

This Month @ Cropwell

Church-wide Events

- **Sunday the 7th**
- we will observe the Lord's Supper during the evening service at 6:30 in the Worship Center
- **Saturday the 13th**
- Random Acts of Kindness, beginning at 8:00 a.m.
- **Thursday the 25th**
- Omegas Monthly Meeting at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall
- **Sunday the 28th**
- Combined Choirs, Mt. Zion and Cropwell Baptist at 6:30 p.m. in our Worship Center

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Volume 1, Issue 1

September 2008

FROM THE SENIOR PASTOR

A healthy church knows the gospel, and a healthy church shares it. It is important to have a biblical theology in one special area of a church's life—our understanding of the good news of Jesus Christ, the gospel. The gospel is the heart of Christianity, and so it should be the heart of our faith. All of us as Christians should pray that we would care more about the wonderful good news of salvation through Christ than we do about anything else in the Church's life. A healthy church is filled with people who have a heart for the gospel, and having a heart for the gospel means having a heart for the truth—for God's presentation of Himself, of our need, of Christ's provision, and of our responsibility. When we present the gospel to someone, we must remember four points—God, man, Christ, response. Have I shared with this person the truth about our Holy God and Sovereign Creator? Have I made it clear that we as humans are a strange mixture, creatures made in

the image of God and yet fallen, sinful, and separated from Him? Does the person with whom I'm talking understand who Christ is—the God-Man, the only Mediator between God and man, our substitute and resurrected Lord? And finally, even if I've shared all this with him, does he understand he must respond to the gospel, that he must believe this message and so turn from his life of self-centeredness and sin? To present the gospel as an additive to give non-Christians something they naturally want (joy, peace, happiness, fulfillment, self-esteem, love) is partially true, but only partially true. As J. I. Packer says, "half-truth masquerading as the whole truth becomes a complete untruth." Fundamentally, everyone needs forgiveness. We need spiritual life. To present the gospel less radically than this is to ask for false conversions and increasingly meaningless church membership, both of which make evangelization of the world around us all

the more difficult. You, church family, scattered in our homes, offices and neighborhoods will this very day see far more non-Christians, for far longer, than they will ever spend with Christians on a Sunday. Each of us has tremendous news of salvation in Christ. Let's not barter it for something else. And let's share it today! George W. Truett, great Christian leader of the past generation and pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas, said, "The supreme indictment that you can bring against a church...is that such a church lacks in passion and compassion for human souls. A church is nothing better than an ethical club if its sympathies for lost souls does not overflow, and if it does not go out to seek to point lost souls to the knowledge of Jesus Christ." A healthy church knows the gospel, and a healthy church shares it.

With love for our church,

~ Bro. Phillip

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

Saturday, September 13

(Continental Breakfast at 7:00 am/Organize at 8:00 am/Go out and serve at 8:30 am)

Random Acts of Kindness is an opportunity for the members of our church to get involved in our community. Each Sunday school class will choose a person, persons, or a business in our community to help for three hours on that Saturday morning. This can be anything from mowing a lawn, repairing a broken window, visiting a homebound person, or sweeping the floors in a business. Use your imagination. If there is someone in our church family that needs help, put together a plan to help them on that Saturday morning. This will be the kick-off for an ongoing program and we would encourage everyone to get involved! Bro. Bill Daniel will be working with each Sunday school class to help choose a project. Please have your project turned in to the church office by Sunday, September 7th.

- Missions Leadership Team

CUSCO, PERU INTERNATIONAL MISSION TRIP UPDATE (October 17-25)

Can you believe it? We are less than 60 days from our mission trip to Peru! God has blessed and all of our arrangements have been made. Our team has grown to 33 people! Praise God! We have 11 members from Cropwell that are part of this effort. I rejoice today that 4 out of the 11 missionaries from our church have raised the full support for their trip, but there is still a need for the other 7. We are so grateful for those of you who have contributed financially to this effort thus far. Our prayer is that you would continue to be blessed in every way and that God would meet all of your needs so you can continue being a blessing to others. Would you pray with us that these other financial needs would be met? Would you also pray, not just for financial provision, but also provision for each missionaries' health, strength, stamina, and the ability to adapt to changes in time, climate, and diet? We will be working at an altitude of 11,000 feet. Would you pray that each missionary would be able to adjust to the altitude quickly and that no one gets sick? Would you also be praying for us to be sensitive to any cultural differences and that we would not offend anyone. Your team members to be lifted up to the Lord are: Danielle Daly, Josh Dorough, Mike Flanagan, Angie Ford, Chrissie Harmon, Christy Harmon, Melody Jones, Sheila Lee, Angel Mackey, Jaycee Mackey, Terry and Bonnie Moore.

WMU (Women on Mission)

September 3, 6:30 pm

WMU Monthly Fellowship in room 503

September 7

As a part of the St. Clair Raceway Ministry, sponsored by St. Clair Baptist Association, we will begin collecting the following items to be distributed at the Talladega race track on October 5: bottled water, chips, hard candy, snack cakes (NO CHOCOLATE), peanut butter crackers, and fruit snacks (individual packs for children's bags)

September 17-21

Kathleen Mallory Offering for State Missions...special offering envelopes will be provided in the back of each pew

STUDENT MINISTRY

- See You At the Pole, Wednesday, September 24, 7:00 a.m. at your school flagpole
- See You At the Pole Rally, Wednesday, September 24, 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist
- Wednesday Student Worship Service, weekly at 6:30 p.m. on the third floor of the Christian Life Center
- Printable Student Ministry Calendars are available online at: www.cropwellbaptist.org/students

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's DIG begins...

Wednesday, September 3rd
6:30 p.m. in the CLC

I'm A Christian Now Class

Begins October 1st at 6:30 p.m. during DIG on Wednesday nights and goes through October 22nd.

This class is for children who have already made a profession of faith in Jesus. We will learn what it means to be a Christian by covering the following topics:

- Becoming a Christian
- Baptism/Lord's Supper
- Church Membership
- Prayer and Bible Study

Children need to sign up outside Mrs. Ashley's office to reserve their spot.

PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

MOPS

(Mothers of Preschoolers)

Fall MOPS Kick-Off

Saturday, September 6th

3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at

Celebrations. Bring your children and kick-off the new year!! \$5 per child for 2 hours of play. Any questions please call Kacia Frieze 256-268-5405

Preschool DIG begins...

Wednesday, September 3rd

6:30-7:45 p.m. Music,

Missions, and Memory

Parent's Night Out

Friday, September 12th

6:00 to 10:00 p.m. (CLC)

Sign up in Preschool

September 2008 @ Cropwell

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:00 am - Exercise	2 3:30 pm - Staff Meeting	3 9:00 am - Exercise 6:30 pm - Prayer /Bible Study - WMU Monthly Mtg - Visitation (FH) - Student Worship - DIG for Kids (CLC)	4	5 9:00 am - Exercise	6 3:00 pm - MOPS Monthly Meeting/ Kick-off at Celebrations
7 8:30 am-SS/Worship 9:45 am-SS/Worship 4:00 pm - Choir Reh. 5:30 pm - Sign Language Class 6:30 pm - Lord's Supper Service 7:45 pm-Women's Leader Team Mtg	8 9:00 am - Exercise 6:30 pm - Visitation	9 9:30 am - Staff Meeting 6:00 pm - Ladies Prayer Group	10 9:00 am - Exercise 6:30 pm - Prayer /Bible Study - Student Worship - DIG for Kids (CLC)	11	12 9:00 am - Exercise 6:00 to 10:00 pm - Parent's Night Out	13 7:00 am - Continental breakfast for RAK 8:30 am - Organize RAK 8:30 to 11:30 am - Random Acts of Kindness (RAK)
14 8:30 am-SS/Worship 9:45 am-SS/Worship 5:00 pm - Choir Reh. 5:30 pm - Sign Language Class 6:30 pm - Worship	15 9:00 am - Exercise	16 3:30 pm - Staff Meeting	17 9:00 am - Exercise 6:30 pm - Prayer /Bible Study - Visitation (FH) - Student Worship - DIG for Kids (CLC) <i>Kathleen Mallory Offering Emphasis</i>	18 <i>Kathleen Mallory Offering Emphasis</i>	19 9:00 am - Exercise <i>Kathleen Mallory Offering Emphasis</i>	20 <i>Kathleen Mallory Offering Emphasis</i>
21 8:30 am-SS/Worship 9:45 am-SS/Worship 5:00 pm - Choir Reh. 5:30 pm - Sign Language Class 6:30 pm - Worship <i>Kathleen Mallory Offering Emphasis</i>	22 9:00 am - Exercise 6:30 pm - Visitation	23 9:30 am - Staff Meeting	24 7:00 am - See You At the Pole (all schools) 9:00 am - Exercise 6:30 pm - Prayer /Bible Study - SYATP Rally for Students at FUMC - DIG for Kids (CLC)	25 10:00 am - Omegas Monthly Meeting	26 9:00 am - Exercise	27 4:30 pm - Dress Rehearsal @ Mt Zion 6:30 pm - Combined Choirs at Mt. Zion Baptist Church
28 8:30 am-SS/Worship 9:45 am-SS/Worship 4:30 pm-Dress Reh. 5:30 pm - Sign Language Class 6:30 pm - Worship 6:30 pm - Combined Choirs @ Cropwell	29 9:00 am - Exercise (NO VISITATION)	30 3:30 pm - Staff Meeting				

**NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL
CLASSES BEGIN...**

- "Hands on Fire" Sunday School for the Deaf - Room 502 in the Old Sanctuary - begins Sunday, August 24 at 8:30 am - Jason Roop will be the teacher
- Men's Sunday School Class - Room 410 - begins Sunday, September 7 at 8:30 am - Mike Blin will be the teacher
- Women's Sunday School Class - Room 409 - begins Sunday, September 7 at 8:30 am - Sherry Daniel and Natalie Burden will be the teachers

Cropwell Baptist Church

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COMBINED CHOIRS

Do not miss these wonderful nights of worship as the Mt. Zion Choir and the Cropwell Worship Choir join voices together to exalt Jesus Christ. The Mt. Zion Choir is directed by Cory O'Neal. The Cropwell Worship Choir is directed by Andy Hadley. Some of the songs will include: "My God Is Real" "More Than Just A Story" "All of the Glory" "Holy Is the Lamb" "We've Come to Worship" "We Sing Worthy" "I Must Tell Jesus" and many more.

Schedule:

Bonus Rehearsal - Sunday, September 7 - come early at 4:00 p.m. (Cropwell choir room)

1st Presentation - Saturday, September 27 - 6:30 p.m. at Mt. Zion Baptist Church

2nd Presentation - Sunday, September 28 - 6:30 p.m. at Cropwell Baptist Church

1st Dress Rehearsal - Saturday, September 27 - 4:30 p.m. at Mt. Zion Baptist

2nd Dress Rehearsal - Sunday, September 28 - 4:30 p.m. at Cropwell Baptist

Thinking of joining the Worship Choir?

This Sunday is a great time to start so you can sing with the combined choirs. Just come to rehearsal at 5:00 p.m. in the choir trailer (behind the church) and we'll get you started!

SEND US YOUR EMAIL...

Want to receive church-related updates, prayer updates, announcements, and the monthly newsletter via email, please send your email address to: jhudson@cropwellbaptist.org

This monthly newsletter will also be available on our website on the "Newsletter" page.

CROPWELL BAPTIST CHURCH STAFF

Phillip Burden, Senior Pastor (205-863-8449)

Bill Daniel, Associate Pastor (706-466-7977)

Andy Hadley, Worship Pastor (205-812-4639)

Josh Dorough, Student Pastor (205-283-9320)

Ashley Anderson, Director Children's Ministries

Patsy Flournoy, Director Preschool Ministries

Janice Hudson, Ministry Assistant/Senior Pastor

Elaine Melvin, Ministry Assistant/Assoc. Pastor

Jeremy Elliott, Ministry Assistant/Worship Pastor

Jacque Owen, Financial Secretary

Linda Williams, Church Custodian

Find out more about our staff at...

www.cropwellbaptist.org/staff.htm

CROPWELL NUMBERS (Numbers = Souls)

Average Attendance July 27 - August 17, 2008

Sunday School: 315

Morning Worship: 393

Evening Worship: 185

Financial Update for July 27 - August 17, 2008

Weekly Budget Offering Required

\$17,158.98

Average Weekly Budget Offering Given