

From the Pastor's Pen

Beech Haven Church Family:

It occurred to me a few months ago that the missionary movement did not become a global reality until the United States involved itself in it in the early 19th century. I will not rehearse a comprehensive or balanced history here, but prior to the United States' involvement in missions, most biblically defined missionary efforts addressed isolated spots on the earth. Missionaries envisioned a global missionary effort, but their circumstances prevented a global effort. They did not have the economic resources; their economies struggled to provide enough for people to survive. They did not have the political environment. Wars and government restrictions hindered serious missionary efforts. The theological environment hindered them, too. Roman Catholic theology advanced the church of Rome but not the saving, biblical gospel, and European Protestantism was never very missionary.

When the missionary vision came to the United States, everything changed. The United States had a free, growing economy that produced income levels that afforded giving to missions and missionaries. Religious liberty prevailed in the United States so that state and federal governments did not interfere with the biblical agenda of missionary minded people. Theologically, the United States has always had a robust Biblicism so that ministers and lay people have felt obligated and free to implement the missionary mandate of the Bible in their lives and churches.

I provide this little missionary history to point towards 2017. We can legitimately say many things about the economy, but a positive one involves the Dow Jones Industrial Average which has rocketed past 19,000 and today approaches 20,000. I am cautiously optimistic about religious liberty. If the promised supreme court appointees materialize, it may enjoy a resurgence. Theologically, America is in need of significant help, but we are witnessing a resurgence in the interest in biblical and missionary theology among Bible believers in the United States today. The circumstances are such that we can advance in the mission of Christ locally, nationally, and internationally.

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New Study

Wednesdays, January 11 - April 19

4:00 & 6:00 p.m.

Building D

Registration cards are available in Sunday School folders, in the church office or you can [register here](#).

Ladies Bible Studies

Entrusted by Beth Moore

Study of 2 Timothy

God has a plan for you. He has entrusted you with the gospel message and has gifted you to carry it to the furthest reaches of this planet. He's calling you to be His mighty servant, willing to face whatever difficulty you encounter as you carry out his mission. GUARD THE DEPOSIT ENTRUSTED TO YOU . . .

Beginning Sunday, January 15

5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 24

9:30 a.m.

During the first 2 weeks, we will look at practical ways to share the gospel with which He has entrusted us.

Childcare by reservation only. Contact Jennifer at preschool@beechaven.net to register.

A Precept Study by Kay Arthur

Genesis

Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.

From the Pastor's Pen Continued from front page

THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME THAN NOW TO LIVE ON MISSION WITH CHRIST.

It is with this spirit that I look forward to Dr. Jerry Vines preaching Sunday morning 10:30 and night 6:00 p.m. February 12. He will help us with INVITE YOUR ONE (more details later). March 26 will be a great Sunday for us with the actual implementation of INVITE YOUR ONE. Sunday April 23 - Wednesday April 26 with evangelist Tim Williams will provide us with a great harvest opportunity, too.

With each passing month, we have many more reasons to serve Christ and one another and fewer excuses not to. I am grateful to be on mission with you.

I Stand Amazed,
David Mills

Worship & Music Ministry Notes

*"He must become greater;
I must become less."*

John 3:30

Every minute, an estimated average of \$35,600 is stolen in the US by identity theft. In the last six years alone, the total amount has risen to more than \$112 billion. Armed with a name and a 9-digit social security number, thieves can wreak havoc on a person's credit and bank account in a matter of minutes. Not surprisingly, in light of this exponential rise in identity theft, companies are turning to both high-tech and low-tech solutions (like security questions) to help thwart this threat [that's easier to type than to say...]. Suddenly, your mother's favorite color and the name of your first hamster are vital to your identification.

It is true that our identity extends far beyond our name and social security number. To some people, our identity revolves around our association with a family member. For instance, among Ministers of Music in Georgia, I'm largely known as John Cotten's son (as his 40+ years in that circle have made him fairly well-known). But even family connections fail to tell the whole story, as I'm much more than "John's son."

Consider, then, what your answer might be if you were asked, "Who are you?" Aside from family, most people probably would respond with their career or job title. "I'm a nurse." "I'm an engineer." "I'm a homeschool mom." Our careers do indeed help to identify us (as evidenced in my family, a distant grandfather did indeed own a cotton plantation, and he apparently couldn't spell...), but likewise fall short of truly identifying us.

Sometimes our accomplishments or achievements serve as major identifiers. Coming out of high school, as I was applying for music scholarships, one of my most important identifiers was my status as an All-State musician (trombone and voice) and Governor's Honors participant. But again, there's more to us than our old trophies.

Even our entire resumes and family histories fail to tell the whole story of our identity. Why? Because our identity includes not only what we've done in the past, but how we respond in the present. In fact, total strangers often identify us in part based on very brief encounters. For instance, a waitress might not know our name, our job, or our family, but she can discern much about our identity based only on our countenance, our kindness, and our generosity. The same is true for guests who see us in worship...

So, what identifies you the most? Your family? Your job? Your accomplishments? My prayer is that we might all have the same perspective as Kraft Cheese founder J.L. Kraft. A century ago, it is said that someone once approached Kraft and asked, "Who are you?" Kraft responded, "I'm a Christian." "No, I mean, what do you do?" replied the inquirer. "I tell people about Christ," said Kraft. "No, I mean, how do you make money?" "Oh, I sell cheese."

John the Baptist would have liked Kraft (and his cheese...). Multiple times, John was quick to say that he was not the Messiah. In fact, his entire identity revolved around pointing people to Christ. His simple declaration in the verse above would be a great prayer for us all: "He [Christ] must become greater; I must become less."

My prayer is that our chief identifier might not be a name, a number, a job, or an accomplishment, but Jesus Christ. May everyone around us, whether a total stranger or our oldest friend, see Christ in us, and may we make every effort to help them gain an identity in Christ that can never be stolen.

Soli Deo Gloria,
Tim Cotten

Stewardship Corner

Charitable Giving Strategies

Beech Haven has already received **\$100,000** for our new endowment fund.

Why Give to an Endowment?

- You want to ensure that a strong gospel witness will remain in Athens until the Lord returns.
- Your gift will 're-give' itself five times over the next 100 years.
- You want a way to give a large offering without disrupting the general budget.
- You want to give through your estate.

Who Manages Beech Haven's Endowment?

Beech Haven's Endowment is managed by the Georgia Baptist Foundation who has overseen this type of giving since 1941.

How Do I Give to Beech Haven's Endowment? Gifts to the endowment can be given directly to Beech Haven and earmarked "Endowment".

Questions?

Contact Administrative Pastor John Walker – jwalker@beechhaven.net or 706.548.2246 for more information.

ACT22 Update

Giving Status

\$903,000 Given to Date
\$56,000 Remaining Balance

Thank you for honoring your pledge, giving more than your pledge, and giving even without a pledge!

**Give to the ACT22
Project**

God Blessed

December

Monthly Requirement.....\$117,916
December Receipts\$221,698
December Christian Concern\$11,934

Online giving available

www.BeechHaven.net/give



the gospel resounds

2016 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

100% of your gifts help send and sustain International Mission Board Missionaries

Beech Haven Goal \$25,000
Given to Date \$18,035

January Calendar

Sunday, January 1

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. - Worship

Monday, January 2

Office Closed

Tuesdays, January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

8:00 a.m. - Call to Prayer, Conf Rm
(see schedule on page 3)
9:00 a.m. - Precept Bible Study

Wednesday, January 4

4:00 p.m. - WoW
5:00 p.m. - Supper
6:00 p.m. - WoW
6:45 p.m. - Upward Prayer Walk
6:00 p.m. - Children's Choir
7:00 p.m. - Adult Choir

Thursdays, January 5, 12, 19, 26

9:30 a.m. - International Friends

Saturdays, January 7, 14, 21, 28

8:00 a.m. - Upward Games

Sundays, January 8, 15, 22, 29

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. - Worship
5:45 p.m. - Awana
6:00 p.m. - Prayer Meeting
6:00 p.m. - Adult Bible Study
6:00 p.m. - Youth Pulse

Thursday, January 12

10:00 a.m. - Women on Mission

Sunday, January 15

8:29 a.m. - SS Leadership Meeting

Sundays, January 15, 22, 29

5:30 p.m. - Ladies Bible Study

Monday, January 16

Office Closed

Tuesday, January 17

6:00 p.m. - Ladies Night Out

Tuesdays, January 24, 31

9:30 a.m. - Ladies Bible Study

Wednesdays, January 11, 18, 25

4:00 p.m. - WoW
5:00 p.m. - Supper
6:00 p.m. - WoW
6:00 p.m. - Children's Choir
7:00 p.m. - Adult Choir

Welcome New Members

December 24, 2016

Liz Tyler

by Transfer of Membership

Timmy Tyler

by Baptism

Sunday School Leadership Meeting

Sunday, January 15

8:29 a.m.

Fellowship Hall

(Light continental breakfast provided)

Focus: INVITE YOUR ONE

CALL TO PRAYER

Tuesdays @ 8:00 a.m.

Call to Prayer

Tuesdays

Precisely at 8:00 a.m.

Conference Room

Tuesday Morning Prayer Schedule

- 1st Tuesday of Month: Deacon Team 1/2, College, Coed 20s, Coed 25 - 35
- 2nd Tuesday of Month: Deacon Team 3/4, Coed 36 - 49, 50 - 64
- 3rd Tuesday of Month: Deacon Team 5/6, Coed 65+, Coed 75+, Men, Median Women, Median & Mature Ladies
- 4th Tuesday of Month: Deacon Team 7/8, Working Retired I/II, Parents of Children/Youth, SS Workers of Preschool, Children, Youth, Median/Mature Singles
- 5th Tuesday of the Month: Staff

Wednesday Night Supper

(Reservations Required)

5:00 - 5:45 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

Cost: Adults - \$4.50

Children (under 10) - \$2.00

Family Maximum - \$16.00

January 4*

Vegetable or potato soup

Crackers

Grilled cheese sandwich

Cookies

January 11*

Baked or BBQ Chicken

Green Beans, Rice, Rolls

Strawberry Cake

January 18*

Philly or Ham Sub Sandwiches

Fries, BBQ Beans

Brownies

January 25

Pork Roast, Macaroni & Cheese

Steamed broccoli, Rolls

Pie

*The menus for the first, second and third weeks of January will be repeated on the first, second and third weeks of February and March. The fourth week of each month will have a new menu. We will continue to post the menus each month here and in the Worship Guide.

Supper Reservations

- Complete the Sunday morning Worship Guide Insert, and place it in the offering plate, or
- Call the church office at 706.548.2246 by **noon on Tuesday**, or
- Email cassieb@BeechHaven.net by **noon on Tuesday**.
- Request **Permanent Reservation** status through May, 2017, using any of the above methods.
- If you have made reservations and do not cancel, we still need you to pay for your meal. Thanks!

Summer Mission Trip Churchwide

June 24 - July 1

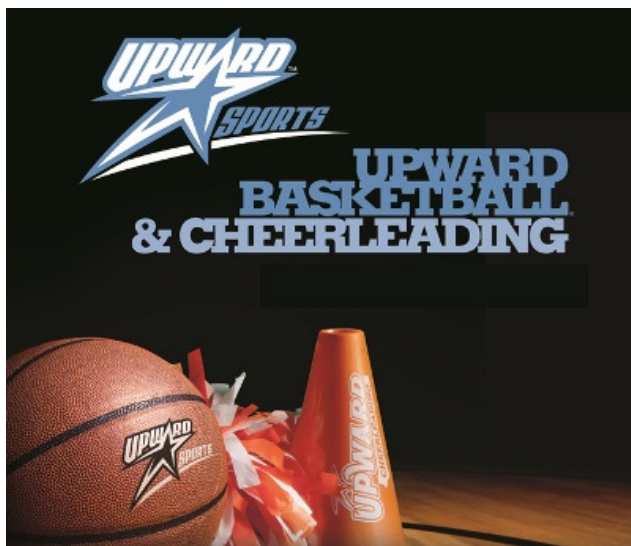
Indiantown, Florida

This family friendly trip provides a variety of opportunities for all ages to participate in hands on missions!



Invite
YOUR
One

MARCH 26th



Let the Games Begin!

Saturday, January 7 - Saturday, February 2

9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Gym

The church family is encourage to attend any game!

Preschool & Children's Ministry

Children's Worship Changes

Beginning Sunday, January 8

Parents/guardians of children in Kindergarten through Grade 5 will pick up their children after Sunday School and take them to the Worship Center to sit with the family for the beginning of the Worship Service. Just prior to the sermon, the Kindergarten through 3rd graders will be dismissed to children's church. Children's Worship leaders will be available to escort children from the worship center to the children's worship room. Parents/guardians will pick up children at the children's worship room after the service.

Vacation Bible School

June 5 - 9

Camp Pinnacle (for girls) and Camp Kaleo (for boys)

July 10 - 14

Two Workers Needed in the One & Two Year Old Class!

We have a couple of babies that are ready to graduate to the one year old class. We need two adult volunteers to serve in the classroom before the graduates can move in! To volunteer, please contact Jennifer at preschool@beechhaven.net

Student Ministry

Winter Jam and Lock-In

Saturday, February 4

12:30 p.m. - Depart Beech Haven for Georgia Dome

Building E - Lock-in immediately following Winter Jam

Cost: \$10 plus meal money for Saturday night

Bring sleeping bag and clothes to wear to church on Sunday morning.

Register by January 25: tfountain@beechhaven.net

Student Ministry Sunday School Teachers' Night of Encouragement

Saturday, February 11

Home of Ed & Carol Schimmel

More details to come. (This event is for Student Ministry Sunday School teachers).

DNOW

Friday-Sunday, April 7-9

Theme: Identity

Guest Speakers:

Mike Dorough (Pastor of Riverbend Baptist Church, Gainesville Georgia and former Student Pastor of Second Baptist, Warner Robbins, Georgia for 19 years) will speak to students on Friday and Saturday.

Ricky Chelette (Executive Director of Living Hope Ministries in Arlington, Texas) will speak to parents on Saturday and preach on Sunday.

Registration begins on Sunday, February 5.

Cost: \$40

Upward Café Workers Needed!

Saturdays

Beginning January 7

2 hour shifts available

During the Upward season, there are a large number of visitors to our gym. They are here to support a child, grandchild, student, neighbor or friend playing basketball or cheering. We have an opportunity to interact with and serve them through our concession stand, known as the Upward Café.

Can you help serve our guests?

To volunteer, contact Jerry Davis at 706-540-5822 or jnd1247@yahoo.com

College Ministry

Ski Trip

Winterplace WV

Friday, January 13 - Monday, January 16

Groups at Ginger Lane

Weekly Bible Study

Mondays @ 8:00 p.m.

Resumes January 23

Home of Tommy Fountain
1380 Ginger Lane

Sunday School

9:15 a.m.

Building D

January Servants

Sunday, January 1

Extended Session

Coordinators: Eric & Heather Harris
 Carol Norton
 Kevin & Tammy Thain
 Melissa Lord, Peggy Mauldin
 Beverly Pierce, Mary Caroline McCormack

Children's Worship

Squeaky Drewry, Ashley Ivey

Usher Team

Mike Mauldin, Gene Couch

Shuttle Bus Driver

Mark Sizemore

Worship Hour Prayer Team

Allen Adams

Counting Team for Monday

Sherry Reed, Marie Moran
 Lanie Lafayette

Sunday, January 8

Extended Session

Coordinators: Kenneth & Stephanie Bowman
 Skipper & Jessica Crews
 David & Charlotte Tolbert
 Michael & Elizabeth Frye
 Nikki Menjivar, Hannah Mills

Children's Worship

Brent & Meredith Dykes

Usher Team

Len Griffin
 Tom McCormack, Franklin Scott
 Ted Screws, George Windate

Shuttle Bus Driver

Skipper Crews

Worship Hour Prayer Team

Donna Lackey

Counting Team for Monday

Linda Pickering, Allene Carteaux
 Joyce Hartley

*Whatever you do,
 work heartily,
 as for the Lord
 and not for men,
 knowing that from the
 Lord you will receive
 the inheritance as
 your reward. You are
 serving the Lord
 Christ.*

Colossians 3:23-24

Sunday, January 15

Extended Session

Coordinators: Eric & Rosie Ingram
 Cathy Owen, Donna Lackey
 Cynthia Boswell
 Heather Pittman, Andrea Wethington
 Dan & Jordan Crumbley

Children's Worship

Tracy McKeithan, Amy Tolbert

Usher Team

Bill Crowe, Don Pickering
 Robert Sinyard, Steve Starnes
 Jerry Whiteside

Shuttle Bus Driver

Donnie Pickering

Worship Hour Prayer Team

Judy Molleur

Counting Team for Monday

Jane Poole, Emily McClure
 Mary Deaton

Sunday, January 22

Extended Session

Coordinators: Brian & Ashley Mauldin
 MaLinda McLendon, Leslie Sinyard
 Lauren Suggs
 Charlie & Brittani Sizemore
 Cindy Mercer, Maegan Acuna

Children's Worship

John Zolley
 James Nix, Dickie Riggs

Usher Team

James Nix, Dickie Riggs

Shuttle Bus Driver

Mike Owen

Worship Hour Prayer Team

Amy Tolbert

Counting Team for Monday

Doug & Faye Owens

Sunday, January 29

Extended Session

Coordinator: Joyce & Bill Bowen
 Jerry & Sylvia Whiteside
 Sherri Michelle Mills
 Joann Davis, Robin Riggs
 Nancy Hunt

Children's Worship

Mike Mauldin, Gene Couch

Usher Team

Robert Sinyard

Shuttle Bus Driver

Worship Hour Prayer Team

Jonathan Tolbert

Counting Team for Monday

Sherry Reed, Marie Moran
 Lanie Lafayette

Ministry Staff

David Mills Pastor dmills@beechhaven.net
 John Walker Associate Pastor of Administration & Education jwalker@beechhaven.net
 Tim Cotten Minister of Music & Worship tcotten@beechhaven.net
 Tommy Fountain, Jr. Student and Collegiate Minister tfountain@beechhaven.net
 Jonathan Tolbert Interim Family & Children's Minister children@beechhaven.net
 Jennifer Adolphson Interim Director of Preschool preschool@beechhaven.net

Support Staff

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 Cassie Brown cassieb@beechhaven.net
 Bill Dickerson Facilities Manager
 Karla Bartlett Pianist