



MAY 15TH, SENIOR SUNDAY

This Sunday will be a special day. Our senior class – one of the largest in recent memory – will be honored in our Sunday AM services. I'm so excited for them! Their future is bright, and God has great things planned for them. Our service will be different as a result, but my prayer is that you'll join us for a wonderful morning of celebrating their accomplishments and encouraging their future. If you'd like to write them an encouraging note in the Bible they will receive, please find them in the Welcome Center.

Pastor Darin Wood

JUNE 6TH - 9TH VBS 2022

VBS 2022 is around the corner and we are excited for the children of our community to experience it!



MAY 19TH, 5:30 PM GENERATIONS 55+, DINNER

Dinner at 5:30 PM & Concert at 7 PM
RSVP at: fbcm.info/220519



MISSION TRIP : LONGMONT, CO

Deposit and Application due May 24th



Dear Beloved First Family



Dr. Darin Wood - Senior Pastor

Grace and Peace in Christ our Lord! What a joy it was to celebrate Mother's Day with you!

LAZARO DIAZ ORDINATION

First family, back in the fall we voted to ordain our friends Lazaro Diaz and Shelden Kinnison. It's taken a while to get them on the calendar, but we're finally ready! This Sunday night at 5 PM, we'll ordain for the Gospel ministry our friend Lazaro Diaz. Laz is co-campus pastor for our FBC en Espanol campus. He has proven his character and his passion. He and I taught together in Kenya, and he has served on numerous committees and volunteer roles. He is EXACTLY the kind of man we want for the Gospel ministry, and I'm thrilled we get to be a part of his journey. Please join us for this Sunday evening's service as we set him aside for the Gospel Ministry!

DEACON ORDINATION SERVICE – MAY 22 – 5 PM

One week from Sunday is our long-awaited Deacon ordination service! We're ordaining six men for service to the Lord and our church: Kurt O'Briant, Michael Glasscock, Greg Fitzgerald, Cory Hoffman, Jason Nikodym, and Zack Gallegos. Our Deacon screening committee has approved them, our deacons have voted for them to serve, and they are ready to serve! Praise the Lord for these men, their families, and their patience as we've worked through this spring. I pray you'll join us for what promises to be an amazing evening of hearing from these men, praying over them and their families and setting them aside for service as deacons in our church.

VBS IS COMING SOON!

Have you ever wanted to go on a mission trip but couldn't afford the travel time or costs? Here's good news! You don't have to go anywhere other than here! We've got a mission opportunity for you! June 6-9, we'll have hundreds of children in our building, all eager to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ and eager to celebrate God's goodness. If you haven't already done so, now is a GREAT time to volunteer to serve! Reach out to our friends Amy Brand abrand@fbc-midland.org, Sarah Arrambide sarrambide@fbc-midland.org or Allison Ashmore aashmore@fbc-midland.org to find out where you can serve!

THANKS

I wanted to end by saying thanks for the numerous kind greetings last weekend for our anniversary and my birthday. Your kindness means so much to us!

Your servant,

Darin

Serving gladly,
Darin

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Dr. Joel Gregory

May 29th

Dr. Joel Gregory Bio:

He holds the George W. Truett Endowed Chair of Preaching and Evangelism at Baylor University's George W. Truett Theological Seminary.

He holds the B.A. Summa cum Laude from Baylor, the M.Div. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, where he also taught preaching, and the PhD in New Testament from Baylor.

He is the author of five books.

He actively works with Compassion International in an advisory role.



Dr. Joel Gregory

STATE BIBLE DRILL

Competition at FBC Allen

We took the largest group to State Competition in the history of our church this year! Every driller and speaker did Fantastic!!!! I'm so proud of how hard they worked at learning all those verses, finding books of the Bible and passages; as well as memorizing their speeches! These kids are WINNERS before the competition even started

We walked away with Bryson Baylor placing THIRD and Jaycee Dockrey placing SECOND in the State for Speaker's Tournament!

I pray that all the years that these kids and their parents have dedicated to learning and digging into God's Word would show fruit. I pray that God will use the verses, passages and speeches to mold their hearts and minds to know God better! Isaiah 55:10-11!

Shane Dockrey





The Generations Ministry recently took a group of 21 on a trip to Branson, MO, to attend the Jubilee Conference. We greatly enjoyed hearing teaching from Johnny Hunt and Tim Tebow as well as amazing music from David Phelps, Karen Peck and New River, The Kingsmen, and Ernie Hause and the Signature Sound. On our last day, we saw an amazing production of Jesus's life at the Sight and Sound Theater. Each of us were encouraged and uplifted by this wonderful trip.



SAFE TOGETHER

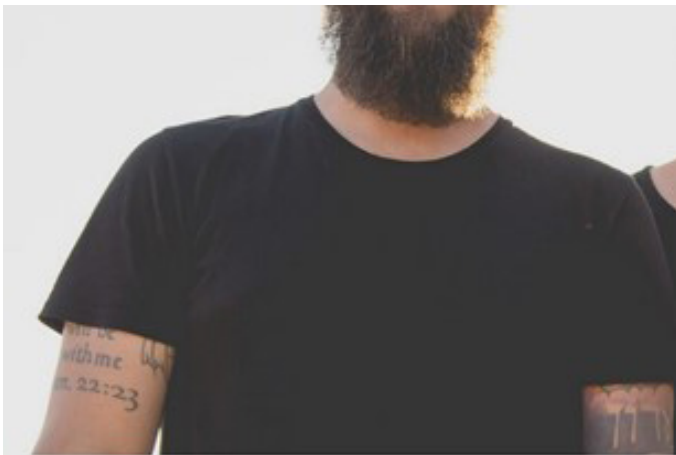
by Berry D. Simpson

I first published this in 2004. In those days, Cyndi and I volunteered every year with Rock the Desert, a weekend-long Christian music festival in Midland, Texas. We drove a van carrying musicians from the airport to the venue, and later, to their hotel. (I went looking for this essay after reading 1 Samuel 22 a few days ago.)

Our assignment was to chauffeur a rock band from Portland named Kutless. Through the years we'd done the same thing for several bands, and we were often surprised how quickly the talented and enjoyable young men who clearly loved God and were serious about using their talents to share the gospel turned into screaming banshees once they took the stage. "What happened to them?" we asked, like parents after sending their own children off to college.



One of the guitar players, James, who once complained of being "wicked bored," had several tattoos and a variety of body piercings. He even had a silver ring through his lower lip. When Cyndi asked if it got in the way when he kissed his wife, he said, "No, she's used to it; but it does get in the way when I drink hot coffee." Curiously, on his right arm was tattooed in large letters, "I Sam 22:23."



It was a reference to a Bible story about young David and a priest named Abiathar. In his pursuit to track down and kill David, King Saul slaughtered the entire village where Abiathar lived, men and women and children and livestock. Abiathar was the only survivor. He fled to tell David what happened, and David told him, "Stay with me; do not be afraid, for he who seeks my life seeks your life, for you are safe with me."

Through the years I'd read that story many times, but I never landed on that verse. However, Cyndi and I had several conversations about it after the concert - how it described what we wanted and needed from each other.

David told Abiathar, "Stay with me." This young priest had narrowly escaped with his life after witnessing the slaughter of his family and friends, and I'm sure he had misgivings about more bloodshed should he stay with David. But David asked him to stay anyway.

We all need someone to stay with. It's hard to be faithful or brave or bold if we're alone, but we grow strength and courage when we know we have someone beside us. I want Cyndi to stay with me; I don't want to be alone. I want Cyndi to stay on my side, in my life, in my bed, in my house, holding my hand, sharing her dreams and concerns and fears and life with me. Like David, I want Cyndi to stay with me.

David next told Abiathar, "Do not be afraid." That's an easy thing to tell someone else but not so easy to follow. One of our biggest responsibilities in any relationship is to remind our partners "don't be afraid, it'll be OK." I know we shouldn't promise something we can't carry out, and sometimes when I put my arms around Cyndi and ask her not to be afraid, I wonder how I can be so sure it will work out. I can't know, of course, but I do know we're stronger together, and if we stay together, we'll be safer, and we won't have to be so afraid. We can borrow strength and courage and faith from each other.

The next thing David told Abiathar was, "he who seeks my life seeks your life," which means, "we're in this together, we share the same enemy."

Again, what I want Cyndi to know, and what I need to know from her, is that we are in this together. We're on the same side; we're facing the same enemies; and we're covering each other's back. This isn't a solo fight, we're not alone, and we're not living separate agendas. We can be brave because we're in this together.

And finally, David told Abiathar, "You are safe with me." Wow. It took me decades of marriage to understand what it meant to tell Cyndi she was safe with me. I used to think it meant I'd protect her from the wolves and gangsters at our front door, but now I know it means she is safe from me as well. It's a commitment never to hurt her on purpose, and more likely, not to hurt her by accident ... such not noticing something important, or cracking a joke at her expense, or forgetting something I should remember (all things, I'm sad to say, I do too often). I want Cyndi to know she's safe with me. And I'm finally learning how important it is for me, Mr. Independent Self-Reliant Man, to feel safe with her. I need the safety she has to offer.

Well, what a surprise to learn about marriage from a tattooed rock-and-roll guitar player. While I'll say that I have no plans to permanently install this verse to my own arm, it's been tattooed on my own heart ever since.

"I run in the path of Your commands, for You have set my heart free." Psalm 119:32

Thank you for reading! This is a reader-supported publication, and it only works with your help. Please share with your friends or buy my books. You can find more of my writing, and learn about my books, or subscribe to this free blog, at berrysimpson.com.

Sunday

- 8:30 AM Blended Worship Service*
- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Worship Services*
- Contemporary (Worship Center)
 - Traditional (Chapel)
 - First Baptist en Español (Fellowship Hall)
- International Bible Study (D100)
- 5:00 PM Ordination Service for Lazaro Diaz (WC)
- Rooted Student Choir (Choir Room)
- 6:00 PM Challengers: High School Guys Only (AB)
- SNDY+ (E-Hall)

* Extended care is available for Birth - PreK during worship services.

Worship Services are live streamed on our website at [Church Online](#) as well as [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), & [Vimeo](#).

Monday

- 11:45 AM Brotherhood luncheon (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday

- 4:45 PM Wednesday Family Meal (Fellowship Hall)
- RSVP each week, online, at fbc-midland.org/events in the Wednesday Family Meals tab or at: fbc-midland.org/wfm0518

Menu: Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Seasoned Corn, Tossed Green Salad, Garlic Bread, & Carrot Cake

- 5:00 PM Students (Activities Building)
- 6:00 PM Adult Bible Studies:
- Students Games & Dinner (E-Hall Coffee Shop)
 - Orchestra Rehearsal (Worship Center)
- 6:30 AM GAP Bible Study (C205)
- 6:40 PM Junior High Bible Study (Junior High Room)
- 7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- High School Bible Study (Student Worship Room)

Thursday

- 9:00 AM Precept Bible Study - Ladies (E102)
- 10:30 AM Joyful Sound rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 12:00 PM Prayer Meeting (Chapel)
- 5:30 PM Generations Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 PM BESL and Citizenship Classes (D205)
- 7:00 PM Free Concert Singing Men of Texas (Worship Cntr)
- College Home Group

Friday

- 6:30 AM Men's Prayer (Fellowship Hall)

STEWARDSHIP REPORTS

May 8, 2022

Offering	Weekly	Year to Date
FBC Offering	\$ 127,469	\$ 4,553,084
Budget Requirement	\$ 122,000	\$ 4,402,867
Over/Under Budget	\$ 5,469	\$ 150,217
Hope 1:8	\$ 100	\$ 91,005

LAZARO DIAZ ORDINATION

May 15th at 5 PM (Worship Center)

This Sunday night we'll ordain for the Gospel ministry our friend Lazaro Diaz. He is co-campus pastor for our FBC En Espanol campus. Please join us for this Sunday evening's service as we set him aside for the Gospel Ministry!



VBS First Impressions Team!!!

May 15th, 4:00 PM (Fellowship Hall 3)

If you would like to be a VBS greeter, please attend the training meeting! This very important role requires about one hour of your time each day during the week of June 6-9. We need 40 greeters. Hope to see you there!

Generations 55+, Dinner

May 19th, 5:30 PM Thursday (Fellowship Hall)

Cost: \$6 for meal

Join us for dinner with the *Singing Men of Texas* at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Stay for a free concert in the worship center at 7 pm. Register at: fbc-midland.org/220519

Deacon Ordination

May 22 at 5 PM (Worship Center)

We will be ordaining the following six men to serve on our Deacon Ministry Team: Kurt O'Briant, Michael Glasscock, Greg Fitzgerald, Cory Hoffman, Jason Nikodym, and Zack Gallegos.

Mission Trip : Longmont, CO

May 24th

\$50 deposit & mission trip application due date.

Contact the mission office for an application form.

Help Connections Church, a new church plant in Longmont, CO as they launch in September 2022 by conducting block parties, outreach, follow-up!

Trip scheduled for September 24-30, 2022.

Sponsored by the Generations Ministry but open to all age groups.

Women's Bible Study

"The Book of Ruth Women's Bible Study"

May 25 - July 6th, Wednesdays, 6-7 PM (E102)

Led by Nancy Ervin for this video-based Bianca Ortloff study. There is no cost!. If you need childcare, contact Katy Little at klittle@fbc-midland.org by May 22.

VBS 2022

June 6th - 9th

Vacation Bible School is for all children ages completed PreK to completed 6th! We can't wait to see you here. The online registration link will be provided at fbc-midland.org/vbs2022

Camp In the City

July 4-8 from 9 AM - 4 PM

Registration for an incredible week of summer for upcoming 1st-6th graders. The FBC Midland campers will have a blast! Scholarships available. Contact Sarah Arrambide at sarrambide@fbc-midland.org for more information.

Register today at: pinecove.com/city/fbc-midland/

Preteen Camp

July 11-15 Camp Copass (Denton, TX)

For completed 3rd-6th grade students. Cost is \$280.

Contact Amy Brand for more information

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. Postage

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Church Midland

FIRST BAPTIST
MIDLAND

2104 W. LOUISIANA
MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701-5972

Address Service Requested

FBC DIRECTORY

www.fbc-midland.org

Main Phone - 432.683.0600

Main Fax - 432.683.0660

Prayer Line - 432.683.0683

Pastoral Ministry	683.0604
Missions Ministry	683.0623
Music & Worship Ministry	683.0618
Administrative Office	683.0604
Activities Ministry	683.0647
Business Office	683.0615
Children's Ministry	683.0609
Preschool Ministry	683.0611
Child Development Center	683.0638
Children's Day Out	683.0632
Student Ministry	683.0606
Family Ministry	683.0612
55+ Ministry	683.0612
Media Ministry	683.0696
Membership	683.0612
Duplication Services	683.0626
Library	683.0625

Sunday

Worship Services at 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM • Sunday School at 9:45 AM

Worship Services Online

fbc-midland.org • facebook.com/fbcmidland

youtube.com/fbcmidland • vimeo.com/fbcmidland

Sunday Service Televised at

7:00 a.m. on KOSA CBS 7

10:00 a.m. on CW Channel

Televised services are on a one-week tape delay

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Bereavements

Our deepest sympathy, prayers, and love go out to the family members in the loss of their loved ones.

- Family and friends of Leo Carr
- June Williamson in the loss of her husband, Terry Williamson
- Shane Dockrey and family in the loss of her dad, Terry Williamson
- Dave Pearcy in the loss of his sister, Marilyn Lange
- Dee Wilson in the loss of her husband, Bill Wilson

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Wainscott Lacy Scholarship

If you are attending a Baptist University, Seminary, or Collage in the Fall see Cindy Eoff for an application. Applications are due June 14th.

Martha Adams Scholarship For Fall 2022

Open to FBCM members for help with college tuition. Pick up an application and guidelines from the Welcome Center Desk. Return completed application to the Welcome Center Desk by Wed, May 25th, 2022

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

First Family Fellowship

Mission Opportunity

Come participate in a Local Missions opportunity right here in our own backyard! First Family Fellowship is in need of "Once a Month" childcare volunteers at the North Campus. If you are able to serve our North Campus in this way, please contact Shelden Kinnison at skinnison@fbc-midland.org

VBS 2022 Volunteers

Join us for the summer event of the year and become a **VBS Volunteer**. Childcare provided. Contact Sarah at sarrambide@fbc-midland.org or call 432-683-0607

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Receptionist (Part-Time)

More details at fbc-midland.org/about/employment

HOME COMING PRAISE

FEATURING
JOYFUL SOUND, FAITHFUL MEN AND SONSHINERS

A time of praise & worship with
timeless songs of the faith!

Sunday
June 12th • 5 PM
Worship Center

