



The Sharpstown Baptist Church

# Encourager

*Touching Heaven.... Changing Earth*

7000 Bellaire Boulevard, Houston, TX 77074 | 713-774-9673

[www.sharpchurch.org](http://www.sharpchurch.org)

**June  
2009**

## ***In This Issue:***

- *Vacation Bible School 2009*
- *Report from the Admin Chair of Church Council*
- *Church on A Mission*
- *May Financial Highlights*
- *Fast Club News*
- *Announcement from the Pastor Search Committee*
- *SBC First Annual Health Fair*
- *Calendar of Coming Events*
- *Ministries at Sharpstown*
- *How To Become a Christian*

## ***Weekly Schedule***

### ***Sunday***

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:45 a.m. Worship Service
- 6:00 p.m. Evening Service  
(temporarily suspended)

### ***Tuesday***

- 6:30 a.m. Bible Study

### ***Wednesday***

- 6:30 p.m. TeamKids
- 6:30 p.m. Midweek Service
- 7:45 p.m. Choir Practice

### ***Friday***

- 6:30 p.m. Youth Program

***Estudio Biblico  
Para Adultos  
Domingo 9:30***

## ***Hop on Board!***

**Boomerang Express - Vacation Bible School 2009 is Coming Soon!**



***After all of the preparations, our 2009 Vacation Bible School is almost here:***

**VBS starts with a kickoff on June 14 from 5:30 – 7:30, with the school following on June 15 – 19 from 6:15 – 8:45. A free light supper will be served at 5:30.**

Even if you are not signed up to work at VBS this year, please come and join us in reaching out to our community. We can always use help with greeting guests, security, helping keep children “corralled”, etc. Let’s show the Sharpstown community that we are a friendly church that truly cares about them as individuals.

Please see the enclosed flyer for more information on VBS. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors! It’s going to be great fun!



**MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL ADMINISTRATIVE CHAIR:**

**REVERENCE IN CHURCH:**

When many of us who are "old timers" grew up, everyone over ten wore a suit or dress to church,

we all got there early and took our little ones to the nursery and there weren't any cell phones. Frankly, I wouldn't mind going back to those times, but, to paraphrase Thomas Wolfe, you can't go back to the "Good Old Days." If we are to reach out to others in our community, we must be open, and "user friendly". Remember, if we can't get them in the door or we run them off with overly rigid rules, then our church will never grow. After prayerful consideration, your Church Council and Deacons have modified the seating rules during worship service. People will be allowed to enter at all times other than when there is a prayer going on or the Bible is being read. During special music, the ushers will hold them inside, but in the back. Our ushers will try to encourage parents to take little ones to nursery or children's church, but we will not insist. Please be in prayer as our congregation and leaders wrestle with these issues so that all we do will be for His glory.

In Him, Tom Graves



**Sharpstown Baptist Church on a Mission**

**Ember Concepcion  
Mission Chairperson**

Did you know that every 15 seconds a child dies due to the lack of clean drinking water? Living Water International is an organization fighting to stop this tragedy while spreading the love of Jesus with those who have never heard, and now you can help! If you would be interested in taking a week long mission trip to drill a water well, or if you could help financially to send other SBC members to drill, please contact Ember Concepcion at 832-675-1219 or via email at [bupeewangle@yahoo.com](mailto:bupeewangle@yahoo.com). For more information on Living Water International, visit their website: [www.water.cc](http://www.water.cc).

**DON'T HANG UP!**

If you receive a phone call that begins with a recorded male voice saying "Hello", don't automatically assume that it's a sales call. It may be a call from the church's new software, PhoneTree. As the office becomes more familiar with PhoneTree, we will be using it more and more to remind the congregation of upcoming events, notify certain groups of future meetings, etc. PhoneTree is a great tool for getting information out to a large number of people in an efficient way.

**FAST Club**

Fast Club members and guests met on May 5<sup>th</sup>. The program that day was a presentation by Mrs. Sara Orr on the art of making greeting cards. She was the owner of a craft shop for eleven years and now works out of her home and also teaches crafts at a church in Bellaire. She brought samples of her lovely work including greeting cards and Christmas and Easter ornaments.

The April 30<sup>th</sup> trip was a visit to the Museum of Fine Arts to see the interesting exhibit on Afghanistan, particularly notable were the intricate gold figurines and other gold pieces.



**On May 19 we visited the home of Merrill and Elaine Luman in Columbus, TX., and were graciously treated by the Lumans to a tour of their beautiful historic residence which was built in the mid 1860's and has been placed in the National Register of Historic Places. They have tastefully furnished "Merlaine" with a vast array of Nativity scenes, clocks, figurines, glassware and China collected on their extensive travels and also treasured family heirlooms.**

**COMING EVENTS**

Tuesday, June 2: 9:30 a.m. – Regular Meeting  
Snacks, Games, Fellowship

**Program:** Mr. Gilbert Benton, Discussion on Writing our Life Story

**THE NAME "FAST CLUB" STANDS FOR:**

*"F" Fellowship, "A" Activities, "S" Study, "T" Travel*

**ALL SENIORS (50+) ARE WELCOME TO BE A PART OF THIS FRIENDLY AND FUN FELLOWSHIP.**

**MAY 2009 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

**Receipts - Actual vs Budget and Last Year**

	Through May 17	YTD
Actual	23,965.26	160,821.71
Budget	22,892.31	152,615.38
Surplus (Deficit)	1,072.95	8,206.33

**Budget Receipts**

May 2009 YTD	160,821.71
May 2008 YTD	160,502.04
Over (Under)	319.67

## A Special Announcement from the Pastor Search Committee



Rev. Mike and Alaine Jeter

Your Pastor Search Committee has unanimously recommended that the church call Mike Jeter, currently pastor of First Baptist Church, Troup, Texas, as our next pastor. Mike will preach in our Sunday morning service on June 7, 2009, and the church wide vote to extend the call will occur immediately after the service. The results of the vote will be announced Sunday morning.

Mike has served as pastor of First Baptist, Troup, for four and a half years. Prior to that, he was pastor of London Baptist Church, New London, Texas, also for four and a half years.

Mike and his wife, Alaine, have been married 25 years. Alaine is a Nuclear Medicine Technologist, and views her job as a ministry. She is very supportive of Mike in his role as pastor. The Jeters have two children – Eric, 23, a senior at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, and Sarah, 20, a senior at East Texas Baptist University in Marshall.

Mike has a Bachelor of Applied Science in Religion and Business from East Texas Baptist University. He also has a Master of Arts in Religious Education from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and a Master of Divinity from Louisiana Baptist Theological Seminary. He is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Ministry from Southwestern, with an anticipated graduation date of 2011.

Pursuant to the church's bylaws, the Pastor Search Committee will field questions from the congregation on Wednesday, June 3, at 6:45 p.m.

Watch your mailbox for a more detailed letter about the Jeters, as well as the whole search process used by the Pastor Search Committee. The letter will also mention times during the weekend that the church family will be able to meet the Jeters and ask questions. In addition, there will be reminders sent out via PhoneTree.

In Christ,  
Brian White  
Chairman, Pastor Search Committee

## Buildings & Grounds Report

by Pete Hughes

There will be another article elsewhere in this issue with more information about the recently completed Health Fair. We learned a lot and next years event should be bigger and better. The effort our Young Adult class put into the event was greatly appreciated. Up next for them will be painting our swing set before VBS.

Too much credit has been given to B&G for cutting our utility bills. Lower oil and natural gas prices have helped a lot. We are working to achieve further reductions and have just ordered eight digital thermostats to replace our existing units. These thermostats control to within one degree and can be programmed for each different day of the week. Installation will begin in the next couple of weeks. We believe the new thermostats will help further lower our electric bills.

Finally, if you enjoyed the Memorial Day display, please tell one of the ladies on our Interiors Committee. They worked hard setting it up.

### 1st SBC Health Fair by the Numbers:

- 9 Booths/Services**
  - Nikken products
  - Handwashing
  - Blood pressure screenings
  - Dental screening
  - "Too cool to smoke" puppet show
  - MD Anderson Blood Mobile
  - Massage
  - Liberty Care
  - Health YES! Screening
- 20+ volunteers**
- 50+ people that came to our church for the event (including some volunteer non members)**
- 13 units collected, and up to 54 M. D. Anderson patients have been given hope in their fight against cancer!!**



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**7000 Bellaire Blvd**  
**Houston, TX 77074**  
***www.sharpchurch.org***

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**Non-Profit Organization**  
**U.S. Postage**  
**PAID**  
**Bellaire, TX**  
**Permit No. 1075**

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## ***Sharpstown Baptist Church Staff***

Worship Leader ..... Joe Glass  
Youth Director ..... Jon Hickey  
Children’s Director ..... Debbie Fitzhugh  
Preschool Director ..... Ember Concepcion  
Instrumental Music Assistant ..... David McAllister  
Maintenance Coordinator ..... Oscar Carrillo  
Financial Secretary ..... Kathy Gross  
Membership Secretary ..... Marge Lafferty  
Choir Music Librarian ..... Merle Greene  
Special Projects ..... Linda Nordquist

### ***How to Become a Christian:***

**A - Admit** that you are a sinner and cannot save yourself (Romans 3:23; Eph 2:9)

**B - Believe** in your heart that Jesus died for your sins and rose again to promise us eternal life. (Romans 10:9-10)

**C - Confess** your sins and **Call** on Jesus to save you (Romans 10:13)

***Call upon Jesus in repentance and faith, using the prayer below or words of your own, and Jesus will become your Savior and Lord!***

*“Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner and I do not deserve eternal life. But, I believe You died and rose from the grave to purchase a place in Heaven for me. Jesus, come into my life, take control of my life, forgive my sins and save me. I am now placing my trust in You alone for my salvation and I accept your free gift of eternal life.”*

If you have trusted Jesus as your Lord and Savior, please let us know. We want to rejoice in what God has done in your life and help you to grow spiritually.