

SAM

SEASONED ADULT MINISTRY
SERVING THE GREAT

I AM

FBC TRUSSVILLE

FEBRUARY 2022

What is Worship?

...Author Unknown

What is worship? It is strength and courage that come from knowing that I am not alone. It is realizing that "the Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?" It is knowing that when temptation and sin comes, God will still be with me and will still give me aid.

What is worship? It is the knowledge that I am included in the fellowship of believers. It is thinking about the wonderful plan of salvation---Christ, through love, coming to earth so that anyone, regardless of race, place in life, or worldly achievements, can come to know him as Saviour.

What is worship? It is desiring to be like Him: happy, of good cheer, vivid, vital, tender, sympathetic, steadfast, loving, faithful.

Seasoned Adult Minister: Bob Smith
SAM Assistant: Debbie Arrington
SAM Newsletter Editor: Judy Bryant
Newsletter Design: Stephanie Entrup

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.

LET'S GET SERIOUS ... THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY!



What a photo of our students in worship over the January 16 DNOW weekend. This picture speaks volumes and so did our guest speaker in the morning service, Dr. Ronnie Floyd. Unabashed, urgent worship and preaching Jesus Christ and the Word of God. Our round-the-clock prayers over the weekend were answered ... lives were SAVED! These young lives are our future.

Katie Britt says in her television commercial spot (no political vibes intended for or against this candidate): "I think sometimes we need the faith of a child." Author Cliff Schimmel says in his book *I Learned It First In Sunday School*, "When you see the world through the eyes of a child, you get one perspective. As you grow older, you get another. There are some who might argue that this is the difference between perception and reality – and that one perspective is more valid than the other. But I don't agree. It seems to me that we need both perspectives; as they combine, they give us a clearer sense of the whole of life." Children "remind us when to change activities and get serious."

Have you noticed in our recent SAM newsletters a little appearing randomly and wondered "what in the world is this all about"? No need to wonder any longer.



In March I will be beginning my 5th year here at FBCT serving as your Minister to Seasoned Adults. When I first came on board here at FBCT, I immediately began to ask questions and watch, wait and pray as we developed a leadership structure for our senior adult ministry. Over the last several months, much prayer and thought have gone into updating that first organization structure to better reflect how our Seasoned Adult Ministry actually works to connect all of us to God, each other, our church family, and our community.

If you are preparing your favorite dish and you add too much cinnamon your dish tastes bitter; too little cinnamon and you might as well have left it out. If you add too much chili powder or cumin to your chili, your mouth will be scorched; too little of these spices and your chili tastes like beans, tomatoes and meat. If you add too much salt, the salt takes over; too little salt, the other flavors just seem flat. OK, you get the message.

We have reorganized to achieve balance, i.e., to intentionally season the ministry with just the right "spice" to achieve connection. The SPICED acrostic sets out the six areas of ministry provided to all of us through SAM. The current Team Leaders and Admin remain on the Leadership Team. We are blessed to have two new Team Leaders join us: Denny Rogers and Jack Sittre.

THAT WHICH CONNECTS US IS GREATER THAN THAT WHICH DIVIDES US. This quote has been used over the years by some of our U.S. Presidents, specifically referring to a "United" States. That which "connects" or "unites" us in this instance is a great love and loyalty for our country.

What is "that which connects us" in our churches and our faith? Yes, it is LOVE ... God's love for all of us demonstrated at the Cross of Jesus. That love that is available to all of us, no matter our age, race, education level, etc. And that love stands high above and greater than any evil one and his attempts to pull us apart from God and each other.

Bob

MEET DENNY ROGERS

Written by Faye Summers

Denny Rogers is one of our newest SAM Leadership Team members and has been tasked by Bob Smith to head up a prayer ministry with the emphasis to pray over our SAM events and our people. Along with Denny on this SAM Prayer team are Henry Ward and Susan Minor.

Prayer is not new to Denny as he has been a Baptist pastor for the past 30 years. He is now retired but has taken up the mantle of prayer as his new position.

Denny has felt a specific need to pray over the Southeastern U.S. for some time now. He started in 2014 and established For His Glory Prayer Ministry. Denny takes five days once a month and drives all over the SE praying all along the way, stopping at night to rest and beginning again the next morning. He prays scripture related to revival, both personal and the Church. Denny has a specific list of scriptures that he prays as he drives the edges of the states using I Peter 4:17 as the call to task. He says his goal is for God to send a Holy Ghost revival to His Church. He drives 250-300 miles a day as he prays.

He has a Prayer Advisory Team in Johnny Fain, Mike Carter, Bob Smith, and Glenn Bonds. When Denny was pastor of Crestview Baptist Church in Prattville, Alabama in the 80s, he called pastors and laymen to pray for a spiritual awakening and to send a revival to His Church.

Denny and his wife Betty also have the Agape Prayer Ministry that meets on the first Tuesday of the month in Verbena, Alabama. The specific task is to meet with members in that area and lift prayers up for their family members who are lost. Denny says they have 80 on their list at the present time for whom they are praying.

Bob has made a great choice for this new leadership position in our SAM group.

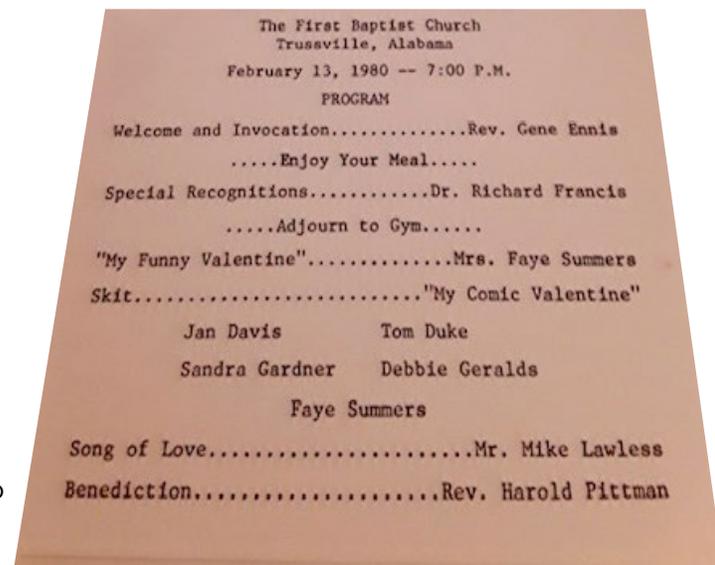
NOTE: Congratulations to Denny Rogers and Betty Gortney Rogers who celebrate their first wedding anniversary on March 5. Betty has been a member of Faye Summers' small group class since January of 2016. Now that they have found each other and Denny has joined FBCT, they are members of Mike Carter's small group class.



REMEMBER WHEN...

MY COMIC VALENTINE: FBCT 1980

We had church wide adult Valentines banquets. We dressed up and had speakers and singers and had a sumptuous meal!



SAM ENCOURAGEMENT LEADER

Written by Gail Stewart

Jack and Donna Sittre have been married for 42 years and have two children Kristen Jones and Jacob Sittre. They also have 5 grandchildren with another on the way. They are: Sittre Paige Jones, Stella Jones and Jagger Jones, Coley Rose Sittre and Caroline Ruth Sittre – and soon to have a new grandson. He shared with me that Sittre Paige drops her younger sister at school and heads for the Sittre house for breakfast every school day, a time that Jack looks forward to each day.

Jack retired from Eaton Corporation in October 2021 where he sold electrical equipment for large industries. He would not tell you this, but I will share that he received several awards for his outstanding performance through his years with Eaton.

Jack's father died suddenly at age 39, so his family moved to Trussville where his grandparents lived. He shared with me how the pastor (Richard Francis) and a group of Christian men from FBCT visited them and got them involved in church and Sunday School as well as baseball. Jack was an excellent baseball player and later an outstanding softball player on the church softball team.

Jack is currently a Deacon, a cook for the 6:11 men's breakfast, and assists with the Jimmie Hale Mission activities. He and Donna are members in Gaylon and Cindy Freeman's

small group class, where Jack has occasionally served as a substitute teacher. Prior to his retirement from Eaton Corporation, Jack told me that he had been praying for the Lord to show him where he needed to serve.

He has the desire to do God's work and God is answering his prayers! He is a great choice to serve on the SAM Leadership Team, and I believe we will see things happening in the area of "Encouragement."

As we were ending our interview, he shared a quote with me that a gentleman shared with him: "Eternity is too long to be wrong." He shares that quote with others who may need to make a decision for Christ. For those of you who know Jack, you know that he has a special "gift of gab" – he does not have an issue with shyness and is not afraid to talk to people about the Lord.



MOST IMPORTANT

By Jim Hickman

I entered this world September 25, 1931, in a MO Ozarks farmhouse. The date was significant. The US was in the Great Depression, and the Western Plains were already suffering the effects of the 'dust bowl'.

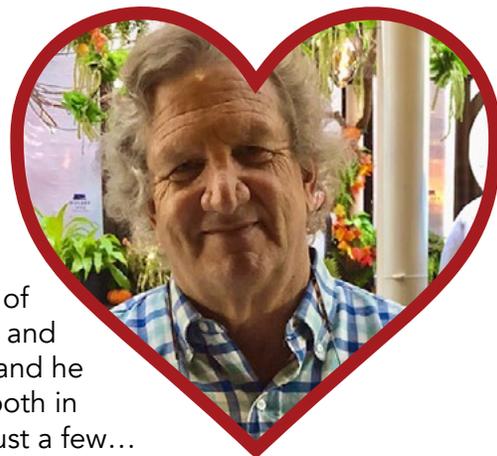
In 1933 my father had abandoned us and Mother and I lived with my grandparents. This was a blessing for me. My grandfather was a minister and my grandmother and mother were school teachers. I believe teachers made \$1/day, for the 8 months of the school year, and my grandfather made \$30/mo. About 1921 Grandfather felt the Lord calling him to preach. In 1922 they disposed of all but their land and with their four children aged 8 – 15, enrolled at South West Baptist Academy, Bolivar, MO. By 1933 my grandfather was an experienced Baptist Minister. He was a very strong, gentle person and a major influence in my life. I was eight years old when I accepted Christ in a small Baptist Church at Lucas, KA.

My life of travel was already underway. I attended H.S. in KA, OR, and CO as we pursued jobs. My mother married a Construction/Logging Operator in 1942. I worked in the woods from 11th grade through college, graduating from OBU in 1952 with a BS in P. Chem and still no set direction in life. I was already signed up with the Navy, and in December 1952, was a Commissioned Officer in the USN; in December 1955 went to inactive duty, back to school, and in 1958 graduated from USU, Logan, UT with a BS in Forestry. At Logan there was a new, small So. Baptist Church. I immediately joined it.

For the next 15 years of my US Forest Service career, in MT, ID, and AK I was stationed where there were Baptist Missions or new Churches, and the Lord's direction was clear. I married an accomplished musician with two small boys, and then Ross Hickman was born. We continued working in larger churches. I was S.S. teacher, Youth Leader, Ordained Deacon, Security Officer, and at a Navajo Mission as Worship Leader. Our work careers took us to a very active So. Baptist Church in Albuquerque, NM, where we continued to work until moving to Trussville in 2003. My wife died here in 2004. In 2006 I met Gemma at 1st Baptist here and we were married in 2007. **"We plan, the Lord directs our paths."**

SAM BRAVES THE WEATHER FOR LEGAL ISSUES SEMINAR

Long time Trussville resident and church member Bobby Hornsby has been practicing law for over 36 years. On January 16, Bobby led a free seminar for us on legal issues of the seasoned adult. There were 48 of us in attendance as he covered topics such as Durable Power of Attorney, specific POA, Advanced Directives (Living Wills), Wills, and deeds. He included the purpose of each of these giving examples from his experience of their appropriate use. Bobby brought with him a sample Power of Attorney and Advanced Directive forms which we could complete if desired after his talk and he would notarize. There were a wide range of questions from the attendees both in the group and individually afterward about each of these topics. Here are just a few...



Who should I give a power of attorney to?

If you sign a POA, you are giving that person the right to execute documents on your behalf. So be sure this person is someone who is honorable, trustworthy and has your best interest at heart.

My family member sometimes gets confused. Can she execute a power of attorney?

Person must have the ability to know what they are signing. So on a good day she might be able to if she understands what she is doing.

If I do a Living Will does that mean they would not put me on a ventilator if I had surgery?

A Living Will only applies if your doctor and another doctor agree after testing that you are terminal and are permanently unconscious.

Should I convey my house to my children?

Generally, the answer is no. There are issues with Medicaid and also if your child got into financial difficulty you could lose your home. In addition, your property tax could double or more because you would lose your homestead exemption or any other exemption you have.

How often should I review my will?

You need to review your will whenever there is a life change- birth, death, marriage or divorce - and discuss with your attorney. If your will was prepared before 1982 you should consider a new will.

NOTE: The information shared in the referenced seminar and in this publication is general in nature and is not intended as legal advice or a substitute for obtaining legal advice. You are encouraged to confirm any information obtained from the seminar or this publication with your legal advisor.

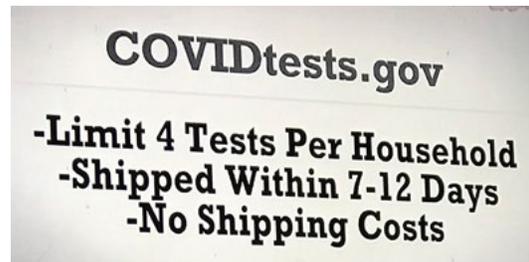
WE NEED TO KNOW THIS

2021 TAXES may be filed beginning January 24, 2022, a bit earlier in order to relieve some of the backlog experienced by the IRS in last couple of years due to staffing shortages, etc.

Did you ever notice that when you put the two words "The" and "IRS" together it spells THEIRS!

Order your FREE at-home COVID-19 tests. www.covidtests.gov

Check with your local Pharmacies and health centers for FREE N95 masks, which are also being made available by the U.S. Government.



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

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens. A time to be born, and a time to die." Ecclesiastes 3: 1-2

I have a friend whom I pray with every week. We take turns leading. When it is his turn, he always begins by saying "Father, thank you for this day, a day we have never seen before, and which we will never see again."

In my younger years, I would have regarded that as merely a pleasant way to start. But as I navigate through this senior segment of my life, the statement seems to become more profound to me. As we age, hopefully we grow in our appreciation of the value of a day. Did we wake up this morning? Then this truly is a day we have never seen before. We don't deserve it, this day. We have no right to expect it. It's a gift. It's an opportunity. All of those people you love who have left this earth won't get to spend this day. What will you do with it? Will you use it to honor God?

It is also a day we will never see again. Once it's over, it's gone. We don't get to relive it. Whatever opportunity it presented is lost. When I was a child, I was told that Saint Peter stands at the gate of heaven with the Book of Life in his hands. Next to our name in that book is a number. It's the number of days we are allowed on this earth. With every day that goes by, we get closer to that total. (Hence the phrase "Your number's up.") I don't know if that story is literally true, but I do believe that God has established that number for us. I often wonder how our lives might change if God revealed that number to us. If we knew exactly how many days we had left. Would it change our priorities?

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-2 tells us that God has provided us a time. He blesses us with the privilege of being born, and a time he will call us home. What we do in between is up to us. I'm writing this essay on a Tuesday. I prayed with my friend this morning and he again led with his sweet opening. For some reason, it inspires me to want to share its simple wisdom with others. So I'm writing about it now. On Tuesday.

Because this particular Tuesday will never come again. And none of us are guaranteed of Wednesday.

HIS UNFAILING WORD ... ISAIAH 40:8

By Denise Dockery

What the Cross means in a Christian's life – allowing God's transforming grace to work through you.

"If anyone gives even a cup of cold water..., he will certainly not lose his reward." Matthew 10:42

It is easy within the Church but what about outside the Church -- something to ponder.

Begin with a cup of cold water.

It isn't the thing you do, it's the thing you leave undone, that gives you the bitter heartache at the setting of the sun; the tender word unspoken, the letter you did not write, the flower you might have sent, are your haunting ghosts at night.

The stone you might have lifted out of your brother's way, the bit of heartfelt counsel you were hurried too much to say; the loving touch of the hand, dear, the gentle and winsome tone, that you had not time or thought for, with troubles enough of your own.

These little acts of kindness, so easily out of mind, these chances to be angels which even mortals find

They come in nights of silence, to take away the grief, when hope is faint and feeble, and a drought has stopped belief.

For life is all too short, and sorrow is all too great, to allow our slow compassion that tarries until too late. And it's not the thing you do, it's the thing you leave undone, that gives you the bitter heartache, at the setting of the sun. Streams in the Desert

"Give what you have, for you never know ... to someone else it may be better than you even dare to think." Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Your Reward

Well done, good and faithful, you were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master. Matthew 25:23

Jesus' words "Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me." Matthew 25:40

May the Love of God compel our hearts to love others who are unlovable, who are lost and need God's transforming grace through repentance and belief in His Son Jesus Christ.

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING

THANK YOU SAM-ERS!

At this writing, 92 SAM-ers have purchased Annual Meal Tickets covering all 2021 SAM Luncheons. This will greatly help us to be better stewards of our resources in planning and preparing programs and meals for our Monthly Luncheons. Just a reminder, no annual meal tickets will be sold from February through November for 2021. Annual Meal Tickets for 2023 luncheons will go on sale in December 2022. If you have not purchased the 2021 Annual Meal Ticket, please continue to make your reservations for each SAM luncheon through the SAM office. Meals are \$7 per person.

GROUNDHOG DAY FEBRUARY 2

FIRST MONDAY PRAYER FOCUS

Monday, February 7 • 10:00AM Chapel

Whether you join us in the Chapel or from home, we encourage every SEASONED ADULT to join us for prayer at 10:00 AM on the first Monday of every month. Email prayer requests to sam.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, February 3 & 17 • 10:30 AM
Fellowship Hall**

JOYFUL HEARTS SINGING

AT ASPIRE CAHABA

February 10 • lunch at Johnny Rockets (280)
Bus will leave the church at 9:30AM.

SAM VOCAL BAND REHEARSALS

(Men's Southern Gospel Group)

Wednesdays • 4:55PM • Building D Rm 144

MEN'S 6:11 BREAKFAST

Thursday, February 10 • 6:11AM • Gym

Invite a friend and join us. Grandsons welcome!

EDIBLE EDUCATION LUNCHEON

Thursday, February 10 • 11:30AM

Fellowship Hall • \$6 per person

Jennifer Cole Conn & Kendell Jno-Finn answer your questions on nutrition and movement. Send your questions at time of registration. REGISTER at www.fbctrussville.org/events

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY FEBRUARY 14

SAM SUNDAY SPECIAL LUNCHEON EVENT

Sunday, February 20 • 4:00PM • Gym

Special Guest:

Steve Brogan, Comedian and Ventriloquist

Use your prepurchased SAM

Annual Meal Ticket OR

Make your reservation at

205-228-1006 or

[sam.reservation@](mailto:sam.reservation@fbctrussville.org)

fbctrussville.org

\$7 per person

**For all you folks who have not yet retired and cannot normally attend our Thursday SAM Luncheons, THIS EVENT IS FOR YOU!*

Come join us!



PRESIDENT'S DAY & WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

FEBRUARY 21

[FACTOID: The words Laus Deo are on the top of the Washington Monument. The words are Latin translated Praise be to God!]

SAM GAME DAY

**Thursday, February 24 • 9:00AM to Noon
In the Fellowship Hall**



January 2022

Snow in Trussville

Photo at home of Jan Davis

BUILDING BEDS WITH SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Saturday, January 8th saw 125 volunteers meeting in FBCT's rear parking lot to build 100 beds for children without beds living in our community. The build was led by the "Sleep In Heavenly Peace" mission organization. FBCT members from children & youth, all the way up to senior adults worked with members of the Gadsden and Oneonta chapters of SHP. Each child who receives one of these beds will also receive sheets and bedding, a pillow, teddy bear, and a Bible.

Temps below freezing didn't deter the volunteer leaders in setting up. By build time temps were in the 40's, and the sunshine and outdoor heaters gave warmth to the workers. Volunteer leaders quickly found positions for everyone to work.

Workstations were set up for sawing, sanding, marking & drilling, dipping to seal and stain the boards, assembly of head and foot boards, and the final step of branding the footboards with the SHP logo.

One of FBCT's own youth, Katherine Grigsby spearheaded this mission project and the fundraising for it. She was on hand throughout the morning to work and cheer on the rest of us.

Diane Bowser stated, "I was working at the sanding station in the middle of about 10 tables of volunteers busy sanding every piece of board for the build. The hum of the sanders sounded as if we were inside a huge beehive of very busy, and possibly slightly angry, bees. It was such fun to sand each board so that it would be smooth, splinter-free, and in its best shape for making a safe and sturdy bed for a child in need. I prayed over every board I worked on, for the child who would receive this bed, and for his or her family. It is easy to sand away the rough edges on a piece of wood. My prayer is that in providing these beds for families in need, this will smooth off some rough edges the families are dealing with in life.

Our table of sanders worked in a steady rhythm, and we were just a little disappointed when the last boards came across our table. Everyone else seemed to feel the same way ... we all could have gone on for hours! Who's ready to sign up for the next build opportunity!

Thanks to all who came out for the SHP build day."



**NO KID SLEEPS
ON THE FLOOR
IN OUR TOWN!**





NEW ORLEANS TRAIN Excursion (APRIL)
 Sunday, April 3 thru Tuesday, April 5 • **SOLD OUT**

NEW ORLEANS TRAIN Excursion (MAY)
 Sunday, May 15 thru Tuesday, May 18

We will leave after morning worship; this trip is identical to the April 3 trip. We have a few more spots available. Due with Registration: \$100



THE OAK RIDGE BOYS CONCERT
 Thursday, March 24 • Montgomery, AL
 Charter Bus departs at 2:00 PM
 Tickets available Sunday at the Event Desk.

A SNEAK PEEK!

OPYLAND CHRISTMAS...

yes, in Nashville U.S.A!

Plan ahead; start saving for this late November 2022 trip. It's not too early!

COMING IN JUNE!

FBCT Annual Leland Dockery Tribute Cruise-In

Want to get involved and help? Join us for a Planning meeting led by John Patterson on February 27 @ 3:00pm. Contact John @ 205-337-5418 for information.

NOTE: Check out www.WorldofWheels.net Coming to Birmingham • February 4-6, 2022



S	P	I	C	E	D	Intentionally Seasoned
SCHEDULE	PRAYER	INSTRUCTION	CONNECTION	ENCOURAGEMENT	DEVOTION	ADMIN
<u>Bill Bowser</u>	<u>Denny Rogers</u>	<u>Susan Hornsby</u>	<u>Judy Bryant</u>	<u>Jack Sittre</u>	<u>Diane Poole</u>	Steve Penuel Team Captain
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Calendar Maintain and help populate the calendar with events for SAMers with input from the SAMLT members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Prayer Team Give focus to an understanding of the importance of prayer. Plan and promote opportunities for intentional prayer time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Bible Study Plan, promote & coordinate opportunities for SAMers to be involved in Bible Study in addition to the Sunday Small Groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Newsletter Oversee the publication and distribution of the SAM monthly Newsletter. Develop other special publications as needed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Missions Act as a conduit to the Missions ministry of FBCT to encourage SAMers to be involved in Mission in our community & beyond. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Worship Coordinate off & on campus worship opportunities that appeal to SAMers. Reinforce a commitment to Sunday 	Debra Roberts Team Secretary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Travel Plan, coordinate and schedule trips for Seasoned Adults. Day trips, multiple night trips and international trips. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Homebound Develop and oversee a comprehensive plan to connect with and pray for FBCT homebound and Nursing home residents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Education Plan, promote & coordinate opportunities for SAMers to be exposed to life needs educational programming. (Practical/Financial/Legal) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Communication Develop and oversee a process to ensure that we take advantage of social media platforms to better communicate SAM events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Projects When opportunities occur, coordinate logistics to allow SAMers to encourage others with tangible work projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Conferences Develop, plan & promote Conferences that impact SAMers and our church. Coordinate with Staff & Schedule group 	Anita Aaron Team Finance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Events Plan, promote and coordinate monthly luncheons and other regular SAM events. Develop new events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Evangelism Pray for opportunities for SAMers to participate in personally sharing their story. Promote a sense of intentional evangelism. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Seminars Keep SAMers informed of local area seminars and workshops that would be beneficial. Provide logistics whenever practical. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Web Tools Oversee the updating of the SAM page of the church website. Gather pics/data for Touch Point church software database. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Serving Provide logistics to maximize the ability for SAMers to encourage by serving. Develop database of people who will serve. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Music Assist as needed with Joyful Hearts, Sam Vocal Band, the 5th Sunday Night Sing and other music opportunities 	Debbie Arrington SAM Ministry Assistant 205-228-1003
Because ... It's all about Him!						Bob Smith SAM Pastor 205-767-9609



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. 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!