

a note from the pastor

Dear Church at the Mall Family and Welcomed Guests:

Christmas is almost here! Our Advent events have helped us to more specifically focus on the real spirit of Christmas and the anticipation and celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. You have enthusiastically embraced the Advent emphasis! Each year we will make this part of our Christmas tradition. Thank you for the positive comments about our emphasis.

Please don't miss this Wednesday evening, our annual Christmas Eve 11pm celebration! There is no greater thrill than to usher in Christmas Day together with your family and other believers. If you are waiting to be baptized, why not do it this Wednesday evening after the 11pm service when it is officially Christmas? Getting baptized on Christmas is a huge blessing! Let Pastor Walt Dearie know if you want to get baptized.

For those who have never attended our Christmas Eve service, here is what you can anticipate:

Singing Christmas Carols

Amazing Special Music

Observance of the Lord's Supper

Children's Time with Pastor Jay with Birthday Cake for Jesus

Family Friendly Candlelight Ceremony

Final Message of the Five Lights of Christmas

Lighting the Christ Candle

The Experience of Close Fellowship with Family and Friends

A Declaration of the Real Reason for Christmas

Baptism Service

Kids Can Wear PJ's

There is simply no service like this one all year long. Without one doubt, it is my favorite service of the year. Please plan to be a part of it, and invite someone who doesn't normally go to church to come with you. You might be pleasantly surprised at how open people are to an invitation—even at 11pm on Christmas Eve!

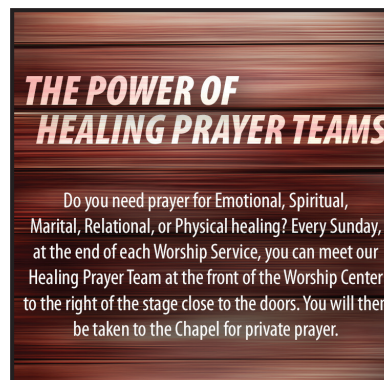
On behalf of Angie, Will, Julia, Emily, Stephen, and Crosby, Merry Christmas! We have so much for which to be thankful. Merry Christmas to the greatest church on earth!

I look forward to sharing in all three worship services on Sunday, December 28.

RZIM Simulcast

We are privileged to be one of the over 34 worldwide host sites for a Ravi Zacharias International Ministries' live-stream simulcast called "Understanding and Answering Islam." Held on January 16-17 (Friday evening and Saturday all day), this event will compare Christianity with Islam. Many leading experts will be sharing. To register and to find out more, go to churchatthemall.com/understanding-answering-islam. The \$10 registration fee includes lunch on Saturday.

I Love You,
Pastor Jay



THE POWER OF HEALING PRAYER TEAMS

Do you need prayer for Emotional, Spiritual, Marital, Relational, or Physical healing? Every Sunday, at the end of each Worship Service, you can meet our Healing Prayer Team at the front of the Worship Center to the right of the stage close to the doors. You will then be taken to the Chapel for private prayer.

ministry staff

Dr. Jay Dennis Senior Pastor

Virginia Bellucci, *Ministry Assistant to Senior Pastor*

Darrin Brown, Associate Lead Pastor for Worship, Discipleship and Administration

Beth Miller, *Ministry Assistant for Worship, Discipleship and Administration*

Worship

Frank Ralls

Worship Leader

Kristi Brown

Worship Leader

Kris Ridgley

Worship Leader

Betsy Brown

Worship Ministry Assistant

Daniel Livingston

Program Technology Supervisor

Michael Short

Program Technology Specialist

Discipleship

Jerrod Brooks

Discipleship Minister

Linda Gundlach

Preschool Director

Michelle Traylor

Preschool Ministry Assistant

Christopher Gooding

Children's Minister

Erin Gooding

Children's Ministry Assistant

Sean Beach

Student Minister

Steve Antley

Student Minister

Luis Ruiz

Student Ministry Associate

Kim Hill

Connect to Growth Coordinator

Administration

Brian Kelley

Accounting Manager

Judy Thomas

Administrative Ministry Assistant

Sabrina Fambrough

Staff Accountant

John Pricone

Purchasing, Payroll, Human Resources

Ryan Choate

Marketing & Communications Lead

Casey Taylor

Marketing & Communications Specialist

Steve Holland

Facilities Director

Greg Hieronymus

Maintenance Supervisor

Robert Simmons

Housekeeping Supervisor

Linda Callahan

Print Shop Supervisor

Jerry Goodell, Associate Lead Pastor for Pastoral Care, Missions and Outreach

Brenda Rinier, *Ministry Assistant for Pastoral Care, Missions and Outreach*

Pastoral Care

Gene Wells

Pastoral Care Minister

Walt Dearie

Pastoral Care Minister

Dr. Gerald Bagwell

Pastor Emeritus

Mary Lou Helm

Pastoral & Preschool Assistant

Susan Cranor

Ministry Assistant

Event Coordinator

Trena Mewborn

Director of Counseling

& Support Groups

Missions

David Trivette

Missions Minister

Blessing Mullis

Missions Ministry Assistant

Lito Lucas

Philippine International Church

Outreach

Dr. Mark Bedwell

Outreach Minister

Blessing Mullis

Outreach Ministry Assistant

Buddy Newsome

National Director, F.A.I.T.H. Riders

Laura Terry

F.A.I.T.H. Riders Ministry Assistant

Glenn Combee

Deaf Church Ministry

On Call Pastor

Church members, please know there is a pastor on-call if you have an emergency or crisis during non-business hours. Call (863) 682-0163, follow the prompts and your call will go directly to the on-call pastor.

Pastor Jay's Resources

Do you know someone that needs to hear one of Pastor Jay's sermons or read one of his tracts? Then churchatthemall.com is the place to go. You'll be able to share his messages with your friends on Facebook or buy a tract for that person you know needs to hear the gospel. CDs and DVDs of Pastor Jay's messages, his tracts and booklets are also available at the Media Desk on Main Street.

Information for December 14, 2014

GENERAL OPERATING FUND

Weekly Budget Needed	\$128,365
Received This Week	\$131,561
YTD Budget Needed	\$6,418,250
Received YTD	\$6,344,342

DEBT REDUCTION OFFERING

Received This Week	\$2,106
Received Since 6/23/14	\$86,775

GENERAL INFORMATION

Baptisms Since 10/1/14	56
New Members Since 10/1/13	64
Sunday Connect Group Discipleship	1,886
Midweek Discipleship	2,196

SPECIAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT OFFERING (OLD FFG)

Worship Center Audio, Video and Lighting	
Received This Week	\$430
Received	\$285,771



First Baptist Church at the Mall | www.churchatthemall.com | (863) 682-0163
1010 East Memorial Blvd, Lakeland, FL 33801 | P.O. Box 90669, Lakeland, FL 33804

The Five Lights of Christmas

CELEBRATING THE FIRST COMING OF CHRIST



A Sermon Series by

Pastor Jay Dennis

Sunday, November 30th

The Light of Waiting on God...
(What God Does While You Are Waiting)

Sunday, December 7th

The Light of Hope...
(A Forward Look Because of a Past Promise)

Christmas Eve Wednesday, December 24th

The Light of the World...
(No More Darkness! No More Night! The Light Has Come!)



first baptist church
at the mall

Connecting People to God, Growth, and Ministry

Connection Guide || December 21, 2014

coming soon

MISSIONS CELEBRATION 2015

NATIONS

Across the street and around the World

Mark Your Calendar:
January 28th – February 1st, 2015

UNDERSTANDING & ANSWERING ISLAM

RZIM


JANUARY 16-17 2015

What are the foundational differences between Christianity and Islam? Find out more about this Ravi Zacharias International Ministries simulcast event and register at churchatthemall.com or the Media Desk on Main Street.

\$10 Ticket Includes Event Registration and Lunch on Saturday

Deacon Ordination Service

Wednesday, January 7, 2015
6:15pm | Worship Center



Join Us For

ADVENT

CELEBRATE THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON WITH US
IN WORSHIP AND DEVOTION

Be Baptized on Christmas

Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday, December 24th | 11pm

If you haven't been baptized or your baptism is out of order, take this opportunity to be baptized at the conclusion of our Christmas Eve Service. Sign up by sending an email to Walt at walt.dearie@fbclakeland.org or call him at (863) 682-0163.

Awana  Support Groups  WOMEN of PURPOSE Bible Studies  Men's Ministry 

Winter Semester Begins January 14

churchatthemall.com/midweek

more happenings

As we consider God's great gift of his Son and His abundant blessings to us, thank you for remembering your Church during this season of giving. The Church Administration Office will remain open until 6pm on December 31st to receive end of year gifts. Gifts given online through churchatthemall.com prior to midnight on December 31st and gifts received by mail that are postmarked on or before December 31st will be credited toward your 2014 giving record. Please

feel free to contact Brian Kelley at ext. 330 if you have any questions or need to schedule a time to deliver your gift outside normal business hours.

SUPPORT 1 MISSION
Thanks to all for your contributions of money and gift cards toward our Christmas boxes at Compassion House. Compassion House is in need for all sizes of men's pants and jackets and for ladies shoes sizes 8-11. Any help on these items will be greatly appreciated.

ministry schedule

Sunday Worship Services

8:00am Traditional Worship \ \ 9:30am and 11:00am Progressive Worship

Adult Connect Groups

Attending a large church can be overwhelming and make it hard to connect with others. That's why we created Connect Groups. Consider them small churches within our big church and the center of our ministry universe. Let us help you find a Connect Group by filling out the My Connections Card or stopping by the Connect to Growth Booth on Main Street.

New Members' Connection

New Members' Connection is mandatory for all those desiring church membership, and is also open to anyone desiring more information on the history, beliefs, mission and vision of our church. The next New Members' Connection is **Sunday, January 4 at 9:30am in Rm 680.**

January Committee Meetings

Bylaws Committee || Wednesday, January 7
Stewardship Committee || Wednesday, January 14
Personnel Committee || Wednesday, January 21
Finance Committee || Wednesday, January 28

All meetings are held at 5:00pm in the Executive Conference Room unless otherwise noted.

Preschool Ministry (Birth-5 yrs Noah's Landing)

Sunday || 8:00am Wee Worship || 9:30am Connect Groups || 11:00am Preschool Praise
Wednesday || 6:00pm

Children's Ministry (1st - 5th grade Children's Area)

Sunday || 8:00am Worship || 9:30am Children's Bible Study || 11:00am Jam
Wednesday || 6:00pm

Remedy Student Ministries (6th - 12th grade)

Connect Groups || 11:00am || MS: Rm 460 || HS: Rm 450
Wednesday || 6:30-8:00pm || Combined Worship || Rm 460

Catalyst College Ministry

Sunday || 11:00am || Catalyst Connect Group || Rm 173

Midweek Opportunities

Midweek opportunities are the perfect place to find love, support, spiritual and emotional growth, and teaching that will help you build a closer relationship with God.

More information is available at churchatthemall.com/midweek or at the Information Desk.

Support Groups

We're all working through something. That's why we offer Support Groups that will help you better your marriage, walk through cancer or the death of a loved one, break addictions, recover from depression or assist with other hurts, habits and hangups.

For complete details, go to churchatthemall.com/supportgroups or pick up a brochure at the Information Desk.

Wingman Men's Ministry

Sunday || 11:00am || Connect Group || Theatre II
Wednesday || 6:15pm || NOW Center

Worship Ministry

Choir Rehearsal || Wednesday || 6:30-8:00pm || Choir Room

Other Ministries/Classes

The Chapel Service || Wednesday || 6pm || The Chapel
Compassion House || Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 7:00am-12pm (Deliveries), 8:30-11am (Serving)
Deaf Church || Sunday, 11:00am & Wednesday, 6:30pm
Hope for the Heart Bible Study || 2nd/4th Tuesday, Rm 690, 11:30am
F.A.I.T.H. Riders Bike Night || 3rd Thursday of even month, Pit Stop, 6:30pm