

February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 AWANA & Display 5:45 Prayer Meeting 6:00 pm	2	3 Red River Association Men & Boys Fish Fry 6:00pm-8:00pm	4 Kaleidoscope trip to Pineville
5	6	7 Mens Prayer Breakfast	8 NO AWANA OR DISPLAY	9	10 Children's Choir Lock-in	11
<i>Winter Bible Study with Dr. Bill Tolar Feb. 5th-8th</i>						
12	13	14	15 AWANA & Display 5:45 Prayer Meeting 6:00 pm	16	17 D-Now 17th-19th	18 D-Now Parents Night Out/Children's Valentines Party 6-8:30
19 D-Now Baby Dedication Business Meeting	20	21	22 AWANA & Display 5:45 Prayer Meeting 6:00 pm	23	24 4th Friday Fish Fry @ Clara Springs 5:30 - 8:30 Youth Ministry Worker Conference @ Clara Springs 24-25th	25 Cole Scholarship Banquet
26	27	28	29 AWANA & Display 5:45 Prayer Meeting 6:00 pm			

February Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 2 - Tj Prejean
Megan Johnson | 17 - Edgar Cason |
| 3 - C.Y. Adams | 18 - Gabriel McKnight |
| 4 - Mason Murray | 19 - Erin Bailey |
| 6 - Ethan Roberts
Stuart Shaw | 20 - Darcey Bohannon
Destiny Bohannon
Coree McKnight |
| 15 - Payton Mitchell
Iris Almond | 21 - Sherry Creamer |
| | 25 - Donnie Cox |

Sign up at "The Place"

We are starting a new system of signing up for events. For almost every event in which the office coordinates the sign-up and registration process we are going to begin using an Envelope Registration Process. The envelopes will be found along with event information at "The Place" in the hallway near the library window. To sign up for an event fill out the **Registration Envelope** and any **Registration Form** required by the camp/event. Please place any payment for the event in the envelope and place the envelope in your Sunday School folder or the offering plate.

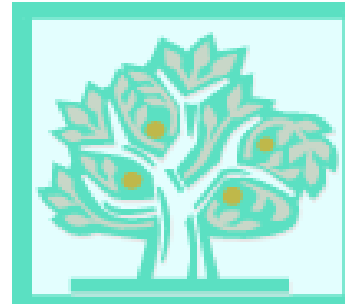
Winter Bible Study February 5th-8th

Dr. Tolar will be joining the Fairview family for four evenings to teach The Journeys of Paul.

Paul's Journeys are some of the most memorable stories from the New Testament. They begin with a man journeying forth as executioner. This man encounters the Lord and is transformed from an agent of death into an agent of life. For the rest of his life Paul journeyed throughout the Mediterranean world helping people understand the message of Jesus and starting churches. The story ends with a man journeying toward the executioner; but this man has nothing to fear. He knows that "Death has been swallowed up in victory." (1 Cor. 15:54)

This Winter Bible Study will be an exciting time as we come together as a family to learn from the Word of God. Each evening we will gather together at 6:00pm for a light meal followed by a feast on the Word.

On Sunday we will meet at 5:00 pm)



Fertile Ground

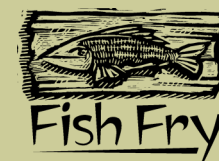
A Voice of ministry from Fairview Baptist Church

Volume 12 Number 2

February 2012

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- Business Meeting
- 4th Friday Fish Fry
- Cole Scholarship Banquet



**Red River Baptist Association
Men & Boy's Fish Fry
Friday, February 3rd
6:00-8:00 pm
Fairview Baptist Church Gym**



**Tuesday, Feb. 7th
8:00 am
First Baptist, Coughatta**

Oh, for the love of a parent! - Bro. Matt

The love of a parent for their child is powerful. This love is hard to describe to someone who has never been a parent or has never taken care of a child as their own. There is a bond created that the makers of Superglue® cannot break, and a tenacious commitment that makes a pit bull look like a caterpillar. Parents will go to great lengths to see that their children have what they believe to be needful; even if the parent is off base. For example, in the Bible we read the story of Rachel and her misdirected love for Jacob. She led him to deceive his father and steal the birthright from his brother Esau. Rachel's love for Jacob was tainted by her own selfishness. The opposite of this example is Hannah. Hannah was a selfless, godly mother. She loved God and her son so much that when he was old enough, she committed young Samuel to the service of the Lord. He grew up in the Temple with Eli the priest of God (1 Samuel 1:27-28). A parent's love can greatly influence their children to pursue the superior gifts of God over the inferior pursuits of the world.

One of the beautiful passages of scripture that describes God's love for His children is found in Hosea chapter eleven. Here we find God speaking and telling of how He has raised Israel (Ephraim) from a little child. He says, "When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called My son (v. 1)... I taught Ephraim to walk, taking them by their arms; but they did not know that I healed them. I drew them with gentle cords, with bands of love, and I was to them as those who take the yoke from their neck. I stooped and fed them (11:3-4)." In this passage we read of God's deep love for His chosen people as He rescued them from slavery in Egypt (Exodus 3:6-9). It was God's desire to take these descendants of Abraham and make them His children in a new land. Yet, according to God in Hosea 11:2, they rebelled against His love and followed the voices calling to them from the lost world around them. They began sacrificing to idols and left the love of God behind. From verse seven to the end of the chapter, God tells of His burning desire and love for His children, who are backsliding. He tells of His plan to chastise them and eventually call them back to Himself. According to verses ten and eleven, God will roar like a lion and they will return to Him trembling. This is most likely a reference to when the Lion of Judah (Jesus) will return to earth one day and call to His children. The Jews will return to God as they see that Jesus is the Messiah.

Aren't you glad that we don't have to wait for that day to come? We can recognize God's love poured out to us today. We can see that Jesus is the Lamb of God, slain as the sacrifice for our sins on the Cross. God has demonstrated His love to us in Jesus Christ! The Bible says, "He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God (John 1:11-13). Being a child of God is not a matter of physical nationality, but of spiritual identity! "Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! (1 John 3:1) As I look back over my life, it is amazing to see the love of two wonderful fathers. My earthly father has given me all I need to become a good parent in this life and my Heavenly Father gives me all I need to be His child in eternity! Over this next month, we will take some time to study what the Bible teaches us about why we need God's love and how we need to live and share His love.



Business Meeting
February 19th

Winter Bible Study
with Dr. Bill Tolar
"Paul's Missionary Journeys"
February 5th - 8th
Dinner Served Nightly

Valentines Day Party
February 18th
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
We will have some fun
and some food!
Ages 4 yrs - 5th grade

Parents Night Out

Larry Cole
Scholarship Dinner
Saturday, Feb. 25th
6:00 pm
Fairview Baptist
Church Gym
Tickets \$25 each or
\$180 for a table of 8
Catering by:
Merci Beaucoup
Entertainment:
Bob Smiley

4th Friday Fish Fry
at Clara Springs
Friday, February
24th
5:30-8:00 pm
All You Can Eat

An Evangelistic Sunday School Class - Bro. J

This past week I was privileged to be at the LBC Evangelism Conference. During one of the breakout sessions I attended a workshop led by Steve Parr of the Georgia Baptist Convention. He talked about creating a Sunday School class that is evangelistic. I thought I would provide a run-down of what he taught us and issue a challenge to you.

- **Make Sure the Front Door is Open!**
The front door is the invitation to attend. Eighty percent of lost and unchurched people said they would attend if someone **invited them** and **attended with them**. *Your challenge:* Invite your Friends, Relatives, Acquaintances, and Neighbors to church.
- **Make Sure the Side Door is Open!**
The side door is class fellowships that are planned so that guests can be invited and so that they attend. Fellowships are not just fellowships; they are a great way to win your friends to Jesus. *Your challenge:* As a class, plan a fellowship. Instead of asking what kind of fellowship do we want to have, ask what kind of fellowship should we have so unchurched people will want to come.
- **Make Sure the Gospel Door is Open!**
The Gospel door is open when the Gospel is presented and an invitation is given. The gospel should be presented in every Sunday School class every week. Believe me, Bro Matt will not be upset if you lead someone to the Lord in your class. *Your challenge:* Present the Gospel each week in your class and offer an invitation.
- **Make Sure the Ministry Door is Open!**
The ministry door is open when Sunday School class members seek to minister to the unchurched during a crisis. Why should we minister to people when they are experiencing a crisis? We do it because that is what Jesus told us to do. If He decides to draw someone to Himself when we act like Him, then praise be to God. *Your challenge:* Look for people, in our area, who are hurting and plan as a class to minister to them.

The Sound of Music in The Church

Amazing Grace is certainly one of the best loved American hymns. It practically guarantees total participation of the congregation. Why? Because it presents the dynamic truth of Christianity: Christ came the first time to die for our sins and He will come a second time to take His own to His heavenly home forever.

This truth is so effectively presented in *Amazing Grace* that merely the singing of it can lift the soul and renew the spirit. This is the essence of church music.

Almost half of the worship service consists of music, whether traditional or coteremporary, in some form - congregational singing, choral pieces or special music, groups, instrumentals, or a combination of these.

The active participant not only prepares himself spiritually for the pastor's sermon, but he also presents himself for spiritual growth.

Congregational singing can generate a spirited excitement that is contagious and carries over with other aspects of

Bro. Mike

A Note From - Bro. Joe

Disciple-Now 2012 is almost here! With that being the case, let me fill you in on exactly what this event is, how we hope it will happen, and how you can get involved! Lord willing, this will be a powerful weekend in the lives of our youth!

Let me start by defining this weekend. Disciple-Now is an event intended to focus on discipleship. Through the preaching and application of the Word of God, students are encouraged to grow in their faith and to seek after God with a greater passion than they previously had. The theme of this year's event is **Imitator: Choosing to Follow God**. It stresses the importance of following God and living for Him as opposed to imitating the world and living for one's self.

I'm very excited for this weekend, partly because I believe God is going to do some awesome things, and partly because of the great group of people God has provided to help make this event happen. Derek Griffon, a senior Communications major at Northwestern State University, has agreed to come preach for us that weekend. Derek is one of the most Christ-focused people I know, and you can really tell God is speaking through him when you see His passion for God's glory.

We have the Stephen Michel band coming all the way from New Orleans area to lead worship for us. I've had the privilege of knowing Stephen for most of my life, and I played music with him when I was in high school. He too has a passion for God, and he seeks to glorify Christ in his music.

Additionally, we have eight college students coming from NSU to lead small group

Bible studies with the students and to invest in the lives of our youth. They all are devoted to Jesus Christ and are great models for our youth to see and follow.

Over the course of the weekend, our students will participate in worship services, Bible studies, games, a mission project, and they will hopefully grow closer together as a youth group and more involved in the larger church body. We don't want this to just be another weekend; we want this to be life-changing!

If you want to get involved, there are a few different ways you can do that. Everyone is invited to the evening worship times at 7:50 Friday night and 7:15 Saturday night. If you'd like to help with food, please contact Paula Jeans. The biggest need we have, though, is prayer. Please be in prayer for this event. Pray that God will work in the hearts of the students. Pray for Derek Griffon as he brings the Word. Pray for the Stephen Michel Band as they lead us in worship through music. Pray for the small group leaders



(Jessica Adams, Blake Allen, Stephen Bynum, Lacie Hughes, Evan Korn, Marlee Roberts, Derek Stubbs, and Kristin Walker) as they lead and invest in students during the weekend. And pray for everyone involved behind the scenes who are helping to make this weekend run smoothly.

I'm excited to see what God has planned for our church that weekend. May He be glorified in all we do!

If you have not signed up and would like to you can get a registration envelope from Joe.

Parents and Church Members can be Involved

I want to invite everyone to participate in what I know is going to be a great weekend. One of the best ways to participate in this event is to pray that the Lord will move in the lives of teenagers. You can also participate by actually being present. These are the times and events you are invited to be a part of; you can come to any or all of them.

- Friday
 - 2:00 pm: Prayer time in the youth building
 - 6:45 pm: Large Groups Worship and Bible Study (LGWBS) in the Sanctuary
 - 7:50 pm: LGWBS in Sanctuary
- Saturday
 - 10:15 am: LGWBS in Sanctuary
 - 12:30 pm: Service Project
 - 7:15 pm: LGWBS in Sanctuary