

Cropwell Baptist Messenger

August 2011

Mark Your Calendar

Sept. 11

Senior Adult Day &
Covered Dish Meal

Sept. 25

Cropwell/Crosspoint Combined Choirs
& Bands at 6:30 pm

Sept. 30

"Courageous" Movie in Theaters

Oct. 9

A Night of Worship "Living for You"
led by the Children of Cropwell

Nov. 20

Thanksgiving Covered Dish Meal (AM)
Joint Thanksgiving Svc with FBC
at Cropwell (PM)

Dec. 2, 3, 4

Back to Bethlehem Outdoor Drama

Dec. 18

Preschool Christmas Program (PM)

From the Pastor's Desk

Soak in Some Psalms for the Summer

"I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul will make its boast in the Lord; The humble will hear it and rejoice. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together." (Psalm 34:1-3, NASB).

Indeed, a vacation can relieve some stress and tension. A vacation can be a welcomed break in an otherwise tension-filled life. Tension is a fact of life. Everyone has it in one form or another. Some folks get stress-related headaches, and others find their back constantly tensed up. Whatever form it takes, it is there, in all of us. While a back rub, massage, or a few Advil might provide temporary relief, the stress is still there. What we need is a permanent solution. King David lived with his share of stress. As a shepherd boy he risked his life to protect his flock from silent, night predators. After being summoned to King Saul's court, he had to deal with the stress of Saul's tension, depression and moodiness. Dealing with moody people can make a Goliath look small in comparison. For David, stress, adversity and pressure never ended.

Continued on page 2...

Family Water Night

August 10, 2011

Preschool/Children

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Youth

8:00 - 9:00 p.m.



back to
School



Bash!

Saturday, August 20th

See Children's Dept
for more information
on this event.

From the Pastor's Desk (Cont'd)

How did David deal with stress? We discover his secret in the Psalms. We find comfort in these songs of faith because they remind us of God's sufficiency when life is falling apart. Many of the Psalms begin with an admission of tension, stress, and adversity. Most end with a related confidence in the Lord God Almighty. Now, you may still take a few Advil, but what we really need is a word from The Word. Stress points should remind us of Scripture points. What Advil will not do, the Spirit of God blows through your life. Furthermore, be sure to take a stress break this Summer and massage your mind with the Word of God.

— Brother Phillip



Dr. Phillip Burden, Senior Pastor
Email: pburden@cropwellbaptist.org

Are You Driven by Emotions ?

You can't deny our world is shaped and driven by emotion. Everything today — from music and entertainment to advertising and even the news — is designed to affect and manipulate our feelings. Facts and objective truth only matter in terms of the emotional response they can prompt from you. And the preeminence of emotion goes far beyond how and what we consume. We're encouraged to use our emotions as the final standard for determining what is true or false, good or bad, right or wrong. Even important decisions are made based on nothing more than how we feel about our choices. One practical example of the danger of following emotion is the breakdown of marriage in society today. Wedding vows don't mean much if the people making those commitments are also committed to listening to and acting on their feelings. That's why so many people today are willing to shatter their families because they've found a new "soul mate." There's simply no way to anticipate where people's fickle feelings might guide them from day to day.

If we're honest, many Christians put far too much trust in their emotions — we've become like the world in that way. Instead of holding to objective, immutable truth, they chase the highs and lows of their own feelings. And in many cases, they let their moods or subjective impulses determine how they think and live. People who put too much trust in their feelings are handcuffed to the unpredictability of those feelings.

Nowhere is that emotionally driven instability more dangerous than in the spiritual realm. Eternal, biblical truth does not bow to the whims of emotion, and how a person feels about the Lord and His Word cannot accurately predict where he or she will spend eternity. And yet if you look at many churches today, much of the teaching and worship is focused not on God's truth but on catering to and stirring up the feelings of the congregation. Popular church methods today don't emphasize careful, biblical exegesis. Instead, the priority is meeting the so-called "felt needs" and playing to the interests of the people in the pews. Too often God's Word is an afterthought — a garnish in a feast of self-interest. A majority of the time is spent catering to human temperaments, massaging people's egos, and encouraging them to feel good about themselves and their futures. It's a gospel of self-esteem, taught by motivational speakers. Learning and growing in the truth of Scripture is treated as unimportant, and expository preaching has been replaced with shallow conversations that focus on how we feel about a verse or passage. When that happens, God's Word can mean whatever you choose.

The goal of Scripture is not to change the way you feel, but the way you think and act. It's not that the power of God's truth manipulates your emotions, but that it transforms you entirely. Salvation is not about merely changing your mind or your affections — it's about becoming a completely new creation. That transformation is guided and driven by the power of Scripture.

On the contrary, emotions are a tremendous gift from God — our emotions are just one of His many common graces— it is a precious gift to be able to feel the full range of emotional response, including pain and sorrow. But if our emotions aren't informed by and subject to His eternal, immutable truth, they're not just worthless, they are dangerous. Your emotions display your reaction to truth, but there is no truth inherent in them. So instead of trusting in faulty and unreliable emotions, believers must learn and cling to the unchanging standard of Scripture. The Bible is the only trustworthy guide we have for growing spiritually, developing relationships, making decisions, and guarding our emotions. In simple terms, it's all we need for life and godliness. It equips us to love and worship God, minister to others, live in an upright and holy manner, make wise decisions, deal with sin, and withstand the inevitable ups and downs of this life in a fallen world. Truth is our reliable, immovable anchor. We need to bring people face to face with the life-transforming truth of God's word as we reach out to them. How we reach people varies widely, but what we bring them is always the same: divine truth. *(Adapted from Article by John MacArthur)*

SET APART, UNIQUELY YOURS

YOUNG LADIES CONFERENCE

First Baptist Church Pell City



Friday, August 19, 6:00—9:00 pm
(Includes Light Dinner)

Saturday, August 20, 8:30—1:30 pm
(Includes Light Breakfast/
Banquet Lunch/Fashion Show)

- Breakout sessions will cover many topics such as Redefining Beauty, Setting Healthy Boundaries, Growing in Your Relationship with God, and Choosing Godly Friends.
- **This conference is for young ladies in 5th—12th Grades.**
- Tickets are \$25 per person or \$40 if a young lady is accompanied by a female adult. **See Sherry in office to purchase tickets by August 14th.**



Preschool DIG begins again on Wednesday, August 17. Suzanne Price will be leading this preschool ministry, but quarterly helpers are needed. If you would be willing to help with Bible stories, mission stories, music, snacks or crafts, please contact Suzanne at 473-1833.



Teacher Appreciation

There will be a luncheon on Sunday, August 14th, to show appreciation to all of our Teachers and Assistant Teachers from this past year. We are asking each Sunday school class to make donations towards this luncheon "In honor of their Teacher(s)." Please make all donations by Sunday, August 7th. Also, teachers, please RSVP the church office by August 7th.

Church Wide Picnic

Sunday, August 21st

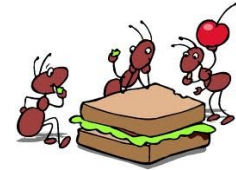
3:00—7:00 pm

Shocco Springs Conference Ctr

1314 Shocco Springs Road

Talladega, AL 35160

Everyone Welcome !



Bring a blanket or lawn chair, pack your supper, and fellowship with your church family. Schedule will be as follows:

3:00—6:00

Pool**, Paddle Boats, Tennis Court, Basketball Court, Putt-Putt Golf, Fellowship

6:00— 7:00

Aqua Jump** Cost is \$6 per person per 30 minutes.

**Life guard will be on duty.

**Mark your Calendars
& join us August 21st!**

SPECIAL GUEST SQUIRE PARSONS



Squire Parsons will be singing for Cropwell Baptist Church on Sunday night, August 28th at 6:30 p.m. There is no admission fee, however we will take a love offering for Squire. Invite your friends and neighbors to come and enjoy a night of music with Squire Parsons.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS RESUME AUGUST 17

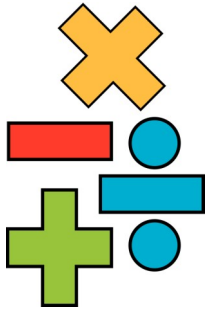


Our Wednesday Night meals will resume August 17, 2011. We will start a new "Standing Reservation List". If you would like to be added to our weekly standing reservation (so you don't have to call each week to reserve a meal), **please sign up in the Information Room**, located off of Welcome Center or **email the church secretary at sdaniel@cropwellbaptist.org.**

Donate School Supplies



WOM will be accepting school supply donations through Sunday morning, August 7th. You may place your donations in the shopping cart located in the Welcome Center or Education Building.



Williams Intermediate School Prayer Walk

Our church has “adopted” Williams Intermediate School and each year we provide school supplies for needy children at Williams and give gifts to the teachers at Williams. We also have an annual Prayer Walk. This year’s **Prayer Walk will be on Sunday, August 7th.** Please meet in the school library at Williams Intermediate (located on Hardwick Road) at 5:45 pm.

New Sunday School Year

Our new Sunday School year begins August 14 with promotion in our Preschool, Children and Youth classes. Teachers are needed to help in these areas. Please **PRAY** and ask God to lead you to a place of service this year, possibly in one of these areas. Contact Patsy, Ashley or John if you are willing.



IGNITE '11 is an non-denominational outdoor Christian music festival/ministry event whose sole purpose is to unite the community of believers and to provide an evangelistic outreach to the area and to glorify the name of Jesus Christ. As the body of Christ, it's an opportunity for us to reach out and love on our neighbors and to show our community and friends what the love of Christ is all about. **This is a totally free event with free music, free food, and free drinks.** This year's event will include music artists: 33 Miles, Shonlock, Finding Favour, the Homecoming, Act of Congress, Followthrough, and the winner of the Pure Praise workshop. **Events will run from 1:00 pm—9:30 pm on Saturday, August 13th.** Be sure to bring a blanket or lawn chair.

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

Sign up in the Preschool Area for our next Parents Night Out on **Friday, August 12th** from 6:00—10:00 pm.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

PRISON FELLOWSHIP

MENTOR

The Alabama Dept. of Justice is looking for many good Christian men to be mentors to ex-prisoners. If you have a heart for this ministry, you will be trained and they will match the men who volunteer using the Prison Fellowship curriculum. For more information regarding this ministry and training, please see the bulletin board located in hallway beside church office.

CRAZY LOVE CLOTHING CLOSET

As school is about to begin, we have families in our community that need help with school clothes. If you know of a need, please contact one of the members of our Clothing Closet ministry. Also, we are in need of the following items:

- Boys size 12—18
- Men's pants size 34-38 (W) and 34 (L)
- Undergarments (New)
- Women size 12-16+

DISASTER REBUILD

Pastor Bill is still working from time-to-time in the Shoal Creek Valley area. If you want to volunteer your time, please talk with Pastor Bill for more information.

VISITATION

We are planning on resuming our Visitation Program beginning Tuesday, August 23rd at 6 pm. We need workers! Call or email the church office for more information if you would like to be a part of this important ministry.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Johnnie Stevens	8/1	Joseph Nelson	8/18
Horace Beasley	8/1	Carol Harmon	8/20
Don Spraberry	8/2	Bill Butterworth	8/20
Jacob Walker	8/3	Tom Higginbotham	8/20
Jimmy Warren	8/4	Betty Clements	8/21
Jed Williams	8/4	Paige Harris	8/22
Tyler Miller	8/5	Patsy Flournoy	8/22
Bob Luzenberg	8/5	Yvonne Bullard	8/23
Brett Gannaway	8/6	Harmony Mendoza	8/23
LaRae Haynes	8/6	Lauren Armstrong	8/24
Will Haynes	8/6	Ryan Rich	8/24
Sherry Pirkle	8/7	Valarie Lonergan	8/26
Jack Owens	8/8	Barbara Goodwin	8/27
Trevin Palmer	8/8	Michael Frieze	8/28
Jesse Wiggins	8/9	Chad Campbell	8/28
Bill Davis	8/10	Nick Barrentine	8/29
Mylisa McDanal	8/10	Bill Pruitt	8/29
Timothy Burden	8/11	Susie Ward	8/30
Ashley Harmon	8/11	Mary Bynum	8/30
Jarrett Jacobs	8/14	Lonnie Rich	8/30
Pat Higginbotham	8/14	Aaron Meeks	8/30
Angie Ford	8/17	Doris Munkus	8/31
Brian Edmiston	8/17	Kim Haynes	8/31
Nathan Burden	8/17		





August 2011



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
★ PLEASE MAKE MEAL RESERVATIONS BY FRIDAY @ NOON <u>PRIOR TO WED. MEAL</u>	1	2 WOM/ Knifty Knitters/ @ 10:00 am	3	4	5	6
7 Deacon's Mtg @ 4:30 Prayer Walk @ Williams School @ 5:15	8 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR PELL CITY 	9	10  Family Water Night Adult Bible Study @ 6:30	11	12 Parents Night Out 6-10 pm 	13  Emily Smith Norris Baby Shower (2-4 pm) in FH IGNITE 2011 @ Avondale Park
14 PROMOTION SUNDAY  Teachers Appreciation Luncheon	15 Boys & Girls Student Ministry @ Dorough Home @ 6 pm 	16 Knifty Knitters/ @ 10:00 am Boys & Girls Student Ministry @ Dorough Home @ 6 pm	17 ★ Meal 5:00 pm  DIG 6:15 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm	18	19 Sunday School Game Night Set Apart Uniquely Yours Young Ladies Conference @ FBC Pell City Purchase tickets by 8/14	20 Back to School Bash
21 Church-wide Picnic at Shocco 3-7 pm 	22 Boys & Girls Student Ministry @ Dorough Home @ 6 pm	23 Boys & Girls Student Ministry @ Dorough Home @ 6 pm VISITATION @ 6 PM	24 Meal 5:00 pm DIG @ 6:15 Bible Study 6:30 pm	25  OMEGAS Monthly Meeting	26	27
28 Children's SS Teachers Mtg @ 4:45 Squire Parsons @ 6:30 pm	29 Boys & Girls Student Ministry @ Dorough Home @ 6 pm	30 Boys & Girls Student Ministry @ Dorough Home @ 6 pm	31 Meal 5:00 pm DIG @ 6:15 Bible Study 6:30 pm Acts 1:8 @ 6:00	2011 Offerings as of 07/17/2011 \$ 516,868 <u>Under budget by \$ 73,500</u>		



Cropwell Baptist Church

2700 Hardwick Road

Pell City, AL 35128

205.338.7995 (Office) or 205.338.3070 (Fax)

www.cropwellbaptist.org

Visit us on Facebook for special events and information