

Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Norman's Last Goodbye...

Peige Davis

Sunday, July 17th was a bitter-sweet day as the Norman family informed us they would be leaving First Baptist and moving to Fort Smith, Arkansas. It was not announced in service, but Mr. Norman accepted a position as the Assistant District Manager of the Fort Smith, Arkansas Social Security Administration.

I had the opportunity to speak with the Normans before their departure. This is their story and their last goodbye...

It's interesting when you gain church family, you are elated they felt compelled to join, but you don't always get to hear what made them choose *your* church home. I was privileged to get Mr. Normans testimony:

"I chose First Baptist as my church home because of the people. They were warm, caring, hospitable, and friendly", says the Deacon. "They reminded me of my family. Sis. Norman joined after we were married and found all these attributes to be true."

Mr. Norman was a member at two different times, last joining in 2003.

It didn't take long before Mr. and Mrs. Norman used their gifts to help further the kingdom.

Deacon Norman served as Assistant Chair of the Deacon Board, Security Ministry Chair, Men's Ministry, Drama Ministry, and Sunday School teacher for the LE McKellar men's Sunday School class.

Sis. Norman was actively involved in The Good News Partners Mission Circle, Christian Education Ministry, Prayer Ministry, Women's Ministry, Drama Ministry, and served for a short time as Sunday school teacher for class #8.

In addition to the people here at First Baptist, they were impressed by Pastors preaching and teaching, and the rich history that covers our church. Their

favorite events were Pastor Anthony Scott's installation and Everybody's birthday party.

As with any good ending, you learn something you never knew before; something you take with you for the rest of your life. Here is what Sis. Norman had to say, this is their last goodbye:

Our final departure from such a wonderful church family was indeed a sad day for us. However, we rejoice in the memories we made while being a part of such an awesome church family. Now that God has orchestrated a new journey for our lives, we are excited and humbled by His blessings. As we venture out to meet new people, our prayer is that God will lead and guide us to a church home where the word of God is taught and preached. We are anxious to share what we have been so blessed to learn through all of our experiences here at First Baptist. Our First Baptist church family will always be near and dear to our hearts, and we will never forget you. This is what we will miss the most. Please pray for us as we endeavor to search for a new church home, a new residential community, and prayer for Deacon Norman in his new position.

We encourage you to keep in touch with us through our email, cell and home numbers, and residential address which is still the same.

We love you and God Bless you!



Just a Little Day trip Cont...

I can remember what some members thought when they first saw the doors, and asking, "What are you doing have you lost your minds?" (That's ugly). We went from those kinds of comments to members now calling to say how good it looks. I guess it had to grow on us.

Now let's step outside.

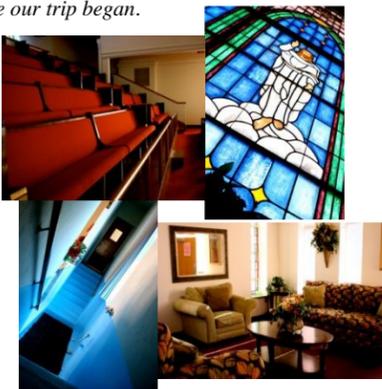
We had the building cleaned, sealed, and painted. We had the windows cleaned, new windows installed in some areas, a new roof and some new air conditioner units installed to replace the old ones. The steps and sidewalks in the front of the church were treated to prevent slipping accidents and possible lawsuits. Thank God we were able to take care of it in time. Last but not least we have one of the best landscaped church grounds in this whole city. My wife tells me that because of the beauty of the church inside and out we get numerous requests for weddings from all denominations throughout the city.

Let's give Carl and Marie Williams a hand for all they do to make these church grounds as beautiful as they are.

Let's give ourselves a big hand for all that we have accomplished with God's help and our donations.

The story does not end here; we still have more to do. Stalnaker Hall is our next major project. We are still short of our goal. We still need your support. We ask that you continue your prayers and your giving. TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

You may now return to your seats in Stalnaker Hall where our trip began.



Health: In Case of an Emergency

Sheryl Marina

The Health Ministry has prepared a Medical Information form and is asking all members to fill it out due to the increasing number of members in need of medical attention during service and other FBCNT functions.

This information is needed if you are unresponsive, unable to provide Medical information or are alone. This information will be given to EMSA personnel, upon their arrival, so you will receive proper medical care for your condition.

The Health Ministry is asking that you fill out the form, placed it in a sealed envelope, with your name on the outside. Your information will be kept in the Church Office in case of emergency. The form will be available starting Sunday August 7, 2011 in the Church Foyer. Please give your envelope(s) to Sheryl Marina, Leroy Knox or any of the Ushers on Duty.

Or, you can purchase a one year membership in the invisible bracelet program for \$10. <http://invisiblebracelet.org>

Invisible Bracelet (iB) is a powerful **medical ID in case of emergency**. It assigns you a unique personal identification number (PIN) that is displayed on a wallet card, key chain, sticker or snap-on device that can be worn on clothing. Your PIN is linked to an online account that you can set up on our secure iB Web site. Your online account has information on who you are, what medications and allergies you have and up to ten emergency contacts

Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass, but learning to dance in the rain!



Teaching Minds, Changing Hearts Touching the World

First Baptist Church North Tulsa

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Contact us at 918-582-5129

Did you know there is an online version of this same newsletter? If you have an email address and would like to sign up, it is as easy as sending a text!

Text FBCNT1414 to 22828 to get started!

*message and data rates may apply

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A Monthly Update for First Baptist Church North Tulsa

First Baptist News Chronicle

Back to School Ed.



WHAT'S COMING UP THIS MONTH?!

Mark your calendars for the following events:

August 6th - CEM Annual Cookout and Planning Sessions

August 6th- Girls Camp, Camp Burge

August 11th @ 9:30am - Deaconess Ministry Meeting.

August 12th-13th - God's Leading Lady Workshop

August 13th @ 9:00am - Deacon Ministry Meeting / @ 11:00am - Trustee Ministry Meeting/

August 14th @ 5:00pm -GCG Community Worship Service

August 19-20 - Prayer Walk

August 21 @ 10am - Usher Ministry Meeting

August 22- TPS goes back to school!

August 27- Meet the Members Reception / Back-to-School program

Let Us Pray

Pray with us as our children, administration, and teachers get ready for the year

Wrote by: Pastor Anthony Scott

Lord,

As we approach a new academic year, I pray that you would help the students of First Baptist be the best they can be. Help them to study well and study often. Protect them from the dangers that are so rampant in the hallways. Let them be kind to all who are in school, respectful to their teachers, and parents.

May they use all the gifts you have given them. Help them to trust in you for all their success.

Let the teachers have open minds and hearts. Realizing the potential and uniqueness of each student.

Give them encouragement as they are faced with the challenges of teaching in this new day. Provide them the necessary resources to offer a first class education. Guide them as they prepare and receive students each day.

We lift all students and teachers in the Tulsa Public Schools and surrounding Districts before you in prayer.

In Jesus' Name,
Amen!!

News from the Editor

Greetings Readers!

I am excited to present to you the *Back to School* edition for this month's newsletter. It is important to bring the good news about *our* schools.

First Baptist is partnered with three schools in the Tulsa Public School District: Carver Middle School, Walt Whitman Elementary, and Central Jr./Sr. High School.

As a church it is our job to support our schools any way we can.

The newsletter is committed to bringing you news about all three of our schools and ways you can help. All you have to do is look for Partner-In-Education news.

This month I would like to re-introduce our schools and what lies ahead for them this year, but don't stop reading there, we have some great stories you don't want to miss!

Happy reading,

Print Editor
Tiffany Dixon

Just a Little Day Trip

Marijo Grissom

Sometimes, as we focus on generating and obtaining more and more funds for the renovation of First Baptist, we forget that our dollars, time, and talents actually are already producing some beautiful and well needed repairs, additions and changes. At the July 16, 2011, Church quarterly business meeting, the chair of our Trustee Board, Jack Henderson, took us on a beautiful verbal tour of FBCNT, giving us insight and specifics as to the changes that have taken place already.

As he gave the Quarterly Trustee report, the audience soon found itself on a tour of the church just by closing our eyes and visualizing. I asked Brother Henderson if I might submit his report to the Newsletter so those who missed this little day trip, might have the opportunity to see through new eyes what Brother Henderson painted so vividly for the rest of us.

In the words of Trustee Henderson...

"Many of the action items over the last six months are going to be talked about for the next few minutes. I

want you to go on trip with me, and we are not going to leave this room. But, our minds will be traveling all over and around this church property.

Special thanks to Russell Davis and all the members of the Renovation Committee for all of their hard work. Also another big thank you to all of you the members of this church family for coming up with the needed funds to do all of this work, we all know that there is more work that needs to be done, and more money needed to do the rest of the work.

As I travel all over this city, I attend lots of events of all kinds at many churches. I am here today to tell you because of your efforts and your donations to the Renovation Fund, our church is one of the best looking churches in this city.

One of the things I can't understand is why we at First Baptist sometimes can't see what other people see. I get calls all the time from outside the church telling me how good our church looks and asking me how we do it. First Baptist stands as a pillar in this community, we as members need to be proud of that.

As I talk about some of the completed work, go to that area in your mind's eye and see it. Let's start with all of the work Bro. Orlando Hazley has done for us all over

the church, and all the money he has saved the church. All donated time and talent. Some of the areas are restrooms all over the church, the basement, all the classrooms, the All Purpose room, and many many other areas. Let's give him a big "Thank You" when you see him.

Now let's move to the South wing lower level, ladies lounge area. When I walk into that area I can't tell if I just might be in a room in someone's home! This is truly a beautiful room, one the ladies can be proud of.

Let's go into the Sanctuary, one of the best looking in this city. Now, go into the Sanctuary and sit in your regular seat like you do every Sunday. Now, close your eyes and really see what we have done: new paint, new pew cushions, redoing of the Baptismal area, cleaning of all wood areas. Can you see the beautiful wood? Cleaning of stained glass windows, showing just how beautiful they are. I can't let you leave this area just now let's just stay here for a minute...

Now, let's leave this area and go into the foyer. See the new paint; can't you smell it? Now, look at the new look -- stained and painted front doors.

Continued on Back Page

Introducing our Partners -In-Education

Walt Whitman Elementary



To First Baptist Church North Tulsa,

Walt Whitman was built in the 1960's and has a rich history of distinguished alumni and leadership professionals. In the 1980's Whitman became a magnet school, which still remains today.

We are a small neighborhood school whose student population is 100% free lunch. Our attendance is fair, our test scores could be better, but this year we hope to show much improvement.

Currently, we have single family residences and one apartment complex (Comanche) who attend.

I have been a counselor at Whitman for 19 years. In that time, our census has been as low as 225 students and as much as 380 students. This year will only be a guess with the adding of 6th grade and expanding our Whitman boundaries. We love community interaction and welcome everyone interested in "Making a difference." Our principal, Elaine Buxton, has provided much needed leadership and positive interventions to make school more successful for all students. She seems to nurture community relationships and welcomes any ideas or service opportunities. With her guidance and our great staff, Walt Whitman made AYP for the first time in several years. We are so proud of the staff on a job well done.

Continue to pray with us as we look forward to an exciting year!

Sincerely,

Michealle Wasson

Guidance Counselor

Carver Middle School



Dear Rev. Anthony Scott and First Baptist Church of North Tulsa,

As we return to school, George Washington Carver Middle School continues to affirm its commitment to academic excellence. This year, Tulsa Public Schools closed several of their schools due to the lack of funding. Fortunately, Carver was not touched during this historic restructuring process. However, as many of your members may remember, years ago, that was not the case for Carver. In 1971 Tulsa school leaders voted to close Carver. Following the district's move to close Carver, community and church leaders rallied together and (re)opened Carver Middle School as the new Carver Freedom School. Eventually, their voices were heard and their historic union forced Tulsa school officials to officially re-open Carver Middle School in 1973.

Historians teach us that those who do not pay attention to history are doomed to repeat its mistakes. One can only believe that Carver has withstood the test of time because of its greater purpose. That purpose, though it may alter from time to time and vary among different individuals, is clearly a part of God's sovereign plan. As we move into this school year, Carver makes a commitment to revitalize its lasting partnership with First Baptist Church of North Tulsa. As the leader of the Carver team, I ask that you and your congregation pray for Carver students, faculty, staff, and their families on a consistent basis. Pray that, as a whole, the Carver community, will surpass our already high expectations of academic and athletic excellence and continue to unveil the many blessings that God has in store for us.

Thank you, First Baptist Church of North Tulsa, for being a dedicated partner to the Carver community. We look forward to many more years of our long-standing partnership.

Yours in Christ,

Melissa J. Woolridge, Ph.D.

Principal, George Washington Carver Middle School

Central Jr./Sr. High School



First Baptist family,

We are embarking on a new chapter in the history of Central Fine & Performing Arts High School. Our start to the 2011 - 2012 school year is an exciting one due to the performance of our students on the End-of Instruction exams. We made significant strides in our scores in Math, Science and English. FBCNT you were right there with us day in and day out during our testing season. Thank you for taking the time out of your schedules to work with our instructors and students.

We have also made careful preparations with teachers and staff to prepare for our newest addition, "Jr. Braves." Parents and community members have inquired about how we will make the adjustment with our staff, students and building facilities.

We hosted a meeting with incoming Junior Braves and their parents in May to answer questions and tour the building. We recently hosted a "Bridge to Success" workshop for our 7th and 8th grade students. The purpose of this program was to help the students get acclimated to their new campus, meet instructional staff members and to prepare for academic success.

FBCNT we sincerely appreciate the school supplies that were collected for our students. We know that we can always count on your generosity and helping hand in all our academic endeavors.

In His name,

Dr. Oliver Wallace, Principal

Central Fine and Performing Arts Junior and Senior High School

Testimonial: Rushella Latimer, More than a Conqueror

When told in January 2011 that two malignant tumors had to be removed and a series of eight Chemotherapy treatments must follow, the Lord God of Host immediately began to remind us (my husband and I) of His Preparation, His Purpose, and His Promise.

God's Preparation...

We were reminded of how powerful God is for Revelations 21:6(Amp) states ".....I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without price from the fountain of the water of Life. "

The all-powerful God is in control and knows the beginning and the end. He prepared hearts and minds of FBCNT to minister to us His love, comfort, and joy from the children and congregation to the Pastor and First Lady. He is all powerful and we praise Him!!

God's Purpose...

What good could come from all the pain and sickness? James 1:17 (AMP) says, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above; it comes down from the Father of all light, in Whom there can be no variation or shadow cast by His turning."

We received the good and perfect gift of knowing God in ways we have never known before, such as, "The Balm in Gilead" who heals not only the body but anxieties and fears. He is the Mighty God full of grace and mercy.

God's Promise...

Matthew 6:32-33 (KJV) "For after all these things do the Gentiles seek: for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

As of June 23, 2011 God has provided every penny for the medical expenses. Seek Him for He is Awesome, Loving, Kind and Ever-Present.

Love,

William and Rushella Latimer

Faith in the Stages of Life Pastors' Corner



We will experience a wide array of transitions during the various stages of life. Some will pass through family and financial crisis. Others will pull up roots and relocate due to an employment crisis. Still others may face the life altering crisis of illness. As we mature, the crisis may be facing life alone, managing a modest income, or the reality of loneliness. No matter the stage of life, faith can prove to be stabilizing and sustaining.

Take a moment to reflect on this question: How does my faith in God adapt to the changing circumstances of life? You and I are going to face transitions and changes throughout life. Some will be stressful. Others may produce a crisis or bring joy. The fact remains, they will come whether we are prepared for them or not. Many, but not all transitions in life, are predictable. Therefore, it is possible to equip ourselves to successfully face challenges throughout the life cycle. Faith can and should make a difference in how we respond to life events. It is also true that life events affect the development of faith. There is a mutual interaction that takes place between faith and life.

The human life cycle is made up of several stages and eras. Within the adult years we can distinguish between early, middle, and later adulthood. Each stage has its own challenges. The successful achievement of

current challenges increases the likelihood of coping well with tasks later in life. An important component during each stage is to build a stable life structure. For Christians, this stable life structure is rooted in our faith in God. As faith grows, our lives become more stabilized regardless of the events that confront us. Faith enables us to respond to difficult and seemingly impossible situations with a new source of strength and hope. Faith gives us a fresh perspective on life and a new understanding of who we are and who we are becoming. Faith in God matures with time. So, let faith become the foundational structure of your life. This will provide the stability and structure you so eagerly desire. This does not mean that we will be free from difficulties, but it does guarantee that we are strengthened to face any situation or circumstance.

Live Victoriously,

Pastor Scott