



2016

Alumni
Gathering
Saturday,
January 23
6:00 PM!

Submit your
recommendation
for Alumni of the
year to us at
ufbcm@ufbcm.org
by October 1!

This place was the central part of my college experience!

These words were recently expressed during a visit by Miss Mary who got married in the chapel on Christmas Eve! She hadn't been back in over 50 years!

For many or most of you reading this, you have similar feelings about the ministry of the BCM and the facility we have been blessed with all these years, the Baptist Student Center. Having a place located near the center of student life has benefitted us in countless ways.

Did you know that this wasn't the first choice for the ministry location? Sometimes location is chosen for you and in our case the original land given for the

ministry was somewhere else. We hope to be able to locate that somewhere else before our centennial celebration in January 2017. That lost piece of real estate was swapped for the location where we have been since 1934 or 44. The precise year is still to be determined.

Either way, someone 70 plus years ago followed the Spirit's leading and with great foresight made the swap. All of us have reaped the rewards of that wise decision.

Now it's time for us to make some wise decisions as well. There are several major overhauls that are needed for the continued maximum use of

our facilities. You will find a list of a few of the most pressing projects in the center of this edition. Would you pray about underwriting the cost of one or more of those projects? If you can't do it all, would you be a part of a group that will and can make the resources available so we can continue to use this place as a staging ground for sending missionaries to UF and SFC?

It's my prayer that if the Lord doesn't return before then that in 2055 the director will remember what we did in 2015 to make the Center more useful for ministry! Our gifts allow us to use convention funds for ministry rather than upkeep! Thank you believing us this ministry!

Eddie



Your UF and SFC BCM students recently got some great press coverage of their most recent mission trip to Central Islip, New York to work with Southern Baptist Disaster Relief on the Hurricane Sandy Rebuild project.

You can find the article on the Florida Baptist Witness website at <http://gofbw.com/blog?id=157> or on the Baptist Press website at <http://www.bpnews.net/44421/a-frigid-spring-break-amid-superstorms-ruins>.

One of our long term goals is the creation of the UFBCM Summer Missions Endowment Fund. Our goal is to raise an endowment of 1 million dollars to make it possible for everyone who wants to go on a trip like this one to be able to do so. The interest would be used as scholarships and supplements for student mission trips around the world. Would you consider making a donation to help make this a reality?

Lee Boushell '85 and '91

When I look back over more than 34 years I can still see, as it were, a monument marking the window of time when Christ wielded a phenomenal heart change in me. I started hanging out at the BCM in 1979.

One of the many things this place offered was opportunities for “retreat” from the usual college groove. I admit that I never really thought about that word *retreat*. Everyone simply called the bible-oriented, spiritual weekend get-away a “retreat” and I went on a bunch of them. Tons of good things happened on them. I’m still thankful for those things!

There was one particularly significant retreat when the fact that Jesus is God first began to dawn into my notions of reality. The challenge presented to me by some faithful guy (that I don’t even remember by name) was in light of Jesus’ level of authority and whether I would come to terms with the ramifications about him being God.

Especially important was the scriptural command that I was not to have any other gods before Him! At that point a girl I was dating had, for all practical purposes, become my god. The sun rose and set in her. The sky was bluer because of her. Every waking moment was filled with her. She was all and in all. I was “completely ate up” with her. In that mental state, as you can imagine, there was not much studying going on, nor was there any sense of direction. I was *love sick*! It was sick, no doubt. One result was that my grades were terrible...sin, in any form is never a good thing. But, as you know, with God being a jealous god and all, He was not about to allow me to continue in that deceived, delusional state. It was a good thing, too, for the relationship with that girl was quickly heading off in the way of destruction.

Through the influence of Otto Spangler (BCM), Ken & Gail Weaver (Northwest Baptist Church) and many others too numerous to list here, God created an atmosphere full of reality checks (Ephesians 2:4-7). That is what I needed! That is what we needed! Heart change lead to a change in priorities which lead to life change in so many ways. First, and foremost, my rebellion began to cease and Christ began to assume his rightful glad place in my life. Grades radically changed, direction and purpose for living surfaced. I actually graduated from college!

And about the girl I once worshiped? Well, things turned. Sheryl became a friend, and now, thanks to our Jesus (seriously), she is a faithful wife of over 30 years and mother of three. Only God can change a heart...he changed mine, he changed hers. He is still changing our hearts! Jesus used the honest and earnest prayers, offerings and sacrifices of many who engaged in the Baptist Campus Ministry at the University of Florida.

It was then, and I am confident is still now, a place where, as John Piper (*Desiring God*) would put it, the infinite and awesome greatness and worth of God can be considered by students of all stripes...a place where miracles are still common place.



L to R: Jonathan, Lee, Rachel, Sheryl, Timothy

Baptist Student Center Improvements For 2015-16

Installation and purchase of a digital sound board and digital snake to replace the antiquated and limiting sound and light equipment we have now. The board we have now has a right side output that is no longer functional. Purchasing the new digital board would allow us to customize and save settings for our use, the church that uses the building on Sundays, and the international ministry that uses the building on Monday nights without having to reset everything every week. The built in software would also allow us to fine tune the music to produce a better product each week. **Estimated costs are \$5500-\$7500.**

It is time to paint the two biggest rooms in the building—the main room and the chapel or boggy room depending on your era at the Student Center. Paint, painting supplies and renting a lift are the main expenses for this project. As with most jobs we supply the labor ourselves. **Estimated costs are \$1000-\$1500**

Last year we had a vendor use the front lawn during football and they have agreed to pay for the sod needed to replace the dead dirt in front but while we were looking at the front of the building we thought it would be a good idea to replace the holly bushes with flowering bushes like the azaleas on the side of the building. We are not quite sure how many we will need to do that completely so that's the reason for the range in the estimate. **Estimated costs are \$250-\$500**

The carpet in the study room is at least 15 years old. It's time to replace it or remove it depending on the flooring underneath it. If it is hardwood underneath that can be brought back to life, the cost may be less or more depending on what needs to be done to it. If it can't be made to look great in a cost effective manner, then the carpet will need to be replaced. **Estimated costs are \$500-\$1000**

The front lobby needs some TLC. It's the most used part of the facility and thus needs the most frequent updates. We need to replace two couches, two tables, and two area rugs. **Estimated costs are \$750-\$1500**

To Donate to any of the above projects, call Eddie or David Wood at 352-376-4405 or email us at ufbcm@ufbcm.org. and let us know which project you want to sponsor or how much you can contribute towards the project and when you will be sending the check. Checks should be mailed to the BCM address listed on the back of this newsletter and made payable to the Florida Baptist Convention. Write UF alumni projects in the memo area. If you prefer you can also call David and you can use your Credit or Debit Card to make the donation. Obviously the sooner you can let us know of your desire to give the better that will be as we will be starting these projects once funds become available. Thank you for your continued support of the BCM ministry at UF and SFC.

Who Do You Know Who Needs To Get The Legacy?

Name _____ Address _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Address _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Send this back to us at BCM, 1604 W. University Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32606 or email us the info at ufbcm@ufbcm.org

Baptist Collegiate Ministries

1604 West University Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32603

Phone: 352-376-4405

Fax: 352-264-9733

E-mail: ufbcm@ufbcm.org

Find us on the web at
www.ufbcm.org or on facebook
at www.facebook.org/ufbcm



Century of Ministry Club

We've exceeded the \$150,000 mark in the Otto Spangler Director's Fund and we received gifts and are working with the FBC to get the Mission's Fund started. We are praising the Lord that we are on our way to reaching the 3.6 million dollars that we need to fully endow the three funds to help us hire a full-time associate director, provide scholarships for mission trips, and to provide for major renovations of the BCM facility.

If the BCM/BSU impacted your life in a significant way, would you pray about joining in this campaign to meet these needs prior to our Century of Ministry celebration in 2017? If you need some help in deciding the best way to give for your family, let us know. We have experts in the field that have agreed to help structure your giving and can provide valuable advice on how to give generously to this campaign. Please contact Eddie if you would like to take advantage of this service.

Century Club Levels

Gators Level

\$100 total gifts by '17—100 (6) members

Baby Gators Level

\$1000 total gifts by '17—100 (2) members

Mama Gators Level

\$10,000 total gifts by '17—50 members

Papa Gators Level

\$100,000 total gifts by '17—10 (1) members

Big Gators Level

\$1,000,000 total gifts by '17—2 members

You can also create your own level
anywhere along the scale as the Lord leads!

Leave a legacy for the next generation of students who will call the BCM their home base for ministry during the next Century of Ministry! Let's do our part to provide a perpetual source of income for the future students to be able to reach and impact the world for Christ from The University of Florida and Santa Fe College! Send Eddie an email at eddie.gilley@ufbcm.org to claim your membership in the Century of Ministry Club today!