

July 8, 2002

**Challenge to Build** is a capital fund campaign dedicated to joining God in advancing His Kingdom through the ministries and buildings of the First Baptist Church. The campaign is designed to be a spiritual emphasis as well as a fund drive. The campaign has three financial goals:

**Victory Goal:**  
\$700,000

**Challenge Goal:**  
\$1,400,000

**Hallelujah Goal:**  
\$2,500,000

### *Challenge to Build* involves:

**4** Special Sundays with testimonies by members & special messages by the pastor.

**3** Special Sunday School Lessons

**2** Visitations: One to enlist prayer support from members. The second to deliver commitment cards.

**1** Big Banquet: Sunday, August 11, 6:00 pm, Tallassee Elementary School Cafeteria

# Challenge to Build

## *Building for the Future... To the Glory of God*

### It's About Vision

*"We are here to reach the Tallassee area for Jesus Christ"* — Church Principles

A church building is a home base for reaching people and meeting needs. More space is a means of doing more ministry and reaching more people. That's our vision at First Baptist.

Vision involves an outward look. Jesus said, "Lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!" (John 4:35). It all comes down to who we are here for. We do not exist as a church merely for ourselves. We exist

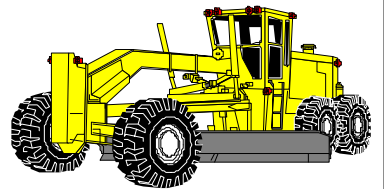
to share God's grace. And a church's buildings are a tool toward that end.

Vision also involves a future look. We don't exist to reach this generation alone. First Baptist exists also for the generations to follow. It's summed up in the answer to the question, "What will our grandchildren say?" That we provided for their future, or that we were short-sighted?

George Barna wrote, "God's vision for your ministry will

not change quickly, nor will it be something you will accomplish rapidly. His vision will require years of active pursuit. The vision itself may outlive you" (*The Power of Vision*).

Why are we here? That's a matter of vision. The present building program is an important expression of our church's vision.



### Prayer Visitation Concludes This Week

#### Members being challenged to pray for future of the church

*Challenge to Build* is designed to be more than a fund drive; it is a spiritual emphasis, as well.

As part of this spiritual emphasis, there is a three-week prayer visitation. Every family in the church will receive a visit and be personally chal-

lenged to pray daily for the future of the church and about how the Lord would have them to be involved.

There will never be any pressure in *Challenge to Build* and none will be applied in this visitation. The visitor will not discuss money. He or she will

listen to any needs you have, offer prayer, and leave a *prayer reminder card* with you.

A prayer visit says that you are part of this church, that you are important to us, and that we need your prayers, together with ours, as we seek God's best for First Baptist.

It has become evident to me, that this church has arrived at one of the greater crossroads in it's life.

The influx of young families has signaled to all of us, that no greater opportunity can exist for a church, than to minister to young parents and their children, than what we are experiencing at this time.

The need to relocate and expand our facilities is going to be critical, if we have any hope of continuing to expand our ministry to more people in this age group.

— Louis Achimon, Forward Vision Team

### **Begin Praying Now About How the Lord Would Have You to Be Involved in *Challenge to Build***



In *Challenge to Build*, members are being challenged to make a commitment to give, over and above the tithe, for three years. However, no one is going to suggest an amount that you should pledge. You, as a family, will need to seek God's definite leadership for yourselves. You are being asked to give by revelation, and not just on reason or emotion. Ask God to lead you.

### **Church to Hear Members' Testimonies**

Throughout *Challenge to Build*, you will enjoy hearing the testimonies of fellow church members as they share their experiences about the building program. You won't want to miss a single opportunity to hear these reports of Divine guidance and spiritual growth.

### **Church Members to Receive Brochures**

In addition to these four newsletters, a brochure with information about the master site plan, the first phase of the building program, and *Challenge to Build* will be mailed to the homes of members next week. Please study the materials carefully.

### **The Bible Says...**

"Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it"

— Psalm 127:1 (King James Version)

"If you need wisdom—if you want to know what God wants you to do—ask him, and he will gladly tell you. He will not resent your asking."

— James 1:5 (New Living Translation)

"Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know."

— Jeremiah 33:3 (New King James Version)

**First Baptist Church**

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**Building for the Future... To the Glory of God**