

# The Spires

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May 2011

Connecting People to Christ and Each Other

## First Baptist Church

Making Disciples to Serve the World

The CECL team (Center for Excellence in Congregational Leadership) worked long and hard to develop this Mission statement for our church. Much research and many discussions went into the process, but the end result is so obvious. The bible clearly states that this is what is expected of us.

- **Connecting People to Christ**  
(Deuteronomy 6:5 “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.) What is the first step toward this end? Invite a friend or family member to attend church, to join you at the Will Graham Celebration May 20-22 in Ocean Grove, or to join with CE as we reach out into our local neighborhood on outdoor Family Movie Nights this summer or VBC in July.
- **Connecting People to Each Other**  
(Romans 12:10 “Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves). Often times in our CECL meeting, I was referred to as the “old timer” due to my longevity as a member of First Baptist. For 58 years (minus a few years during moves around the country) I have been happy to call First Baptist my home and my family. Pastor has asked us on

numerous occasions who would we call if we needed help at 3 am and I don't have enough fingers and toes to count the number of people from my church family that I know I could call upon at that hour or any hour. We need to make ourselves available to make those connections with one another through small groups and fellowship opportunities – new bible studies begin this week and Discovery Groups will start up in June.

- **Making Disciples to Serve the World**  
(Matthew 28:19 “Therefore go and make disciples of all the nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit”) Through our connection with Christ and each other we are then prepared to reach out to our community, both locally and worldwide, to further God's kingdom. Do you have to travel to Haiti to serve? No, you don't but how about going to Oklahoma? If that doesn't work for you, we have plenty of opportunities to step outside the comfort of our church's four walls to serve our local neighbors as indicated in the Spires under Board Of Missions news.

I'm asking you to join us at the Congregational Meeting on May 15, between services, as we take a vote to adopt our Mission Statement. Don't vote because it sounds good, but vote to make a commitment to **CONNECT PEOPLE TO CHRIST and EACH OTHER and MAKE DISCIPLES TO SERVE THE WORLD**. In His Service, Carolyn Kelly, Moderator



## Remember in Prayer

*We are updating our prayer list - to add or remove a name from the prayer list, or to have someone put back who has been taken off, please contact the church office*

**Our President, Leaders & Armed Service Personnel:** Eric Cornelison; Matthew Swain; Richard Cummings, Jr.; Kieran Maye

**Those in Homes and Hospitals;** John Bruno; Steve Wiperman Sr.; Alida Holman, (Reba's sister); Grace Megill; Mary Gratzel

**Those at Home:** Lajla Layer; Bill Cannon; Bob Forbes, healing; George Burrows; Doris Weiss; Ameer Rech, stroke; Berto and Cathy Lopez

**Missionaries:** Mabudiga & Kihomi Nzunga, Haiti; Judith Sutterlin, China; Murrow Children's Home

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## All Boards Meeting

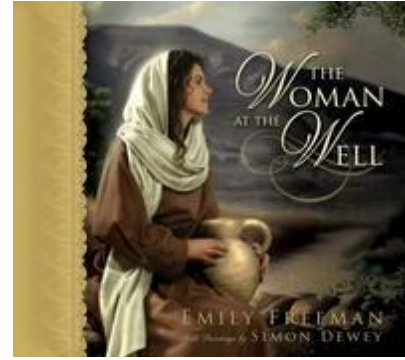
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**All Boards** will meet Tuesday, May 10 at 7:30 pm in the sanctuary.

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## Woman at the Well

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**Women at the Well** (based on John 4) is for women who desire to learn more about how to "worship the Father in Spirit and in truth" with the support of sisters in Christ who will help us stay on the journey. We will meet for worship, truth from the Bible, sharing and prayer. Come just as you are, to offer praise to God, encouragement to others, and receive fortification in your walk with God. If you want more information, you may call Susan Love (732-688-6865) or Holly Orgo (732-722-8185). You only need bring a seeking heart like the Samaritan Woman at the Well. "With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation." Isaiah 12:3) Women at the Well will meet Monday evenings at 7 pm.

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## National Day of Prayer

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National Day of Prayer will be celebrated at the First Presbyterian Church on Virginia Avenue on Thursday, May 5 at 12 pm. There will be a prayer service, patriotic hymn and songs, community and military personnel. Join them and show your spirit.

# MISSIONS NEWS

ACROSS THE STREETS  
AROUND THE WORLD



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## Fund Raiser for Haiti Mission Trip

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*Unable to make the trip to Haiti? You can still be a part of this Mission Team. . . WE NEED YOUR HELP in many areas.*

The Haiti Fund raiser will be at Manasquan First Aid Squad on August 13.

We are planning on having a gift auction to raise money for the trip. We need you to help us collect gifts for the auction. If you have friends who own shops or restaurants, ask them if they can donate items or gift certificates for our auction. If you have new items to donate we need them. "Re-Gift to Haiti" bring us your new unwanted gifts you have hidden in your closets.

Can you help with advertising this event? Can you get a group of friends together and sell them tickets to this fundraiser and join them for a fun night out? Your help is crucial for a successful event.

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## Murrow Indian Children's Home

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FBC has been partnering in ministry with the Murrow Indian Children's Home for many years. On June 24<sup>th</sup> to June 30 we'll be taking a ROAD TRIP to Oklahoma to spend a week working at the home. See Eileen Strong-Thonack for more information.

Training for people interested in serving homeless families will be on Sunday, May 15 at 12:15 pm.

We are planning on serving at Family Promise on Monday, May 16. We will be meeting at 4 pm in Fellowship Hall to prepare dinner of meatloaf, potatoes au gratin, salad, bread, and dessert. We will then proceed to First Baptist Long Branch to serve dinner at 5:30 pm. Volunteers are needed, please call the church office.

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## Lebanon Work Day

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We are planning a work day at Camp Lebanon on Saturday, May 7. We will meet in the church parking lot at 7:30 am, breakfast will be served. Join us!



# Children and Youth

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## Children and Family Ministries

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Family movie nights will be Wednesday, June 22, Wednesday, July 20 and Wednesday, August 24. Come out and enjoy the fun!

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## VBS Pandamania

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Mark your calendars. . . First Baptist Vacation Bible School will be the week of July 11. Get ready for the adventure of a lifetime! Pandamania . . . where God is wild about you!!



God Squad will meet on Sunday, May 8 and 22 at 4:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.



For Youth By Youth (Grades 8-12) will meet on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm.

Need help with lawn care or clean up, speak to one of our youth or Matt Coder.

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## Church Money

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A well-worn one-dollar bill and a distressed twenty-dollar bill arrived at the Federal Reserve to be retired. As they moved along the conveyor to be burned they struck up a conversation. The twenty reminisced about its travels all over the country. “I’ve had a pretty good life, Why, I’ve been to Las Vegas and Atlantic City, the finest restaurants in New York, performances on Broadway and even a cruise to the Caribbean.” “Wow!” said the one dollar bill. “You’ve had an exciting life!” “So tell me,” said the twenty, “Where have you been throughout your lifetime?” The one replied, “Oh, I’ve been to the Methodist Church, the Baptist Church and the Lutheran Church .” The twenty interrupts, “What’s a church?”



### May Birthdays

Jan Thieme	5/1
Melissa Maye	5/2
Sue Applegate	5/3
Shannon Pendleton	5/6
Reba Okerson	5/8
John Goncalves	5/8
Ruth Reddie	5/12
Brittney Kelleher	5/18
Jimmy O'Hagan	5/19
Eddie O'Hagan	5/19
Wes Peters	5/19
Lynn Germond	5/24
Laura Ormsby	5/27
Odette Cummings	5/30
Charly Luther	5/30
Lydia Agolati	5/31
Joan Stemple	5/31
Stephen Glancy	5/31

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### **Father/Daughter Night @ Americas Keswick**

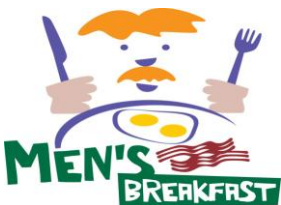
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Thursday, May 12 is Father/Daughter night at America's Keswick at 6:15 pm and the cost is \$12.00 per person.

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### **Men's Ministry**

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This month's Men's Fellowship breakfast will be held on May 21 at 8:30 am in Fellowship Hall.



## Get Connected

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### **Signs of Life Bible Study Begins**

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Beginning Monday May 2, the Signs of Life Bible Study begins at 7:30 pm . The afternoon Signs of Life Bible Study begins on Tuesday, May 3 at 1 pm. Consider joining a group!

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### **The Jesus I Never Knew**

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Walter Pendleton will be leading this group on Tuesdays, beginning May 24 at 6:30 pm with a barbecue at his home at 75 Church Street, Manasquan. The bible study will begin at 7:00 pm.

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### **The Book of Amos**

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The Book of Amos Bible Study lead by Bette Wary begins May 4, Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm in the large Sunday school classroom.

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### **Women's Ministry**

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The Women's Ministry Yard Sale will be May 14. Set up at 8 am, sale will be from 9 am to 2 pm. All are welcome to bring items to sell but must take home items not sold. All proceeds go to Women's mission projects. In the event of rain the sale will be held in Fellowship Hall.

# JERSEY SHORE WILL GRAHAM CELEBRATION

May 20-22 @ Ocean Grove

*Reignite your faith and find power to live a life that radiates God's love. Discover the victory He has for His children and equip yourself to share it with others. You'll also find practical help in reaching your friends for Christ.*

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## Community VBS - Pandamania

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Community VBS will be held from August 16 – 19 at First Presbyterian Church from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. Register for early bird discounts by May 23 at

[www.fpcom.org/vbs2011](http://www.fpcom.org/vbs2011).

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