

APRIL 2022

# SCAM ALERT SEMINAR

Increase awareness .. don't be a victim!

Sunday, June 12 • 3:00PM  
Fellowship Hall

Hear from experts on how to protect yourself from fraud related to home repair, technology, finances, identity theft, romance, credit repair, charity scams and more.

This seminar is offered with the support and cooperation of the Trussville Chamber of Commerce.

**Seasoned Adult Minister:** Bob Smith  
**SAM Assistant:** Debbie Arrington  
**SAM Newsletter Editor:** Judy Bryant  
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This newsletter is prepared and emailed monthly by and for 55+ adults of First Baptist Church Trussville, Alabama. Suggested information to be included in an upcoming SAM newsletter may be emailed to sam.news@fbctrussville.org. Printed copies will be available at the church Welcome Center and Events Center.

whatever  
IS TRUE  
WHATEVER IS honorable  
WHATEVER IS just  
WHATEVER IS pure  
WHATEVER IS lovely  
WHATEVER IS admirable  
IF ANYTHING IS EXCELLENT  
OR PRAISEWORTHY  
dwell ON THESE things  
- Philippians 4:8

Any of you ever had your mouth washed out with soap? It's nasty (from what I've heard)! What did you do? Most likely told a lie. We've all heard time and time again ... it's always better to tell the truth than a lie.

Anyone ever approached you with "hey buddy, have I got a deal for you?" Yep, all of us have ... these are the days of endless fantasy political ads; SPAM calls; hoax email; sensationalized news reports; false advertising; stolen identities; and even photos are "shopped," not the real picture.

You've heard the line ... you can't believe everything you hear. You can believe this:

**Jesus is who He says He is. He's the real deal.**

How do I know? I know because I KNOW Him.

How does a collector, a pro, tell the difference in a real \$100 bill and a fake one? The answer is the pro has investigated and studied the real bill; he has looked at it, memorized it, touched it; he KNOWS the real one. So, when the imposter comes around, he can see the red flags and tell the difference.

When Jesus stood on trial before His crucifixion, He said to Pilate, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world – to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." John 18:37 And Pilate asked Jesus, "What is truth?" Ah, good question.

The answer is simple:

**Jesus. He is the truth. Jesus is the Son of God.**

No matter how long it takes, even to the day our lives end here on earth, stay in God's Word, studying, memorizing, seeking His wisdom; spend time in His presence, praying and listening for His still, small voice; serve Him faithfully continuing to know Him better; and trust Him completely as you grow closer to Him every day. You will know the truth and the truth will set you free. John 8:32

We can take this truth to the bank, as the old saying goes!

# LEAVING A LEGACY ...

# WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

By Judy Bryant

We all enjoy our church campus and all the memories that have been made here.

Some 40 years ago when our youngest, Whitney, was around 2 years old, we began looking for a church in the area. One day we were introduced to Dot Grogan (Bobby Grogan's mother) and the subject of us looking for a church home came up. Dot immediately invited us to First Baptist. She was so excited as she described what a wonderful church of welcoming folks they had and a pastor they obviously truly cared for ... that was Dr. Richard Francis. We visited. The children's department loved our children so well; I joined a ladies Sunday School class led by Mrs. Hipp ... we met in that little bitty house that used to be in the middle of the parking lot ... a time and friends I cherish. The rest is history ... our children grew up with many of you as their teachers and ministers; both girls were baptized here; our oldest daughter, Cammie was married in the old sanctuary before demolition began for the new building (our present sanctuary) ... the bulldozers were literally lined up in the parking lot on that Saturday afternoon; Jerry was ordained as a deacon by Dr. Gary Hollingsworth; my sister was married in our lovely chapel; and I accepted God's call to work with the youth ... imagine that! I loved those 8th graders! We participated in Judgment House under Tom Hudgins. What a ministry that was and our campus was perfect for it. Our Student Ministry enjoyed the Firefall room for youth worship. I learned so much and loved serving with Larry Little. Thank you Dot Grogan for the invitation that changed our family's life!

At our Deacon ordination recently, Cecil Medders shared with me this story which I paraphrase. Back years ago when Cecil was a young deacon, deacons were assigned to go pick up the pledge cards of an assigned group of names for the building fund campaign going on at that time. One gentleman Cecil was to visit was an 80 year old gentleman ... a member of the church. When Cecil stopped by his home and the two began to talk the gentleman said "Cecil, I'm 80 years old, why would I make a pledge now to the church" when he didn't have many years ahead of him anyway. Cecil left and a few days later, the gentleman handed Cecil his pledge card and said that he began to realize that he wasn't making this pledge for himself, he was leaving a legacy for those who were to follow. Thank you, sir, for your faithfulness to God and our church family!

*We will not hide them from their descendants;  
we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds  
of the Lord, His power, and the wonders He has done.  
Psalm 78:4*

**Guess you could say we seasoned adults are now there ... it's time for us to leave the legacies for those who come NEXT!**

## What are our giving options?

*(a sneak peek at the pledge cards will answer this question)*

- Cash Offering Today** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- My total 3-Year Pledge to be given between May 2022 and April 2025**  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I plan to give \$ \_\_\_\_\_ toward my pledge (check one) weekly or monthly or quarterly or yearly or as a one-time gift.**
- "Gifts in Kind" (Securities, Real Estate, etc.) estimated value: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**  
**I plan to pray for the church throughout this project.**

## Projects Short List

*(in no particular order)*

New parking lot

Chapel renovations

Church revitalization

New elevator shaft

Covered garage shelter

Campus improvements

Technology updates

# LANCE PATE ANSWERS OUR QUESTIONS



Commitment or “Pledge” Sunday for our NEXT capital building fund campaign will be Sunday, May 1, 2022. Pledge cards will be available to everyone soon. This is a 3-year capital building fund campaign, May 2022 through April 2025. Got questions? We sat down with Lance Pate, our Executive Pastor, and asked him a few questions about the campaign. Hope the questions and Lance’s answers will be helpful to you as you pray for God’s guidance as to exactly what the Holy Spirit will direct you to do in response to this campaign. For more information, pick up one of the NEXT brochures available at the Event Desk and other places around the church.

## **Why now, given we are just coming out of COVID devastation, the uncertain state of world affairs, and the high price of gas and groceries?**

We must walk in faith and trust that God will provide for the things that will benefit our campus in order to do the work for His Kingdom.

## **Are my tithe funds and my offering funds the same?**

No, they are not. Our tithes are our duty and our privilege. Those monies go to our yearly general budget, which includes provisions for all our church ministries, including missions, music, children and students, etc.; our church staff salaries; and basic maintenance costs; just to name a few. Our offerings are given over and above the tithe and frankly, for most of us, our offerings can be a sacrifice. Offerings cover any number of things from special missions (think Annie Armstrong offering this month) to our church building fund campaigns.

## **Is any contribution too little?**

Never! Every penny, literally, will be used just as God directs to further His Kingdom. He has the power to multiply! Recall what He did with the fishes and loaves!

## **What church is it we will help to revitalize?**

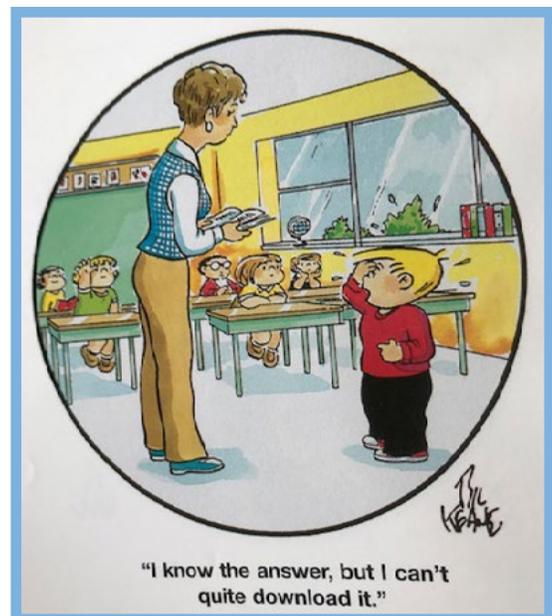
At this time, we do not have the go ahead to divulge the name of the church. I promise that just as soon as it is timely, our entire congregation will be provided with more clarity, not only with the identification of the church, but with the numerous other ways we can assist this church besides their funds.

## **I’m still giving to EPIC (our last building fund campaign) even though that campaign is “over.” Do I continue giving to EPIC and begin giving to NEXT as well?**

Every dollar given to EPIC to date has gone into the church building fund account, as will all payments under NEXT, so basically they are one and the same. The monies in that account are used solely for projects found in the building campaign. The projects that we were unable to complete under EPIC are now carried over to our new list under our NEXT campaign. Indeed, having funds in the building fund account now will help us with cash for start-up costs towards the new projects (architectural drawings, etc.), thus allowing us to begin some of the projects immediately.

## **Why is it necessary to remodel our beautiful chapel? It’s been used just like it is for years.**

Precisely! And just think, it was state-of-the-art back then. Our chapel will stay and it will continue to be used as it is currently for smaller worship meetings and conferences, small weddings, prayer times, and the like. However, maintenance of the space is now difficult. The lighting is bad and changing the current light bulbs is difficult if not almost impossible for our facilities crew. An upgrade on design will make it more appealing to future brides and other users. A better stage and an upgrade of electronics will provide better service for conferences and/or services held in the future.



# LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING

## FIRST MONDAY PRAYER FOCUS

Monday, April 4 • 10:00AM • Chapel

Meet in the Chapel or stop wherever you are and join us in prayer. Email prayer requests to Sam.

[prayer@fbctrussville.org](mailto:prayer@fbctrussville.org)



*And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the Word of God with boldness. Acts 4:31*

## JOYFUL HEARTS REHEARSALS

Thursdays • April 7 & 21 • 10:30 AM

Fellowship Hall

## SAM VOCAL BAND REHEARSALS

(Men's Southern Gospel Group)

Wednesdays • 4:55PM • Room D144

## MEN'S 6:11 BREAKFAST

Thursday, April 14 • 6:11AM in the Gym

Invite a friend and join us.

## EDIBLE EDUCATION LUNCHEON

Thursday, April 14 • 11:30AM • Fellowship Hall

\$6 per person

Join Jewels Gahan from Birmingham Integrated Health and Caroline Love as they discuss root causes of anxiety and depression as well as natural treatment options. They will discuss the mind, body, spirit connection in our bodies.

Register at [HERE](#)

## SAM MONTHLY LUNCHEON

Thursday, April 28 • 10:30AM • Gym

Daniel Cason, Concert Pianist

\$6 per person • Reservation required

205-228-1006 or [sam.reservation@fbctrussville.org](mailto:sam.reservation@fbctrussville.org)

Bring a canned good or two for Daniel Cason's Homeless Ministry.

# NEW BIBLE STUDIES BEGINNING IN APRIL!

## Portrait of a Kingdom Person

(study of the Beatitudes)

Begins Monday, April 11 • 1:00PM • D Building Room 142

Guest Teacher: Dr. Johnny Fain

## The King is Coming by Erwin Lutzer

Begins Wednesday, April 20 • 10:00AM Room D141

Facilitator: Henry Ward (for Men only)



"...and last but not least, Dear Lord, take care of Yourself. If You don't, we're all in trouble."

# I CHOOSE TO BELIEVE

Lyrics by Phillips, Craig & Dean

Listen [HERE](#) as Bob sings.

*It didn't take long for my whole world to change.  
One phone call, now life will never be the same.  
It's like I'm watching my whole world go dark;  
Nothing makes much sense.  
But still with all my heart ...  
I choose to believe.*

*It's easy to believe when everything goes our way,  
But we are all gonna go through fire to test our faith.  
Life hurts so much that we can hardly breathe.  
We're begging to know why,  
But it's such a mystery.*

*Even when my world is shaken;  
Even when my heart is breaking;  
And even when it seems  
He's taking so long;  
I choose to believe.*

*I choose to believe and never give up hope.  
God is good, He's in control.  
I'll keep the faith and trust in His way,  
Even when His face is hard to see.  
I choose to believe.*

*Jesus, Jesus how I trust Him  
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er.  
Jesus, Jesus precious Jesus  
Oh for grace to trust Him more.*

# SAM SEASONED ADULT DAY

**Sunday, May 1 • Lunch in Gym**  
(\$2 per person)



## REGISTER NOW BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

**May 15 thru May 18**

We will leave after morning worship; this trip is identical to the April trip. Only 12 spots available. Due with Registration: \$100

Register online at [www.fbctrussville.org/events](http://www.fbctrussville.org/events)  
Questions: Call the SAM office 205-228-1006



### SIGN UP NOW TO SERVE

(Look for the new SAM Serves logo in our upcoming Easter Special Edition of this newsletter. There are many opportunities to serve!)

## MEN ON MISSION CONSTRUCTION TEAM

**June 11-18 • Ossian, Indiana**  
**\$250 per adult • \$50 per student**

Our SAM goal is to take the largest group of seasoned adult men in the 39-year history of this ministry. It is not necessary that volunteers have special skills. We have work opportunities for specialty workers as well as general laborers, material handlers, kitchen staff assistants and cooks.

# YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THESE DATES

## SUNDAY STROLL

Sunday, June 26 • 2:00PM

Classic on Noble, Anniston, AL

Meal, Charter Bus Transportation

Mystery Guest Entertainment

Tickets: \$40 per person (limited to 125)

Available May 1 (Online, Event Desk, SAM office)



## CELEBRATORS CONFERENCE

October 10 – 13, 2022

LeConte Center • Pigeon Forge, TN

Registration opens April 10



## NASHVILLE CHRISTMAS

Yes, we are headed to Nashville U.S.A!

November 30 thru December 2 (limited to 96)

Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center

Watch for registration date coming soon.

Save up those \$\$\$\$; it's not too early!

## FBCT 3RD ANNUAL LELAND DOCKERY TRIBUTE CRUISE-IN

June 4 • Registration 8:00am

Open to public 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.



*Maintenance costs get higher and higher, And even used parts are real hard to find!*

*By Leanin' Tree*

# NOW THAT WAS FUNNY!

Our SAM Sunday February 20 Special Luncheon event featuring Steve Brogan and his friends was indeed special.

Steve Brogan and his friends put a smile on everyone's face at our SAM Monthly Luncheon on February 20. This writer was sucked in right from the start when Brogan began telling us the way he was taught to be a ventriloquist ... that is hold 7 marbles in your mouth, remove one a day, and at the end of 7 days you'll be a ventriloquist! Aargh!



He introduced his friend, Rodney Duckerfield (my favorite)! Brogan asked Rodney how he laid a wooden egg, to which Rodney answered, my mother was a decoy!

Frances (the old lady) said she had never been married – Brogan said, never? She said no, I decided I'd rather go thru life wanting something I didn't have than going thru life with something I didn't want!

Otis said he was going into business for himself, Brogan responded so you're an entrepreneur, to which Otis said, no Presbyterian! He said he was a Vet and a Taxidermist - either way you get your dog back.

Elmer said, I went to the doctor and he found a suppository in my ear. Brogan said, now I know where my hearing aid is!

Brogan did a great job of bringing folks from the audience in on the fun. Just as our program began ... with Jack Sittre on the stage (giving the devotion) ... the program ended with Jack on the stage as one of Brogan's dummies. Good job Jack. Those were some pretty sweet dance moves!



And to close the evening, we all promised to meet Bill Bowser in the parking lot at 9:30 to collect our money! (You'll need to ask him what that's all about!)

# • HOW TO BE • **SAM** with **KEN LASS** **SATIONAL!**

*As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead. James 2:26*

I grew up as the youngest of three boys. My two older brothers apparently used up all the height and talent DNA in the family. Both of them were taller, and always seemed to be better at everything than me. Can you relate? If so, then you would love the Book of James.

Growing up must have been tough for James. Can you imagine being the little brother of Jesus? Talk about sibling envy! I picture James coming home from school one day and telling Mary his mother, "Look Mom, I got an 'A' on my math test today!" To which Mary might have said "well, that's nice James, but your brother Jesus is the savior of mankind!"

I mean, how do you top that? No matter what James did, he was never going to be as perfect as Jesus. It must have frustrated him to no end. In fact, there is evidence in the Bible that all of Jesus' brothers resented him, even thought to kill him.

But after close-up observation of Jesus' life, how he served others without bias, how he loved the unlovable, how he forgave the guilty, James changed his mind. He truly accepted his older bro as the Son of God. When you read the book of James, you can see the influence his big brother had on him. He watched the unselfishness, the boldness, the courage. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, James wrote about actions, not just words. Chapter two is a blunt condemnation of those who just talk the talk.

Those words always kind of slap me in the face. Was he writing about me? I have faith. Oh, I have lots of faith. I go to church every Sunday, put my money in the collection receptacle, pray devoutly, read my Bible. All that stuff shows faith, right? But am I using my life to do the work the Lord has set out for me? Am I locked in enough to my relationship with Jesus that I even recognize everything He wants me to do?

It scares me a bit to think about this, because if the answer is no, then all the faith in the world is of no value to God. As you read through the New Testament, you get accustomed to the sweet, gentile urgings and writing style of Paul. He had a way of encouraging you and chiding you at the same time. It is subtle but effective. Then along comes James. He has no time for subtle. He gives you a good, swift kick in the backside. Hey, he says, get off your pious duff and roll up your sleeves and start serving my church. Works alone won't save you, he writes, but if they are not present in your life, there is scant evidence that you have really taken Christ into your heart.

He even gets a little sarcastic. "You believe that there is only one God? Good! Even the demons believe that" James writes in verse nineteen. And in verse twenty he goes so far as to label such as "You foolish person." His readers two thousand years ago must have felt thoroughly scolded. And so do I. Thanks, James. I needed that. We all need that.

## HIS UNFAILING WORD ... ISAIAH 40:8

By Denise Dockery

*"I searched for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land, so that I would not destroy the land, but I found no one." Ezekiel 22:30*

Words spoken by God in 590 BC, His presence had already left the temple and the city of Jerusalem, "they had forgotten God.". God uses a metaphor of a "wall" to imply that Israel's lack of obedience to God's commands had weakened the city so much spiritually and literally that they were unprepared against attack from their enemy the Babylonians. God had made a Covenant with the nation of Israel in Genesis 12:2 "I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and so, you shall be a blessing; and I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse."

God had made them a nation and now there was not one person to stand in the gap for Him. Instead, they had played the harlot with the other nations, committing adultery against God.

They had forgotten God who had rescued them from the slavery of Egypt, where they were enslaved 430 yrs. Through God's outstretched arm and mighty power, He delivered them from Egypt to bring them into a land that had been promised to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob-Israel.

A mediator named Moses was a man who stood in the gap for the nation of Israel when God was ready to destroy them because of the idolatrous practices which they brought with them from Egypt.

Again, God's judgment was at hand and was completed in 586 BC. God used a pagan king Nebuchadnezzar to bring about His judgment upon the nation of Israel. The bloody city of Jerusalem and the temple were burned, the very place where God's presence dwelt since the days of King Solomon.

They were now living back in the land of Babylon that God had brought Abraham out of, coming full circle.

Finally, the land of Israel would have its rest until 70 yrs. of captivity were completed.

There is always a future and a hope; God has not forgotten His people, Israel. God is a Covenant keeping God, His Covenant is everlasting. "in you Abram, all the families of the earth will be blessed." Genesis 12:3. A Promise of a seed would come through the loins of Abraham until Jesus the Messiah our Redeemer. Nothing can thwart God's Redemption Plan. His Name will not be profaned among the nations. So, watch the nation of Israel, it is our time clock.

*May God find us to be a watchman on the wall standing in the breaches. Time is of the essence.*

# COMING UP ON JUNE 4

## FBCT 3rd Annual Leland Dockery Tribute Cruise-In

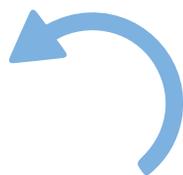
To register your vehicle, contact Denise Dockery at 205-936-8425.

Volunteers are needed for all areas, from preparations now to work on the day of the event.

If you are interested in volunteering contact John Patterson @ 205-337-5418 for information.

## WE NEED TO KNOW THIS

**Exactly what is a QR code anyway?**  
**QR stands for "quick response."**



**Helper Helper App**

The QR code has been referred to as a bar code on steroids! Scanning our phone screen over the provided QR code takes us directly to the website or app we need to access.

For instance, in many restaurants now, menus are online. At your table you'll see a QR code provided. Simply get to your phone's camera, don't click to take a picture, just hold your phone up to the code, thus scanning the code. Hold just a second and the phone "reads," taking you right to the menu. Voila! No handling dirty menus; no waiting on one to be brought to your table; etc. It's that easy. We are provided QR codes almost every week in our LINK. Try it; you'll like it!

## REMEMBER WHEN?

By Faye Summers

*Remember when we would go to the Spinning Wheel in East Lake (Wahouma) and pull up to the white igloo with the polar bear on top and order a delicious, thick shake in those huge heavy glasses. I have seen some of those glasses in some of my friends homes...*

*NOTE: Grayson's Spinning Wheel began in 1937. There were several locations around Birmingham, but the Wahouma location was a particular favorite. This popular ice cream shop was known by the locals as the "Polar Bear." It had icicles dangling from the building and the polar bear statue on the roof. I've heard that the Hamburger Heaven chain here in Birmingham now serves a Spinning Wheel-styled milk shake, including the peanut butter shake. Gotta go check that out!*

*Some of you might also like to check out "Magic City Cravings: The Most Requested Recipes from Birmingham Restaurants Then & Now" published by Advance Central Service Southeast, sells for \$27.95, and proceeds benefit Children's of Alabama. The book is available in bookstores and shops around Birmingham, Books-a-Million in Trussville, and it can be ordered from Amazon. The recipe for the famous peanut butter shake is included!*



**Not receiving our SAM newsletters?** How do you prefer to receive our newsletters each month? By email and/or paper copy mailed to you? If you haven't already or you need to update your preference, please contact Debbie Arrington in the SAM Office at 205-228-1006 or email at [debbie@fbctrussville.org](mailto:debbie@fbctrussville.org). Everyone for whom we have an up-to-date email address will receive the newsletters by email; however, if you prefer to have a paper copy mailed to you each month, let Debbie know. We will be happy to mail one to you!