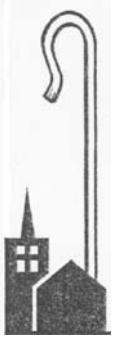


# The Tie Line



*Sharing God's Love in the Heart of the City*

**First Baptist Church of Silver Spring**

8415 Fenton Street ▪ Silver Spring, MD 20910-4445 ▪ 301-585-5454 ▪ [www.fbcss.org](http://www.fbcss.org)

*Multi-national, -cultural & -generational, united in Christ to worship, grow & serve*

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## THE MEETINGS OF THE BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE

During the last week of July, Mary Helen and I went to Honolulu, Hawaii for a mix of vacation and meetings. We chose this time because it was the convening of the 20<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Baptist World Alliance. For the past 20 years I have attended scores of meetings with the BWA to take part in board and committee meetings, read papers, lead training sessions or take part in discussion groups. This was my first time in many years to be purely a participant. So, why would I travel almost 4,833 miles to be in meetings?

In the next few Tie Lines, let me introduce you to this wonderful body of Baptists and then I think you will see why we chose to fly almost 5000 miles one way to attend these meetings.

Baptists are not always known for working together. We are most often identified as “Independent” rather than Cooperative. But, that is the picture painted for the world by Baptists in *America* more than by Baptists from the rest of the world.

The Baptist World Alliance brings together the efforts of over 37 million baptized believers and a community of 105 million in 216 conventions and unions worldwide that share a common confession of faith in Jesus Christ committed to support, encourage and strengthen each other to proclaim and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit to a lost world.

As early as 1687, Thomas Grantham, an English Baptist leader dreamed of all Baptists of the world making one consistory “to consider matters of difference among them.” Over a century later another British Baptist preacher, hymn writer and editor, John Rippon, called for “a deputation” of Baptists from all over the world to meet for “the ecclesiastical good of the whole.” Fifteen years later, John Newton Prestridge, editor of *The Baptist Argus* from Louisville, Kentucky picked up the idea once again. It was quickly endorsed by John Howard Shakespeare, editor of *The Baptist Times and Freeman* of London and at the invitation of the *Baptist Union of Great Britain* a congress was held in London in July 1905 that adopted a Constitution for a World Alliance. The preamble said, “Whereas, in the providence of God, the time has come when it seems fitting more fully to manifest the essential oneness in the Lord Jesus Christ as their God and Savior of the Churches of the Baptist order and faith throughout the world, and to promote the spirit of fellowship, service and co-operation among them, while recognizing the

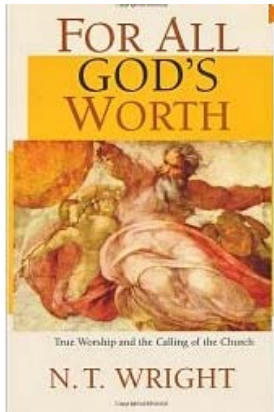
independence of each particular church and not assuming the functions of any existing organization, it is agreed to form a Baptist World Alliance, extending over every part of the world." I'll share more about this dynamic world body in the next two Tie Lines.

Pastor Mac

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## AUGUST SUNDAY SCHOOL

In August we give our adult Sunday School teachers a break and the pastoral staff teaches combined classes of adults and older youth. This year Dr. Walters and I will follow another book by Bishop N. T. Wright titled *For All God's Worth: True Worship and the Calling of the Church*.



Here is an excerpt from the book's introduction: "This little book is an attempt to say that the way through is by sheer unadulterated worship of the living and true God, and by following this God wherever he leads, whether or not it is the way our traditions would suggest. Worship is not an optional extra for the Christian, a self-indulgent religious activity. It is the basic stance, and indeed (so Christians claim) the truly human stance. 'Worship' derives from 'worth-ship'—it means giving God all God's worth. Hence the title of this book."

For the rest of August and the first Sunday in September, we will learn together that we can't just acknowledge the God we know through Jesus Christ at a distance and carry on as before. "After all, this God didn't stay at a distance himself. He took us seriously enough to come into our world as one of us. So, we will take ourselves seriously as well, in the sense that we must look at ourselves in the mirror and ask some fairly sharp questions about who First Baptist is and what we think we are up to. If Jesus is the World of God, the answers might just take your breath away – and offer you God's breath instead." The cost of the book is **\$13.00** (checks payable to: *First Baptist Church*) and the book will be available for purchase at the class.

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## NCCF BACK TO SCHOOL NEEDS

We will be collecting school supplies for the National Center for Children and Families (NCCF) during the month of August. Your participation in this annual drive will enable many of the children and youth to start the school year successfully. Look for the collection boxes in Fellowship Hall. Please help by purchasing supplies from the following list:



No. 2 pencils, pens, colored pencils, crayons, markers, glue sticks, highlighters, pencil bags and boxes, calculators, rulers, protractors, compasses, scissors (left and right handed), notebook paper, spiral notebooks, black & white composition books, loose-leaf notebooks, folders, binders, dictionaries, thesauruses, backpacks (grades K-12).

If you would prefer to make a monetary gift, please make checks payable to: NCCF. Their mailing address is: 6301 Greentree Road, Bethesda, MD 20817. Thank you for caring about the disadvantaged children and youth serviced by NCCF.

**COMING ON SEPTEMBER 12: FBC'S CHURCH PICNIC**

LAST NAMES beginning with:

**A – M** bring vegetable or salad

**N – Z** bring dessert

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### MEDIA MESSAGES

If you have the summer doldrums, you are not alone. But, *there is hope*. The energy from the Vacation Bible children and workers will give a boost in enthusiasm. The August Bible Study "How to Read and Study the Bible" can stimulate the mind. For an appreciation of the Bible, you can check out from the Media Center the DVD, "God's Outlaw, the Story of William Tyndale." The film will give you an understanding of Tyndale's task and sacrifice to provide an English language translation for his countrymen.

In your Bible study you may have used *The Good News for Modern Man* translation. For an interesting article on translator, Robert "Bob" Bratcher, go to the Internet and google Baptist Today Blogs for a July14 post by Tony Cartledge, "A Man Who Told the Truth" or <http://www.tonycartledge.com>

To search for other Bible versions, come to the Media Center and use the patron access computer and search for keywords BIBLE or VERSIONS for the subject BIBLE - VERSIONS.

*Jeanne Byrd*

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### DEVELOP YOUR TEACHING SKILLS

We are always looking for Sunday School teachers; now a new ministry at FBC has started: teaching English to non-English speaking members who attend worship services here (First Baptist, Iglesia Bautista Emanuel, Eglise Baptiste de la Foi). Perhaps these are ministries in which you would like to participate, but would like to become better equipped in *how* to share information. Perhaps you currently are involved in one of these ministries but want to improve your presentation skills. Here's your chance!

The DC Baptist Convention's Center for Congregational Health, Evangelism & Discipleship is providing opportunities to develop your teaching skills. These Learning Center Forums are free; all classes are 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM and will be held at the DCBC Building (1628 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW). Parking is available in the courtyard next to the building. RSVP or register at [www.dcbaptist.org](http://www.dcbaptist.org) or call 202-265-1526.

**Thursday, August 12** *Orientation for New Teachers of Adults;*

**Thursday, August 26** *Orientation for New Teachers of Youth*

**Thursday, September 9** *Orientation for New Teachers of Children*

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### YOUTH MENTORING PROGRAM

Spend a year making a difference in the life of a child! The Community Preservation and Development Corporation (CPDC) Youth Mentoring Program is for 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders living at the Park Montgomery Community (8860 Piney Branch Road) in Silver Spring. Mentors will meet one-on-one with a mentee each week for an hour; attend monthly large group activities or fields trips; and attend a short mentor meeting each month. For more information, or to receive a mentor application, see the church bulletin board, contact Elizabeth Huber 202-885-9560 or visit the website [www.cpdcmmentor.wordpress.com](http://www.cpdcmmentor.wordpress.com)



**AUGUST Birthdays**

4	Rochelle McQueen Burrell	13	Don Keuch
	Christopher Collins	15	Nathanael Rudolph
	Ed Flickinger	16	Ann Erdahl
5	Monica Solomon	18	Helen Carroll
6	Valeria Foster	19	Mary Fulwood
8	Barbara Williams	21	Elvie Castro
9	Mary Branch	23	Harold Williams
10	Garland Lowe	26	Margaret Iwamoto
11	Rose Brown	28	Ed Maglad
	Evelyn Thrift	30	Jerry Verner
12	Mozelle Bennett		

**August 2010 Activities**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 8**

9:30 a.m. Combined Adult Sunday School  
*For All God's Worth* book: \$13.00  
 Meets in Fellowship Hall through September 8

11:00 a.m. Worship Service  
 11:00 a.m. Eglise Baptiste de la Foi Worship Service  
 1:30 p.m. Eglise Baptist de la Foi Luncheon  
 1:00 p.m. Iglesia Bautista Emanuel Worship Service

**MONDAY, AUGUST 9**

6:30 p.m. Young Adults Group

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 12**

6:00-8:00 p.m. English as a Second Language class

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 14**

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Food Closet (Team A)  
 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. English as a Second Language class

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25**

7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

(Dinner, Bible Study, Handbells rehearsal will resume September 8)

**MINISTERS AND STAFF**

Duncan McIntosh, *Proclamation*  
 Gareth Murray, *Associate Pastor*  
 Valeria Foster, *Worship & Administration, TL Editor*  
 Jerry Orrell, *Administrative Assistant*  
 Barbara Williams, *Webmaster*

Eric Walters, *Associate Pastor*  
 Jeanne Byrd, *Media Center*  
 George Drumwright, *Organist*  
 Rosemary Piercey, *Celebration Ringers*  
 Bill Smith, *Listserve Moderator*