

Praise Record ~ July 28

Sunday School Enrollment	991
Sunday School Attendance	363
New Sunday School Members	6
Morning Worship	415
Evening Worship	158
Decisions	5
Received July 28	\$ 16,209.53
Required July 28	\$ 16,153.85
Received in July	\$ 63,936.84
Required in July	\$ 64,615.40
Received in 1996	\$ 471,586.63
Required in 1996	\$ 484,615.50
Find Us Faithful	\$ 3,332.16
Find Us Faithful since 4/14/96	\$ 70,620.39
Balance owed Cornerstone loan 6/30/96	\$ 1,029,323.37

Extended Session ~ August 4

Babies: Linda Townsend,

Lola Mae Shackelford

Young Ones: Eva Cornwell,

Dolores Hoover

Ones: Nelda Gaines, Lori Dunn

Twos: Jane Eaves, Shannon Davis

Threes: Chris and Kim Puckett

Fours: Johnnie Williams, Laura Lacy

Parking/Van Ministry - August 4

Parking all members

Van Bobby Harwell

Hospitalized

Bill Bryan WRMC #512

New Members

Kimberly Dunn

2924 Old Wire Rd.

Fayetteville

521-5085

Chris & Kim Puckett

215 E. 13th St.

Fayetteville

442-2341

Curtis & Debie Sergeant

2517 Azalea Terrace

Fayetteville

521-3368

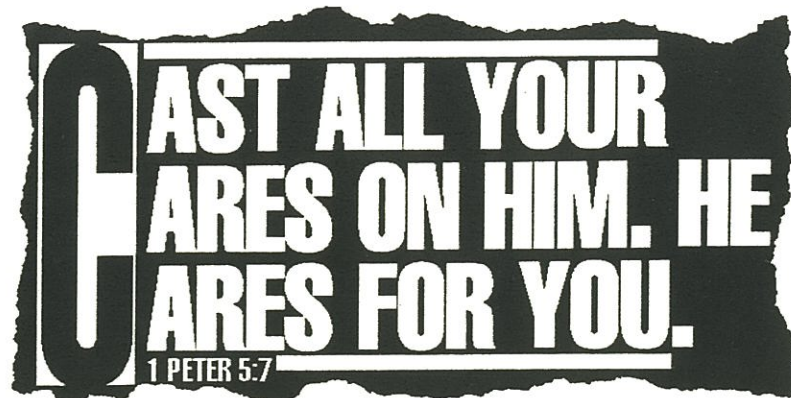
Deacon of the Week

Rick Tanneberger, August 4-10

Sympathy

Our church family extends Christian love and sympathy to J. Paul Batson and family on the loss of his father, Joseph Batson of Alton, Illinois, on July 26, 1996;

... and to family and friends of Evelyn Stubblefield, who died on July 28.



DEAR CHURCH FAMILY,

You HAVE been so gracious, so encouraging and so generous with your love offering. The reception was very meaningful, and I thank the ladies who prepared and served the meal. You are special to me.

Leaving is not an easy task, but I know you will pray for me and my family and will circle them with your love.

Thank you for being so caring and thoughtful.

JANE JONES

Fayetteville's First Baptist Church Staff

Pastor - Jere Mitchell

Minister of Education - Bob Hopkins

Minister of Music - Mike Paslay

Minister of Youth - Jim Thomas

Preschool Coordinator - Clementine Hembree

Minister of Children - Lisa Wheat

Minister of University Students - Bruce Salsman

Organist - Jennie Riggs

Pianist - Rita Savage

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

College & Dickson Sts., Fayetteville, AR

(501) 442-2387

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No. 30

Education Ministry

All eyes are turned toward the Olympic Games in Atlanta. There is world wide interest in the competition and the athletes. Sometimes attention is diverted to everything except the main thing, that is the actual contest on the field or in the arena. It seems the news reporters are interested more in traffic foul-ups, bad food, long lines, and more serious problems such as security and terrorist actions; everything but the games. However, if the athletes are successful in their competition, they must keep the main thing the main thing. They have trained with great discipline and spent extraordinary and unbelievable long hours in strenuous preparation. In the midst of the problems and distractions during the events, they must maintain their concentration and keep their eye on the prize.

Church life, especially outreach is the same way. We let all kinds of problems and distractions prevent us from the goal of reaching people. Jesus commissioned us to make disciples. He basically said that the main thing is to "go and make disciples and teach them to observe all things." One of the means of accomplishing this commission is personal visitation. We scheduled our third once a month outreach for Sunday evening after church, August 11. Don't let anything prevent us from our striving toward the goal; the main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing. The youngsters learned in Bible School to go for the goal. "But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead. I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me..." [Philippians 3: 13-14]

Go for the Goal,
Bob

ALL CHURCH OUTREACH

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11

Following the Evening Worship

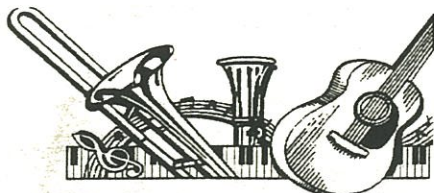
Many prospects have worshipped with us this summer and we experienced many prospects through VBS. They need a personal visit and follow-up. God will bless our visits.

~Please mark this date~

Remember Also

PROMOTION SUNDAY SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

- GREAT Teachers
- GREAT Groups
- GREAT Bible Studies



From the Minister of Music

EDITOR'S NOTE: Because my article this week is somewhat of a personal nature, I read it to my wife before publishing it. She asked if it was for our newsletter or *Home Life*, implying strongly that it was a bit long. However, with the pastor and Jim Thomas both out of the office leaving a sparsely filled paper, as editor it is my responsibility to fill the space. I can and did. I likely could every week! Do not despair. This is not a trend. We will return to our usual format when they return and claim their rightful spaces once again!

YOUTH CAMP (DISCOVERY WEEK!) Well, it's finally happened. I have grown old enough to pack a *teenager* (do we still call them that?) off to youth camp. It could have happened last year. Justin, our elder son was old enough to go, but his baseball team advanced to the state finals last summer. So, Pam and he went to Batesville while Tim and I stayed home and the youth group went to camp. This year's team lost early at the state tournament. So early Monday morning, I came down to the church with all the other parents to send my first born to camp.

I am very grateful to God for my family. I have a wonderful wife and two fantastic sons. Being sons, they *are* boys and they both most definitely engage in *gender appropriate* behavior. But they are still great guys. I have enjoyed every stage of their lives. I sense deeply God's grace and love for me through the joys He has provided through fatherhood. Don't get me wrong. Being a father has rendered me frustrated, confused, angry, and on a rare occasion or two even speechless (I know; some of you will find that last part hard to believe!). However, next to the fulfillment I experience as a husband, only the rewards of vocational ministry come close to matching the satisfaction I find in being the father of my boys.

Take for instance, this youth camp thing. Justin and Tim have both gone to camp before, but never as youth. There is something very exciting about Justin's going off on his own for the first time without me present as a counsellor or staff member. You see, I have a very special vantage point. I'm not just a parent, I'm a former youth minister. I have a very up-front, in-your-face picture of what Justin's about to experience. And, I know that he's going to get to experience it without my being there to *be in the way*.

Don't get me wrong. Neither of my guys have ever seemed to mind having their parents along on their outings. If they have, they've been polite enough to not let on too much. It is I who am glad that I won't be *in the way*.

Justin will be in good hands. God has blessed him with a youth minister who is deeply devoted to God and His purposes. Capable, loving lay people are driving and serving as sponsors. Our pastor, who has a genuine concern for all of his flock, including our youth, has taken a week of his valuable time to go on the trip with him. Beyond the normal dangers of day to day life, Justin will be well-cared for while he is away from his mother and me. I am so glad. He and his brother are my treasures. I don't trust just anyone with my treasures! But, an important part of my task as a father is to let go of the boys a little bit at a time until the day comes when they will be men out on their own. Through the process, it's nice to have reliable adults watching over them as I *practice* letting go.

Discovery Week is a vehicle God can use to mold Justin and his friends. I know. I experienced it first hand and have observed it in the lives of the youth I've led. Camp gives him opportunity to grow spiritually outside my realm of influence. He needs that. His mother and I have been and still are his primary nurturers. But we need help! A part of growing up is realizing that other people besides Mom and Dad care about spiritual matters. God may be able to get Justin's attention through some folks there in a way that we no longer can. Not because we are bad parents (while there is certainly room for improvement, we've worked pretty hard at the task). But because we *are* his parents.

He's growing up. In some instances Justin is paying more attention to other adults than he once did us. He's trying out some of the things we've taught him, looking around to see how they fit and other significant adults are his mirror. Naturally it makes me a little sad. I certainly enjoyed those days when he thought I knew everything. I felt important! But he's found me out. I really don't have all the answers. And praise God, now that he's realized it, I am so grateful for the help my Christian friends and church family are providing as he looks beyond me for some answers.

Justin and Tim will always be my treasures. But if they are to become the treasures God intends them to be, I have to let go of them... little by little... bit by bit. Diamonds shine their brightest outside the *father/mother lode*. Cut, faceted, and polished, often by several different hands, eventually set in solitaires, they reveal their greatest fire and truest color gracing the fingers of hands far removed from those which mined them. It's their destiny. What a privilege to have had a hand at all in the process.

Mike

Children's Ministry

of Fayetteville's First Baptist Church



BUBBLE GUM
SUNDAY
AUGUST 4TH

BUBBLE GUM
SUNDAY
AUGUST 4TH

Grades 1-6

END OF THE SUMMER

GAMES



LOCK-IN

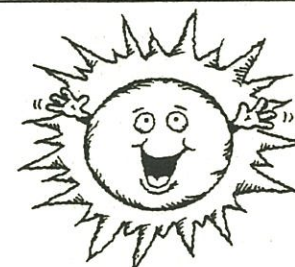
MOVIES
SKATING

Friday, August 2, 9:00 p.m. - Saturday, August 3, 8:00 a.m.

We are renting out the *Skate Place* from 11:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. so bring your skates if you have them and extra money for the snack bar.

What to Bring:

Sleeping Bag/pillow, your favorite snack to share, \$3 for skating and anything else you might need.



CHILDREN'S SUMMER PROGRAM

Grades 1-3

SILOAM SPRINGS AQUATIC PARK

Tuesday, August 6, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Cost: \$2.00

Bring swimsuit, towel, sunscreen, change of clothes, and money for snack bar. Eat lunch before you come or you can bring money and eat in the park.

Grades 4-6

SWIMMING AT DONNA HALL'S

Thursday, August 8, 12 - 3:00 p.m.

Wear your swimsuit, bring a towel, sunscreen, and anything else you might need for swimming. Snacks provided.

Reservations needed by Sunday, August 4. Call the church office, 442-2387.

Parent Sponsors and vans needed - contact Lisa