

Birmingham, AL 35209  
2209 Lakeshore Drive  
First Baptist  
Birmingham  
*Growing in Grace*

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK DR. JIM COOLEY

October is the season for Harvest. It is a time to celebrate the fruits of all that have been planted and carefully cultivated over weeks and months. The evidence of Harvest is to be seen in the abundant return that is the fruit of all that we have nurtured through the growing season.

Harvest is a spiritual as well as an agricultural reality. Join me in praying for Harvest time at First Baptist Church. We want a harvest of spiritual growth that is the result of the faithful Bible teaching that takes place each Sunday at our church. We pray for a harvest of celebration that comes from worship that challenges and inspires us every Sunday. We pray for a harvest of faith as we respond to new challenges the Lord is placing before us through missions and ministries. We pray for an abundance of encouragement as we share Christ in the midst of our fellowship. Most of all, we pray for a harvest of souls that have been transformed by the saving power of Jesus.



This October, join me in praying that God will bless us with an abundant harvest of faith as we serve and worship our Lord, Jesus Christ.

## MENU

### October 5\*

Southern Spiced Chicken,  
Roasted Potatoes, Garlic Green  
Beans, Rolls, Salad Bar, Dessert

### October 12\*

Homemade Pizza (Pepperoni  
& Cheese), Salad Bar, Dessert

### October 19

BREAKFAST BAR!

### October 26\*

Chicken Tetrazzini, Veggie  
Medley, Salad Bar, Dessert

\*Chicken Fingers  
Available for Kids

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### Sunday

8:45am Library Open  
9:00am Sunday School  
10:15am Morning Worship Service  
4:00pm Handbell Choir - 164  
4:45pm Library Open  
5:00pm The Gathering - 168  
5:00pm Children's Bible Drill - G02

### Wednesday

10:30am Library Open  
11:00am Prayer Service & Lunch - FH  
5:00pm Family Supper - FH  
5:30pm Library Open  
6:00pm Prayer Service - FH  
6:00pm Choir Rehearsal - 168  
6:00pm Children's Activities - G02  
6:00pm Youth Ministry - 271

## OUR STAFF

**Dr. Jim Cooley**  
Pastor  
205-901-3218

**Dr. Rich Hutchens**  
Associate Pastor  
205-401-0605

**Dr. Joe Hopkins**  
Minister of Music

**Rev. Nathan Lyon**  
Youth Minister & Music  
Ministry Associate  
334-301-8607

**Cyndy James**  
Pastoral Administrative  
Assistant

**Nancy Chesser**  
Financial Assistant

**Kellie Kema**  
Ministry Assistant

**Melvin Robertson  
& Ron Farms**  
Custodians

## OCTOBER SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

October 2	Operation Christmas Child Kickoff	Missions Chapel	
October 2	Samford University Hymn Sing	Reid Chapel	2:00pm
October 2	No Evening Service or Activities		
October 9	Facilities Committee Meeting	Conference Room	4:00pm
October 10	Finance Committee Meeting	Room 152	6:00pm
October 16	Deacons Meeting	Room 175	4:00pm
October 16	Deacons Leadership Study	Room 175	5:00pm
October 19	WMU Round Table	Room G02	9:30am
October 20	Third Thursday Excursion (60+)	Old Baker Farm	9:00am
October 23	A Day with Daniel Edmonds	Sanctuary	9:00am
October 23	Churchwide Luncheon	Fellowship Hall	11:30am
October 23	No Evening Service or Activities		
October 25	WMU Bible Study	Room G02	10:30am
October 30	Eat & Treat	Fellowship Hall	5:00pm

Children's Ministry  
**Music & Missions**  
Wednesdays • 6:00pm  
Room G02/04

## FBC Youth Ministry

Sundays @ 9am  
Wednesdays @ 6pm

Follow us on Facebook  
@firstbhamstudents!

## Children's Bible Drill

Sundays  
5:00pm  
Room G02/04





## YOUTH NATHAN LYON

Now that school has begun, we have been studying “Sowing to the Spirit” as we continue our 2016 theme of Christ Follower. Centered in Galatians, this study seeks to show the impact of every choice we make. It is clear from God’s Word that we either sow to the flesh or to the Spirit. An exciting thing taking place during this time of study is the student led devotion. Every 2 weeks, a different youth will begin our Wednesday night time together by sharing a brief devotion. It is wonderful to see them prepare and take seriously sharing God’s Word.



Saturday, September 10, was a day of service and celebration for the youth. The guys did clean-up in a Homewood community, and the girls shared in a bridal luncheon for Kathryn Wooldridge. It is always encouraging to see them wake up and serve others on a Saturday morning in the school year.



Choir Kick-off was amazing! We had 9 youth go to FBC Montgomery for the 2nd straight year to rehearse and lead in worship with over 700 other youth from 14 churches. This is in preparation for the upcoming Youth Choir Tour to Chicago this summer.



## NOTES ON MINISTRY DR. JOE HOPKINS

Please keep in mind that we have a series of rehearsals organized for the coming months. The schedule is available in the choir room or online. These extra times will help us prepare for Handel’s Messiah, to be presented at FBC at 5:00pm on December 11.

Our youth are practicing on Sunday afternoons, and the orchestra is rehearsing on Sunday mornings at 8:30. The children’s choir is meeting on Wednesday nights at 6:00. Please also note that in the coming weeks we will begin handbells (October 9) and including our youth in the orchestra from time to time. Yes, we want everyone to be involved in leading through music!

Thanks to all of you who support music ministry through your encouragement and participation. You are a blessing.



## WMU

### Round Table

Wednesday, October 19, 9:30am - G02

What is Heaven really going to be like? What will we look like? What will we do? Won’t Heaven get boring after a while? After 25 years of research, Randy Alcorn, in his book *Heaven*, gives us scripture-based answers. We welcome Carol Perrin back to FBC to share with us about this book.

### Bible Study

Tuesday, October 25, 10:30am - G02

Bebe Costner will lead our study, “A Servants Heart.” We will look at the rich young ruler who thought himself good enough (and rich enough) to gain eternal life. Jesus shattered that illusion. We will be challenged to trust, to submit, and to love enough to become servants in a world that is upside down and where it has become “un-American” to follow Jesus. Lunch will follow the study.

## A WORD FROM OUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR DR. RICH HUTCHENS

Sunday, October 23, is going to be a very special day at First Baptist Church! Be sure to mark this day on your calendar now because you’re not going to want to miss this! Daniel Edmonds, who is the Director of the Office of Sunday School and Discipleship, is going to be spending the day with First Baptist. Daniel has been with our State Convention since 1966 and brings with him a wealth of knowledge and experience. He’s taught at Ridgecrest and Glorieta, led numerous state conferences, and co-authored with Lawrence Phipps the book, *Growing Sunday School Teams*. The day will start out with a combined Sunday School in the Sanctuary led by Daniel. It’s our privilege, then, to have Daniel as the guest preacher for the morning service, to be followed by a churchwide lunch. During the lunch period, Daniel will talk to us about reaching out into our local community. There will be no Sunday evening service but a great day of fellowship as we fellowship together and hear from one of the foremost authorities in the area of discipleship!

## CHILDREN’S MINISTRY GLORIA WHITLOCK

Our new Music group, led by Lindsay Lyon, meets on Wednesday nights at 6:00. The children will be learning songs to sing during the Worship Service on special Sundays. The Word of God tells us in Psalm 150:6, “Let everything that has breath praise the Lord,” and this is what these precious children will be doing. They are learning that real worship comes from the heart as they sing praises to our Lord Jesus.



Our Missions group, led by Katrina Dennis, meets on Wednesday nights at 6:30. Katrina will be teaching about missions not only around the world but also right here in our own area. During this time, the children will be helping to put together the Operation Christmas Child boxes. OCC kicks off on Sunday, October 2, so mark your calendars!



Our Bible Drill class on Sunday nights is going strong. Judith Cooley is leading the older elementary group and Katherine Weakley is leading the younger group. On our first night, we learned how to stand at attention, how to hold our Bibles, and where books of the Bible are located. This time is really going to be an excellent source for our children to learn God’s Word. Pray that the children will be receptive to learning new skills and Bible drills.



Our adult Sunday School classes have adopted elementary children to pray for during the school year. This is a really special ministry, and we encourage those classes to pray for their child or children and send them encouraging notes throughout the year. One great way to pray is to ask that God will open the children’s hearts to be receptive to the new skills they will be learning through all of these classes!



Mark your calendars!

# EAT & TREAT

Sunday, October 30  
5:00pm  
Fellowship Hall