

# First Baptist Church of the City of Washington D.C.

*“Every Member Engaged in Ministry...”*

February 2, 2010

## Coming Up:

### Schedule for February 3:

- 11:00 Staff Meeting
- 6:00 Wednesday Dinner
- 6:30 Handbell Choir
- 7:00 Wednesday Program

## Recent Additions:

### To our prayer list:

Anna Nelson, who is recuperating from knee surgery in a Boston Hospital.

## Vital Signs:

### Sunday, January 31, 2010

Attendance	115
Church School Attendance	28
Weekly Needs:	16,779
Offering	4,736
Shortfall	-12,043
YTD Shortfall:	-47,669

## My Ministry Passions

On last week I shared with you some reflections on “mission” in connection with my ministry and the church. I have enjoyed the conversations that followed, and decided to share more about what inspires and moves me as a pastor in view of the upcoming pastoral installation service here at First Baptist on February 28.

A great deal of my inspiration, energy, and motivation for ministry revolves around three ministry *passions*. A ministry *passion* is a specific area of focus and interest which one inwardly yearns to pursue. *Passions* emanate from deep within oneself. As we pray and reflect about what is important, or about what to do, or resources, certain interests resurface again and again; in fact our hearts may yearn to pursue certain

things. Dr. Tom Bandy uses the term “heart bursts” to describe such interests.

The word *passions* best describes my primary yearnings. A *passion* may be felt either by an individual or a congregation. Pastors should become acquainted with the individual and corporate *passions* within their congregations, because those *passions* will be reflected in the decisions that are made by their congregations. Also, congregations do well to get to know the *passions* in the hearts of their pastors; because those *passions* will be hugely reflected in just about everything the pastor says or does either explicitly or implicitly.

In naming the following *passions*, I am not suggesting any particular hierarchy or order of preference.

The first *passion* that I’ll identify is “*Discerning God*

*at Work.*” As I go through life, I constantly find myself asking, “Where is God in this situation?” I do not hold the opinion that *God wills* everything that happens to us in life. However, given the fact that major events occur in our world and in our personal lives that can impact the course of our lives and of history, I have a need to know where and how God is operating in light of what has occurred. How are God’s love, mercy, grace, and purposes for us going to be evidenced in us by how we respond to life’s circumstances?

A second *passion* for me is “*Discerning God’s call to Vocation.*” Each of us has been given gifts and talents by God, and we have had experiences that have shaped our perspectives. One way to discern and follow God’s call on our lives

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### Wednesday Evening Program on February 3

During January Dr. Haggray has been talking with us about demographics and what they can tell us about the people of our area. In February we will look at how that information can help us plan for ministry. On February 3, Rev. Cochran will talk about our FBC ministry to children and families. We will review what we are already doing and talk about what we might do next.

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# Meet Your Deacon “on call” for this week

This week’s deacon on call is Britt Grant. If you have prayer requests this week, you can reach Britt at 202-906-9288.

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## Installation Plans Take Shape

Plans for the installation of the Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Haggray as the 18<sup>th</sup> Senior Pastor of The First Baptist Church are taking shape, led by a planning team that met after church last Sunday. Nine church members, including Dr. Haggray, met for an hour and a half to make plans for the service of installation on Sunday, February 28, at 3:45 p.m.

Two prominent Christian leaders in Washington will be the principal speakers. Jim Wallis, editor of *Sojourners* magazine and founder of a Christian community bearing the same name, will deliver the installation sermon. Dr. H. Beecher Hicks Jr., longtime pastor of Metropolitan Baptist Church, will offer challenges to the congregation and to Dr. Haggray.

Choral music will be offered by our own chancel and children’s choirs and a choral ensemble from Metropolitan Baptist. In addition, First Baptist’s Handbell Choir will also play. Music for the event is being coordinated by Dr. Lawrence P. Schreiber, First Baptist’s organist-choirmaster.

Several members of First Baptist will lead in readings and prayers. Greetings are to be brought by denominational, ecumenical and interfaith leaders.

Invitations to the afternoon event are being sent this week to former First Baptist pastors and associate ministers; churches of the D.C. Baptist Convention and the Downtown Cluster of Congregations; and to a broad array of civic and religious leaders in the area.

Following the festive service of installation, a reception in the Fellowship Hall is being planned by the church social committee.

*Stan Hastey*

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is to reflect on the meaning of our gifts, talents, experiences, and perspectives when considered together. What is God calling us to do as individuals and as a congregation with what God has given us or showed us?

The third passion that I will mention is “*Discerning Priorities*.” Our lives and our mission are controlled by how we spend our time and our resources. Calendars and budgets reflect our priorities, and God is concerned about how these will advance God’s agenda in the earth. Therefore, “*Discerning Priorities*” is spiritual work that should be done prayerfully and circumspectly, not just expeditiously.

*Jeffrey Haggray*

### **Season of Prayer Verse: Luke 5:10b-11**

*Then Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.” When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.*

Read — Reflect — Respond — Rest — Remain

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February Food Drive

Three times a year the FBC Woman’s Society helps the Johenning Baptist Community Center restock its pantry. February is one of those months and with the growing shortage of items in food banks, this February is even more important than ever. Your donations of non-perishable items are sorely needed. Watch those sales in your grocery store that say “buy one, get one free” and pick up one for your pantry and one for JBCC’s pantry.



The Woman’s Society grocery cart will be located in the 17<sup>th</sup> Street lobby on Sundays throughout February to accept your donations. If you have questions, please contact Jean Bell or Martha Parkhurst.

Potluck Luncheon  
on  
Sunday, February 7  
at noon in the  
Fellowship Hall

A-I: Vegetables and salad  
J-O: Meats  
P-Z: Desserts, rolls and fruit

**Quarterly Business Meeting  
Sunday, February 7  
Following the Potluck luncheon  
in the Fellowship Hall**

The 2010 Truman Award  
For  
Christian Service

The Truman Award will be presented at the end of the worship service on March 7, 2010, which is also FBC’s 208<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Please tell us why you think the person you nominated should receive the award. Hand-written or emailed nominations must be submitted to the church office by February 24, 2010.

Church Closings  
Due To  
Inclement Weather

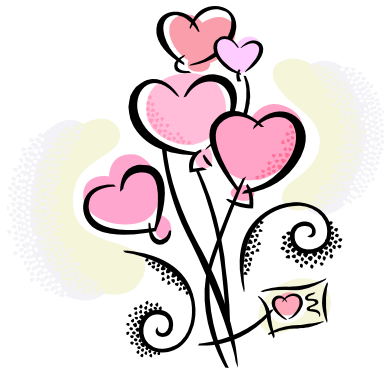
More snow is forecast for this coming weekend. A decision to close FBC will be made by 8 a.m. Sunday morning. Please call the church and dial Steve Hunter’s extension, 253. If FBC is closed, Steve’s message will contain that information. If FBC is open, you will get his regular message.



Worship Leaders  
from Sunday,  
January 31, 2010

L to R:  
Dr. Haggray,  
Rev. Adam Taylor  
and  
Kirsten Hancock

**Valentine Floral Workshop  
by Sarah of Urban Petals  
Saturday, February 13  
12:00 - 1:30 p.m.  
Meadows Room at FBC**



**Registration and Fee Required**

Urban Petals has been using the corner of our 17th and "O" Street parking lot on Thursday evenings in exchange for providing beautiful, fresh flowers that I have been using for the Visitors Coffee and the Potluck Dinners.

If you are interested in attending this workshop, I need an **immediate response**, so that the flowers can be ordered for you to work with in your arrangement. You can also monitor the class for free, but I still need to know if you wish to attend. Please call 301-929-9261 or email me at [snmcbeath@aol.com](mailto:snmcbeath@aol.com) if you have any questions or if you want to register for the workshop.

Thank you,  
*Shirley McBeath*

**Calendar of Events**

**MONDAY, February 8**  
12:00 - 1:00 Sanctuary Open

**TUESDAY, February 9**  
12:00 - 1:00 Sanctuary Open

**WEDNESDAY, February 10**  
11:00 Staff Meeting/Conference Room  
12:00 - 1:00 Sanctuary Open  
6:00 - 7:00 Wednesday Night Dinner/FH  
6:30 - 7:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal/Room 320  
7:00 - 8:00 Wednesday Program

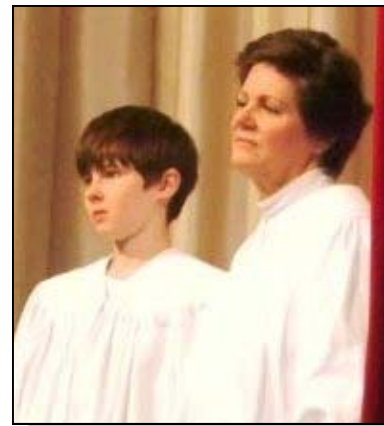
**THURSDAY, February 11**  
12:00 - 1:00 Sanctuary Open

**FRIDAY, February 12**  
11:00 - Sing-A-Long and Story Time/Dawson Room  
12:00 - 1:00 Sanctuary Open  
7:00 Church Volleyball/Gym

**SATURDAY, February 13**  
9:00 - 2:00 Building Open  
12:00 - 1:30 Urban Petals Valentine Floral Workshop/  
Meadows Room  
12:00 FBC Basketball/Gym

**SUNDAY, February 14**  
8:00 Diaconate/Meadows Room  
9:00 Silent Prayer/Chapel  
9:30 Church School for all ages  
11:00 Worship  
12:15 Choir Rehearsal/Room 312  
1:00 Apostolic Church Ministry, Ethiopian church, Rm. 103  
2:00 The Church of the Good News of Salvation,  
(Spanish Language) Room 315

**Parting Shot**



Sunday, January 31  
Baptism of Eric Lowery

**CHURCH STAFF:**

- Jeffrey Haggray, Pastor
- Deborah Cochran, Associate Pastor
- Lon Schreiber, Organist/Choirmaster
- D'Oniece Shaw Dillard, Church Administrator
- Jean Weber, Administrative Assistant
- Steve Hunter, Building Engineer
- Toni Fajemisin, Director, Child Development Center

