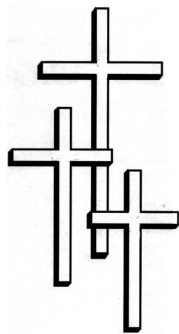


# The Pathfinder

In all thy ways acknowledge Him  
and He shall direct thy paths.  
Proverbs 3:6



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# HAPPY NEW YEAR!



## From Your Pastor

To the Family and Friends  
of First Baptist Church:

Don't linger into the year 2012. Leap into it! After all it's Leap Year. Not only do we welcome a calendar year with extra time, but we celebrate the opportunity for growing in our service to the Lord. First Baptist Church has a long and rich history of giving and serving the community of Louisville. This year, we pray that God will lead us to a great harvest of souls, restored relationships, and a renewed spirit. Isaiah 40:31 gave great assurance to the nation of Israel, and God's church continues to draw strength from it today. It tells us that "...those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary. They shall walk and not faint."

God encourages His people to live in stride with Him. We are to draw from the well spring of the Lord. Too often we become prideful and run ahead of the Lord, while at other times, we seem to linger around and accomplish very little. Why? When we take our eyes off of God's daily provision and fellowship, we open ourselves to live spiritually unhealthy lives that are not pleasing to Him. Furthermore, we become a hazard to ourselves, knowing that by character, God is all-knowing, all-powerful, and ever-present. He can sustain and guide us to the desired life that He aspires for each one of us to obtain according to His perfect will (Romans 12:1-2). Let us live 2012 with God as our focus. The father will prepare the way, the Son will stand as our advocate, and the Spirit will guide us to follow. May we never hear the words of Luke 6:46, "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do the things which I say?"

In Christ,  
Pastor Hardy



## New Year's Resolutions

The following is reprinted from Bill's article  
in the January 2011 *Pathfinder*:

It's time for New Year's resolutions. Personally, I'm considering going on a diet to lose weight. A good resolution for most any "body," I suspect, but not for us as a body of believers, a.k.a., First Baptist Church. In many ways, it looks as if we have already been on a diet. When I look out at the Sunday congregation, we're looking pretty slim. When I look in the choir loft, more of the same, anorexic even. What can we do about it? Well, I think exercise is the answer. Have you ever noticed how, when you exercise to lose weight, you often gain weight? This naturally happens, as fat is replaced by muscle. As a body of believers, I think that our resolution for 2011 should be, not to diet, but to exercise more. Exercise by "doing" the things we know we ought to do as Christians. Let's get out there and run the race (Hebrews 12:1-2), and who knows, we might even whip our physical bodies into shape in the process.

Need a place to exercise?

There's a place for you to "work out" at First Baptist Church!

## Community Men's Breakfast

January 29, 8 AM, LUMC



## YOUTH EVENTS

**Jan. 8:** Youth Council Meeting, 4 PM

**Jan. 15:** After-Church Fellowship, 7 PM

**Jan. 28:** Youth Work Day for Fund-Raiser Luncheon

**Jan. 29:** Youth Fund-Raiser Luncheon, After AM Worship



The holiday season saw such a whirlwind of activity at First Baptist Church. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way with decorations, receptions, special musical presentations, youth and children's activities, holiday meals on wheels, fruit baskets, benevolence ministry, et cetera. You helped to keep the real meaning of Christmas at the forefront for people in our fellowship and in our community. May you all experience God's richest blessings as you continue your faithful service throughout the coming year.

## Church-Wide Spaghetti Lunch

January 29, after AM Worship

Fundraiser, sponsored by FBC Youth Ministry  
Proceeds will help to cover expenses of D-Now, coming in March.

## Senior Adults' Day Out

January 19, 10 AM



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