



# THE BRIDGE

APRIL 2024 | ISSUE  
A NEWSLETTER FOR FBC FRANKLINTON

## FOCUS

**A**ging happens. The years pass. And then, some Sundays, getting to the church building to join in the morning service just can't be done. A church member who has known only faithful attendance is stuck at home, week after week. Other needs press in—missed meals, unmowed grass, a broken porch step, a doctor's appointment in another town, and just loneliness—a sense of being cut off from friends and events.

***FBC has an answer to this problem – a Homebound Ministry.***

Church members at FBC have always watched out for each other. But some years ago, Mrs. Dora Magee noticed that some needs were falling through the cracks because there was no organized effort to track them. "Mrs. Dora" was the type who, when she saw a need, she did something about it. She talked to some people who she knew would help, and soon, she had put together a list. This informal group – Mrs. Dora's list of people who wanted to help – evolved into the Homebound Ministry. "This was a ministry close to her heart, so she brought it front and center," says Joey Miller, associate pastor. "She was a blessing."

A prime assignment for those in this ministry was sharing the Sunday School lesson with the homebound members in their own homes. Four groups of two volunteers each would go and share a lesson once a month. The homebound members loved the opportunity for Bible study and the sense of inclusion.

As the years have passed, the list of names has changed, and the ministry has expanded. There is now a team that quietly shows up every Wednesday in the church kitchen. One of the group members says a prayer before they are handed a takeout dinner or two. Then, they hop in their cars to take the food to homebound members who need it. The number of homes varies, but as of now, they deliver to eight homes every week.

The ministry doesn't stop with handing over the food. Although COVID interrupted the Sunday School lessons, volunteers still bring the Sunday School quarterly, an Open Windows devotional book, and the weekly prayer list so the homebound can learn about what is going on with their fellow church members and/or members of the community.

On these visits, the volunteers may learn of a need for medical transportation or a maintenance issue someone is having with their house. The volunteers round up a driver or a church member who is handy with a hammer or a rake.

At Christmas, other church members join the homebound committee to go caroling and bring baskets of goodies. Joey notes that this may be the only time of the year when some church members get to see the homebound members and vice versa. There are big smiles all around, and sometimes, happy tears as well.

Of course, the homebound committee welcomes anyone who would like to help. See Joey Miller, Susan Barber, or Jean Wales.

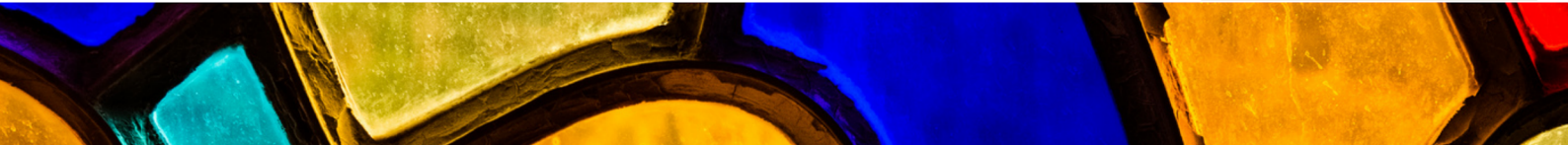
*Article Written By: Pat Parish*



MEMBERS OF THE HOMEBOUND COMMITTEE NOW: JAMES PENNY, JEAN WALES, SUSAN BARBER, AND JOEY MILLER.



THE HOMEBOUND COMMITTEE OF PREVIOUS YEARS, WHEN THEY CONDUCTED SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS IN THE HOMES OF HOMEBOUND MEMBERS. FRONT ROW, SUSAN BARBER, PAM FORTENBERRY. BACK ROW, BRENDA CORKERN, KAREN SPEARS, DORA MAGEE.



# "WHO WILL ROLL THE STONE AWAY?"

REV. JOEY MILLER, ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF PASTORAL CARE

*"Who will roll the stone away?"*  
Mark 16:3

It was a sad Sunday Morning. Jerusalem was filled with the air of gloom, grief, and defeat as Jesus had been crucified and His body lay in the tomb. Now, three days later, as the women came to anoint Jesus' body for burial, their question was, "Who will roll the stone away?" But that wasn't the only "stone" present. Those who had followed the Lord had different stones to deal with. They were filled with doubt and discouragement. Stones like fear filled the hearts of the disciples who had fled and were hidden behind closed doors. Peter was soaking in his remorse for failing the Lord. Others who had witnessed the crucifixion of Christ were headed home in disappointment. They all had "stones" in their lives that were too big for them to deal with.

When we think of our challenges, we too could ask, "Who will roll the stone away?" For our hearts are also filled with doubt, discouragement, and disappointment. We too have questions that seem to have no answers. We have challenges that seem to overpower us. We, like them, have failures that seem to defeat us. But the resurrection of Jesus makes all the difference.

As we celebrate Resurrection Sunday and move into April and then on to a busy summer, let us not think that we leave the truth of the resurrection behind only to face the challenges of life with no power, no help, and no hope. The truth is that every Sunday is Resurrection Sunday, and every day is Resurrection Day because our Living Lord is present with us every day, and His power is available to us each and every day. What stone do you need rolled away? The living Lord will transform your fear into courage and your disappointment and discouragement into a wonderful testimony. He will transform your failures into faithful service, your doubts into belief, your gloom into gladness, and your despair into hope. How so? He said Himself, "I am the resurrection and the life." Never forget that the Resurrection lives with us every day. What a glorious truth!

*-Bro. Joey*



**NURSING HOME WORSHIP SERVICES**

JOIN IN THE WORSHIP SERVICES AND MINISTRY AT OUR NURSING HOMES ON THE DATES LISTED BELOW:

GOOD SAMARITAN - MONDAY, APRIL 8 @ 3:00 PM  
HERITAGE MANOR - MONDAY, APRIL 22 @ 3:00 PM




**SENIOR ADULT REVIVAL**

WE'RE EXCITED ABOUT OUR FRANKLINTON AREA SENIOR ADULT REVIVAL COMING APRIL 8-10. THIS ANNUAL REVIVAL EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE AT CLIFTON, ENON AND THOMAS CHURCHES. BE EXPECTING A GREAT TIME AS SENIORS FROM OUR CHURCH AND OUR SISTER CHURCHES GET TOGETHER FOR WORSHIP WITH MESSAGES BY BRO. RICK COOK, BRO. MIKE DANIEL, AND BRO. LEROY MCELVEEN. OUR BUS WILL BE AVAILABLE, OR YOU MAY MEET US THERE. SEE THE REVIVAL FLYER FOR DETAILS AND INVITE FRIENDS TO JOIN US EACH DAY FOR FELLOWSHIP, WORSHIP AND LUNCH.

# "COMMITTEES AT WORK IN OUR CHURCH"

DR. JAKE ROUDKOVSKI, TRANSITIONAL PASTOR

GOD IS AT WORK AT FIRST BAPTIST. WE ARE SEEING PEOPLE COME TO FAITH IN JESUS AND FOLLOW THE LORD IN BELIEVERS' BAPTISM ON A REGULAR BASIS. WE ARE SEEING THE CHURCH UNITED IN PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST IN OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND. IN APRIL, I AM GOING TO ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR SEVERAL COMMITTEES IN OUR CHURCH. PLEASE BE IN PRAYER FOR THE PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE AS THEY BEGIN THEIR WORK IN EARNEST. PRAY FOR OUR CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS REVISION COMMITTEE AS THEY PRESS ON IN THEIR WORK. PRAY FOR OUR BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE AND LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE AS THEY BEGIN TO ASSEMBLE THE LIST OF PRIORITIES FOR US TO ADDRESS BEFORE WE CALL OUR NEXT SENIOR PASTOR. PRAY FOR OUR PERSONNEL COMMITTEE AS THEY SEEK THE DIRECTION FROM THE LORD FOR YOUTH MINISTRY. THANKS FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS IN PRAYING. IN HIM-

*Dr. Jake*

# FBC KIDS MINISTRY



Mark your calendars!



- **Wednesday, April 3rd:** No Wednesday Night Supper, No Joyful Noise Choir (Grades 1-6) We will have Half Notes Preschool Choir for PK3 – Kindergarten as usual. *All grades will also have our regular Hands-On Bible Study at 6 p.m. We will dismiss as usual at 7 p.m.*
- **Sunday, April 7th – Wednesday, April 10th:** Breaker Rock Beach Job Fair in the Family Life Center Curious about how to help with VBS? Stop by the gym and take a look at the jobs that are still vacant! From the weeks leading up to VBS to Preschool, Children's, and Track Times, there is a job for you! We are expecting more than 200 children this year for VBS, and we need all hands on deck! We hope you'll plan to join us! VBS is the first full week of *June, the 3rd–7th, from 8:30 a.m. until 12 noon.*
- **Wednesdays beginning Wednesday, April 10th from 5:30 until 6:** FBC Kids (Grades 1-6) Game Time Our 1st-6th Graders will be taking a break from choir until the end of the school year. In its place, we will be having an open game time upstairs in Rm. 310. Games and supervision will be provided. We will continue our Hands-On Bible Study as usual from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m.
- **Sunday, April 21st, 10:45 a.m. service:** Half Notes Preschool Choir Special More information will be sent home directly from Mrs. Toni Tageant, Half Notes Choir Director
- **Wednesday, April 24th:** FBC Kids Game Time GaGa Ball Tournament Grades 1-6 will enjoy a friendly game of GaGa Ball in the garage from 5:30 p.m. until 6 p.m. To participate, children need to wear tennis shoes and have a completed Student Emergency Card on file.
- **Sunday, April 21st CentriKid Parent Meeting, Downstairs Youth Department: 5:00 p.m.** If your 3rd-6th Grader has signed up for camp, you won't want to miss this informative meeting. Please come prepared with a copy of your child's health insurance card. If you haven't yet paid your \$100 deposit, please bring it with you.



♥ - Kelly McElveen



## IMPORTANT INFO

### APRIL WEE WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS:

- 7th: Karen Miller
- 14th: Heather Seal
- 21st: Brittany Fussell
- 28th: Kelly McElveen



### April Wednesday Night Suppers



- 3- SPRING BREAK NO SUPPER
- 10 - GROUP D COUNTRY FRIED STEAK
- 17- GROUP E JAMBALAYA
- 24- GROUP A HAMBURGERS



# FBC YOUTH MINISTRY

FBC FRANKLINTON YOUTH  
**YOUTH SUNDAY &  
SENIOR RECOGNITION  
SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024**

Celebrating your transition to the  
next phase of life,  
and giving support to the Youth  
going to Camp Fuego!

8:15 a.m. Worship Service  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:45 a.m. Worship Service

## APRIL IS A VERY BUSY MONTH IN THE LIFE OF THE YOUTH MINISTRY AT FBC.

- **TO KICK THINGS OFF, WE HAVE A MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY: A VISIT TO THE FOOD BANK DISTRIBUTION ON TUESDAY, APRIL 2ND.**
- **ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE MONTH IS OUR TRIP TO THE MUSEUM OF THE BIBLE AND ARCHAEOLOGY AT NEW ORLEANS SEMINARY ON THURSDAY, APRIL 4TH. AND DON'T FORGET YOUTH SUNDAY ON APRIL 28TH.**

THE YOUTH MINISTRY AT FBC IS ALL ABOUT BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS WITH EACH OTHER AND WITH OUR LORD. I WANT TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK Y'ALL FOR SHARING YOUR KIDS WITH US. THEY ARE QUICKLY BECOMING YOUNG ADULTS, AND IT IS A PLEASURE TO SEE THEM GROW IN THE LORD RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES. THEY ARE A GREAT GROUP OF YOUTH. I WILL BE SENDING TEXTS OUT WITH DETAILS FOR EACH OF THE ABOVE EVENTS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE INCLUDED IN THESE TEXTS OR KNOWSOMEONE ELSE WHO NEEDS TO BE INCLUDED, PLEASE SEND ME YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION. MY CELL NUMBER IS 985-515-3172.- *Matt Westmoreland*



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
*Franklinton*  
(985) 839-3427 OFFICE

## SERVICE TIMES

**Sundays**  
**Worship Services**  
8:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

**Bible Study**  
9:30 a.m.

**Choir Practice**  
4:30 p.m.

**Wednesdays**  
**Wednesday Night Supper**  
5:00 p.m.

**Half Notes/Joyful Noise  
Preschool & Children  
Choir Practice**  
5:30 p.m.

**Preschool, Children,  
Youth Activities**  
6:00 p.m.

**Ladies Bible Study**  
6:00 p.m.

**Prayer Meeting**  
6:00 p.m.

[http://](http://www.fbcfranklinton.org)  **CHECK OUT OUR  
WEBSITE AT**

[WWW.FBCFRANKLINTON.ORG](http://www.fbcfranklinton.org)

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**950 SELF STREET**  
**FRANKLINTON, LA 70438**

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