

First Baptist Church North Tulsa 1414 N. Greenwood Ave. Tulsa, OK 74106 (918) 582-5129

Special Interest Articles:

- Rev. Buxton's 4th Anniversary
- Married Couples Retreat
- Let It Go!
- Net Finds
- REACHing Your Creative Potential

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Submissions Deadline:

27th of July

FBCNT Celebrates 4 Years With Pastor Buxton

First Baptist Church North Tulsa is celebrating an anniversary! On Sunday, July 17, 2005, our church will recognize four years of service and leadership under the inspired guidance of our own Pastor Terry L. Buxton, Sr. Originally from Oklahoma City, Rev. Buxton came to FBCNT from the Concord Missionary Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas where he was the Associate Pastor of Children's Ministries. He has also served as associate minister at St. John Missionary Baptist Church and Emmanuel Baptist Church in Oklahoma City. Nationally, Rev. Buxton conducts workshops training adult workers and children's ministry staff.

Long-time members of FBCNT can point with pride to many of the changes Rev. Buxton has brought us. Children's Church and a revitalized Youth Ministry, complete with attentive ushers and surely one of "the bestest!" youth choirs in the world, hundreds of new members who quickly become active and fit right into our church family in supportive and leadership roles, innovative ministries that reach out to others, sharing the joy and the good news of Jesus Christ – these are just a few of Rev. Buxton's contributions to FBCNT. His exuberance, sincerity, and dedication to spreading God's Word are unstoppable!

Married Couples Retreat:

Post Oak Lodge & Conference Center, Tulsa OK -- October 28-29, 2005
... Roz Davis

"What God has joined together, let no man put asunder" is God's spoken word for Greg and Theresa King. This dynamic couple was married on July 2, 1988. From the very beginning their relationship has been a testament to the awesome power of God's will in their lives. *"While both of us were saved and serving the Lord, we didn't know how to make Him a partner in our relationship. It wasn't until our partnership became a threesome, both of us and God, that we began to experience the fullness of joy that marriage can offer."*

For 13 years Greg and Theresa have been members of Salem Baptist Church of Chicago, where the Pastor is Rev. Senator James T. Meeks. Their church serves over 20,000 members and opened the largest worship facility in the city of Chicago, (10,000 seats) in July 2005. They have had the opportunity to serve in leadership

positions on the Marriage Ministry for 11 years.

The couple has planned and facilitated many couples' retreats and seminars. They have taught married couples Sunday School class for over 7 years, and have successfully counseled numerous couples who were considering divorce. This couple knows that by pouring into other marriages, their marriage is given God's favor.

Greg and Theresa plan to compile their experiences and life lessons into a book that will continue to uplift and uphold the bond of marriage. In addition to being a powerful couple, they have been blessed with two bright, beautiful children – son

See MARRIAGE, Page 8

From the Pastor's Study ...



Rev. Terry L. Buxton, Sr., Senior Pastor

*Change...
a choice
YOU
can make!*

Is there something in your life you want to change? Then you must understand this critical truth:

If you want to make a change in your life...

change comes through choice, not chance!

If you want to make a positive change in your life, then it begins with the choices you make on a daily basis.

Albert Einstein was right when he defined insanity as doing the same thing the same way, and expecting different results. It is absolutely crazy to expect to change your path in life if you refuse to change your direction in life.

If you want to make a change in your life, then you've got to

change your choices in order to change your life.

If you're sick and tired of being sick and tired, then you've got to

choose to change.

If you're tired of being down-hearted, depressed, despondent and defeated, then you've got to

choose to change.

If you're tired of only being qualified to sweep somebody's floor, clean somebody's toilet or flip somebody's burger, then you've got to

choose to change.

If you're tired of being a doormat, a punching bag, a plaything, or a one-night stand, then you've got to

choose to change.

The decisions we make today determine the destiny of our lives tomorrow.

Our chance for change is determined by our choice to change.

The Bible clearly teaches that our choices determine our destiny.

GOD TOLD ISRAEL through the prophet Moses (in Deuteronomy 30:19): *"...I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life that both you and your descendants may live..."*

As **JOSHUA AND THE PEOPLE OF GOD** stood on the banks of the promised land, Joshua told the people (in Joshua 24:15), *"And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve...But as for*

me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

Our choices determine our destiny. Where we end up tomorrow is determined by the choices we make today.

So, **I challenge you** to

...CHOOSE TO FACE YOUR CHALLENGES.

...CHOOSE TO BE AN HONORABLE PERSON OF INTEGRITY.

...CHOOSE TO LIVE A CHRIST-CENTERED, SACRIFICIAL LIFE.

You'll be blessed if you do!

SHARING THE JOY OF JESUS ...

Pastor

***REACH**ing Our Creative Potential ...*

Let It Go!

... by T. D. Jakes, as captured on the Net ...

There are people who can walk away from you.
And hear me when I tell you this!
When people can walk away from you: **let them walk.**

I don't want you to try to talk another person into staying with you, loving you, calling you, caring about you, coming to see you, staying attached to you.

I mean hang up the phone.
When people can walk away from you, **let them walk.**
Your destiny is never tied to anybody that left.

The bible said that they came out from us that it might be made manifest that they were not for us. For had they been of us, no doubt they would have continued *with* us. [1 John 2:19]

People leave you because they are not joined to you.
And if they are not joined to you, you can't make them stay.
Let them go.

It doesn't mean that they are a bad person. It just means that **their part in the story is over.** You've got to know when people's part in your story is over so that you don't keep trying to raise the dead.

You've got to know when it's dead. You've got to know when it's over. Let me tell you something. I've got the gift of good-bye. It's the tenth spiritual gift. I believe in good-bye. It's not that I'm hateful, it's that I'm faithful, and I know whatever God means for me to have, He'll give it to me. And if it takes too much sweat I don't need it.

Stop begging people to stay. **Let them go!!!**

If you are holding on to something that doesn't belong to you and was never intended for your life, then you need to **..LET IT GO!!!**

If you are holding on to past hurts and pains **...LET IT GO!!!**

If someone can't treat you right, love you back, and see your worth **...LET IT GO!!!**

If someone has angered you **... LET IT GO!!!**

If you are holding on to some thoughts of evil and revenge **.. LET IT GO!!!**

If you are involved in a wrong relationship or addiction **... LET IT GO!!!**

See **LET IT GO!**, page 6

Days of the Week

Monday -- **Wash Day**
Lord, help me wash away all my selfishness and vanity, so I may serve you with perfect humility through the week ahead.

Tuesday -- **Ironing Day**
Dear Lord, help me iron out all the wrinkles of prejudice I have collected through the years, so that I may see the beauty in others.

Wednesday -- **Mending Day**
O God, help me mend my ways so I will not set a bad example for others.

Thursday -- **Cleaning Day**
Lord Jesus, help me to dust out all the faults I have been hiding in the secret corners of my heart.

Friday -- **Shopping Day**
O God, give me the grace to shop wisely so I may purchase eternal happiness for myself and all others in need of love.

Saturday -- **Cooking Day**
Help me, my Savior, to brew a big kettle of brotherly love and serve it with the clean, sweet bread of human kindness.

Sunday -- **The LORD'S Day**
O God, I have prepared my house for you.
Please come into my heart so I may spend the day and the rest of my life in your presence.

Submitted by Mae Kathryn Copelana

Don't Forget the Summer Reading Program!

The third annual FBCNT Summer Reading Program, for children ages 4 through 12, continues! July meetings will be held on **July 13 and July 20, from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m.** Snacks will be provided by the Kitchen Ministry, and each child will be able to keep the books they are given to read.



About My Pastor

As we approach Rev. Buxton's fourth anniversary as our senior pastor, I'd like to take this opportunity to say a few words about him, and what he means to me. You may agree or disagree, but this is **my** article, and these are **my** feelings on the subject!

I find Rev. Buxton to be the walking, talking, living example of the words of a children's song we used to sing here: I've got that joy, joy, joy, joy – down in my heart! Every time I see him, he gives me a big smile, a warm hug,

and something to laugh about or think about later. He speaks honestly, from his heart, and I've never had a conversation with him where I felt anything but glad about it.

Don't think that I agree with everything he says, now! Sometimes I think he's just plain WRONG – but usually, when I think that, I don't hold it against him -- I give him the benefit of the doubt. He is, after all, a young man. On the other hand, I've found him to be very wise for his years. And more important to me, he's totally sincere and honest. He doesn't pretend to know just **every** thing. He is not afraid to acknowledge that there are a few things he's still working out. But he also doesn't try to hide the fact that he studies and prays an AWFUL lot! He may be one of the most studious men I've had the pleasure of meeting. So, all in all, I've come to respect him a great deal.

I've also come to trust him a great deal. I have confided things to Pastor that I would NEVER tell most people outside of my family – things that have made him question my sanity at times, things that have made him have to dig deep into his theology and training, things that have made him shake his head and wonder just what did he do to deserve being in this church with

... Linda Copeland Rozell

me! As hard as this may be to believe, there have been times when he has actually thought that I was just plain wrong! But, like I said, he's young.

The main thing is, whether we agree or disagree, I always know that Rev. Buxton likes me as a person. And I believe (I sincerely hope) that he always knows that I feel the same about him! He is a truly good, God-loving and God-fearing man. He has a gift, from God, for touching people's hearts. You **know** he's a great preacher, and if you've ever taken the time to chat with him, you know he's a gifted teacher, a very funny man, and a warm and loving human being. I am so very happy that he is here, so very happy to have him as my pastor, and as my friend! I may not always agree with everything he says, and I may not always be able to see his vision the way he sees it. But I am grateful for the opportunity to do what I can to help. Sometimes that may mean fine-tuning plans, sometimes it may mean questioning, sometimes it may mean forging ahead when I don't know exactly where we're going. But I believe that Rev. Buxton stays in close contact with the Lord, and that's all I can ask of him!

Well, maybe I can ask one other thing. I could ask him to stop calling my boyfriend DANzel ...

From God's Heart to Yours

... Candy Lawson

"The man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it, he will be blessed in what he does."

... James 1:25 NIV

Doing is blessing. The Word moves you into faith, and faith moves you into action. The action will be for good, and the glory will be for God.

You will be His hand extended to feed the poor, to comfort the widow, to shelter the orphan, to lift the oppressed, to deliver the captive, and to loose those who are bound.

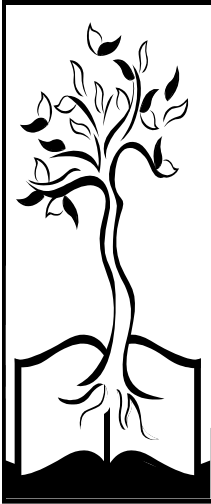
The blessings of the Word will lead you, to show love to your neighbor, to visit those in prison, and to give a cup of cold water in His name.

FBCNT CALENDAR: July, 2005

Children's Activities: Wednesdays, 6 – 7:30 pm. Youth Choir Rehearsal / Bible Study: Wednesdays, 6-8 pm.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2 9:30 AM Deaconess Ministry 10:30 AM Leadership Development
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 8:00 AM Men's Ministry Breakfast 9:30 AM Deacon Ministry 11:00 AM Trustee Ministry Teachers Training Workshop - CEM State Prayer Retreat/Women's Day, Fairview
10 9:30 AM Class Promotion Program	11 7:00 PM Music Council Meeting	12	13 8:00 PM Membership Ministry Meeting – All Purpose Room Reading Club – KOTK	14 7:00 PM Christian Education Ministry	15 6:00 PM Fellowship Dinner – Stalnaker Hall	16 10:00 AM Usher Ministry Meeting
17 10:20 AM Church School General Assembly 1:00 Meet the Members Reception – Stalnaker Hall 4:00 PM Pastor Buxton's Anniversary	18 Creek District Congress	19 Creek District Congress	20 Reading Club - KOTK Creek District Congress	21 Creek District Congress	22 Creek District Congress	23 10:00 AM Women's Ministry Meeting
24 5:00 PM Marriage Ministry Meeting	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						Children's Church: 2 nd & 4 th Sundays Youth Church: 1 st , 2 nd , 4 th Sundays

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Care of
Business!*



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with Us -
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- Marijo Copeland Grissom, PC**
Attorney at Law
Two Main Plaza, 616 S. Main, Ste. 301 – Tulsa, OK 74119 – 918-582-4848 (O)– 918-688-2483 (C) - mcgrissom@sbcglobal.net
- Marjorie Hughes**, Residential Sales Associate, **PRUDENTIAL Detrick Realty**
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- McIntosh Real Estate**, Russell McIntosh, C.R.A.
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- Net Work\$**, Charlotte Manning, Vice President, Networks
Community Business Directory, Radio, TV Commercials, Newsletter
447 E. Latimer St. – Tulsa, OK 74106 – 918-407-9580 (C) – ccmanning4@aol.com

Let It Go! Continued from Page 3

If you are holding on to a job that no longer meets your needs or talents ... **LET IT GO!**

If you have a bad attitude ... **LET IT GO!!!**
If you keep judging others to make yourself feel better ... **LET IT GO!**

If you're stuck in the past and God is trying to take you to a new level in Him ... **LET IT GO!!!**
If you are struggling with the healing of a broken relationship ... **LET IT GO!**

If you keep trying to help someone who won't even try to help themselves... **LET IT GO!**

If you're feeling depressed and stressed **LET IT GO!**

If there is a particular situation that you are so used to handling yourself, and God is saying "take your hands off of it," then you need to ... **LET IT GO!**

Let the past be the past. Forget the former things.
GOD is doing a **new** thing for 2005!!!
LET IT GO!!!

Get Right or Get Left ... think about it, and then
LET IT GO!!!

"The Battle is the Lord's!"

During the next 60 seconds, stop whatever you are doing, and take this opportunity. Literally, it is only One Minute!

All you have to do is the following:
You simply say "The Lords Prayer".

Family Corner

Let Go. Let God.

Submitted by Brooksie Sylvan

Beloved, let go. Let go of all worry and fear, and let Me be a light that guides you through every experience of your life. Let Me love you, honor you, and bless you as you were meant to be loved, honored, and blessed.

Let go, dear one, let go. Let go and let Me work through you to bless others. Let Me use your hands to give comfort and strength; let Me use your heart to express love and compassion; let Me use your mind to bring new ideas to the world.

Let go, beloved, let go. Let go and let Me work wonders in you and through you. Let Me show you the power of love.

Let go, dear one, let go. Let go and let Me show you how to live your life as the instrument of My love and peace that you were created to be.

"Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths." ... Psalm 25:4

Reprinted from The Daily Word

Congratulations to Vernice Jarrett on her splendid performance in Harlem's famed Riverside Church! Singing at the Memorial Service for brother, Dr. Hobart S. Jarrett, Vernice "sounded like an angel" to those fortunate enough to attend. The Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes, Jr., Senior Minister, presided over the service, and the eulogy was given by Dr. Syl Shannon, Senior Minister, United Presbyterian Church of Plainfield, New Jersey. Dr. Shannon was so impressed that he has invited Vernice to return next June to sing at a special program at the famous Rainbow Room in New York City. Family members present included Hobart's wife, Gladys, sister Mae Kathryn Copeland, daughter Jodi Blocker, granddaughter Jaelynn, nieces Marijo Grissom and Jennifer Love, nephews Damian and Jason Rozell and Jarrett Love, cousins Deborah Wilson Brown and Carmen Fields Finison, and lifetime friend, Dr. John Hope Franklin.

"ASAP"

Submitted by Doris Fields

Ever wonder about the abbreviation ASAP (As Soon As Possible)? Generally we think of it in terms of even more hurry and stress in our lives. Maybe if we think of this abbreviation in a different manner, we will begin to find a new way to deal with those rough days along the way.

There's work to do, deadlines to meet;
You've got no time to spare,
But as you hurry and scurry-
ASAP - ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER

In the midst of family chaos,
"Quality time" is rare...
Do your best, let God do the rest-
ASAP- ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER

It may seem like your worries
Are more than you can bear,
Slow down and take a breather!
ASAP - ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER

God knows how stressful life is;
He wants to ease our cares,
And He'll respond to all your needs
ASAP - ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Morning Prayer

Received via email ...

So far today, God, I've done all right.
I haven't gossiped, haven't lost my temper,
haven't been greedy or grumpy, nasty or
self-centered.

I'm really glad about that.

But, in a few minutes, God,
I'm going to get out of bed, and then
I'm going to need a lot of help.

Amen.

First Baptist Church North Tulsa

1414 N. Greenwood
Tulsa, OK 74106

PHONE:
(918) 582-5129

Rev. Terry L.
Buxton, Sr.,
Senior Pastor

For Newsletter
Updates, contact
Linda A. Rozell
918-592-1098
lrcvision@
ameritech.net

**Submissions must
be received by the
27th of July!**

FBCNT is on the
Web!
www.fbcnt.org

MARRIAGE, *continued from Page 1*

Jordan, 13, and daughter Taylor, 11. The dynamic of parenting while maintaining a healthy marriage is a strong part of their ministry.

The Kings are a humble couple who are not afraid of sharing their personal struggles and testimony with others. They know that God will show himself strong in their marriage as they bless His people. Their motto is "To God be

the glory for the things that He has done in our lives!!"

Attend the marriage retreat and let Greg and Theresa minister to you as they speak words of wisdom and life into your marriage. Registration will open soon. **Contact Andre and Roz Davis or any member of the retreat planning committee for details.** See you in October!

WANTED For Our Next Newsletter...

When Your Well Runs Dry

Do you ever feel like the grass is greener anywhere but where you are? Do you ever feel like your blessings have all dried up? How do YOU handle "blessing droughts"? Share your thoughts ... **by July 27.**

Family News

Let us share your news in our Family Corner.

Submissions by July 27

NET FINDS:

From
www.christianitytoday.com

"I make the bed every morning, and fix dinner once a week. It's not Mother Teresa stuff, but you gotta start somewhere."

—John Ortberg,
pastor and author,
married to Nancy 22 yrs

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(Christianity Today
International/*Marriage
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Family Business

There's NO business like YOUR business! If you are an entrepreneur or service provider, send us your business card – don't yell it down the well; let REACH help you holler and make that dollar!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH NORTH TULSA

1414 North Greenwood Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74106

