

WIT

A Women's Church Ministry
First Baptist Belleview, FL

Our goal: Helping women reach beyond their circumstances by discovering strength through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

WIT MINISTRIES

1. JAIL MINISTRY
2. CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL
3. WORDS OF HOPE JAIL PEN PAL MINISTRY
4. TRANSITIONAL HOME
5. RECOVERY PROGRAM
6. LIFE SKILLS CLASSES
7. WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
8. FOREIGN MISSIONS: ZAMBIA
9. WEB SITE

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

CHURCH SERVICES
10:45 AM & 6:30 PM
WIT SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:30 - 10:40 AM

MONDAY

LIFE SKILLS CLASSES 7 - 8:30 PM

TUESDAY

CHRISTIAN 12-STEP RECOVERY
Sunday School Room 17 6:30-7:30 PM

WEDNESDAY

BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER
6:30 - 7:30 PM

THURSDAY

WIT HOME BIBLE STUDY 7 - 8:30 PM

WIT LEADERSHIP TEAM

DIRECTOR: Dee Hillman
Director Emeritus: Ann Kuefner

SERVANT LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Kathy Andriola, Mona Ballard,
Lori Cantor, Moggie Dobbs,
Diana Hite, Terrie Hudson,
Laura Jolley, Rosie Lacrone,
Colleen Malito, Vinelle Miller,
Sylvia Pope, Brenda Seaman,
Georgia Seaman, Sunny Sifford,
Minerva Toothman, Bette Troike,
Pam Viland

"What is the church?"



Many people today understand the church as a building. This is not a biblical understanding of the church. The word "church" comes from the Greek word *ekklesia* which is defined as "an assembly" or "called-out ones." The root meaning of "church" is not that of a building, but of people. It is ironic that when you ask people what church they attend, they usually identify a building. Romans 16:5 says "... greet the church that is in their house." Paul refers to the church in their house—not a church building, but a body of believers.

The church is the body of Christ, of which He is the head. Ephesians 1:22-23 says, "And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way." The body of Christ is made up of all believers in Jesus Christ from the day of Pentecost (Acts chapter 2) until Christ's return. The body of Christ is comprised of two aspects:

1) The universal church consists of all those who have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. "For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink" (1 Corinthians 12:13). This verse says that anyone who believes is part of the body of Christ and has received the Spirit of Christ as evidence. The universal church of God is all those who have received salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

2) The local church is described in Galatians 1:1-2: "Paul, an apostle ... and all the brothers with me, to the churches in Galatia." Here we see that in the province of Galatia there were many churches—what we call local churches. A Baptist church, Lutheran church, Catholic church, etc., is not the church, as in the universal church—but rather is a local church, a local body of believers. The universal church is comprised of those who belong to Christ and who have trusted Him for salvation. These members of the universal church should seek fellowship and edification in a local church.

In summary, the church is not a building or a denomination. According to the Bible, the church is the body of Christ—all those who have placed their faith in Jesus Christ for salvation (John 3:16; 1 Corinthians 12:13). Local churches are gatherings of members of the universal church. The local church is where the members of the universal church can fully apply the "body" principles of 1 Corinthians chapter 12: encouraging, teaching, and building one another up in the knowledge and grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Recommended Resource: The Master's Plan for the Church by John MacArthur.

Acts 16:5

"So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and increased in number daily."



JESUS DESIRES A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU!

Begin by reading HIS "Love Letter," the Bible. Before you begin, pray:
"Lord, please grant me a new depth of wisdom and understanding for Your Will in my life. Help me to turn from my sins and follow you more closely!" (Initial each blank after you complete the verse.)



Monday: Matthew 16:18- "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it." (NKJV)_____
Peter said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Having said that, he declared his faith in Jesus!

Tuesday: Acts 2:47- "Praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved." (NKJV)_____
The Lord added to the body of believers then, and He is still adding more today!

Wednesday: Acts 20:28- "Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood." (NKJV)_____
As the church, we are all called to lift one another up. Love one another!

Thursday: 1 Corinthians 4:17- "For this reason I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful son in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every church." (NKJV)_____
Timothy had learned from Paul the ways of Christ, and therefore Paul sent him to guide others in the way.

Friday: Ephesians 5:25- "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her." (NKJV)_____
A husband who loves the Lord more than anyone else is the kind of man you want your daughter to marry!

Saturday: 1 Timothy 2:8- "I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting." (NKJV)_____
Pray with the boldness that God has given you through Christ Jesus!



**"Your Word is a lamp
unto my feet and a light
for my path."**

Psalms 119: 175 (NIV)



HYMN OF THE WEEK PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND

Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993

For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, "Do not fear; I will help you." (Isaiah 41:13)

Out of a broken heart after his wife and newly born son had both died, Thomas Dorsey cried to his Lord to lead him "through the storm, through the night" In doing so, he created lines that have since ministered to others in an unusual way. This tender song, written by a black gospel musician in 1932, has since been a favorite with Christians everywhere.

Thomas A. Dorsey grew up in Georgia as a "preacher's kid." As he began to be successful as a composer of jazz and blues songs, however, he drifted away from God. After it seemed to him that he was miraculously spared in brushes with death, Dorsey came back to the Lord. As his life dramatically changed he began to write gospel songs and to sing in church services. It was during a revival meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, that he received a telegram telling the tragic news of his wife and infant son. Stunned and grief-stricken, Dorsey cried, "God, you aren't worth a dime to me right now!"

A few weeks later, however, as Dorsey fingered the keyboard of a piano, he created the lines of "Precious Lord" to fit a tune that was familiar to him. The following Sunday the choir of the Ebenezer Baptist Church in South Chicago, Illinois, sang the new song with Dorsey playing the accompaniment. "It tore up the church!"

God continued to lead Thomas Dorsey by the hand until he had written more than 250 gospel songs. He once stated:

"My business is to try to bring people to Christ instead of leaving them where they are. I write for all of God's people. All people are my people. What I share with people is love. I try to lift their spirits and let them know that God still loves them. He's still saving, and He can still give that power."

* * * *

- Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand—I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; thro' the storm, thro' the night, lead me on to the light—Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.
- When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near—when my life is almost gone. Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall—Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

For Today: 27:11; 48:14; John 1:7; 10:3

Enjoy the fellowship of God so strongly that you feel He is holding your hand and leading you in whatever circumstances you may find yourself. Share this testimony of Thomas Dorsey as you go.

Osbeck, K. W. (1996). *Amazing grace: 366 inspiring hymn stories for daily devotions* (pp. 260–261). Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications.



WIT Jail Ministry Report

August 10, 2017

Reported by Colleen Malito

Laura and Mona had a busy morning at the jail on Thursday, with five women on their list.

One is 42 with a son, 8, who is with his father right now. She is scheduled for court on September 12. Having worked in the Bellevue area, she is not sure that WIT will be good for her.

Interviewed next was one who is 37 and has a 16 year old daughter and a 19 year old son. She told of going to church as a child, but she grew away. She recognizes that she needs to return to the Lord and has been reading in Psalms. She lost her husband to cancer less than a year ago. Please pray that she will find God's strength during the grieving process. Pray also for her court date on August 29.

Next, they visited with someone who asked for prayer for restoration of her relationship with an estranged sister. She also asked for a pen pal who will encourage her during her upcoming two year incarceration.

After that, they interviewed a 57 year old woman. Her family is in New York. She learned about WIT in jail, but didn't seem to be interested in a spiritual conversation. We can pray that she will come to desire hearing about and from the Lord, and also that she will be able to deal with a recent loss in her life.

Finally, they met someone who has a 4 year old son who is currently living with her aunt. Time was short at this point, so there was but a brief conversation.

Each of these women will be contacted again over the next few weeks. Meanwhile, let's be sure we pray for them.

A Foot Bath

"A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean. And you are clean. . ."

John 13:10, NIV



In Jesus' day the people went to common baths, similar to a public swimming pool, where they would bathe all over. However, as soon as they left the bath and walked along the streets, their feet would get dirty again. So when they arrived at their homes, it was not necessary to have a complete bath. They only needed to wash their feet of the dust and dirt they had picked up along the way.

Jesus was explaining to Peter that once you and I have been to the cross for our complete "bath," we are clean. All of our sin – past, present, future, small, medium, large – is washed away by the blood of Jesus and we are totally, completely, permanently forgiven! Praise God! But we still sin! Our feet get dirty again! So every day we come back to the cross, not for forgiveness since we are already forgiven, but to confess our sin and be cleansed that we might maintain a right fellowship with God and with others and ourselves. Do you need a foot bath?

**Blessings,
Anne Graham Lotz**

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CLASS



NEWS

LINDSAY CUNNINGHAM was recognized for graduating from the Women in Truth Recovery Program on Sunday, August 13, 2017. In the morning service, she spoke about her journey, which began with making poor decisions that led to a downward spiral, but God intervened! In Lindsay's case, that intervention took place when she was in jail.

WENDY MAYNARD, our Sister in Christ who ministers to incarcerated women in Hernando County, met Lindsay when she came to a class that Wendy teaches. After Wendy shared her story, Lindsay was moved to make a change in her own life. Lindsay stated, "I knew God, but I didn't have that relationship." When Wendy told her about the WIT Program, Lindsay was ready to make a change, and the rest is now history! In Lindsay's closing remarks during the morning service at First Baptist Church of Belleview, she said, "Now I want to help other women get out of that darkness." These words are music to our ears, sweet Lindsay, for that is exactly what Women in Truth is all about! Notice that Wendy shared her story, and now Lindsay is sharing her story! Isn't that what Jesus told us to do? Keep giving back as He has given to you!

MOGGIE DOBBS & ALICYN FIFIELD understand how to give back. These WIT leaders gave one of the most valuable resources they had by mentoring Lindsay. They gave their **time** to disciple Lindsay regarding her spiritual, time management, relational and financial goals. Not only did they meet weekly, but they were available to pray and encourage her any time. They were always just a phone call away.

DEE HILLMAN, WIT Home servant leader, knows about giving back, too. She was available to Lindsay, day or night. By beginning each day with prayer and devotionals at the family table, Dee taught Lindsay the importance of dedicating her day to the Lord and putting the Armor of God on (**Ephesians 6:10-18**).

*"We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you."
Colossians 1:3*

WOMEN IN TRUTH JAIL MINISTRY

August Prayer Request

Tues, Aug 15 & Sun, Aug 20

Holy Spirit, draw them near to You! Prepare their hearts and minds to receive You, Lord!

HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAY!

Aug 15	Senita Daniels
Aug 17	Jodi McCauley
Aug 21	Dori Hite
Aug 25	Sylvia Pope
Aug 28	Colleen Malito



Bread of Life

God gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless. Each of us lives in different situations daily....some good, some bad. How we handle them is up to us.



You can make the decision to allow your situation to defeat you by becoming angry, defeated or discouraged, or you can take the high road. By taking the high road, looking to the hills where all your help comes from, you will allow God to intervene. He will give you strength and heal you of the hurt, shame and pain. He gives back what the enemy took from you!

Psalm 23:3

"He restores my soul. He leads me in the path of righteousness for His name's sake."

COME JOIN OUR



Women in Truth Home

Thursdays
7:00-8:30 PM

The Book of Titus
Teachers Ronnie & Moggie Dobbs

Pray the Holy Spirit will show you what God is speaking through His Word. Join us as we dig into the Bible around the dining room table! Bring your Bible, notebook and a pen.

WEEKLY WIT CALENDAR

<u>Tuesday</u>	12-Step Recovery Classes- 6:30-7:30pm
<u>Wednesday</u>	Prayer/Bible Study 6:30- 7:30pm-FBC
<u>Thursday</u>	WIT Interview/Ministry Visits-MCJ 9:00am-11:00am WIT Home Bible Study-7:00-8:30pm

MONTHLY SPECIAL EVENTS

<u>Tue, Aug 15</u>	MCJ Jail Services-7:00-9:00pm
<u>Sun, Aug 20</u>	MCJ Jail Services-1:00-5:00pm
<u>Sun, Sept 3</u>	Round Up Sunday-Starting at 4:00pm/ First Baptist Church of Belleview