

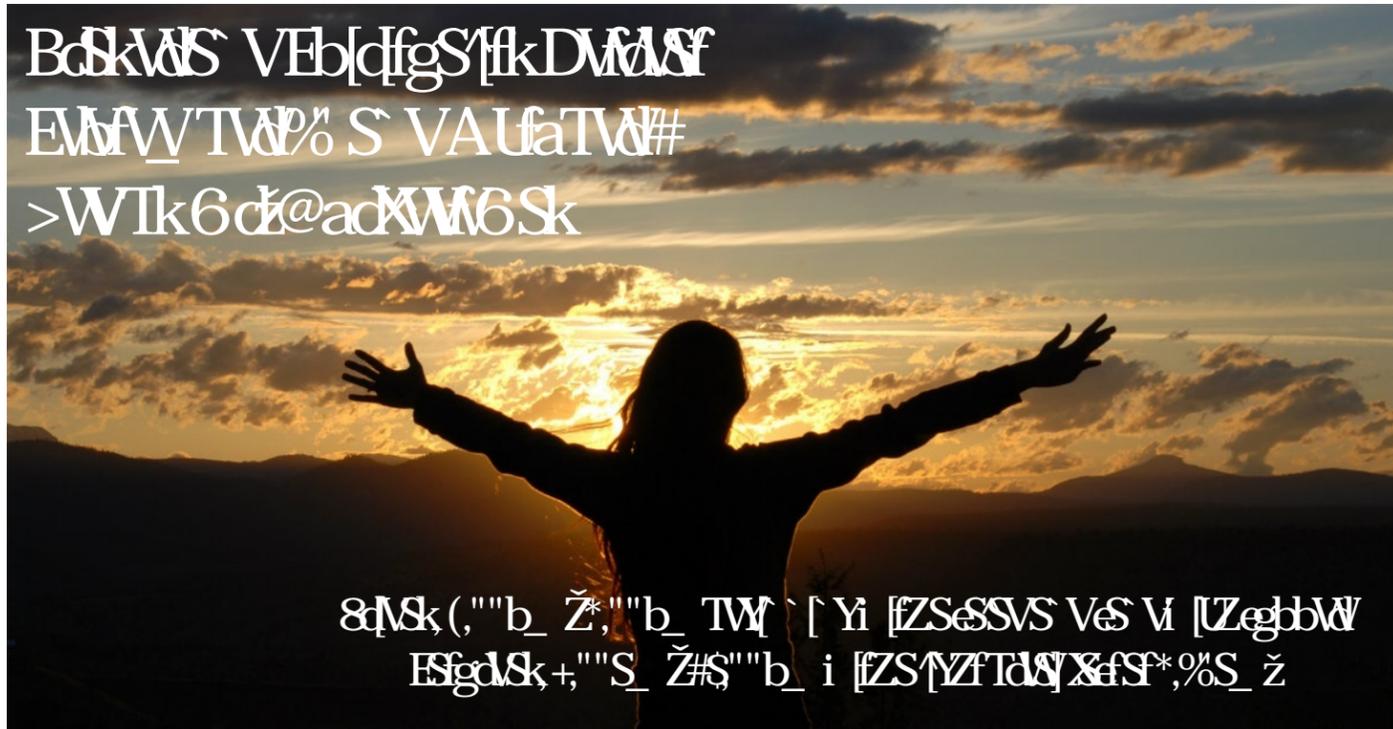


Southside Baptist Church
11th Ave. & 19th St. South
Birmingham, AL 35205

"Building an Inclusive Community of Grace"



HAPPENING AT SOUTHSIDE



SOUTHSIDE COLUMNS

September 2016, Vol. 2 No. 9

Christian Growth

Schools, kindergarten through college, began a new academic year recently; a reality surely to be evermore obvious in days to come as the airwaves and our calendars are filled with school-related activities and, of course, football. The beginning of a school year is always exciting, and for many it evokes more than a little anxiety; perhaps experienced as much by the parents and teachers as the students. But, it is reality, a necessary part of life, and every year it is a new adventure of learning, growing and responding to each day. It is obvious, to most individuals that the experience of school and learning is more than just reading, writing, and arithmetic. Acquiring knowledge is certainly an integral component, but equally important is developing the ability to reason and apply what has been learned, to interact with peers, and to understanding more about ourselves.

and events help us make application of knowledge gained from scripture in our personal life and as we relate to others. Unfortunately, engagement in some aspect of spiritual development is often the first dropped when calendars become too full, and yet, to live the life we are created to live necessitates growth, development and understanding.

The spiritual freedom we have in Christ is a gift and blessing to be cherished and exercised. In the days ahead, let us acknowledge with grateful hearts the grace we have received. Let us pray for each other and for continued guidance and discernment. Let us act with renewed commitment to discover, learn and grow as God guides us and transforms us into the followers of Christ we are called to be.

Simultaneous to the academic year beginning in schools, a renewed emphasis is also placed on Christian Growth and Discipleship in the church. Opportunities for spiritual growth through Bible study, worship, missions, service, and fellowship are offered and highlighted so that everyone who chooses can engage at some level. These programs



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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m. The Gathering
in Drennen Hall

9:30 a.m. Sunday
School

11:00 a.m. Worship in
the Sanctuary

SEPTEMBER 4

Praying in the Spirit
Romans 8:26-27

SEPTEMBER 11

Providence
Romans 8:28-30

SEPTEMBER 18

No Separation
Romans 8:31-39

SEPTEMBER 25

Grace of Giving
Romans 12

New Opportunities

by Marilyn Shepard

Fall is just around the corner, bringing with it back to school, football, AND new Small Group and Sunday School study opportunities!

I hope you can join us on Thursday, September 8, as we begin a five-week small group study session called Transforming Discipleship. During these meetings, we will take time to remember who we are and to think about the intentional development of our convictions, attitudes and actions that shape our Christ following life. We will learn about the term *koinonia* which means a sharing life; and we will discuss the idea that fellowship is a powerful word that means more than just a brief greeting on Sunday but a desire to share our personal lives, our relational lives, our economic lives and our common lives with each other.

This class is designed to include group participation with short weekly readings and questions to be answered (in writing) before each class. After reading the lessons, it seems like they will flow well following the Contemplative Service because they have a similar format. The lessons work best if participants are able to make that five week commitment to participate. The sessions will begin after the Contemplative Service ends; around 6:15 p.m.

On September 30 and October 1, Norfleet Day will be at Southside to lead us in a prayer retreat. More information will be available later.

And finally, we are beginning a new session in our Sunday School material. For the month of September, we will be talking about Hope in the Lord. Class topics include:

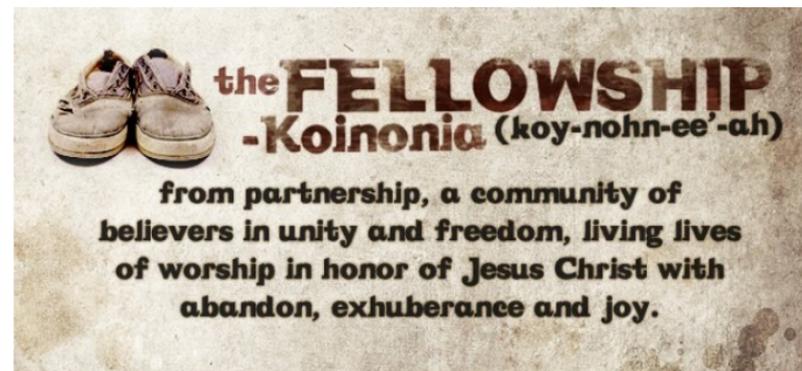
Example: Are we providing examples that lead to changed lives?

Endurance: Are we teaching endurance through encouragement?

Holiness: Do we define holiness by looking at ourselves in a mirror?

Hope: Does hope mean expectancy when things are otherwise hopeless?

Classes start at 9:30 a.m. and provide another opportunity to get to know your church family as we take time to study and grow together.



Other Opportunities

Men's Bible Study - September 8, 12:00 Noon

Welcome Back Luncheon for Students – September 11 at 12:15 p.m.

Class for Newcomers to Southside Baptist Church – Beginning September 18.

Southside Center for the Arts & Humanities event - Bobby Horton and Friends - An American Celebration. September 23.

WEDNESDAY EVENING SCHEDULE

5:30 p.m. Fellowship Supper

6:00 p.m. Prayer and Bible
Study in Drennen Hall

"Leaving left behind, behind:
Studies in Revelation"

SEPTEMBER 7

Revelation 1-3: Christ and
the Church

SEPTEMBER 14

Revelation 4-5: Wonder of
Worship

SEPTEMBER 21

Revelation 6-19: Problem of
Evil

SEPTEMBER 28

Revelation 20-22: Hope of
Heaven