

First Baptist Church Montgomery

# BEACON

*bring them in... build them up... send them out*



Volume 71 | Week of July 22, 2018 | Number 29



Youth Camp @ Shocco Springs  
(Talladega, Ala.)  
Monday, July 23 through Friday, July 27

Pray for the students and leaders  
as they head to Camp this week!



**Soul on Fire**  
presented by the NEHEMIAH KIDS  
**Sunday, July 22**  
6:15 PM :: MAIN SANCTUARY



**Sunday, July 29**  
6:15 PM

**Mark your calendars now for  
Sunday, August 12!**

Join us as we kick off the new **Bible Fellowship Year**  
at 9:45 AM and then at 5:00 PM for **Youth Choirs,**  
**Children's Missions and Discipleship Classes.**

The **Wednesday Night Oasis**, which includes  
**Children's Music**, kicks off on **August 15** at 5:45 PM.



# CONNECTIONS

from your Pastor's Heart

## What's On Your Bucket List?

If you were diagnosed with a deadly disease and given a small amount of time to live, what would you do with that time?

My friend, **John Geiger**, recently received the devastating news that he has ALS which is also called Lou Gehrig's disease because it took the life of the famed baseball player. When the Neurologist shared the verdict of ALS, John quipped, *"How could I have Lou Gehrig's disease? I don't even play baseball!"*

John recently came to First Baptist and shared one of the most powerful testimonies I've ever heard. He grabbed our attention by flatly stating, *"I'm dying but so are you! I may be on a faster track but some of you may beat me to the graveyard so listen carefully."*

John explained there is no cure for ALS. It will degenerate his muscular functions until his systems break and he dies. John proceeded to describe his simple **"bucket list."** With the time he has left, he wants to use his best energies to share the love and light of Jesus with everyone he encounters. He even declared ALS an odd blessing because now more people are listening to him.



During our interview, I asked John if he was bitter over his battle with ALS. After all, he's been a minister, a missionary in Russia, the headmaster of Eastwood Presbyterian School, and God's faithful servant. So why is this happening to him? John's answer provided profound insight into the human condition and our eternal hope. He directed us to deeply study God's answer to suffering in Romans 8 and specifically in verse 18: ***"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us."*** He explained, *"Jay, this world is filled with sickness and suffering. It is a broken place and we broke it with our sin. Yet God is in the process of fixing it through Jesus."* He continued, *"God will fix my problem on His timetable and in His way. We must trust God's goodness even when we hurt and don't understand."* John said he intended to praise God and to share His goodness and saving gospel with others up to his last breath.

We concluded our interview with a recording of John singing a captivating song he composed entitled, ***"With My Last Breath."***

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## FBC Faithfulness | Sunday, July 15, 2018

### ATTENDANCE

Bible Fellowship Enrollment 5236 | Bible Fellowship Attendance 1486  
Weekly Attendance 1941 | Discipleship Attendance 347

### OFFERING

Required Weekly \$128,365.38 | Received Sunday \$140,361.75  
Required To Date \$3,594,230.64 | Received To Date \$3,313,668.41  
Building Fund Sunday \$245.00 | Building Fund to Date \$14,069.70

Under Budget | \$280,562.23

**EMPOWERED**  
*To live a life of influence and purpose*

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 25**  
 9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM / FELLOWSHIP HALL

*featuring*  
**JENNIFER KENNEDY DEAN**  
*and* **JO HANCOCK**

**REGISTER ONLINE AT [WWW.MONTGOMERYFBC.ORG](http://WWW.MONTGOMERYFBC.ORG)**

## Ministry Announcements

### Preschool Ministry

Parents, don't miss **Parents Night Out** on **Friday, August 3** from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. This is your time to have a date night or just sit at home in peace and quiet! The event is free, but you need to register your children (8 weeks to 6th grade) by noon on Friday, July 27. Register online at [montgomeryfbc.org/parents-night-out](http://montgomeryfbc.org/parents-night-out).

### Student Ministry

There will be a **Crossover Lake Day** on **Friday, August 3** for all upcoming 7th through 9th graders. We will leave from the church at 8:00 AM and return by 6:00 PM. The cost is \$10 and includes lunch. Register online at [www.montgomeryfbc.org/event-registration](http://www.montgomeryfbc.org/event-registration). For more information, contact Russell McCrory at 241.5163 or [rmccrory@montgomeryfbc.org](mailto:rmccrory@montgomeryfbc.org).

All upcoming high school seniors are invited to the **2018 Senior Lake Retreat** on **Friday, August 10 and Saturday, August 11** at the Birchfield's Lake House. The event is free, but we need you to register online at [www.montgomeryfbc.org/event-registration](http://www.montgomeryfbc.org/event-registration). We will leave the church Friday at 6:00 PM from the Scott Street parking lot and return Saturday afternoon. For more information, contact Russell McCrory at 241.5163 or [rmccrory@montgomeryfbc.org](mailto:rmccrory@montgomeryfbc.org).

**WAR ROOM**  
**PRAYER IS A POWERFUL WEAPON**  
 08.01.18 :: MAIN SANCTUARY :: 12:10 TO 12:50 PM



### First Family Dinner | Wednesday, July 25

*No reservations required!*

**Adult & Children's Meal:** Hamburgers, Chips, Salad, Dessert

**Adult Family Meal – \$5; Child's Meal** (12 & under) – \$3

**Maximum Family Amount – \$20** (immediate family only)

## Adult Ministry

The **Bible Fellowship Appreciation Lunch** is **Sunday, August 19** from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the fellowship hall. All directors, teachers and administrators are invited, so make plans now to join us for lunch as we get ready to launch our new Bible Fellowship year. A short training session by age-group (preschool through senior adults) will follow lunch. RSVP to Beth DeBardeleben by Sunday, August 12 at 241.5160 or [bdebardeleben@montgomeryfbc.org](mailto:bdebardeleben@montgomeryfbc.org).

## Senior Adult Ministry

The **Senior Adult Fish Fry** is **Tuesday, August 21** at noon in the fellowship hall. Cost is \$6 per person. Tickets are available in your Bible Fellowship Class through August 12 or by calling Mary Virginia Crum at 241.5180.

## Missions Ministry

Join us for the **River Region Judgment House Banquet** on **Monday, August 20** at 6:00 PM at Frazer United Methodist Church. This Banquet is an event to thank previous volunteers and inform new volunteers about opportunities to participate in this year's outreach. The event is free to attend. For more information, visit [www.judgmenthouse.org](http://www.judgmenthouse.org) or call 546.8088.

## Children's Hope

Join us on **Saturday, August 18** for the **2018 Haiti Summit** from 9:30 AM to noon in the youth center. God is at work in mighty ways in Haiti, and He is using Children's Hope to minister to thousands of people in need each year. Come join us to hear about how we are caring for children, strengthening families, and serving communities in Jesus' name. You'll hear exciting stories of lives forever changed. Come explore your place in this strategic work of meeting needs and sharing the hope of Christ. A light lunch will be provided. For more information, contact Jared McCrory at 241.5124 or [jared@childrens-hope.com](mailto:jared@childrens-hope.com).

## Churchwide News & Events

First Baptist is partnering with The Montgomery Clean City Commission in their new school clean-up program "**Packed to ACT (All Cleaning Together).**" Please join us at **Sidney Lanier High School** on **Saturday, July 28** from 7:00 to 11:00 AM to help with landscaping. For more information, contact Tim Cearley at 241.5141 or [tcearley@fbc-cm.org](mailto:tcearley@fbc-cm.org).

God has blessed us with lots of young families. Did you know it takes **200 Preschool Teachers** and **60 Children's Teachers** every Sunday morning to love on our children and teach them God's Word? The new Sunday School Year starts **August 12** and we have **numerous opportunities in the preschool department**

## Our Church Family

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, contact Carolyn Bryan at 241.5120.

### Sympathy Extended to

Mr. & Mrs. Glynn Lott (Michele) in the death of her step-father, Clarence Lucas  
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Murphy (Nancy) in the death of his mother  
Ms. Joyce Moore in the death of her niece  
Mr. James Bell in the death of his wife, Doris;  
Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Byrom (Kim) in the death of her mother; Kaiden & Jameson Byrom in the death of their grandmother; Mr. & Mrs. Mac McGee (LeVonne) in the death of her sister

### Baptist South

Lynda Smitherman

### Baptist East

Stephanie Parsons

### Jackson

Jerry Allie

### UAB Medical Center

Chuck Whittington

### Congratulations Extended to

Rev. & Mrs. Mark Bethea (Brittany) in the birth of a daughter; Mr. David Bethea in the birth of a granddaughter; Mr. & Mrs. Tony Tucker (Melody) in the birth of a granddaughter  
Mr. & Mrs. Brad Hatfield (Kate) in the birth of a son  
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Parsons (Stephanie) in the birth of a daughter; Mr. & Mrs. Steve Harmon (Mary) in the birth of a granddaughter; Ms. Marge Chancellor in the birth of a great-granddaughter

### Ministerial Staff Birthdays

Ryan Gray (July 21)  
Chuck Ashley (July 24)  
Ed Cleveland (July 25)





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[www.montgomeryfbc.org/rightnowmedia](http://www.montgomeryfbc.org/rightnowmedia)

**and children's department.** Don't miss the blessing of working with our precious children! Please pray and answer our call for help. It will be one of the best decisions you have ever made. To volunteer, contact Nancie McQueen, our Preschool Minister at 241.5166 or [nmcqueen@montgomeryfbc.org](mailto:nmcqueen@montgomeryfbc.org) or Glen Leathers, our Children's Minister at 241.5164 or [gleathers@montgomeryfbc.org](mailto:gleathers@montgomeryfbc.org).

The **Nehemiah Center Back-To-School Block Party** is **Saturday, August 4** from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM. The following school supplies are needed: pencils, pens, pencil sharpeners, highlighters, first grade writing notebooks, children's scissors, notebook paper (wide-rule and college-rule), spiral one-subject notebooks, index cards, crayons, rulers, glue, glue sticks, tape, report covers, dry erase markers, paper towels, Kleenex, Clorox wipes, hand sanitizer, copy paper, and nap pads. Supplies can be dropped in the bins in the main sanctuary foyer or in the Scott Street entrance. For more information on how you can help, contact Kathy Cooper at 241.5125 or [kcooper@montgomeryfbc.org](mailto:kcooper@montgomeryfbc.org).

**Will you be away from FBC on Sunday?** Then join us **Sunday** at 11:00 AM as we broadcast our service live on the FBC app and website ([www.montgomeryfbc.org/livestream](http://www.montgomeryfbc.org/livestream)) as well as our main **Facebook page, First Baptist Church Montgomery** (@montgomeryfirstbaptist).

## Connections from Your Pastor's Heart (continued from page 2)

*Well now, death has been hovering around my door.  
Adam unlocked it, but I did much more.  
The body is crumbling, but my spirit is strong.*

*He who has ears come hear my song.  
Go ahead and crush me. Break my legs and my hands.  
You are the one with limited days – so you better understand.  
There is a heel which will smash your wicked head.  
Heaven will rejoice when death is dead.*

*Darkness is approaching; we must part in a while.  
Our tears hold no bitterness; they will dry with a smile.  
Make the most of your days. They really are not long.  
Inside of you there lies your own beautiful song.*

*With my last breath, I will sing of God's goodness.  
With my last breath, I will tell of His mercies.  
With my last breath, I will speak about the King who gives life  
beyond our death. With my last breath.*

John's wisdom, courage and soaring faith inspires us to use our **every breath** to praise King Jesus and share His love and light with all the terminal people we encounter.



## This week at FBC

For the complete calendar, visit  
[www.montgomeryfbc.org](http://www.montgomeryfbc.org).

### Sunday, July 22

Mission Projects: Central Asia & Brazil

- 8:30 Worship Service  
Prayer Room in Media Center
- 9:45 Bible Fellowship Classes
- 11:00 Worship Service  
Prayer Room in Media Center
- 4:00 Nehemiah Musical Rehearsal
- 5:00 Visitation
- 6:15 Worship Service

### Monday, July 23

Mission Projects: Central Asia & Brazil  
Student Ministry: Youth Camp

- 8:30 Youth Camp Registration
- 10:00 Youth Camp Student Meeting
- 11:30 Youth Camp Lunch  
Judgment House Leadership Meeting
- 5:30 Men's Bible Study
- 6:30 Freedom in Christ Recovery Group

### Tuesday, July 24

Mission Projects: Central Asia & Brazil  
Student Ministry: Youth Camp

- 8:30 Terrific Tuesday Red Carpet Welcome
- 4:30 Community Ministries Board Meeting
- 5:30 Women with Emotional Pain
- 6:00 Foster Care Appreciation Party
- 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous

### Wednesday, July 25

Mission Projects: Central Asia & Brazil  
Student Ministry: Youth Camp

- 5:00 First Family Dinner
- 5:30 Sanctuary Orchestra Rehearsal
- 6:00 First Family Prayer Time  
Children's Ministry: Four Square
- 6:35 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- 6:45 Ejamat Prayer Time

### Thursday, July 26

Mission Project: Central Asia  
Student Ministry: Youth Camp

- 10:00 Caregivers Support Group
- 1:30 In-Home Ministry Meeting

### Friday, July 27

Mission Project: Central Asia  
Student Ministry: Youth Camp

- 6:45 Friday Morning Men's Group

### Saturday, July 28

Mission Project: Central Asia

- 7:00 Workday at Lanier High School
- 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous

## In Home Ministry Member Margaret Cone

3560 Carter Hill Road | Montgomery, AL 36111



305 South Perry Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
montgomery

## Morning Worship (8:30 & 11:00 AM)

**Call to Worship** | Sanctuary Orchestra

**Joy in the Morning** | Sanctuary Choir

**Two Hands** | Kenny Hoomes

**Message** | Jay Wolf

**Prayer Room**

Beau Cooper (Cooper/Talley Class)

## Evening Worship (6:15 PM)

### Nehemiah Center Musical



## CrossRoads Broadcast Schedule

Watch the sermon at the time below or  
online at [www.montgomeryfbc.org](http://www.montgomeryfbc.org).

**Frazer Channel 13** (Montgomery & Prattville)

**Brighthouse Channel 122** (Elmore County)

Sunday, 1:30 PM (full hour) & 6:00 PM

Tuesday, 8:00 PM; Thursday, 1:30 PM & 6:00 PM

**WSFA-TV Channel 12** | Sunday, 10:30 AM

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