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In this issue:

- *Dessert Fellowship and Worship under the trees*
- *April Financial Summary*
- *Welcome New Member*
- *Graduate Recognition*

CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2009

Congratulations to the class of 2009! This year, we have four graduates, all of whom have grown up in the Hapeville First Baptist Church.

Carole Bryden
Georgia State University

Jay Lovern
Eagle's Landing Christian Academy

Natalie Rast
The Lovett School

Nathan Weathers
Faith Academy



As this year's graduating class moves on into the next phase of their lives, we wish them the best of everything. We applaud their work and dedication that have gotten them to this point, and we look forward to great things from them.

We will recognize our graduates Sunday morning in the 11:00 am worship service.

DESSERT FELLOWSHIP AND WORSHIP



Join us Sunday evening at 6:00 pm for a special time of fellowship and worship as we gather outdoors under the trees beside the old stone sanctuary for a dessert fellowship and worship outdoors.

Everyone is encouraged to bring a dessert to share with others during our time of fellowship. You will also want to bring a comfortable chair, though we will have metal folding chairs available.

Our worship will be led by the Worship Café Band, and the atmosphere will be casual and comfortable. Bring a friend and join the fun Sunday evening.

POSTMASTER: Send address change to: the weekly witness, 612 College Street, Hapeville, Georgia 30354-1716



Office hours: 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Mon - Thurs

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Kay McWatters
Organist

Charlie Clark
Building Superintendent

Bobbie Taylor
Nursery Worker

“OFFERING” PLATE

(CNN) -- The pastor of a non-denominational church in Texas, passed the collection plate to his congregants earlier this year -- and asked them to take money from it. Donations at the Cross Timbers Community Church had fallen because of the economic downturn. Pastor Toby Slough thought that his congregants had to be hurting, too. His gesture was met with an unexpected response: The church had its highest offering ever.

It was a eureka moment for Slough: Give away money to those who need it, knowing his church members

will help fill the need. "In these economic times, we can't be so into church business that we forget what our business is, and that is to help people," said Slough.

In the past two months, the 9-year-old church has done just that: handed out a half-million dollars to members and non-members who are struggling. "We've taken \$200,000 and spread it out to organizations -- four local, two missions that are feeding and clothing people in these tough times," Slough said. "We've paid utility bills for members of

our church that are unemployed or under-employed." His favorite giveaway came three weeks ago. The church gave 1,400 families \$50 each and told them to hand it out to someone else.

Slough said he is not concerned if people try to take advantage of the church's generosity. "I told my church a couple weeks ago, if I'm not being taken advantage of, I'm not being like Jesus," he said. The church has now formed a group to look into the best ways to give out money. And, Slough said, it plans on doing so as long as there is a need in the community.

JUST THINKING. . .

*Bob Wiley
Pastor*

From a popular cultural point of view, summer is often considered to begin at the Memorial Day weekend (the last Monday in May) and end at the Labor Day weekend (the first Monday in September). School has but a few days remaining for children and their sense of freedom and many fun things to do. On the other hand, parents count the hours noting that they will have additional things to do because school is out!

I grew up in Indiana where the Indianapolis 500 Mile Race was most visible. It is run the Sunday before Memorial Day. As a high school student, I had the privilege of running in a state track meet which happened a couple of weeks

before the race. A side benefit offered by my coach was a trip to the Indy track for several hours of watching the race cars tune-up for the time trials.

Vietnam created a new understanding for me regarding Memorial Day. The lives given for our freedom included some men and women I knew and produced a deeper appreciation and the need to remember those who make our freedom possible. We thank our Sovereign Father for our nation and ask His blessings on those who serve our country today as well as those families who currently have loved ones providing for our freedom.

Pastor Bob

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

*Welcome
Karen Cloud*

We want to extend a warm welcome to our newest member, Ms. Karen Cloud, who joined the church by statement Sunday morning, May 17.

Karen has attended our church for some time now, and has been an active part of our children's choir ministry and children's church.

Ms. Karen Cloud
521 Oak Drive
Hapeville, GA 30354
404-933-5316

THIS WEEK. . .

Bible Study Attendance 73
Budget Receipts \$ 3,940.91
Designated Receipts 1,300.00
Total Receipts \$ 5,240.91
Weekly Requirements \$5,853.00

Deacon of the Week,
Brent Summers
248 Birch Street
Hapeville, GA 30354-1210
404.767.8779

Nursery Worker,
Carolyn Bishop
Van Driver Team,
Sharon Bryden, Brian Adams
Breakfast Team,
John & LaVerne Travis

PRAY FOR. . .

Treasured Members of the week:
Louise Hammock
3049 Dogwood Drive
Hapeville, GA 30354-1169

NOTES FROM TOM

*Tom Howard
Minister of
Music/
Financial
Administrator*

Thank you. It has been wonderful serving with you for the past 20 years, and I look forward to continuing to serve here into the future.

As we talked about our time in Hapeville to this point, Sandra and I commented that we have been members of this church longer than we were members of any other church in our lives. Hearing this, Christopher said he could top that—he's been a member here all of his life.

We've been through a lot together, and Sandra, Christopher, and I thank you for your support in the good times and in the bad times. It is nice to have a caring church family.

Thank you for the recognition and reception Sunday. Thank you for the love gift. Thank you for the opportunity to minister here since 1989. And thank you for the opportunity to minister here into the future.

APRIL FINANCIAL SUMMARY

During April , our receipts were 80.13% of budget requirements. In addition to the following, we have balances in the Building Fund of \$152.31, the Organ Maintenance Fund of \$3,995.00 and the Sanctuary Piano Fund of \$4,585.00.	Balance Brought Forward	(\$ 7,321.23)
	Regular Receipts	20,621.55
	Designated Receipts	1,729.64
	Regular Disbursements	24,549.49
	Designated Disbursements	1,385.73
	Service Charge	0.00
	Ending Balance	(\$ 10,905.26)
	Percentage Budget for month	80.13%
	Budget Receipts shortage to date	(\$ 12,246.06)
	Designated Year-to-Date	\$ 5,904.06

*Bring the
whole tithe
into the
storehouse,
that there may
be food in my
house*

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, May 24
Graduate Recognition
9:45 am Bible Study
11:00 am Worship
4:30 pm VBS meeting
6:00 pm Dessert Fellowship and Worship under the trees

Monday, May 25
Memorial Day
OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, May 27
6:00 pm Prayer Meeting
6:45 pm Sanctuary Choir

Sunday, May 31
9:45 am Bible Study
11:00 am Worship
6:00 pm Fifth Sunday Combined Worship at Jefferson Avenue
7:00 pm Worship Cafe

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

David Kite 05/24
Don Ray 05/25
Martha Davis 05/28
Phil White 05/29