not.

Work with me to put our personal agendas, opinions, and preconceptions aside. If you don't like a particular song or style, just grin and bear it for 2-3 minutes. Realize that it is probably ministering to someone else. Let's join our forces to use God's gift to admonish one another and ultimately glorify Him. Music is a force bigger than me and you, entrusted to our hands as an investment from God so that we may reach others, multiply His kingdom, and offer it back to Him as a sacrifice that has grown tremendous interest. May we be good stewards of the gift of music.

## OFFICES MOVING TO THE ROC

As the church approved in conference, the offices will be moving to the ROC. The tentative date of the move is April 2-3. The offices will reopen on Mon., April 6 at the ROC. If you can help with the move please contact the church office at 927-3316. Our office phone number will stay the same.

## CHURCH RENTALS

The church will no longer be available for rentals after April 30 except for weddings. Please contact the ROC for rental information, 927-6342.

## Shepherd's Fold Daycare GIANT YARD SALE/BAKE SALE

Sat., April 4  
7 AM-12 noon  
ROC (gym)

Proceeds will go to Shepherd's Fold Daycare. Donations/bake items and your attendance is appreciated. Leave donations in the Fellowship Hall or carry to the daycare at the ROC. If requested receipts will be given for tax purposes.

## PAID NURSERY WORKER POSITION

11 hours a week—Sundays and Wednesdays  
Call the church office for more information.

## YOUNG AT HEART SURPRISE TRIP

The trip is scheduled for Thursday, April 23. The group will leave the church at 7:30 AM. This will not be a strenuous trip that will involve any hard walking. Sign-up in the church office

## HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES

It is time to recognize our graduates in our May issue of The Beacon. We will need a picture and brief write-up of the high school graduates accomplishments and for college graduates will need school and degree. Please have all information in by April 22.

## WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Fresh Grounded Faith with Jennifer Rothschild  
May 1-2

Blackshear Place Baptist Church, Flowery Branch, GA. Ticket price by April 6 is \$29/person (group price 10+). Music by Michael O'Brien and additional guest speaker Mark and Katharyn Richt (Georgia Bulldogs coach). Sign up in Resource Center or see Rene Robertson for more details.

## SYMPATHY NOTE

Christian love and sympathy is extended to Marsha Thomas and family on the loss of her husband, Ron Thomas; to the family of Willie Vines—grandmother of Jim & Josh Garmany and aunt of Joe Brashier; to Danny Richey and family on the loss of his sister, Jane Rodgers; and to Matt Woodfin and family on the loss of his aunt, Ilene Woodfin.

## Theological Corner: The Resurrection

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the hinge of Christianity. Without the resurrection of Christ, Christianity would be like all other world religions. Because of this fact many have attempted to discredit or disprove the resurrection. In 2007 James Cameron produced a show on the Discovery Channel called "The Lost Tomb of Christ." The thesis of the show was that the bones of Jesus may have been found.

Attempts to discredit the resurrection are not new. In 1965 Hugh Schonfield wrote "The Passover Plot" in which he argued that Jesus plotted with His disciples to feign His death. His book was a rehash of an old theory, called the Swoon Theory, that was popular in the last half of the nineteenth century. According to this theory, Jesus passed out on the cross, later woke up in the tomb and proceeded to escape.

Other theories include the "Twin Theory" which argues that Jesus had a twin who, according to philosopher Robert Greg Cavin, was named Hurome. According to this theory, Jesus' twin, who was separated from Jesus at birth, stumbled into Jerusalem on the day of the crucifixion. Hurome realized his twin brother was on the cross and realized that this was an opportunity to concoct a messianic mission for Christ. Thus, he stole Christ's body and pretended to be the resurrected Christ.

Muslims have weighed in with their own theory. According to Islam, the person crucified was not Jesus but someone who looked like Him. God took Jesus up into heaven without ever going through the crucifixion.

Jehovah Witnesses have a theory about the resurrection. They contend that Jesus was created by God as the archangel Michael, who became human during his time on earth. Although Jesus (aka Michael) was crucified, they contend that He did not raise bodily but as an immaterial spirit creature. They argue that Jesus' body was supernatural disposed of by God power, hence the empty tomb.

From the day of the resurrection until today, there have been attempts to explain away the empty tomb. However, all attempts have failed to explain 1) The empty tomb, 2) The failure of Jesus' enemies to produce a body, 3) The change in the disciples from cowards to proclaimers, and 4) The myriad of eye witness accounts. Other results of the resurrection include the creation of the church, change in traditions (e.g., Passover to the Lord's Supper), and the change in the lives of those who receive Christ as Savior today.

The resurrection of Christ is a reality based not on blind faith, but on facts. Because Christ is risen, His followers are promised that they too will one day rise from the dead (Jn. 5:28-29)

LIVE WITH URGENCY  
SOWING TOGETHER FOR HARVEST



NATIONAL GOAL: \$65,000,000  
WWW.ANNIEARMSTRONG.COM

**OUR  
GOAL:  
\$8,000  
Received  
to date:  
\$4,889**

# First Baptist Church of Centre The Beacon

The Beacon  
Published monthly by First Baptist Church of Centre  
373 East Main Street, Centre, Alabama 35960

Non-profit organization  
Permit No. 7 Centre, Alabama

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Volume 14, Issue 3

March 24, 2009

*Connect, Commit, Impact*

## WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday	Wednesday at the Church
8:40 a.m. <i>IMPACT Contemporary Worship</i>	3:00 p.m. <i>Prayer Service</i>
9:50 a.m. <i>Bible Study</i>	<b>Wednesday at the ROC</b>
11:00 a.m. <i>Traditional Worship</i>	5:15 p.m. <i>Supper</i>
4:00 p.m. <i>Youth Bible Drill</i>	5:50 p.m. <i>Preschool Music</i>
4:30 p.m. <i>Children's Bible Drill</i>	6:15 p.m. <i>Discipleship Classes</i>
4:30 p.m. <i>Adult Choir</i>	6:15 p.m. <i>CHAOS-Youth Bible Study</i>
6:00 p.m. <i>Children's Music</i>	<b>Fridays at the ROC</b>
6:00 p.m. <i>Evening Service</i>	5:15 p.m. <i>Celebrate Recovery</i>

**Want your life back?**



## Celebrate Recovery

**On the campus  
of the ROC  
Every Friday Night  
at 5:30 p.m.**

**A safe place to  
work through your hurts,  
habits, & hang-ups.**

### WELCOME CENTER GREETERS

- 4-5 Ruth Brannon, Bonnie Murphy, Matt Woodfin
- 4-12 Graham & Billie Brown, Lana Evans
- 4-19 Scott & Lynn Curry, Ruth Matthews
- 4-26 Doug & Frances Newman, Gail Hayes

### DEACON OF THE WEEK

March 29-April 4  
*Larry Maddox 927-5242*

April 5-11  
*Dennis Trammell 526-8794*

April 12-18  
*Merle Grimes 927-8134*

April 19-25  
*John Ward 927-4454*

April 26-May 2  
*Jamie Jordan 557-2882*

### CHURCH OFFICE

927-3316  
Fax: 927-8483  
[www.fbc-centre.org](http://www.fbc-centre.org)

### ROC

927-6342

### Shepherd's Fold

**Daycare**  
927-6345

### MINISTERS

*Dr. Jim Wright*  
Pastor  
927-4487

*Rev. Steven Langford*  
Minister of Youth &  
Children

*Rev. Brandon Snow*  
Minister of Music/Media

### STAFF

*Tina McCord*  
Office Manager/Financials

*Joyce Woodfin*  
Secretary

*Sheila Barrett*  
ROC Administrator



For up-to-date news  
articles visit  
[www.fbc-centre.org](http://www.fbc-centre.org)