

January 2012

The Florida Baptist Association is a networking ministry of diverse churches seeking to stimulate church health, develop leaders and multiply ministry in Leon, Wakulla, Jefferson and Franklin counties

Executive Director
Sean McMahon

Associate Executive Director
Garry Goodin

Administrative Assistant
Sherri Langston

Web Site:
www.floridabaptistassociation.org

Phone:
850.877.7600

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A New Year – A New Look

As we enter 2012, we unveil the new logo for our association. The cross in a forward leaning window pane, with the italic type font is intended to promote the centrality of the cross to

who we are, with a forward-looking approach to ministry. Our thanks to **Cari Bradley** of City Church Tallahassee for her development of this new look. Look for it on all future promotional pieces.

Why are we here? Why does this association exist?

2012 will mark the 170th year of the Florida Baptist Association. As the oldest association in our state (predating our state and national conventions by several years), the FBA has been a leader in ministry and missions. We have a storied history with an earned reputation for being a catalyst for the promotion of the gospel. Our past is strong, and our future is bright. But the question new believers and new churches often ask is, "Why are we here?"

Unlike some denominations, we don't require participation, nor demand financial support from our churches. Support of and involvement with the FBA is voluntary, determined by the individual churches. And unlike ecumenical groups who have a hierarchy structure where a bishop or administrator sits above local churches and pastors, we have no ecclesiastical authority over the churches which comprise the Florida Baptist Association.

Southern Baptists have an autonomous church authority structure. When a church has a conflict, the association doesn't step in and take control. Likewise, if a church needs a pastor, we can assist with pulpit supply and with the search, but we do not appoint nor give final approval to the selection of their shepherd.

So why are we here? And better yet, why should our churches support and be involved in the work of the Florida Baptist Association?

1. The Great Commission. The fulfillment of the Great Commission is the most important mission we will ever engage in. No individual believer or church can fulfill this commission. We must all work together.

2. The unchurched. The number of unchurched living in our area is growing every day, and we must be proactive in taking the life-changing message of the gospel to them – where they are in a relevant way.

Churches working together in association can do so much more than individually.

3. The biblical model. The concept of churches working collectively dates to the beginning of the church. The Apostle Paul encourages the church in Corinth to follow the example of the churches in Macedonia in supporting the work of other members of the body of Christ. (See 2 Corinthians 8-9) It's a model whose practice shows its validity.

4. The potential of ministry. Every church can do something for the Kingdom, and is equipped with every gift to fulfill its ministry. Our fifty-nine churches and missions can do so much more for the Kingdom collectively than we can ever do individually. Collectively, our potential is only limited by our willingness.

How do we carry this out?

1. Church support. We are the first link to providing support – program organization, ministry training, leadership development, interim/pastor search preparation, and much more – for our churches. No matter the church size, we can provide support and development mechanisms to enhance your ministry.

2. Ministerial support and encouragement. Ministry is hard. And being a ministry leader is hard. Providing confidential support to those called to serve in ministry – whether full-time, part-time, or volunteer – is a critical part of who we are.

3. Mission development. We are continually seeking new opportunities and ways to help you engage our community, state, and world with the gospel.

4. New church starts. I have a dream of having a least one, permanent new church starting in our area every year. (I pray I'm short-sighted in this number!) As well, our goal is that every church which starts has at least one partnering church which comes alongside to provide support – be it personnel, finances, or facilities.

I'm excited about the potential we have in 2012, and the privilege to lead your Florida Baptist Association. Let's join together to take the gospel from the capitol to the coast – to the entire region called The Big Bend.

Sean

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**February 9
Pastors' Stewardship Conference**

10:30 am, Lunch following
Held at the Association Office. A representative from the Florida Baptist Convention will share information related to Christian stewardship in the church. Each participant will receive a packet of church stewardship related materials.

**February 16
Leading Congregational Change**

10:00 - 12:00 noon
Leader: Roy Saint, Florida Baptist Convention
Location: Fellowship Baptist Church, 3705 N. Monroe St.
Each church and every ministry is constantly going through change. Volunteers and resources change, as does the community, technology, and the culture of our society. Join Roy Saint as he shares some of the best ways to help your church make better decisions about change?

**February 17-18
RE: Connect
State Collegiate Retreat**

A convergence of college students and leaders who want to ignite the passion for Christ on their campuses.
Theme: "Unstained" James 1:27 (NLT)
Deadline to Register 01/10/12 at 8:31 pm
Cost: \$35 per person

Make checks payable to: BCM of Florida Baptist Convention
2012 Re: Connect (State Collegiate Retreat)
200 S. Woodward Avenue, Tallahassee, FL 32304
Westside Baptist Church
Speakers: Show Hope and Jason Hays
Worship Leader: Caleb
Contact: Pam Knight at the FSU BCM, 222-4444

**February 3, 2012
DISASTER SPIRITUAL CARE TRAINING**

Provided by American Red Cross Capital Area Chapter at the Red Cross Building, 1115 Easterwood Drive
Free Training for All Ordained Clergy
*Pre-register with Shuford Davis 385-4681 or shuford.davis@comcast.net

This training will qualify you to become an ARC Disaster Services Human Resources (DSHR) Volunteer
8:15 am - Sign In
8:30 am - Introduction to Air Disaster Response - Evie Goslin, Ph.D.
9:30 am - Psychological First Aid - Carolyn Stimmel, Ph.D.
10:30 am - Introduction to Disaster Spiritual Care- Shuford Davis, Ph.D.
11:30 am - DSHR application procedure

**February 19
BBCFM Youth Musical**

The 2012 BBCFM Youth Musical, "Are We There Yet?", will be Sunday, February 19th, 6:00 PM at Morningside Baptist Church (1560 Pedrick Road, Tallahassee). I have listed the rehearsal schedule below.

Rehearsal Dates (all rehearsals will be held at Morningside Baptist)
Sunday, January 8th, 2:30 - 4:00 PM
Sunday, January 29th, 2:30 - 4:00 PM (t-shirt sizes due by this rehearsal)
Friday, February 17th, 6:30 - 9:00 PM
Saturday, February 18th, 9:00 AM - 12:00
Sunday, February 19th, 4:00 PM

Music Books: the music books will be provided through BBCFM funds.
Listening CDs: If you wish to purchase listening CDs, you may order those through LifeWay.
T-shirts: Shirt sizes need to be turned in to Jason Pamblanco by the January 29th rehearsal. The shirts will be adult sizes.



**January 15
Christian Worldview
Conference**

Dr. Freddy Davis will lead a Bible Study and Christian Worldview Conference at First

Baptist Church of Lloyd on January 15. The morning service at 10:30 am will be an overview and introduction, the 6:00 pm. Sunday service will start a four-day series. Monday - Wednesday will start at 7 pm. For more information contact George Smith by email: fbclloyd.pastor@embarqmail.com

**Association Calendar
January**

- 16 Martin Luther King Day (Office Closed)
- 26 Association Directors Meeting, 12:00
- 29 Day of Prayer for The Baptist College of Florida

February

- 9 Pastors' Stewardship Conf., 10:30 am
- 16 Leading Congregational Change, 10 am
- 20 President's Day (Office Closed)
- 27 Training Church Leadership/Discipleship Conference, 7-9 pm, Thomasville Road Baptist Church



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Your Gifts - November 2011

Church	Month	Year to Date
Aenon	507.12	507.12
Antioch	255.70	255.70
Bradfordville, First	0.00	00.00
Canopy Roads	1,221.00	2,260.28
Carrabelle, First	242.10	481.14
Celebration	1,420.66	2,658.49
Chapel Hill	521.79	942.81
Crawfordville, First	0.00	116.66
Crossroad Bible	0.00	30.00
Crossway	585.62	1,121.19
East Hill	468.44	923.05
Ebenezer, Jefferson	0.00	0.00
Ebenezer, Leon	55.27	101.29
Emmanuel International	0.00	59.20
Faith	1,026.84	1,882.68
Fellowship	991.00	1,837.00
Fellowship of the Hills	500.00	500.00
Forest Heights	442.51	782.73
Grace	0.00	0.00
Hispanic	102.50	159.85
Immanuel	2,059.31	3,732.83
Indian Springs	507.33	507.33
Lake Bradford	188.53	188.53
Lake Ellen	470.17	853.88
Lake Talquin	1,069.29	1,619.39
Lakeview	0.00	596.00
LIFEBASICS	0.00	0.00
Lloyd, First	403.11	403.11
Monticello, First	894.59	894.59
Morningside	100.00	200.00
Mt. Elon	175.00	325.00
New Life	146.00	332.00
North Florida	1,500.00	3,000.00
Northwoods	0.00	333.34
Ochlockonee Bay	0.00	0.00
Panacea, First	0.00	126.00
Panacea Park	0.00	0.00
Pioneer	256.52	499.40
Seminole	195.39	195.39
Shady Sea	75.00	173.75
Sopchoppy	206.01	362.75
St. George, First	0.00	0.00
St. Marks, First	0.00	264.00
Tallahassee, First	615.01	2,067.57
Tlh Korean	0.00	0.00
The Well	0.00	0.00
Thomasville Rd.	2,000.00	4,000.00
Unity	124.57	124.57
Wakulla Springs	0.00	0.00
Wakulla Station	53.72	111.73
Woodland Hills	0.00	0.00
Woodrun	256.00	256.00
Woodville, First	737.20	1,395.23
Totals	\$20,373.30	\$37,181.58