

# Women's News

## August 2010



Logo artwork by Evan Fricks and Jonathan Thompson

John 5:15..."... I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing." NLT

A publication of the Women's Ministry of Fortified Hills Baptist Church

### For Such a Time As This...

Karen Fricks, Women's Ministry Director

**"She did what she could."** Little did I know how much these words of Jesus would come to mean to me. As God led me to this, I thought it was for me to minister to someone else. He had other ideas. He had led me to Elisa Morgan's book on these very words. I took it with me to the meeting, earmarked at the page that I knew He intended for me to use. As the meeting continued and thoughts were being shared, I got that unmistakable feeling in my insides. I was slowly turning to jello. I was being emptied of myself and filled with His spirit for me to understand and act as He had intended. My "NO" became His "YES". He had prepared me for this moment. I then realized that I needed to *DO* what I could. What He had been preparing me for in ways only He could. A passage from the book sprang to my memory...

*No, you're not all you want to be, nor are you some superstar. You're you-okay in some areas and not in others. You, with the polka-dot track record of efforts, some successful, others not so much. You, with the great intentions and the occasional follow-through. You, with the past. You, with the present, You, with the commitments that stretch into the future. What about you?*

*Think about David-with the deep pot-holes of adultery and murder behind him-looking at the road ahead and wondering how God could use him. Peter-Mr. Denial in the moment when Jesus could have used a good word-reinstated to be the earthly head of the church. Rahab-used just as she was,*

*prostitute status and all-to save the spies of Israel.*

*Or Mary. Just a girl whom God chose to pair with the gospel because she did what she could.*

*Or me. A once-upon-a-time-girl-now-middle-aged-woman whom God tapped to train, to marry, to mother, to lead, to speak, to write, to love, to listen, to learn.*

*Sometimes it's in everyday situations, when I'm taking out the trash and notice the neighbors' sprinkler is overflowing in the street. So I go knock on their front door and tell them. Sometimes it's in heroic surprise as my feet run to the side of a swimming pool and I lunge into the water to pull a toddler back to the surface, all under the glazed-over gaze of a lifeguard who missed it. Sometimes in a stunning moment I realize I'm the one to apologize to my husband for making a rude comment, or leave work to rescue my sick grandson at daycare, or stand up to speak at a meeting.*

*Me.*

*What if you and I did what we could-because we are loved?*

"Okay, Lord. I hear you. I will to the best of my ability. That is my ability that you provide because I know I cannot do this without you. I claim your promises that you will never leave me nor forsake me, that through Christ I can do all things and that you have prepared me for such a time as this."

And just like that....I was the new Women's Ministry Director of Fortified Hills Baptist.

Dear ladies of Fortified, I want you to

join me in thanking those that have stepped down to follow as God has led them in other areas of ministry. Tiffany Frachiseur, our dynamic and very capable leader for the past several years. Heather Sanders, our creative and budget-wise team member who could whip up something wonderful from

"...I claim your promises that you will never leave me nor forsake me, that through Christ I can do all things and that you have prepared me for such a time as this."

nothing. Angie West, our newest team member who knew God was teaching and leading her as she learned discernment and did not hesitate to speak her mind as He led her. And Deborah Zahn, always making sure we had considered both sides of an issue and now being led on her own mission to Germany with her husband, Warner. These ladies have given to the Lord, offered themselves and they did what they could for our ladies of Fortified.

There were big shoes left to fill. Our remaining team of Charlene Drummond, Vicki Delozier, myself and others, began earnestly praying for God to lead us to those women of Fortified that had a heart for women, but above all a heart for Him. And, as He always does, He heard our prayers and with so many confirmations we know that our new team is exactly who and what God desires for this time.

Continued page 3

## Women's Bible Studies—Fall 2010

*Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. – Colossians 3:15-17*



take risks, make ourselves more vulnerable at times, and invest time in getting to know the other person better. Shouldn't we as women be striving for the same type of relationship in our spiritual life with Christ?

Join me this year in growing deeper in your spiritual walk with Christ by stepping out in your faith, spending time in God's word, and by getting involved in Women's Bible Studies.

I am excited about the studies that we will be offering this year. The first class we will be offering this fall is entitled: One in a Million: Journey to Your Promised Land. This study by Priscilla Shirer will take women on a journey of charting the direction for their own spiritual lives. Charlene Drummond will be leading this class on Wednesday evenings beginning in Mid-August.

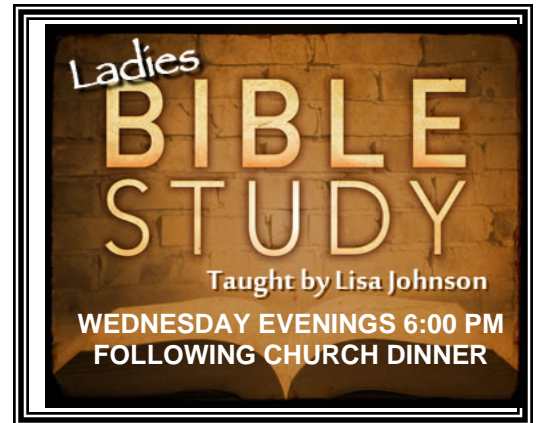
I feel that God has directed me to these verses and inspired me to emphasize the purpose of getting involved in Women's Bible Studies. The idea behind Women's Bible Study is to be with a body of believers with the "soul" purpose of getting deeper into studying God's Word.

My vision is to help the women of this church to take their own personal relationship with Christ to a deeper level. To grow closer in any relationship means to

**Other studies will be announced in the months ahead.**

I look forward to helping "the word of Christ dwell more richly in you" through the Fortified Hill's Women's Bible Studies this year.

In Christ's love,  
Fran McMath



## AGE TO AGE

*"Declaring God's love and faithfulness to all generations"*

Nancy Dempsey, Age to Age Leader  
Submitted by Priscilla Cheek

Land sakes! Age to Age has turned Mentors onto the new Mereas like ducks on a June bug! This session began with thirty-six (that's 36!!) participants seeking a deeper, richer, fuller and more committed life. Many of last sessions 'graduates' are already using their Spiritual Gifts in ministries both inside and outside our church family. A2A participants have used their training in evangelism on foreign mission fields and local mission fields such as Paulding Crisis Pregnancy Center. Since these are the primary goals of A2A, we are very proud of our women.

New this session is an Age to Age tee-shirt proclaiming that we are H.I.S., or Honest, Inspired and Sanctified. Watch for these shirts whenever our church family has a need for the 'woman's touch.' As our more mature Mentors set the example for our Mereas, the fellowship grows sweeter, the worship intensifies and service becomes a joy.

If you have not had an opportunity to participate in Age to Age, start praying even now for God's guidance to either lead as a Mentor or follow as a Merea. If you have participated in the past, come on back...there's always something new every session! The next sign-up will be in January, 2011.

*Age to Age is a contemporary application of the important and ageless mandate to share God's love from generation to generation. Through participation in Age to Age you will become confident in your salvation, understand and progress in your journey through sanctification and enjoy wonderful and lasting relationships with other women in Christ.*

*Age to Age Team - July, 2010*



*Kay Barrou*



*Nancy Dempsey, Director*



*Kellie McCauley*



*Priscilla Cheek*



*Tamara Hamilton*

**"For Such a Time As This" continued from page 1**

I would like to introduce to you our new Women's Ministry Team:

Karen Fricks: Director

Charlene Drummond: Assistant Director

Vicki DeLozier: Prayer, Praise and Worship

Nancy Dempsey: Age to Age

Jill Hicks: Merge Ministry

Fran McMath: Bible Studies

Jennifer Patterson and Paula Boyer: Events

Kenni Raye Smith and Staci England: MOPS

Julie Thompson: Outreach/Encouragement

Connie Echols: Newsletter

God also led us in understanding that our Women's Ministry should have a new look; that He was the one who provided for the growth of

our Women's Ministry. He is the Vine, with a branch producing the Women's Ministry of Fortified with fruits of Age to Age, Events, Prayer, Merge, Outreach/Encouragement, MOPS, Bible Study, and Worship.

Our new logo, created by Jonathan Thompson and Evan Fricks, and our Women's Ministry verse speaks to this:

John 15:5 "... I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing." NLT

Won't you join us in remaining in Him, abiding in His grace, love and provision in all things and allowing

Him to produce much fruit He has prepared you for such a time as this. If He is leading you to be a part of our Women's Ministry at Fortified please give one of us a call, email or catch us at church and let us know. We are here to serve Him and to do what we can through Him to serve the ladies of Fortified Hills.

We love you.

Abiding in Him,

Karen Fricks

Director

404-421-4671



## Desire of My Heart

Psalms 37 tells us to "Delight in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart" – to "Commit your way to the Lord; trust Him..." – and "Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for Him". If we follow these instructions, God will make our steps firm, we will not fall – we may stumble, but He will uphold us. He will be our stronghold in time of trouble.

God has laid a desire on my heart for helping women – whether it be thru use of the gifts of administration and helping organize events, thru teaching Bible studies to help women understand how much HE loves them and cares for them personally (how HUGE is that truth once we really 'get' it?!), thru decorating for events and being in the background of what HE

is doing around us, or by sharing my testimony of how concrete and real HE is in my life.

God has opened doors and moved me into places that I never dreamed of being, and I can't imagine at this moment in my life not serving the women of this church in some capacity out of a heart of gratitude for all that He has brought me and my family through. As assistant director, God is providing me an opportunity to serve on the women's ministry team in a way that will allow me to work in various capacities—I may be helping to decorate, I may be teaching a Bible study or sharing my testimony, or I may be helping to organize various events and assisting the other team leaders and working one on

one with their teams or being completely in the background working behind the scenes.

No matter where He places me, I will be delighting in Him, committed to Him, trusting in Him, and trying to wait patiently for Him as He grows me and hopefully uses me to help grow those around me.

In His Love,

Charlene Drummond

Assistant Director



Stacy England



Kenni Raye Smith

MOPS is a place to find friendship, community, resources and support for you as a woman and mother so you're not alone. MOPS groups are communities that strive to meet the needs of every mom with children from birth through kindergarten. MOPS recognizes that urban, suburban, and rural moms, stay-at-home and working moms, teen, single, and married moms all share a similar desire to be the very best moms they can be.

First meeting is Friday, September 10, 9:30 a.m. at FHBC. Childcare provided. If interested, please reach out to Kenni Raye Smith at [kenniray3@comcast.net](mailto:kenniray3@comcast.net) or Stacy England at [awenglund@bellsouth.net](mailto:awenglund@bellsouth.net).

**MOPS International Purpose Statement:** *MOPS International exists to encourage, equip and develop every mother of preschoolers to realize her potential as a woman, mother and leader in the name of Jesus Christ.*

## Thoughts On Praise and Worship

Vicki DeLozier  
Worship Team Leader

Our great and mighty God has invited us into His presence to worship and adore Him in praise and thanksgiving. (Ps. 100) He is the very giver of our song.

May our hearts unite as His children, and worship Him in Spirit and Truth. Let us come together and embrace the Living God, our Hope, our Redeemer, our King! "In Him, we live, we move, we have our being." Acts 17:28. He is the giver of life, and every breath we take. May He be exalted in our day to day lives. As we come together to worship Him in song, may He be high and lifted up, for great things He hath done!

We pray the desire of your heart is to embrace the heart of God with praise,

adoration, and thanksgiving. May our heart and soul sing for joy to the Living God!

*Psalms 104:33— "I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being."*



## Hope Offering Prayer and Encouragement

*My soul waits in silence for God only, for my hope is from Him.*  
Psalm 62:5

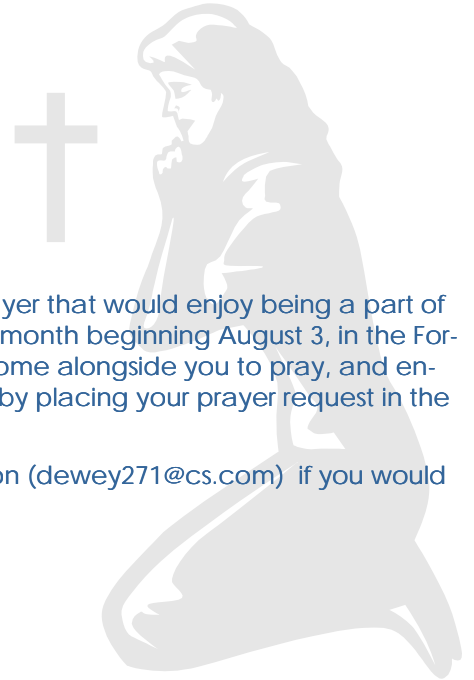
Our H.O.P.E. Ministry prayer team is looking for women who have a heart for prayer that would enjoy being a part of the Women's Prayer Ministry. We will meet monthly on the first Tuesday of each month beginning August 3, in the Fortified Prayer Trailer from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Ladies, our prayer ministry desire is to come alongside you to pray, and encourage you in your walk with the Lord. Please let your prayer needs be known by placing your prayer request in the Prayer Box on the Women's Ministry table.

Please contact Vicki DeLozier (victoriadelozier@bellsouth.net) or Denise Davidson (dewey271@cs.com) if you would just like to have a time of prayer with us,

We look forward to all God has for us as we seek the heart of God together!

Serving in His love,

Women's Ministry Prayer Team



Vicki DeLozier, Prayer Team Leader

### Thought: Is My Heart God-Centered?

*I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.* Ephesians 1:18

As children of God, we have all been called into a love relationship with Him. The greatest of all commandments is Matthew 22:37,38 - "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and foremost commandment." He calls us to a walk with Him. He tells us in James 4:8 "That IF we draw close to Him he will draw close to us." The question is - In my personal walk, am I drawing close to Him?

So many times, I am afraid we get caught up into activity, and lose sight of our relationship with Him. As with any relationship, it must be cultivated to grow into true intimacy.

He tells us in John 15:5 "He is the Vine we are the branches he who abides in me bears much fruit; for apart from me you can do nothing." IF I am abiding, I am seeking God in his Word, spending time with Him in prayer, because of my love and devotion to Him. As a result, my life will naturally bear much fruit, because my heart is *One* with the Father.

## OUTREACH / ENCOURAGEMENT

My name is Julie Thompson, and I am married to a wonderful man named Jonathan Thompson. We have been blessed with two terrific boys, Brayden is four and Parker is eleven. We have been attending Fortified Hills for three years now and love being a part of the Fortified family. This is why I accepted the position on the Women's Ministry team involving outreach and encouragement. God has confirmed to me that outreach is where I belong. I believe the reason is for so long most of my life I was constantly trying to find my place to fit in. Since my family and I have come to Fortified we have grown in our relationship with God and have met many people that have become very dear friends to us. I hope that this outreach team can bring other women to know the peace and joy that I have come to know. I've learned that even in your struggles that you are not alone, that God is with you and if you accept Him, then you are His forever and nothing can break that bond.

Once you let Christ into your heart and let Him guide you, there is nothing you can't do. I appreciate the opportunity and look forward to serving on the Women's Ministry team. I am very excited to see what God has planned for us.



JENNIFER

*For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by men. Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.*  
Romans 14:17-19.

### **Family Matters with Ron Wells**- Sunday, August 15, 2010

Fortified Hills Baptist Church

Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:45 a.m.

6:00 p.m. Banquet-style Steak Dinner for Couples  
with separate special activities for youth and children.

### **Beth Moore Living Proof Simulcast**

Saturday, September 18, 2010

First Baptist Church Dallas

Dallas, GA

Tickets \$20 (includes lunch)

Sign up begins Sunday August 1<sup>st</sup> at the Women's Ministry Table. We will attend as a group. Limited number available. Don't miss it!

### **Christmas Event**- Friday evening, December 10, 2010

Fortified Hills Baptist Church

More details to come!



PAULA

**EVENTS**

Coordinators: Jennifer Patterson and Paula Boyer

## Merge Ministry

Psalm 78:4b "we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done."



Jill Hicks, Director

Merge Ministry strives to create an environment and activities that:

- \*bridge the generational gap between the youth girls and women of Fortified Hills Baptist Church.
- \*build relationships with young women within and outside of our church body.
- \*foster an opportunity for spiritual growth, evangelizing the lost in our community, and passing on the wisdom of God's love, involvement, and will in this life.

### **Upcoming events:**

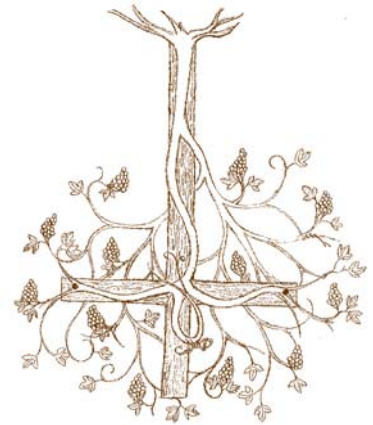
July 31, 2010 "Choose Your Shoes" for upcoming 6th graders through college age. 2:00-5:00pm in the FHBC Fellowship Hall

December 3, 2010 Christmas Party for 6th grade through college age. Time TBA in the FHBC Fellowship Hall.

For more information you may contact Jill Hicks at [jillohicks@comcast.net](mailto:jillohicks@comcast.net).

"...I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing." NLT

Information on our Women's Ministry and other ministries and events is available at [www.fortifiedhills.com](http://www.fortifiedhills.com)



Experience the Fortified difference . . . music, movement, art, experiments, object lessons, drama, computer lab . . . !

For ages 2 years to early 5's - 2 days a week & 4 days a week.

Prices range from \$110 per month to \$165 per month.

**Open House is on August 5th at 7:00pm**

**School begins August 9th**

Find out more information by going to our website at [www.fortifiedhills.com](http://www.fortifiedhills.com) and viewing the FHBC Weekday Preschool Page. Call Jerilyn or Lorrie at 678-363-7720 for additional information.