

OCTOBER 2021

THERE'S VALUE IN EVERYBODY

"When you step away from your agenda and notice that there are moments that can make somebody's life better, that's all I try to teach me and teach my kids. When you wake up in the morning, 'How am I going to make somebody else's life better today?' There's a team much bigger than this. There's a team that is trying to make somebody's day better. That's all of us." LOVE YOU TOO! Motivational speaker, Ernie Johnson addressing Alabama football team prior to season start, August 2021.

Click [HERE](#) for video on youtube.

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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.

PLAYING THROUGH AND PRAYING THROUGH

As I sit down to write this morning, the rain outside my window is coming down in buckets. I can only imagine how Noah felt! About 90 of us FBCT Sam-ers are just returning from a two-day trip to Kentucky and visits to The Ark Encounter and the Creation Museum. We are indebted to Mike Mathews for the hours he has given to planning the travel details for the trip, TWICE. Originally planned for last year, the trip was postponed due to Covid, then all the details had to be renegotiated! Thank you, Mike for playing this through!



We golfers "get" the phrase PLAYING THROUGH. In golf, playing through means to pass other golfers on the course, with their permission, in order to play on until the last hole ... like breaking in line so you can move on. It's also a common term in sports when athletes finish the game despite injury ... like a quarterback sustains an arm injury but plays through the entire game despite the injury. Another definition: to play something through is to play something, such as a piece of recorded music, all the way through.

Dr. Fain spoke about PRAYING THROUGH in our 90 Day Prayer Focus earlier this year. The Holy Spirit will show you the will of God in answer to your prayers. Sometimes, an answer does come quickly. But, keep praying until you see it, no matter how long. For instance, if you're praying for someone's salvation, if it takes the rest of your life here on earth, keep praying, don't quit too early or before the miracle happens. What if the Israelites had stopped praying around the walls of Jericho on the sixth day? That would have been too early according to God's plan! They would have missed the miracle.

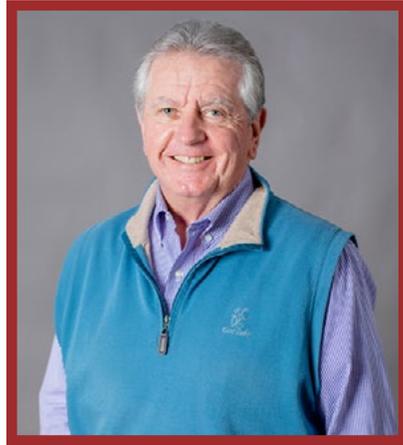
God took a seasoned adult, prepared him, and gave him instructions for building a boat out of gopherwood. Rest assured, God was in those details! Who, what, when, where, why and how! There is no way without Almighty God, our Creator, and His plan that a mere mortal man could draw those plans, build this magnificent structure, then live with his family of only 8 and with all species of animal, feeding, caring for and sustaining them (no modern conveniences, mind you), for over one year until the waters subsided and the land was dry. The only way Noah did this, the only way any of us today can weather our storms and work to do His will in our lives, is by playing through, trusting and obeying God all the way through, and praying through with faith until God opens the doors.

Bob

FAREWELL JOE

Written by Faye Summers

It was such a joy to sit down and talk with Joe about his life serving as music minister to so many congregations over the years. He and Marty began ministry at Edgewood Presbyterian and then returned to the road with Truth. After that he was at First Baptist Church, Yukon, Oklahoma. Then Roswell Street Baptist in Marietta, Georgia, then four years of Music Evangelism. After that to the West Coast to the First Baptist Church Van Nuys, California, then back east to Fayetteville, Georgia. Sherwood Baptist in Albany, Georgia was next and then to First Baptist Trussville. Joe loves to travel as you can see by his serving congregations all over the United States.



Joe and Marty met at Samford University in 1970 and married in 1975. He was in Truth for five years playing trumpet, singing and was their bus driver as well. Joe has had lots of variety in his years of ministry ... from Truth, to Music Evangelism, to youth camps as Music Director, to Church Music Director. Marty was always there at his side in his Music Ministry. She was Kindergarten Director at Edgewood, directed Children's Choir at several churches and student choirs here at FBCT.

When asked what he wants to do in retirement, he said "sleep till 9:00!" He also talked, with a twinkle in his eye, about seeing Mt. Rushmore and some National Parks they haven't visited yet. He loves to drive...anywhere!! I said, "two weeks till retirement, how does that feel?" He said, "ten days, but who is counting!" He has given it lots of thought and while he has mixed emotions, he is looking forward to it and says it feels right. Marty has already moved into their new home in Hendersonville, Tennessee and Joe will join her soon. Daughter Kenna, husband Scott and boys will be moving to Nashville soon too.

I asked him if he would do this all over again, and he said absolutely! "It has been a wonderful life and I've been so blessed." I also asked if he had any regrets. He said "not finishing college, but wouldn't change the path I've chosen." When asked about church memories that stood out he said ministry volunteers, especially here at FBCT. He said the choir here has the attitude of "let's try it" which allowed him to stretch us as a choir. Joe and Marty, our well wishes go with you both for a happy life in retirement.

NOTE: We hope your retirement bucket list also includes a round of golf or two!

*"You don't stop laughing when you grow old, you grow old when you stop laughing".
George Bernard Shaw*

THE PESKY FLY

*I saw a fly a flying,
On a hot and sticky night.
Every time I'd try to swat it,
It would buzz around the light.*

*He would fly upon the wall some.
Then upon my head he'd squat,
Buzzing, buzzing, all around me,
Cutting di-a-dos and what.*

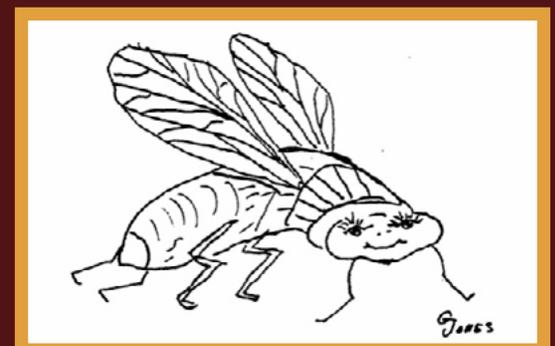
*He was about to drive me crazy,
So the chase was on again.
Around and around the room we tussled,
Once I know I saw him grin.*

*Then he jumped upon my arm chair
Just as bold as he could be.
When I thought for sure I had him,
He had bit me on the knee.*

*Now I had to win the battle,
Make sure he's good and dead.
I wouldn't have that pesky thing
A buzzing around my head.*

*'Twas a long and tiresome struggle.
Now don't ask me how or why,
But I had the final victory
Over that awful pesky fly.*

By Grace Jones, October 12, 1965 ©



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Monday, October 11—Columbus Day
Sunday, October 31—FBCT Fall Family Festival

THE CELEBRATORS CONFERENCE

October 11-14 • Pigeon Forge, TN

We're off!

EXPERIENCE ISRAEL NOW

October 17-20 • Worship Center

Dr. Andy Cook returns to FBCT with another virtual tour through the Holy Land.

You won't want to miss his presentations.

Invite a friend too. Watch for more details on times coming out soon.

JOYFUL HEARTS REHEARSALS

Thursdays, October 7 & 21 • 10:30AM

EDIBLE EDUCATION LUNCHEON

Thursday, October 14

11:30AM • Fellowship Hall • \$6

"Covid-19...What's Food Got to Do With It?"

Jennifer Conn will discuss why quality nutrition is the elephant in the room when it comes to improving your immune system, reducing metabolic stress and helping protect you from viruses.

Kale is so versatile ... it literally fits into any size trash can.

Register [HERE](#)

Contact: kathyb@fbctrussville.org

SAM MONTHLY LUNCHEON

Thursday, October 28 - 10:30AM

Special Guests: Kool Kats & Patsy Cline

Lunch following • \$6

You won't want to miss this talented group!

COMING UP IN MID-NOVEMBER
RESCHEDULED AUGUST

SAM LUNCHEON

[DATE]

Special Guest: Guy Anderson, Associate Pastor Music Senior Adults, Elkdale Baptist Church in Selma, AL

Lunch following - \$6 per person

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS INSTALLATION

Week of November 8-12

Volunteers needed!

Contact: Steve Penuel: stevepenuel@gmail.com

904-343-298



NOAH'S PRAYER

"God of heaven, we ask for your mercy through this terrible storm. You called me to build a ship to preserve my family and the animals that you brought to me, and I have sought to be faithful to honor you in all that I have done. Preserve us now through your judgment on this world as you have promised and we will be faithful to serve you all our days."

Not receiving our SAM newsletters? If you haven't already responded to the letter mailed out last February by our SAM Leadership Team regarding your preference for receiving the newsletter, please contact Debbie Arrington in the SAM office at 205-228-1006 or email her at debbie@fbctrussville.org. Everyone for whom we have an email address will continue to receive the newsletters by email; however, if any of you prefer to have a paper copy mailed to you each month, let Debbie know. We will be happy to mail one to you!



For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted. Luke 14:11

Football season is in full swing! Imagine what it must be like to be the center on a football team. Your job is to snap the ball backwards, between your legs, five yards to the quarterback. You will be expected to do this perfectly about forty to fifty times per game, knowing that the minute you release the ball, a 300 pound defensive lineman is going to mash you into the ground and try to run over you.

You will emerge from the game bruised and sore and exhausted. The quarterback, running backs and receivers whom you helped to score touchdowns, will be idolized, praised and worshipped by the fans and the media. Some will even make hundreds of thousands of dollars by putting their name and likeness on a T-shirt. And you? The great majority of fans will not even know your name, much less acknowledge your contribution.

You will have to be content knowing that you did your job well, and that you were an important part of the ultimate goal, which was to win the game. It could not have been done without you, even if most observers don't realize it. You're not jealous of the glamour players. You're happy for them. You feel good knowing you were a key part of their success.

Chapter 14, Verse 11 of the gospel of Luke embodies this spirit of humility and peace. Our Christian walk should be like that football player. Our mission while we have the privilege of walking this earth should be to go about our lives doing the things that minister to those in need and model the love of Jesus. Things that may never be publicly recognized and properly appreciated. A financial donation, a few hours each week of volunteer work, a greeting card, a phone call, or maybe just a smile and a warm hello. No one may notice. But you can have the security and joy of being assured that God is smiling at your humble effort to achieve the ultimate goal, to win souls to Him.

It can't be done without you. Why do you think they call him the "center"? Because the play doesn't work if he doesn't start it properly. He's the center of the operation. You are the center of God's plan to save the world.

Don't fumble the ball.

HIS UNFAILING WORD ... ISAIAH 40:8

By Denise Dockery

Within the Church sometimes there is great confusion as to how I am to serve. The church was a mystery prior to Pentecost and sometimes we act as if it is still a mystery. But the mystery has been revealed. Yet you feel pulled in many directions or feel guilty that you are not doing enough. God has given us the course of action within each believer at salvation.

In Paul's teaching about gifts in the body of Christ is the clear understanding that gifts are limited. Paul lays it out clearly ... you have no say on what your spiritual gifting is ... your gift is a result of God's grace to you. "...there are a variety of gifts, but the same Spirit, there are varieties of ministries and the same Lord, there are varieties of effects but the same God who works all thing in all persons. But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."

The Spirit gives you your gift,
The Lord gives you your ministry,
God will bring forth the results.

God has so composed the body just as He desired, so that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.

Paul's word picture of the human body argues this powerfully. "For the body is not one member, but many. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be?" The design determines the limits.

It needs to be said that when a wonderful gift is given, the only one entitled is the divine giver. He is entitled to our honor, gratitude, and worship and our commitment to steward that gift well.

Being given a gift tells me about me in that I am not self sufficient but rather needy and dependent. It tells me I have no ability to do God's work without God's gifts. I can't take credit for my gift precisely because it is a gift. My giftedness doesn't point to me but to the One who has given it to me.

Ephesians 4:1-16, I Peter 4:10-11, Romans 12:1-8 and I Corinthians 12:4-31

Every believer needs to humbly assess not only where he is gifted but also where he is not.

AMBER ALERT!

SOMEONE IS MISSING! IS IT YOU?

ARE YOUR FRIENDS, FAMILY AND FAVORITE CHURCH STAFF SEARCHING FOR YOU?

DID YOU KNOW THAT FBCT HAS AN ONLINE PICTORIAL DIRECTORY THAT IS INTENDED TO ASSIST OUR CHURCH MEMBERS AND STAFF IN COMMUNICATING MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH EACH OTHER? IT IS A BEAUTIFUL TOOL TO HELP CHURCH MEMBERS GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER MORE EASILY. THE ONLY DRAWBACK IS THAT UNLESS MEMBERS HAVE EITHER AN INDIVIDUAL OR FAMILY PHOTO UPLOADED TO THEIR PERSONAL RECORD, THEY WILL NOT SHOW IN THE CHURCH DATABASE WHEN THEIR NAMES ARE SEARCHED. THUS, THEY APPEAR TO BE MISSING.

Individual records are accessible in the TouchPoint app that may be downloaded for the iPhone or Android devices or accessed on your PC's browser at <https://fbctrussville.tpsdb.com>. In TouchPoint, look for the My Record selection from which you may upload photos from your device. (Tutorials are available on the FBCT website for downloading, activating and using the app. Just search for TOUCHPOINT.)

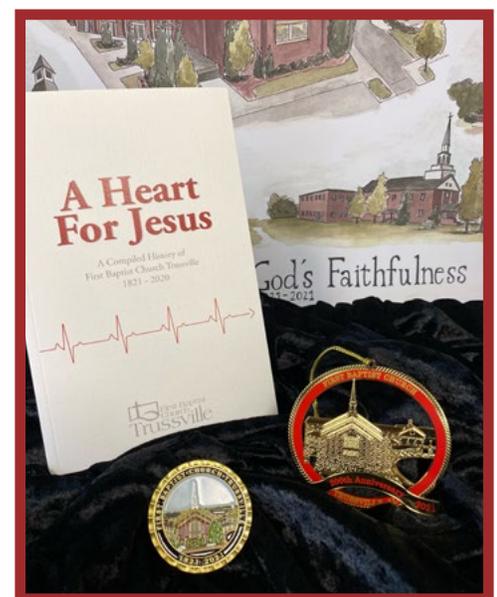
PHOTO BOMB SESSIONS: For those of you who might not feel comfortable uploading your own photos, in the coming weeks our SAM community plans to sponsor for all FBCT church members a series of sessions in which individuals or couples can have their photos made and uploaded into the church database. We're calling these PHOTO BOMB sessions because they will be set up in a variety of places and times around church activities for walk up traffic to just jump in front of the camera and get their pictures made for later upload to the church database.

WATCH FOR ANNOUNCED TIMES AND LOCATIONS OR KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR THE PHOTO BOMB sign as you come and go to small group or services. This will be an on-going effort sponsored by our Seasoned Adult Ministry (SAM) to get 100% of our church membership included. We are asking for volunteers who would like to assist in this effort to notify Debbie Arrington at debbie@fbctrussville.org.

NOTE: If you have not yet set up the TouchPoint app on your favorite device, it is a great way to access church information no matter where you go! If you need help doing so, we will set up opportunities to assist you. We can provide printed instructions on request and will plan to have available at the PHOTO BOMB sessions or other SAM events.

200TH ANNIVERSARY GIFTS AVAILABLE

We still have a few Challenge Coins remaining – they were designed by Lance Pate, Jamie O'Dell and medal art by Custom Coins, LLC. You may be wondering what is a challenge coin used for? Challenge coins may be used for identification or to honor an achievement of another. They date all the way back to the Roman Empire. In 17th century France a challenge coin was issued to members of the protestant church to verify they were a part of the group and prevent infiltrators. They were used in World War I and World War II to identify military personnel as being part of a specific group. They are still sometimes used by the Presidents and members of Congress as identity verification and to show appreciation to someone for doing an outstanding job. We identify with our church and the challenge Buddy has given us as a church body to "COMMIT-KNOW-DO BECAUSE IT'S ALL ABOUT HIM". What a great way to congratulate a person recently led to Christ, someone who has achieved a goal in Sunday School, or many other things.



There are still 200th Anniversary commemorative ornaments, books and challenge coins available at the Event Center - \$10 each.

AN AMAZING SAM

By Jim Hickman



The SAM organization of FBCT is incredibly diverse, but our members have one thing in common: the Fellowship of Believers. Since the coronavirus has interrupted our physical fellowship, and also since there are many members who are no longer mobile, we are using the SAM Newsletter to help maintain and strengthen the Fellowship. We are also remembering this is traditionally the time of harvest in our wonderful country. With all this in mind, we are renewing your acquaintance with a much-loved couple, Cecil and Charlotte Medders.

Cecil and Charlotte grew up together in the town of Alexandria, AL. They were childhood sweethearts, graduated from high school together and attended and graduated from Auburn University together. They married at the end of college and almost immediately Cecil was employed by Alabama Power.

They lived in Millbrook, AL, and were both active in Christ-serving opportunities. Charlotte had accepted Christ at a young age, and Cecil became a Christian while at Auburn. Their first of three sons was born in 1977, and from then on Charlotte was a homemaker. It was there in Millbrook in 1975 Cecil was ordained as a Deacon.

In 1980 the Medders moved to Trussville. The family immediately joined FBCT and became involved in church activities which included: R.A.'s, Youth programs admin, and Small Group participation. In 1983 Cecil was instrumental in organizing Men On Mission. He was one of the early advisors in the church parking challenge and the use of golf carts.

With all the spare time he had, Cecil developed a large, beautiful, very productive vegetable garden. There was a problem. There were not enough honey bees around to properly pollinate the garden. Because of this Cecil started raising his own bees and was assisted by retired minister Gene Ennis. Honey bees are one of God's most marvelous creations. Their use in pollinating plants and producing honey has been identified as long ago as 8000 years. In addition to being good to eat, honey is recognized as an antibiotic, various other medicinal remedies, and if properly stored will not deteriorate for centuries. Cecil can tell you all about the amazing bees. Starting in 2005 Cecil has been raising bees, having his garden pollinated, and harvesting and selling honey to us numerous appreciative customers. He and Charlotte continue to be recognized and loved as strong active members of SAM of FBCTrussville.

THE BALL IS IN THE AIR!

And so is Fall ...

Have you ever thought about how many games we play with a ball? Challenge a friend; see how many you can list. Keep it to competitive sports or keep-score play, indoors and out, but not board games or children's toy type games. This is more challenging than you might think! Our SAM Leadership Team came up with 47! No cheating looking at the answers!

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Baseball | Pickleball |
| Basketball | Pinball |
| Beach volleyball | Ping Pong |
| Billiards | Polo |
| Bocce Ball | Pool |
| Bowling | Putt-Putt / Mini golf |
| Broomball | Racquetball |
| Cricket | Rocketball |
| Croquet | Rugby |
| Dodgeball | Rounders |
| Field Hockey | Skeeball |
| Flag football | Squash |
| Football | Soccer |
| Four Square | Softball |
| Golf | Streetball |
| Handball | Swingball |
| Hurling | Tee ball |
| Jacks | Tennis |
| Kickball | Tetherball |
| Lacrosse | Volleyball |
| Ladderball | Water Polo |
| Lawn bowling | Wiffleball |
| Marbles | |
| Paddleball | |
| Paintball | |

Remember DO NOT grab another person's facemask.

It's a 15 yard penalty and an automatic 1st down.