

# the Encourager

FBC *Benton*

Honoring God by sharing Christ  
and building believers

## *First Baptist Staff*

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Senior Pastor

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Missions & Campus  
Administration

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CLAY CUNNINGHAM  
Minister to Students

BRAD EVANS  
Associate Minister to Students

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## *An Encouraging Word*

Pastor Rick Grant

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German theologian struggling to follow Christ in the midst of Nazi rule, penned what I believe to be one of the greatest Christian books of the twentieth century. In it he wrote that the first call every Christian experiences is “the call to abandon the attachments of this world.” The theme of the book is summarized in one potent sentence: “When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die” (p. 89). Bonhoeffer entitled his book *The Cost of Discipleship*.

I believe Bonhoeffer’s clear call of the gospel seems somewhat foreign to what is presented today in most American churches. Why is it? Could it be that the American church has unintentionally embraced values and ideas that may be common in our culture but antithetical to the gospel Jesus taught? I am afraid so. It was Jesus who said: “*If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me*” (Luke 9:23).

What would happen if we took away the pretty music and the padded pews? What if the big screens were gone and the platform no longer decorated? What if the air conditioning is off and the comforts removed. I wonder then if His Word would be enough for His people to come together, or would we just be looking for another church?

## JOIN US FOR "SPIRIT WEEKS"!



People like you make our community a better place. But what about the cows? Tell you what—stop by and **present this form** at Chick-fil-A at Reynolds Road **May 4-18**, during FBC Benton's "Spirit Weeks." Based on the sales from your organization, Chick-fil-A will make a donation to the Upper Room Student Ministry of FBC Benton.

**Not only do the cows win, but you will, too!**

**Organization: The Upper Room Student Ministry of FBC Benton**

Amount Purchased: \_\_\_\_\_

Cashier: Please attach copy of receipt with purchase



## What's Going On With Upper Room Students??

- April 25 **Pure Energy** Rehearsal (4:30PM)  
Singing in PM Worship Service
- April 28 **IMPACT** (7:00pm in the UR)
- May 1 **Mooney Memorial** Golf Tournament  
1:00pm @ Longhills
- May 2 **Wedding Shower**  
*Allison Winn/Jake Maxwell*  
3:00pm in Fellowship Hall
- Parents Meeting**  
(Middle School 4:30-5:00pm/  
Junior High & Senior High 5:15 – 5:45pm)
- Pure Energy** Rehearsal (4:30-6:00pm)  
Singing in PM Worship Service
- May 5 **IMPACT** (7:00pm in the UR)
- May 7 **Pure Energy** Retreat  
-7:00pm Parents Meeting  
-8:00pm Rehearsal Begins  
-Midnight Go Home!
- May 9 **Pure Energy** Rehearsal  
-Picture Day (3:30pm)  
-Rehearsal (4:30 – 6:00pm)  
-Singing in PM Worship Service
- May 12 **DODGECITY** @ Cook Fieldhouse
- May 16 **Senior Sunday**  
**Pure Energy** Rehearsal (4:30 – 6:00pm)  
Singing in PM Worship Service



You are invited to a  
Wedding Shower in honor of  
**Allison Winn**  
bride-groom of **Jake Maxwell**  
Sunday, May 2, 2010  
3:00pm until 4:30pm  
First Baptist Church, Fellowship Hall

Jake & Allison are registered at Dillard's,  
Bed, Bath & Beyond, Kohl's & REI  
Hosted by the FBC Student Ministry



**SFA Recital**  
April 25 at  
2:00pm  
in the  
Music Suite

FBC Family,

For the past 25 years FBC Benton has invested into the ministry of Pure Energy. Each year God works in big and small ways in the lives of Junior High and Senior High students and the adult sponsors that make up PE. The week-long tour is the culmination of an entire year of hard work and commitment. There is no way that this ministry could continue as it does without the prayer support of the FBC faith family and the financial resources that many of you invest. Year after year many of you sense God's leading to invest into the life of a student who may not have all of the financial resources that it takes to go on tour. If you would like to give scholarship money to help students be a part of this year's Choir Tour please see Becky McGuire or me, and we can share with you firsthand the difference that it will make. If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to call on us or come by and see us! Thanks in advance for your support of Choir Tour 2010!

Clay



Contributions are solicited with the understanding that FBC will exercise complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds and will use them for the furtherance of FBC ministries while honoring fully the designation of the donor in accordance with tax-exempt laws and expectations.

## "What's in your purse?" Ladies' Spring Brunch

Ladies ages 18 & beyond



Saturday, May 8th

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. \* Selph Hall

Deadline for Ticket Purchase is May 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Tickets may be purchased in the church  
lobby or the church office.

# First Baptist Family

## GEORGE & RANDY MOONEY MEMORIAL

4-person Golf Scramble  
1:00pm—Shotgun start

**Saturday, May 1, 2010**

Longhills Golf Course - Benton

\$60/per person or \$240 per team  
*Includes lunch, 1 mulligan per player, all green & cart fees*

Proceeds used for scholarship support of  
all student summer activities



### Hospitals:

Jim Stitz      Phillis Elliott

### Deepest Sympathies and love to:

Barbara Atchison and family in the loss of her brother,  
Arrie Grissom

Keith Thomas and family in the loss of his father,  
Fred Thomas

Jeff Presnall and family in the loss of his father,  
Jim Presnall

Mildred Stitz and family in the loss of her brother

Join us for a Senior Adult trip to

## “Country Christmas”

**Gaylord Opryland Hotel, Nashville**  
**November 18th (Thurs) -20th (Sat.) 2010**

**Anticipated Cost: \$425 per person**

Included in this trip is a two night stay at the fabulous Gaylord Opryland Hotel; attendance at the Opening Ceremonies marking the beginning of the Christmas Season; Louise Mandrel's new Christmas Dinner Show, the Radio City Rockettes in their Christmas Spectacular; a visit to the Hall of Trees; shopping at the Treasures of the Holiday Craft Show and ICE! featuring A Charlie Brown Christmas by Charles Schulz. Please contact Karen in the church office and let her know if you are interested in this trip. Spaces are filling up fast so call today. A \$100.00 per person deposit is needed as soon as possible to hold your spot.

**Disaster Relief Training** Scheduled for May 1 @  
Geyer Springs First Baptist Church in Little Rock.  
Contact Missions Ministry Team @ 800-838-2272

Due to the cancellation of the Sr. Adult Trip to St. Louis, FBC has **St Louis Cardinals Tickets for sale** ~ Thursday, May 13, 12:40pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> Base Loge, \$30 each. Call Karen in the church office.



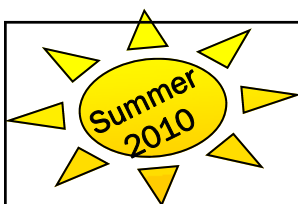
## Sunday, April 18

Senior Adults	201
Median Adults	221
Young Adults	61
Spanish	15
Youth	161
Children	92
Preschool	89
Total Bible Study	840
Avg. Attendance	932



*"If the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have." 2 Cor. 8:12*

<b>Receipts 04.18.10</b>	<b>39,625</b>
Weekly Goal	59,635
<b>Receipts YTD</b>	<b>823,159</b>
YTD Goal	954,160
Building Fund YTD	33,823
North American Missions	
Annie Armstrong	21,208
FBC Goal	21,500



**What about doing something  
This summer that will make a  
REAL DIFFERENCE?**

Have **you** signed up to work with VBS?

*You realize that more children come to know Christ as their Savior through this single event than through any other...*

. **MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD** .  
**DO SOMETHING THAT WILL LAST AN ETERNITY**

