

# The Baptist Voice

November 2019



November is here! Can you believe another year is almost over? Recently I have begun to realize that "TIME" is the most precious resource that God has given us. In just a blink of an eye, a second, a minute, an hour, a day, a month, a year, a decade, and even a lifetime has gone by. God however knew that we as human beings would be prone to

neglect this precious gift. He built into our world seasons. He even went as far as promising Noah that "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease" (Gen 8.22). As we approach the season of Thanksgiving and prepare for the Advent of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, remember this precious gift. In the words of the psalmist, "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom" (Ps 90.12). Let God teach you that time is more valuable than all the gold or cotton in this world. Ask the Lord to give you a heart full of joy and an eye for what truly is valuable. Don't waste another minute being angry, bitter, jealous, or slothful. Use your time to love, experience joy, with peace and kindness, being generous, faithful, gentle, and self-controlled. For these are the fruits of the Spirit and the perfect use of "TIME". (Gal 5.22-23)



### Operation Christmas Child:

Collection week is quickly approaching! November 17-24. If you would like to help, please sign up in the foyer. If you are still collecting quarters, I need them by November 20. Your generous donations have paid the postage for 98 shoeboxes so far! I need to get packing!

**Preschool/Children Activity:** For kids age 2-8, I'll be hosting a Stuffed Animal Sleepover! Kids will wear their pajamas (if they want), bring a stuffed friend, listen to a story in the church library while enjoying a snack, then tuck their pal into bed and wish them sweet dreams. Who knows what adventures they will have overnight in the library! Kids, parents and stuffed friends will be welcomed on Friday, December 6 at 5:30pm. Stuffed friends will be picked up Saturday morning at 10:00am. All stuffed participants will take home a photo memory book of their sleepover. Stuffed friends will also pick out a book for their owner to check out from the library! Text, email or call me to sign up!

**Fall Fest:** Thank you to everyone who donated candy and/or participated in the Fall Fest. It's always a lot of fun!

*Be Blessed! Ludustria*

### Shoobox Gift Suggestions

- Wow" Item**— clothes, shoes, musical instrument, soccer ball with pump, stuffed animal, doll
- Toys**—cars, jump ropes, yo-yo's
- Accessories**—socks, hats, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights with extra batteries.
- Non-liquid hygiene**—toothbrushes, bar soap, wash cloths, combs
- School Supplies**— pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons and markers, notebooks and paper, color and picture books, solar calculators
- Crafts**—hair bows, finger puppets, friendship bracelets
- DO NOT INCLUDE:** Candy, toothpaste, used or damaged items, war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures. Chocolate or food, fruit rolls or other fruit snacks. Drink mixes (powered or liquid), liquids or lotions, medications or vitamins, breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers, aerosol cans.



My heart is full. I now have 11 children (K-6th grade) attending choir on Sunday nights. We are working hard preparing for the Christmas program, and they have given me such joy. They show up every week excited to sing. I even had a first grade boy come up to me at AWANA and start singing one of the songs we've learned! So, thank you so much, parents, for sending your kids to choir each week. Everyone, mark your calendars! They will get to sing for you on Wednesday night, December 18th, at 6:30pm in the sanctuary.



**Our New Member**  
Brae Ballesteros by Baptism

### MONTHLY REPORT

September	\$66,668.14
Needed each month	\$55,708.38
Year-To-Date	\$516,115.36

**\*5th Quarter**  
November 1 10:00 p.m.-11:30 p.m.  
Fellowship Center

**\*Budget Ministry Team Meeting**  
November 2 @ 8:30 p.m.

**\* "Better Together-Three To One" 2019 Historic Area Wide Combined Annual Meeting**  
November 3 at Wayland  
Registration begins @ 3:00 p.m.  
Children & Youth must have signed consent form to participate in activities.  
Meals for adults and youth are \$5.  
*We will not have an evening service.*

**\*Awana will not meet November 6**

**\*Deacons' Meeting**  
November 10 @ 5:00 p.m.

**\*Ladies Night @ D.Q.**  
November 12 @ 6:00 p.m.

**\*Operation Christmas Child Collection Dates:**  
November 17-24

**\*South Plains Food Bank delivery**  
November 18 @ 11:15

**\*Senior Adult Lunch**  
November 18 @ 11:30

**\*Youth Turkey Bowl**  
November 24

**\*Office Holiday Hours**  
November 27— close at noon  
November 28 & 29— closed



Technology, and social media in particular, are evident realities in the lives of the majority of our students. Whether they are

following popular Youtubers, posting their favorite memes or selfies, chatting with friends that they have met online, or simply passively scrolling through their apps, students are using social media more than ever, and to be honest, so are we! Our culture demands that we use technology, especially social media, daily because it often is the mode with which we do business, maintain relationships, and so much more.

With that being said, it would benefit us all greatly to limit the use of technology or even take a sabbatical away from it, but I also believe there are many healthy conversations that we need to have with our students and with each other about living in a social media landscape. We must realize that our faith goes beyond face to face interactions and extends into the digital lives we live. We must understand that we need to have the same morals and live the same way in person as we do online. Although technology allows us to create our own profiles and make us appear any way we desire or say whatever we want to whomever we choose, we are still held accountable for our actions, whether online or in person. Both the physical and the virtual are different realities that we find ourselves in but we must continue to live out our faith in each of them.



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