

## God is at Work

God Is Good and is at work here at First Southern Baptist Church. On Sunday, May 30th Ann Paulson came forward to join our church.

Praise God as we welcome Ann to our church.

### Associate Pastor - Ken Hillard

The Associate Pastor Ken Hillard will be leading the church while Pastor Chris is in Africa on Mission.

If you have any concerns about the church you can contact Ken Hillard the Associate Pastor.

### Sunday Evening Service

July 4 ~ No Evening Service

July 11 ~ Vacation Bible School Launch

July 18 ~ Guest Speaker - Jesse Reed  
formerly of San Quentin

July 25 ~ Guest Speakers - Mr. & Mrs.  
Carlos Miller - missionaries  
working in North Africa

### Memorial Day Fellowship Barbeque

One of the five purposes of the church is FELLOWSHIP, and we at First Southern are pretty good at it! Jean Johnson hosts an annual Memorial Day BBQ at her house, and the goal is not just great food, but also bringing people together. Several churches and friends are represented at the BBQ, so we are always making new friends.

Probably the most memorable and special moments came as the people praised the Lord. It was a wonderful afternoon of food, fun and fellowship, and a great time was had by all.

## High Attendance Day

Sunday, July 11th

Mark Your Calendar and let's make a special effort to increase our attendance in Sunday School and Worship on Sunday, July 11th. We need everyone's help in making this happen, so invite your friends and relatives to attend.

### Vacation Bible School

by Jane Thornell

You are invited to one of the most fun experiences of the year - Vacation Bible School. At First Southern, VBS is a highlight of the summer. We offer classes for everyone ages 3 through 100. Yes, adults, we have a class for you - in fact, our adult class usually has the highest attendance!

This year we have a Western, dude ranch theme - "Saddle Ridge Ranch" where we'll be "roundin' up questions and drivin' home answers." Each age, from children to adults, will look at questions we all ponder, such as, "does God really care about me - what is God's plan for me - how can I be like Jesus?" We will find answers to these and other questions in the truth that is God's Word. Do you need answers? Then, ask God.....

VBS is a fun, safe place to seek the truth in the Bible. Each day is filled with music, crafts, Bible study, snacks and fellowship for all ages. Join us July 11 - 16 from 6pm - 8:30pm as we worship, pray and find answers together.

The week ends with a "Saddle Ridge Ranch BBQ" for the whole family on Friday, July 16 at 6pm. Following dinner there will be a short program and awards ceremony. Make plans now to bring the whole family to a week of fun at "Saddle Ridge Ranch" VBS.

If you have questions, or want to pre-register contact the church office.

## Kim's Corner

### We had fun!

Many people pass by our church and admire this New-England-style building with its stain glass and high bell tower. But how do we move people from admiration to entrance? How do we let our neighbors know that a lively group of Christians worships inside this quaint old church? On June 25<sup>th</sup>, from 5 to 8 p.m., we welcomed our neighbors by inviting them to a block party.

Our head deacon Al drove the Block Party trailer to the church parking lot at 2 p.m. We were eager to see what was inside. We found a popcorn machine, snow-cone machine, a sound system, canopies, tables, a BBQ grill, bouncers, games, and much more. Our church parking lot turned into a carnival within an hour. We were in business.



Soon country-western Gospel music was playing; a Korean BBQ lured in hungry visitors; a puppeteer entertained children; nurses were taking blood pressure; door prizes were passed out; and we were even visited by a city fire truck. We all had a fun!

And the best part is this: more than half of the congregation came out to reach our neighborhood for Christ. After the event, I heard words like, "successful", "fun", "hard work". Justin, a youth in charge of the sound system said, "if we do this again, I want to do sound again". Then Alex who was in charge of the games chimed in, "Yea, I want to do games again. I had a blast!" Kids who were jumping on the bouncer, shouted out "This is fun!" So I know the block party was a successful event for both workers and attendees. Everybody had fun!



## Skyping

My only grandson is just over a year old and is cute as a button. I have pictures to prove it! Unfortunately little Lorenzo lives on the East Coast 4000 miles away. In his short life we have seen Lorenzo in the flesh only three times - twice Kim and I have traveled to Brooklyn and once our son Simon has traveled out to California with Lorenzo. That's not enough.

What's a grandfather to do? We are now doing something called "skyping". For those of you who don't know, Skype is a application that turns your computer into a kind of two-way visual telephone. All you need is a computer, an attached camera/microphone, and an internet connection. With this you can communicate across he world.

How can I describe this magical experience? It's like gazing into a crystal ball and conjuring images. Do you remember the scene from the *Wizard of Oz* where the wicked witch is spying on Dorothy? The witch is able to see Dorothy running through green fields and she sends out flying monkeys to fetch her. Skype is something like that. Every few weeks Kim and I arrange for a convenient time to conjure up Lorenzo. It's usually just before his bed time. We see him toddling, smiling and playing with toys. As we spy on Lorenzo we also carry on brief conversations with his mom and dad.

Skype is a wonderful tool, but we still miss our family. This is no substitute for an in-the-flesh encounter. We'll have to wait for the next version to see if Skype comes packaged with flying monkeys.



Sunday School 9:30 am  
Morning Worship 10:45 am  
Evening Worship 6:00 pm



Wednesday Evening Family Fellowship  
5:00 p.m.

*"Pray for Our Men and Women in Uniform"*

Todd Shaw - Son of Bob & Caryl Shaw  
Branch - Army Rank - Staff Sergeant  
Assignment - Stationed in Kentucky

Devon Henesley - Grandson of Jean Johnson  
Branch - Navy Rank - Petty Officer 3rd class  
Assignment - Overseas

# July Calendar

- 5th - Office Closed
- 7th - Wednesday Dinner & Fellowship - 5:00 p.m.
- 11th - High Attendance Day
- 11th - 16th - Vacation Bible School - 6:00 p.m.
- 12th - Rest Home Ministry - 11:00 a.m.
- 14th - Wednesday Dinner & Fellowship
- 18th - Lord's Supper - 10:45 a.m.
- 19th - Pastor Chris & Kim leave for Africa
- 21st - Wednesday Dinner & Fellowship - 5:00 p.m.
- 22nd - Open Door Mission - 6:15 p.m.
- 23rd - Cell Group Ministry - 7:00 p.m.
- 24th - Men's Breakfast - 8:30 a.m.
- 26th - Rest Home Ministry - 11:00 a.m.
- 28th - Wednesday Dinner & Fellowship - 5:00 p.m.



- 6th - Don Thornburg
- 8th - John Kopet
- 8th - Mary Nell McCoy
- 8th - Diane Varady
- 9th - Gerri Lance
- 12th - Eva Emerson
- 14th - Lorna Prickett
- 17th - Sue Abbott
- 20th - Betty Costa
- 23rd - Sita Abulencia
- 29th - Don Clark
- 29th - Elmonta Hillard
- 30th - Millie Brogdon
- 30th - Martha Housley



- 2nd - Bill & Millie Brogdon
- 5th - Jeff & Debbie Machetta
- 16th - Alex & Lisa Villafuerte

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# First Southern Baptist Church Newsletter

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## Encounters With Christ

Come join us on Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m. as Pastor Chris will finish speaking on "The Encounters with Christ" on July 18th.



- ~ July 4 ~ A Ripe Harvest ~ John 4:35-38
- ~ July 11 ~ Savior of the World ~ John 4:39-45
- ~ July 18 ~ Signs and Wonders ~ John 4:46-54
- ~ July 25 ~ The Day of Punishment ~ Isaiah 10:1-4  
Ken Hillard - Associate Pastor

## Off To Africa

Pastor Chris and his wife Kim will be on mission to Africa from July 19 to August 5. This will be their fourteenth journey to the same university community in Rwanda. Chris and Kim will be staying at the Christian Fellowship House near campus. Kim will lead a seminar for university professors and Pastor Chris will be teaching the university students and local pastors.



"And pray for us too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ...Pray that we may proclaim it clearly, as we should. {Colossians 4: 3 & 4}

Let's all be in prayer each day for Pastor Chris and Kim while they are on a Mission Trip to Africa.

