

Homecoming 2010 Update

It's hard to believe that we have finished another year at Fannin Road. If you could describe it, I would say BUSY would be the only word that would fit. We had an outstanding VBS last summer. The theme was about a "time machine" and at the end I think the teachers would have liked to have put some kids in it.

This past summer brought our first camp and a trip to Birmingham with Gloryland Baptist. John and Susan Hale, along with a few others, did a fine job with our youth and many said it was a great spiritual awakening.

Our 2009 Camp Meeting in October went very well. We had a young preacher named Brett Gellos who preached sound Bible doctrinal messages, but most really liked Bro. Rusty Thrift on Friday night.

In February, we held our first "Family Matters Conference" with Bro. Dave Young and his sidekick, Dave Corn. The church was packed for every service and Bro. Dave reached directly into our homes and families with God's Word. Many said it was what they needed and very timely.

In March, Fannin Road hosted our first "Youth Conference" with Evangelist Adrian Burden preaching and singers from Gloryland Baptist in Birmingham. The conference was very successful and all loved Bro. Adrian Burden's "slow" preaching. Next year is already in the planning stages.

As with all ministries, change comes, and sadly we had to say goodbye to John, Susan and Kaitlyn Hale. They have moved on to a new work in the Clanton area and will be greatly missed. With this said, we now have a new Youth Director, Bro. Randy Jackson and his wife, Ashly. They have hit the ground running! Camp is only two months away and we are looking at going to either Pensacola's Extreme Teen or the Impact Teen with Calvary Baptist in Tennessee. Either way they will be very busy raising the funds to make this happen, so please give and pray.

All of our Youth Ministries are flourishing with great success. Our buses now transport around 100 children for any of the three services held each week. The bus workers are faithful and God is filling our church with young members and one day our new leaders. Path Finders, Kings Kids, Patch the Pirate, Jr. Church, and Sunday school are all running full speed ahead.

Young at Heart and Miss Nancy are doing great. They seem to be seen many Saturdays at a local eating place called the Wagon Wheel. If this doesn't slow up, we may need a Young at Heart Aerobics' class. Anyway, the bottom line is that our outreach is large and we depend on faithful servants to make all this happen. So get involved if you are not already.

Our choir did two cantatas this year, one for Christmas 2009 and one for Easter 2010. Many said that they could not believe how far our choir has come with Bro. Rick Sutton's leadership. Most know that the Lord did it all, so let's give Him all the praise.

Faith Bible is still pressing right along with 15 current students and we graduated seven with a Bible College Diploma in March 2010.

Before I close, let me say we started two new ministries from our church since last year. One is an outreach to Faith Rescue Mission, and several are going down on Mondays and Saturdays for these services. The Lord has blessed this with several getting saved. Along with this we also hold a church service at Capital Heights Retirement the 3rd Monday of each month. These seniors enjoy the music, the preaching and the testimonies. Try and find time to make one of these services if you can.

The last thing I would like to say is that the Lord has blessed us this year with a brand new Brush Arbor. Thanks to Kevin McIlwain and many others for this new construction. With all the rain in the fall of last year it took longer than we anticipated, but thanks be to God that today we are able to dedicate it to the Lord! Thanks Kevin for working with your very "patient" pastor!

Finally, I want to ask you one question. When people look over at this little church in the cow pasture, just what do they see? As your pastor, it is my greatest hope that we are pleasing Him and that they see a group of Brothers and Sisters in Christ working together to reach a lost and dying world. May we be found faithful until He comes! Praise Him for all He has done!

In His Service,

Jim & Debra Lester