

BASKETBALL AT MOUNTAIN BROOK BAPTIST CHURCH

The Christian Life Center stays pretty busy (over 1,500 people used the gym for sports in January 2018 alone)!

Our CLC hosts basketball practices, and we are home to the Mountain Brook Athletics and Dawson Baptist Church High School Guys' Leagues. Mountain Brook Baptist Church has been the host for many church league basketball games. Also, the gym provides practice space for a large group of Samford students as they rehearse for the annual Step Sing competition.

Basketball has always been a big outreach of Mountain Brook Baptist Church. Richard Adams

remembers an especially contentious game in 1997 when his son, Bo, was playing on the church team after having told the Mountain Brook High School coach that he was giving up his position as a bench warmer because Church League was so much more fun. They were playing against Canterbury United Methodist Church, and it was a huge rivalry game. The gym was packed with friends and parents cheering—and holding up all kinds of signs, including one which stated, “Dunk the Methodist.”

The tradition continues. During the last basketball season, our High School Guys' Team, the MBBC Ballers, took home the Dawson League Championship title in the 2017-2018 season. The Ballers had a perfect record, a handful of 30+ point-wins, and home court advantage for the championship game. They were coached by Tim Sanderlin, with special appearances by assistant coach Bates Whetstone. For the championship game, Tim and Bates came dressed for success in suits and there were many fans cheering on the two teams in the stands. This team looks forward to a repeat win this coming season.

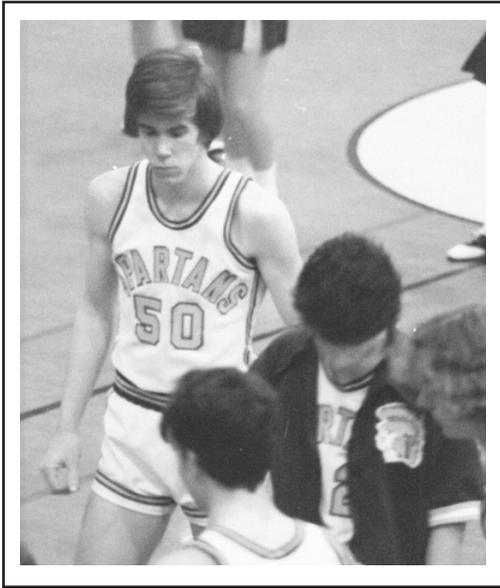


(Left to right) Members of the MBBC Ballers, the 2017-2018 Dawson League Champions for High School Guys: Alex Stokes, Lee Cooper, Bates and Wesley Whetstone, Tim Sanderlin, Wade Loveman, Winston Smith, Reynolds Lambert, Blake Fenn, Carter Burwell, Beau Johnson, James Roberts.

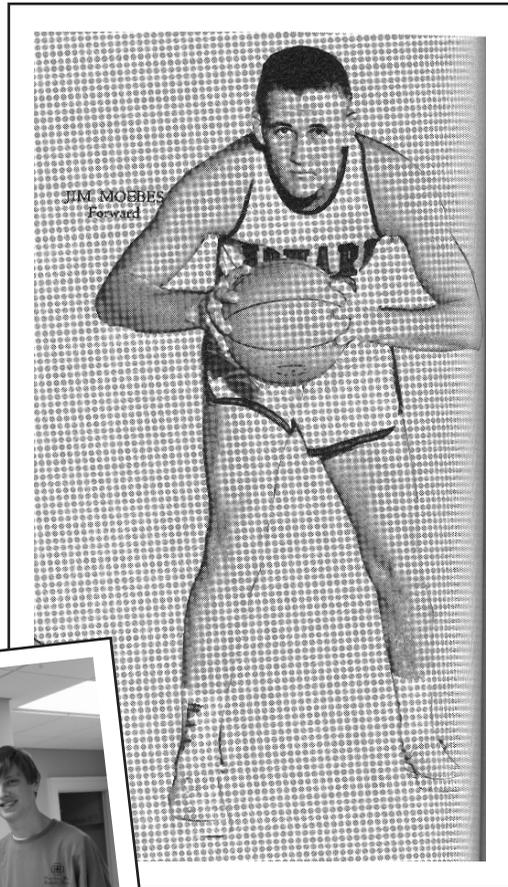


OCTOBER 28, 2018

WE'VE A STORY TO TELL
75th Anniversary Memories of Mountain Brook Baptist Church



Ed Wills (above), who once played for the Mountain Brook Spartans, faces off with former Samford basketball star Dr. Moebes (right).



It's been called many things throughout the years (Youth Week, Youth Sunday, and Student Ministry Sunday), but our students continue to teach adult classes and provide worship leadership during both services on this designated Sunday. Pictured are Nicholas Breaux, Walton Redden, Chip Porter, volunteer Scott Fenn, Wade Loveman, and Lee Cooper on Student Ministry Sunday 2015.

YOUTH/STAFF BASKETBALL CHALLENGE

A fight almost broke out during Youth Week that year! Youth Week at Mountain Brook Baptist Church was always a highlight event. The purpose was to gain insight as to how to serve Christ through ministries of our church. Youth attended meetings of church committees and Deacons, taught Sunday School classes, sang as a large youth choir, and many times presented the Sunday sermon.

That particular year, the youth added another event. One teenager said, "Let's challenge the men on the church staff to a basketball game one night." "Yeah," said another, "we can beat up on those old guys."

Challenge accepted! The church staff added one of the church custodians to total six players, allowing for a player rest rotation.

The youth did not know that their pastor, Dr. James D. Moebes, had attended Samford University on a full basketball scholarship and set a school scoring record that lasted many years afterwards.

Bleachers in the Christian Life Center were packed that night with youth and parents. A referee was brought in to call the game. The score was close; back and forth, until late in the second half when the staff pulled ahead by four points.

I had rotated out of the game and noticed a strange thing taking place. Ed Wills, 6'5" youth center, fell the last three times when he went up for a rebound. He was angry and the parents were yelling at the referee.

I called a timeout and said, "Moebes, what are you doing out there?"

"Just playing the game," he replied.

"Jim...Ed fell the last three times he went up. We are about to have a fight. Tell me what you're doing." There was a long pause, and then Dr. Moebes replied, "Just teaching the fine art of basketball. When he goes up for a rebound, I step on his foot."

Who won the game?

You know, I don't remember the score but a good time was enjoyed by everyone...everyone, that is, except Ed Wills. But, he was fine by the next day.

P.S. Ed Wills has been chosen as the Deacon chair for 2019.

Hoyt Wilson