



# Faith Bible Institute Offered At Compassionate Outreach Ministries

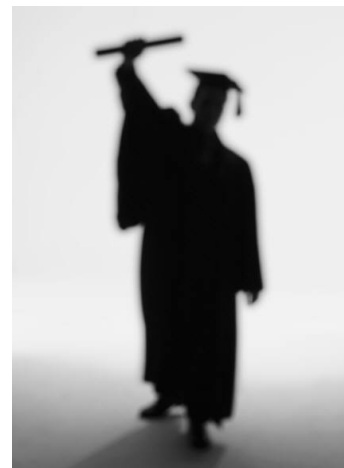
Beginning on Tuesday, January 24, a new arm, Faith Bible Institute or FBI, will be added to Compassionate Outreach Ministries. Faith Bible Institute is a through-the-bible course for every Christian. Students will take a chronological study of the entire bible through every major doctrine. FBI combines solid bible teaching with an interactive DVD video format using student workbooks, charts, maps and visuals to produce a life changing learning experience.

Basic classes will meet on Tuesday evenings each

week at the 320 SE 43rd St. location. The three year course is divided into six semesters of 17-18 weeks each. A Bible College Diploma will be provided to those completing the basic curriculum while an Advanced Diploma in Biblical Studies will be provided to those completing the basic curriculum & required elective courses. Throughout the country, about 12,000 Christians have already completed the Faith Bible Institute program of study.

The course is offered at a nominal fee to church members. Please see Min-

ister Lee Ray Harden or Sister Debbie Harden for more information.



Bible College Diplomas and/or Advanced Diplomas in Biblical Studies will be provided to students who complete the program.

## Love Night 2006

Compassionate Outreach Ministries will host Love Night 2006 for married couples on Tuesday evening, February 14th at the Best Western Grande Hotel. Tickets are only \$50 per couple for this romantic affair that includes an

elegant dinner, an anointed speaker and a

Christian atmosphere. Husbands, be sure to sign up to take your wife on this inspirational date. Your marriage is undoubtedly worth the investment!

“Husbands, be sure to sign up...”

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### Dates To Remember

January 21	Women's Fellowship Breakfast
February 4	Pastor & Sister Dennison's 28th Anniversary
February 10	Women's Fellowship at Woodland Care Center
February 11	African American Career Fair
February 25-26	Children's Choir Weekend Celebration
March 4	Church Information Meeting
March 8-10	Revival

# Healthy Hearts Prevention Tip

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An overwhelming number of fires occur in the home. There are time-tested ways to prevent and survive a fire. The Bible says that the enemy comes only to steal, kill and destroy, but the Lord comes that we may have life and have it more abundantly (John 10:10). Take heed to the following words of the wise in order that you may live life to the fullest.

**Buy a smoke alarm.** A working smoke alarm can double the chances of surviving a fire. Test it monthly, keep it free of dust and replace the battery at least once a year. Smoke alarms themselves should be replaced after ten years of service, or as recommended by the manufacturer.

**Prevent electrical fires.** Never overload circuits or extension cords. Do not place cords and wires under rugs, over nails or in high traffic areas. Immediately shut off and unplug appliances that sputter, spark or emit an unusual smell. Have them professionally repaired or replaced.

**Use appliances wisely.** When using appliances follow the manufacturer's safety precautions. Overheating, unusual smells, shorts and sparks are all warning signs that appliances need to be shut off, then replaced or repaired. Unplug appliances when not in use. Use safety caps to cover all unused outlets, especially if there

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*“...the Lord comes that we may have life...”*

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are small children in the home.

**Be careful with alternate heaters.** Portable heaters need their space. Keep anything combustible at least three feet away. If you use a fireplace, use fire screens and have your chimney cleaned annually. Kerosene heaters should be used only where approved by authorities. Never use gasoline or camp-stove fuel. Refuel outside and only after the heater has cooled.

**Invest in Fire Safety Sprinklers.**

When home fire sprinklers are used with working smoke alarms, your chances of surviving a fire are greatly increased. Sprinklers are affordable - they can increase property value and lower insurance rates.

**Plan your escape.** Practice an escape plan from every room in the house. Caution everyone to stay low to the floor when escaping from fire and never to open doors that are hot. Select a location where everyone can meet after escaping the house. Get out and then call for help.

**Train your children.** Children under five are curious about fire. Take the mystery out of fire play by teaching your children that fire is a tool, not a toy.

**Protect your elders.** Seniors are vulnerable to fires because many live alone and can't respond quickly. Assess your elderly loved ones' homes and educate them on these fire prevention strategies.

*Submitted by the C.O.M. Health Team*

## Membership Has Benefits

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Sometimes Christians experience spiritual amnesia, a state of forgetting all that God has done for us. In those moments, we must be like King David. In Psalm 103, David said “Bless the Lord, oh my soul and forget not all his benefits.” When we accepted Christ, we were adopted into a Royal Family. As Children of God, we are entitled to certain benefits. Being a member of any organization provides benefits, but the benefits of being in the body of Christ exceed all others. As Christians:

**We have a Protection Plan.** The enemy's job is to steal, kill and destroy. Yet, that job is defeated in the lives of Christians. Isaiah 54:17 assures us that no weapon formed against us shall prosper. No matter how many, how strong, or how smart, no one can prevail against God. God is almighty and He is for us. If God is for us, who can be against us? Thank God For His Protection!

**We have a Provision Plan.** God is Jehovah Jireh, our provider. Christians can rest assured that He is aware of and is going to provide for all of our needs. In Matthew 7:7-11, we learn about God's parenting. Human parents provide for our children when they ask and God is a much better parent than any of us could ever be.

*(Continued on page 4)*

# African American Career Fair at C.O.M.

Would you like your child to begin planning for a professional career? Would you like your child to learn about different career paths? On Saturday, February 11 Compassionate Outreach Ministries will commemorate Black History Month with an African-American Career Fair from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. The fair will be held in the main sanctuary of the 320 SE 43rd St. location and will feature interactive discussions with 25 local African-American professionals. The purpose of the career fair is to 1) expose youth to professional career opportunities, 2) emphasize the connection between academic achievement and professional development and 3) provide youth with African American professionals to model. Each professional will give a brief presentation on their chosen career and there will be an opportunity for questions and answers. Some of the career paths covered will be state representative, engineer, physician, pharmacist, judge and lawyer. Registration, with refreshments, begins at 8:30 am. Lunch will be served in the afternoon. Students that attend will gain valuable information, motivation and contacts to help plan for their professional futures.

**Would you like your child to learn about different career paths?**

## The Bible On Goal Setting

***"A wise man thinks ahead; a fool doesn't ..."***

At the beginning of the year, it is common for us to set goals. The bible provides us with the following directions on goal setting.

**Christians should plan ahead .**

Luke 14:28-31, TLB states, "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? For if he lays the founda-

tion and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand?"

**It is wise to have goals in mind.**

Proverbs 13:16, TLB reads "A wise man thinks ahead; a fool doesn't and even brags about it!"

**Goals should be planned care-**

**fully and deliberately, not in haste.** Proverbs 21:5, NIV says, "The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty."

**Goals must include submission to God.** James 4:15-16, TLB commands "What you ought to say is, 'If the Lord wants us to, we shall live and do this or that.' Otherwise you will be bragging about your own plans, and such self-confidence never pleases God.

*(Adapted from bibleinfo.com).*

## Special Recognition

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Pastor Larry & Sis. Margaret Dennison	2/4	28 years
Mr. Harold & Mrs. Gwendolyn Jenkins	1/8	24 years
Mr. Keith & Mrs. Patricia Jeter	2/9	16 years
Mr. John & Mrs. Donna Smith	2/12	6 years
Mr. Bruce & Mrs. Kathy Robinson	1/5	16 years



Happy Birthday  
To Everyone  
Born in the  
Months of  
January &  
February!  
We Love You!

## Compassionate Outreach Ministries



Pastor & Founder: Dr. Larry J. Dennison

First Lady: Sister Margaret Dennison

### Main Sanctuary

320 SE 43rd St.  
Gainesville, FL  
352-373-1888  
1-888-780-7729

### Multi-Purpose Building

717 SW 5th Ave.  
Gainesville, FL  
352-375-7123

### Website & E-mail

www.compassionateoutreach.org  
acts\_1\_8@bellsouth.net

*We Are Reaching Out,  
Not Out Of Reach*

## Spotlight on Singles

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Valentine's Day is right around the corner and in the next few weeks, American society will be bombarded with images of romance that include cards, candies, flowers, and dates. Because of the attention that is placed on romance and relationships, many singles may feel left out, as if there is a big party going on and everyone except them has been invited. The devil is a liar! Valentine's Day is not just for couples. Valentine's Day celebrates love. Here are a few tips to help you enjoy this Valentine's Day as a single.

**Reflect on God's love for you.** God Loved you so much that he gave his only begotten son that you might have life. There is no greater love than that. Spend some time with God showing your appreciation for His love.

**Engage in Godly fellowship with your single friends and family.** It is good for brethren to dwell together in unity. Arrange a get-together or outing so that you can share your love with one another.

**Recognize that you are wonderfully and marvelously made.** There is nothing wrong with you and there is nothing wrong with being single. Be content with who you are and where you are .

**Testify about how God has kept and is keeping you as a single Christian.** There is strength for both you and others in your testimony. Take every opportunity to declare God's power in your life.

**Resist the devil and he will flee.** Avoid conversations, people, and places that may lead you to compromise.

**Wait on God.** Remember, God's timing is perfect and He knows best.

## Membership Has Benefits

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*(Continued from page 2)*

He is wiser, richer and more powerful. He knows all of our needs and we can depend on Him to be a good Father that provides for His children. Thank God For His Provision!

**We have a Peace Plan.** As believers, we know that God is in control. No matter what happens, we can look to God, not our circumstances, and a peace that passes all understanding overcomes us. Romans 8:28 tells us that all things work together for good. Thank God For His Peace!

**We have an Instruction Plan.** The word of God is His revelation to us. In the Word, we learn of God's character, methods, nature, and expectations. The Word tells us who we are and whose we are. It provides us with instructions for living and direction for every decision that we make. Thank God For Instructions!

**We have a Forgiveness Plan.** God is so merciful and so gracious. When we truly repent, He forgives and forgets. Isaiah 43:25 tells us He blots out our sins for His own sake. He gives us a clean slate. We've messed up and fallen short, but God is not holding it against us . God takes our sins and removes them from us as far as the east is from the west. Thank God For Forgiveness!

**We have a Life Insurance Plan.** Before accepting Christ, we were all headed for hell. But thanks to the blood of Jesus, we are saved from eternal damnation. God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Of course we thank God for these benefits. Yet, that is not enough. Romans 12:1 implores us to present ourselves as living sacrifices, holy and acceptable to God. It's the least that we can do for all that he has done and is doing. It's a reasonable, practical and sensible. *(Sis. Naima Prince)*