



The Courier

Volume 61 ~ Issue 9
May 2, 2013

Listen to our Sunday Morning
Worship Service at 10:50 AM on
100.5 WVJS FM

Third Baptist Church
527 Allen Street
Owensboro KY 42303
(270) 683-0269

*THE COURIER (USPS 564-560) is published
bi-weekly by Third Baptist Church, Owensboro,
Kentucky. Periodicals postage paid at Owensboro, KY
42301-9998. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
Third Baptist Church,
P.O. Box 808, Owensboro, KY 42302-0808.*

DID YOU MISS OUT?

"I didn't get a phone call!" "I checked my email and there was nothing from the church keeping me informed." Help the church keep in touch with you!



Emails, phone numbers, and addresses change. You may not have thought about keeping the church up to date with your information, but it is very important to be able to contact all our family members. Send us your information to mail@thirdbaptist.com or call us at 270-683-0269.



Volunteers are Needed!

Do you have a few hours to help answer phones, greet visitors, send postcards and be a welcoming face for the church? Contact the church office and let's talk.

Going to the Festival this Year?

Would you be willing to come an hour early and help the church fundraise for their ministry opportunities? Parking spaces are sold each year during the BBQ Festival on Friday afternoon through Saturday night. We need volunteers to "man" the entrances and collect the donations. Get in touch with Kat Lee/Charlotte Benningfield for more information!



May 10-11

CLASS OF 2013

Let us be the first to congratulate you on your accomplishments! Call the church office and let us know about you! Pictures to be included in the Courier are needed absolutely no later than **Tuesday, May 14th!**



Partnership Experience

Fellowship Without Borders: Caravan for Women

This is the first multicultural women's experience for Kentuckians and Africans in Morocco. This trip seeks to build relationships between women of the EEAM and the KBWIM. We will travel (caravan) across the country of Morocco with women of the EEAM, passing through eight cities where participants will meet women and discover women's initiatives there. Highlights include dialogue with Muslim women in Ifrane, meeting the EEAM's Pastor-in-Training, Miora Andriatsimalia in Agadir, and connecting with migrant women in Rabat. Application and \$150 non-refundable deposit are required by Friday, May 31. Check out the itinerary in the atrium!

Contact Charlotte at 683-0269; Joshua Speight (josh@kybf.org) or Becky Caswell-Speight (becky@broadwaybaptist.org) for more information Tentative Dates: October 3-14 ~ Estimated cost: \$2,100.

Dr. James K. Byrd ~ Senior Pastor

We welcome Mike Morrow as the newest member to the TBC family. Mike will be baptized on Sunday, May 12th.

April 28 there was a group of people who gathered to discuss the possibility of Third Baptist and First Christian having a shared future. The purpose of the meeting was to see if there was enough interest to have a conversation with the respective congregations. This is a report on that conversation.

Report on Exploratory Conversation

First Christian Church and Third Baptist Church

Conversation facilitated by:

John Lepper, Coordinator,

Kentucky Baptist Fellowship

Greg Alexander, General Minister,

Christian Church in Kentucky

The tragic fire that destroyed the beautiful facilities of First Christian Church has prompted some intriguing yet unforeseen conversations. These conversations simultaneously began to bubble up in both First Christian Church and Third Baptist by a large enough group of people from each congregation that the conversations could not be ignored. In essence, these conversations are directed at exploring the answers to one question, **“In what ways are God’s purposes better served by First Christian and Third Baptist engaging in some form of partnered ministry, whatever shape that would take, than if each congregation does its ministry separately as is currently the case?”**

The Rev. Dr. James Byrd, Senior Minister of Third Baptist and Rev. Jake Caldwell, Senior Minister of First

Christian invited Greg Alexander, General Minister of the Christian Church in Kentucky to meet with them for guidance on how to respond to these conversations.

It was clear to Alexander that these conversations could not be ignored. He recommended that the Rev. Dr. John Lepper, Coordinator for the Kentucky Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, be brought into the conversation. After more conversation it was determined that Lepper and Alexander should meet with a representative group of members from each congregation, including the pastoral staffs, to explore the seriousness of these conversations, and, if warranted, determine next steps for inviting the full membership of each congregation into this conversation.

That meeting occurred on Sunday afternoon from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Third Baptist Church with about 30 in attendance. Lepper and Alexander began by reminding those gathered of the exploratory nature of these conversations. They also reminded them that the only question on the table for discussion was “In what ways are God’s purposes better served by First Christian and Third Baptist engaging in

some form of partnered ministry, whatever shape that would take, than if each congregation does its ministry separately as is currently the case?”

Through prayer, Bible study and small group dialogue it was determined that the only decision that could be made by this initial gathering was to make this report to each congregation and open up further conversation.

NO OTHER DECISION HAS BEEN MADE.

NO DIRECTION HAS BEEN SET BEYOND ASSESSING HOW MUCH SUPPORT THERE IS WITHIN EACH CONGREGATION FOR MORE CONVERSATION.

At this point the conversations are exploratory conversations. If there is sufficient support in each congregation to institute a process for more intentional conversations between the two churches, Lepper and Alexander have agreed to provide oversight for that process and begin quickly to lay the foundation for that process. If there is not sufficient support in each congregation the process will not be implemented.

There was a conversation about this on Wednesday night during prayer meeting, and we will explore this further. Sunday morning during Sunday School and after worship, you will have an opportunity to write your questions / thoughts down and these will be addressed, as many of these as time permits, on Wednesday, May 8 during prayer meeting time.

The following people have been asked to serve with members from First Christian on an exploratory committee. They are: Shirley Bell, Charlotte Benningfield, Cliff Embry, Dot Holbrook, Lee Kincaid, Jan Lampkin, Craig Miller, Joe Bob Pierce, Maggie Price, David Roberson, Ryan Rue, Faye Show, and Joe Thomas. A committee of these, or others the church recommends, will be voted on at the next regular business meeting Sunday night May 19th.

David Roberson

We all have changes in our lives which we need God to help us through. As most of you know I have worked at South Central Bank for several years. My "full-time" job. Recently they made the decision to move my job to Glasgow, Ky., the home of their Holding Company. I decided not to move with the job so as of May 1 I've joined the ranks of the unemployed. A BIG change.

Sometimes change can bring a Praise

the Lord or it can cause a cry of despair and either way we need God's guidance to handle it. I read a devotion online by Martha Noebel and she had created the following acronym from the word change:

Christ

Has

A

New

Gift

Each

Second

Minister of Music

I believe this reminds us we should look at each moment, every second, if you will, as an opportunity. Each moment contains a gift from God. So, even if we are living in a constant state of change, we should not walk in fear but in faith. We trust God in the changes knowing He is able to see us through and will bless us throughout the process. I'm looking for the hand of God in the change I'm facing. I hope you can do the same!

THE POWER OF EXAMPLE

How do young people learn the Christian way of life? By formal teaching, of course. But also, by the power of example. The New Testament reminds us of this in several places. Jesus, after washing the disciples' feet, said, "I have set you an example that you should do as I have done to you." (John 13:15) Paul wrote to Timothy, "...set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith, and in purity." (1 Timothy 4:12). Peter admonished, "Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they may accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day He visits you." (1 Peter 2:12)

In the light of these verses, I am concerned about the example some parents are setting for their children. This concern is heightened as we approach the end of the school year and face the many options that children have today during the summer months. So I pose the following questions:

If I, as a parent, support sports activities on Sundays more than worship and Christian fellowship, what message does that send to my children concerning what is more important?

If I, as a parent, spend more time criticizing my church than I do being involved in its ministry, what am I teaching my child about what the Christian life looks like?

If I, as a parent, seldom have prayer with my family, what kind of relationship should I expect my child to have with God as he/she grows older?

If I, as a parent, fail to set a wholesome example for my child, why should I expect my child to put God's will first in his/her life?

These are the kinds of questions I believe parents should be asking themselves. Though there may be exceptions, I think it unlikely that we can expect the formal teaching we

offer children on Sundays and Wednesdays to offset the daily examples their parents set all during the week. Even when we as parents have done our best to set the right kind of Christian example, we have no guarantee that they will have the right priorities and make the right decisions in their lives. Nevertheless, we owe them our best.

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER AT SENIOR ADULT MEETING

At our next Senior Adult meeting on Tuesday, May 7, Ginny Knight-Simon, who is both a motivational speaker and author, will present our program. After the program, we will be treated to a picnic-style lunch consisting of hamburgers, potato salad, baked beans, and cookies - all for just \$4.00 per persons. Ya'll come, and bring a friend!

Jan Lampkin ~ Children's Minister

If you think God is not finished with you yet, guess what? God is not finished with me, with you, or finished with our church or our world. We listen for a still-speaking God! If we are open, if we listen carefully, we will discover what God is saying to us at Third Baptist Church at this time in history.

We must always remember to open our hearts and minds to God's message because God is not done with us yet. God is still speaking to Third Baptist Church and it's time we start listening.

God points us to places that we may fear the direction he puts before us. Our prayer should be for wisdom and the courage to act if God is leading us. In prayer we need to consider how God will touch us in comforting and challenging ways. Perhaps God is calling TBC to do something in particular? Perhaps God does want us to change in some ways? Perhaps God is leading us to enter into unity with particular people and situations? What might be God's hope for TBC and for our community? Pray, then

listen to the silence of God's voice!

Our mission is to Proclaim the Word and Build the Kingdom of God. Unity between two different congregations of Christian people will provide more and stronger resources, both physical and financial, and more opportunity to further the Kingdom of God.

WE BOTH come together, welcoming all with open arms. WE BOTH celebrate Christ and are excited by the Holy Spirit. WE BOTH reach out to others in our community. God is not finished with EITHER of us yet!

How might God be speaking to TBC now? In what way is God speaking to our community through TBC? What is God trying to say to our congregation through our community?

Please pray for the congregation of Third Baptist Church and for First Christian Church. God is a still-speaking God. Even without words at all, if we wait in silence, God still comes.

Continue to pray for our children!

**Joe Bob Pierce
Spiritual Formation**

Third Baptist's hosting of the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship Spring Gathering last weekend turned out to be a great event. I enjoyed worshipping with our KBF friends from around the state and reacquainting myself with our ministry partners from around the state.

Another fulfilling feature of the weekend was hearing about the ministries the KBF engages in. Much of what we do, such as supporting Paula Settle, is to minister to those in poverty-stricken areas of eastern Kentucky. An exciting event which is happening next month, for instance, is "Extreme Build 8." KBF churches will provide volunteers to build its eighth house for a young couple in McCreary County.

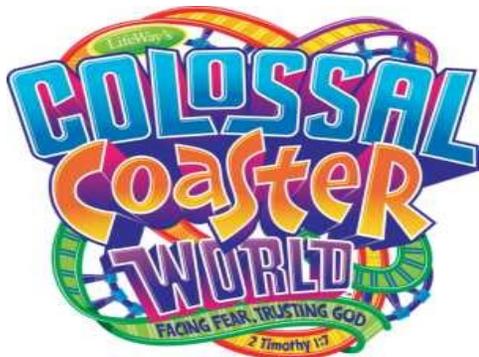
If this sort of mission opportunity appeals to you, it is not too late to sign up and be part of Extreme Build. For more information and registration, go to www.kybf.org/extreme-build-2013.

Third Baptist Church is a community of Christian believers committed to worshipping God, proclaiming the Good News, making disciples, and ministering to people.



My word...will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:11, NIV

Invite someone to join you this Sunday for Bible Study!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
July 7 - 11
Contact Jan Lampkin
Let her know you can help!

MEMORIALS

Contributions to the church have been made *in memory of Edith Bennett* by Mrs. Dot Holbrook, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Harris, Mrs. Wilda Luttrell, Ms. Margaret Chance, Mrs. Virginia Rogers, Mr. & Mrs. Harold A. Wilson, Mrs. June Coons, Loren & Carol Burger, Bruce Hargis & Freeman Kitchens.

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY, MAY 5

4:30 PM Missions Team Meeting

FRIDAY, MAY 10

5:00 PM BBQ Fest Parking Fundraiser

SATURDAY, MAY 11

10:00 AM BBQ Fest Parking Fundraiser

SUNDAY, MAY 12, MOTHER'S DAY

10:45 AM Morning Worship
Baptism

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

Last evening Meal and
Children's Activities

THURSDAY, MAY 16

11:00 AM Senior Adult Trip
to Old Hickory
7:00 PM Music Recitals, Sanctuary

FRIDAY, MAY 17

6:30 PM Carlisle / Swift Rehearsal

SATURDAY, MAY 18

6:30 PM Carlisle / Swift Wedding

SUNDAY, MAY 19

4:00 PM Stewardship/Finance Meeting
5:00 PM Deacons Meeting
6:00 PM Business Meeting

MONDAY, MAY 20

6:30 AM YMCA Summer Camp begins
9:30 AM Peer Learning Group

DEACON INFORMATION

May 5

Jim Grise, Shirley Bell

Hope and Harvest Team

Hawes Mercer, Ryan Rue

May 12

Chris Holbrook, Cissy Bishop

Hope and Harvest Team

Jesse Rhodes, Brad Baker

VAN DRIVERS

May 5 Tom Dixon

May 12 Frank Beller

CHILDREN'S SERMON

May 5 Sherry Lee

May 12 Melissa Embry

PRESCHOOL PRAISE

May 5 Hadley & Erin Rouse

May 12 Jean Snyder

SUNDAY NURSERY WORKERS

May 5 Joni Byrd

May 12 Jan Holbrook

ATRIUM SOCIAL

May 5

Women of Faith

May 12

The Way

WEDNESDAY VAN DRIVERS

May 8 Charles Evans

May 15 Charlotte Benningfield

FAMILY MEALS

May 8

Chicken pot pie, jello fruit salad,
pudding with graham crackers

May 15

Potato soup, sandwich, ice cream

Please sign up by noon on Tuesday

The cost is \$4.00 per adult,
\$12.00 for a family of four,
\$1.00 extra for each additional child.

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



04-29-2013

THAT FIRST MOMENT OF INTRODUCTION ...
BEFORE THE SERPENT HAD A CHANCE TO SPEAK

THIRD BAPTIST
YOUTH
WEDNESDAYS
6:00 PM

It's why we do it!
4 People
Purpose
Prayer
Praise



Stretch Aerobics
Monday at 1:00 PM
Step Aerobics
Monday, Wednesday,
& Friday at 8:30 AM

The Walking Track
is open!