



November 4

OCC Packing Party– Fellowship Hall– 6 pm

November 5-7

Mission Lone Star Biker Rally

November 10

Women on Mission– Fellowship Hall-9:15 am
Senior Adult Game Day– GBA Office-1:30 pm

November 15

Church Council-4:30 pm
Church Conference– 6:00pm
AWANA Store– 6:00 pm

November 16

Operation Christmas Child—2-6 pm

November 17

Operation Christmas Child– 9-12 pm

November 18

Operation Christmas Child– 3-6 pm

November 19

Operation Christmas Child –9-12 pm
Jolly Elders– noon
FBC Host BSM—noon

November 20

Operation Christmas Child—2-7 pm

November 21

Deacons Mtg and basket delivery-8:30 am
Judson Group– 9:30 am
Operation Christmas Child-10-3 pm

November 22

Operation Christmas Child– 12:30-4 pm
Love Feast/Lord's Supper -6 pm

November 23

Mission Galveston Love Feast– 11:00 am

November 26-27

Thanksgiving– Office Closed

November 29

Hanging of the Green /Children's play– 6 pm

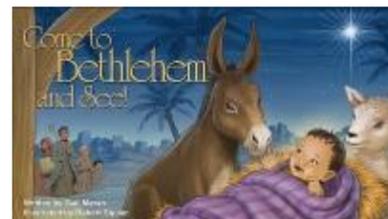
Kids Korner



We can grow into who God wants us to be.



Learning about the offering by giving to Operation Christmas Child.



Come to the Hanging of the Green, Nov 29th at 6 pm, and enjoy the children's Christmas play "Come to Bethlehem and See"



THE HERALD

First Baptist Church

November 2015



2015 Pastor Search Committee Welcome New Members



(Above) The newly commissioned Pastor Search Committee. (Right to left) Rusty Carnes, Josanne Smathers, Joyce Marchi, Fred Lennen, Brad Heller, Mathen Samuels, and Dr. Myles Shelton.

Dr. Myles Shelton -Chair
Mathen Samuel -Vice-Chair and Committee Chaplain
Joyce Marchi - Secretary



Karen and Ken McBride



(Above) Justin Montgomery



Lillian Hayslip



(Right) Cannon King

It's My First Sunday

Welcome baby, **Abigail Vance**, on her first Sunday at Church



(Below) The Wednesday Evening Ladies Bible Study Group has Daring Faith





Bro. Ray's Reflections...



TRANSITIONS and DARING FAITH

Isn't it great to know that God is in charge! If we learned nothing else from our time in studying *Daring Faith*, we learned that God has a purpose for each of us and we are to transition our will to His will and our hopes to His hopes. We do this by allowing His Holy Spirit to lead us through our worship, Bible study, prayer life, and interactions with other believers.

As a body of believers, First Baptist Church is experiencing God's leadership in great and mighty ways! In the last two weeks we have seen five additions to our family, three by transfer and two by baptism. Although we miss Jay, we are experiencing and enjoying great worship each and every Sunday and our attendance has increased to the point where we are seeing 200+ more often. We have elected and commissioned a pastor search committee to seek out the next pastor God has already chosen for us.

All of these blessing are taking place in the midst of transition!

As we enter into the Thanksgiving and Christmas Seasons, we need to remind ourselves of how great God is and how He blesses those who have daring faith during transitions. Let's finish strong!

NEED FOR ANOTHER BUS

Elsewhere, in this publication, you will find a letter from deacon chair Myles Shelton concerning the recommendation coming from the deacons and church council concerning the need for another bus. If you remember, Hurricane Ike drowned our church van in 2008. Seeing our need, Wilshire Baptist Church in Dallas gifted us with a 2000 Ford minibus with 45,000 city of Dallas miles. This bus has been used to carry our people to church activities and other church related trips. However, this present bus is beginning to show wear and tear. Many of us are concerned about having it lead the Island. I want to encourage you to be part of this special offering for the van on Sunday, November 22. I encourage you to participate with Sherry and me as we sacrificially give to this very big need. We will give **over and above our tithe to the church budget!** I believe this is biblical.

Please pray for me as I pray for you.
I Love You,
Bro. Ray



A recent school bus crash in Houston focused the attention of our Deacons on our Church bus. We wanted know if our Bus Ministry was working and if it was being carried out in a safe manner. To make a long story short, our Bus Ministry is working. Our drivers are following the rules and ministering to those that ride the bus. Cell phones are not being used by the driver when the bus is in motion. And, the bus has seat belts for each of the 14 passenger seats. That is correct, the bus only has 14 passenger seats. We also found that our current bus is in pretty good shape for trips on the island, but has reached a point where trips across the causeway are worrisome. And, we found that the Bus Ministry is currently not able to serve all the adults and the youth that need a ride to the Church on Sunday morning.

After prayerful discussion and consideration, the Deacon Council proposed to the Church Council, that the Church take up a special offering in November to fund a second bus. A second bus will allow for the Bus Ministry to serve its all riders and it will allow for various departments and groups to use a church bus for meetings and activities that take place off of the island.

The report of the Deacon Council was considered by the Church Council and the Church Council voted that in place of a benevolence offering during the month of November that the Church should take up a special offering to raise funds for a second bus.

The ingathering date for this special offering has been set for Sunday, November 22. The Bus Ministry is a wonderful ministry of our Church that allows many to come. This is your opportunity to make a huge impact in the lives of many people and help us enlarge our ministry effectively.

In Christ,
Myles Shelton
Deacon Council Chairman



Angie's List



A Bigger Story

We're all designed to live inside of a story. To be a part of God's big story. On November 1st, we heard the story of four new Christians at our baptism celebration. It was a special service where we celebrated the decision kids have made to put their trust in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. It's part of our Jumpstart program where we meet personally with families, talk about the salvation decision, complete homework and then shoot a video. It was a church and family event as we celebrated 4 new Christians with small group leaders, prayer partners and families in the chapel.

Prayer Partners

Every new Christian is assigned a prayer partner. Prayer partners help connect our church with families – they widen the circle of influence for our new Christians and help them to build an authentic faith. There's eleven prayer partners that Kelle Odom is leading and partnering together with families to help connect their faith to a community – so we can be present in their lives.

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Leading Small

The way to cultivate an authentic faith is through leading small. Small group leaders lead in the lives of a few in their circle - they help build a really big faith - an authentic faith. When we lead small, we realize that what we do for a few will always have more potential than what we do for many. We're leading small by making the choice to invest strategically in the lives of a few to encourage an authentic faith.

Let's lead, invest, encourage and change lives each week,
Angie

Nathan's Notes

"Life is better Connected."



When I was growing up I remember a distinct family tradition. Every year, after my family shared the Thanksgiving Day meal together, the conversation turned to what movie we were going to see that afternoon. I remember going to a movie with my aunts, uncles, cousins, granny, and my immediate family. It was a wonderful time and has very fond memories full of love and great connections.

As I think about family traditions with my new family I am grateful for the ones that have developed through FBC. In the very near future we will gather around the tables, as a church and share in the Love Feast. This is a very special time for our congregation. It is a time where we put aside our differences and remember that we are all the same. We all need food, but more importantly we are all loved by the same God. The Holiday's are a time to remember what we love about people, even if they are our family. It is a time to get together and share a meal, and share life. I challenge you to make the Holiday's special with your family this year. Start or keep a tradition, go home for Christmas, but more important than any of this is to be thankful. Remember to give thanks to God who has given you this life, be thankful for your family and friends.

As we begin our journey through the holidays this year as a church there will be lots of things to do and to be a part of. There is Operation Christmas Child, The Love Feast, Hanging of The Green, and Angel Tree just to name a few. I hope that you will see these as more than just events to attend or things to give to. It is my prayer that you will see these as opportunities to express your thankfulness. The attitude of Thankfulness is my challenge and encouragement to each of you as we begin the holiday season. Take time on a daily basis, maybe a dinner table question to remember, "What you are thankful for." If we will remember that, we will see the holidays in a whole new light twchich is the light of Jesus, and not the lights of the Mall. Let's be thankful together.

Since we are in the mood of thankfulness I want to mention how thankful I am for each and every one of you for loving my family like your own. I also want us to all be thankful for our growing church, and out of that thankfulness comes an opportunity. As a church family right now we are blessed with growth, and the opportunity through purchasing an additional van to impact our church for further growth. We have many people who are currently impacted by our bus ministry, and the opportunity to impact many more through it. I want to encourage you to express your thankfulness by making a gift to this incredible opportunity.

Blessings,
Nathan Mahand