

## **MAY 7 BUSINESS CONFERENCE UPDATE**

- Through April 30, 2008, our year-to-date receipts are equal to our year-to-date expenses at \$625,000.
- Our month-end balance through April is \$274,000 which represents roughly 2 months of expenses.
- The finance committee, deacons, and membership approved an expenditure of \$5,000 from the Great Commission Fund for the Youth Mission Trip to Boston in June and July.
- Through April 2008, giving to designated goals and gifts is ahead of giving for the prior year.
- A member who wishes to remain anonymous provided a generous gift of \$50,000 in April to support music ministry expansion (account 2039).

## **2008 TITHES AND OFFERINGS UPDATE**

- Thank you for your sacrificial giving to the ministries of First Baptist Church!
  - Some of you are giving gifts equal to or in excess of your gifts for the same periods in prior years, and we can see from the volume of transactions that many of you are giving regularly.
  - Reserve accounts are sufficiently funded and we have 2 months of operating expenses on hand.
- Although many are giving regularly, from October 2007-April 2008, our offerings have totaled \$159,000 less than the giving for the same period in the prior year.
  - For every month from now until September, we will need to give approximately \$25,000-\$30,000 over and above our prior year's giving to correct the shortfall created above.

## **WHAT THIS MEANS**

Our budget is not a collection of numbers. It is a Plan for Ministry—a financial strategy to carry out our mission. We cannot know ahead of time the level of financial support we will receive so that we can share the gospel, help the hurting, equip believers, and worship God. We “estimate” that support by using the amount of our actual giving from October 1 to September 30 each year to determine our ministry plan for the next calendar year. What the above numbers mean is that if we, the members of FBC, don't correct the shortfall by September, we will have to cut \$159,000 plus any additional shortfall which occurs from now through September 30<sup>th</sup> from our ministry plan for 2009.

Currently, we are saving on expenses because of staff vacancies in our Preschool Ministry, Children's Ministry, Adult Education and Spiritual Formation/Team Ministry positions. These positions should be filled before or early in 2009, but only if our giving permits it. If we don't make up the shortfall, our congregational mission will be seriously shortchanged. Please give what you can, and pray that God will multiply the gifts.