

Looking Ahead

Sunday, May 1	ELC Sunday
Sunday, May 8 / 10:50am	Mothers' Day / Baby Dedication
.....	No afternoon or evening activities
Sunday, May 15 / 10:50am.....	Lord's Supper
6:00pm.....	<i>It's Cool in the Furnace/Young Musicians</i>
Monday, May 16 / 11:00am.....	Sr. Adult Mtg. & Covered Dish Lunch/D102-3
Saturday, May 21 / 9:00am.....	VBS Training/C203-4
Sunday, May 22 / 10:50am.....	Sr. High Graduation Recognition
6:00pm.....	Awana Awards Ceremony
Sunday, May 29	Memorial Day Service/ Tim Kaufman Concert
.....	No afternoon or evening activities
Monday, May 30	Memorial Day/Church Office Closed



Baby Dedication
Mothers' Day,
May 8
10:50am



Delaney Street
 Baptist **Church**

May 2011

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 Florida Baptist
Witness

MESSENGER

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The Bible has much to say to us about how we handle our personal finances and how we give to God. Jesus Christ spoke frequently on the topic. I probably do not speak on this subject as much as I should, because in our modern culture I do not want to be misunderstood or accused of being one of those preachers who is "always asking for money."

But from time to time, we must address the subject of tithing and giving. Our church's Stewardship Committee has asked me to address the subject now. All across the nation churches have suffered a decline in giving since the economic collapse of 2 ½ years ago. Our giving here at Delaney has held up pretty well. For years, we have appeared to run under budget, but our cash flow was always steady. However, the current economic downturn is beginning to affect us. Our budget is tighter than it should be, and our cash-flow is lower than it should be.

From the Pastor's Desk...(cont.)

It is important that each of us pays attention to our personal tithing and giving. If we all simply tithed, our church would have no budget problems whatsoever. A tithe is 1/10 of our income and the Bible tells us it belongs to God (Malachi 3:8-10).

After Mother's Day, May 8, I am going to take two Sunday mornings - May 15 and May 22 - to address the topic of **Financial Stewardship**. There are two key factors involved in giving to God:

- **First, God commands us to tithe.** Not to tithe is to rob God (Malachi 3:8-10). So, tithing is simply a matter of obedience. In good conscience, each of us should give through our local church one-tenth of all our income back to God.
- **Second, God promises to bless us abundantly if we will tithe.** Not only does Malachi 3 promise that, but so does Luke 6:38 in the New Testament. You cannot out-give God! It is the one time in the Bible where God challenges us to put Him to the test!

That the tithe should be freely given through our own church is also biblical. The "storehouse" in Malachi 3 is clearly the Temple. In I Corinthians 16, the Apostle Paul also tells us to give weekly (each Sunday) through the local church.

One problem we have faced here at Delaney in recent years is that we have a larger than normal amount of "designated" giving. While we appreciate designated giving, if you designate your tithe, you tie the hands of our financial officers to meet the needs of the church. For example, if you designate your "tithe" to one department of the church, those funds cannot be used to meet payroll, pay the electric bill, or meet our missions obligations, etc.. Biblically, the tithe should be **given freely** to meet the needs of the church.

Please pray with me as we address this subject in May that God will continue to bless us as a church and to bless us abundantly as we are faithful to Him!

Pastor Jim



Summer is here! Well almost... We have a busy Student Ministry schedule ahead of us this summer. We will be going to **StudentLife Camp** in Lookout Mountain, GA **June 10-14**.

We still have spots open if you know someone that would like to attend camp this summer. You can sign up in the Upper Room or by contacting Curt. We have some

students attending **Student Leadership University July 11-14** here in Orlando. And finally, some

of our high school and college students will be going on a **Mission Trip to Ecuador July 15-23**.

This summer we will also have an intern for the Student Ministry. His name is **Ross Ponder**, and he is a senior at The Baptist College of Florida. Ross was one of my students at **"Error! Reference source not found"** He was called into full-time Christian ministry at an early age and has lived a life that has been pleasing to God. I am very excited to have him here with us this summer. He will be here the months of June and July.

Curt

Music Notes



*Rejoice in that day and leap for joy!
For indeed your reward is great in heaven"*

- Luke 6:23a

Our **Young Musicians** children's choir will present **"It's Cool in the Furnace"**, a Word Music collection following the lives of Daniel, his three sidekicks and a fiery furnace. They will bring this production for our church family on Sunday evening, **May 15**, during our regular worship service time. Please make plans to come out and support our children's choir.

Sunday morning, **May 29**, **Tim Kaufman** will give a mini-concert during our **Memorial Day Patriotic Celebration**. A graduate of Cedarville University, Tim served as the Director of Music at Word of Life Fellowship, Inc., with Evangelist Jack Wyrzten, taught Bible and music for a Christian high school and was an associate pastor at Riverdale Baptist Church of Largo, Maryland. He has also been a frequent guest on Dr. Charles Stanley's "In Touch" television program, Adrian Rogers' "Love Worth Finding" television program, has supplied special music for the NFL's Washington Redskins and has sung the National Anthem for the NBA's Washington Wizards as well as the Orlando Magic.

Since 1982 Tim has travelled in a full-time concert and seminar ministry. His presentations are a unique blend of message and song, which challenge his listeners to experience God's mighty power in their own lives. He also serves as a worship consultant to churches in transition. Tim and his wife Alicia, along with their five children, reside in central Florida. More information can be found at his website:

<http://timkaufmanmusic.com/>.

Our Senior Adults will have their **last monthly meeting Monday, May 16 at 11:00am** before our summer break. We will enjoy a covered dish lunch, so bring enough for you and to share with one other person.

Keep the faith and keep looking up!

*In Christ,
Bro. Jon*



*"I tell you a truth, unless you change and become like little children,
you will not enter the kingdom of heaven"...Jesus of Nazareth*

Jesus teaches us to be like little children, and all through the Gospels, we read about how important children are to our Lord. I recently had the privilege of speaking to a large group of Early Childhood Teachers about the Spiritual Formation of young children. I found in my research that young children form their concepts of God from their parents and first teachers. I also found that it is critical to be **"intentional"** in our speech and actions. We must focus on being **"living examples"** of Christ.

Our goal here at the ELC is to **nurture and care for every child** as we help them learn the most foundational truth, **"God Loves You!"** Our staff makes it their priority to pray daily with the children, sing praise songs and teach them the Word of God. As we wind down our school year, we look back and reflect on our **"Intentional Teaching"**. Our deepest desire is to know that we have done our part in helping with the **"Spiritual Formation"** of the heart of each child.

Yes, it's been a year of letters, numbers, colors, shapes and also teaching the children that **God loves them, Jesus is the LORD and the Bible is TRUE**. We are excited that many have learned to read and write their names, but we here at ELC want to do our part so that one day their names will be written in the **Lamb's Book of Life!**

*Blessings & Joy!
Miss Julie..*