

First Baptist Church
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A special thanks to everyone who helped, donated, and participated in the garage sale in any way. Everyone going on the mission trip truly appreciates your help. Your generosity will enable our mission work in South Africa. Thank you for being a part of this mission trip!



THE ANCHOR

“so we do not drift away”

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As most of you know, I live in a nice house. It isn't my house, it belongs to the church, but since I'm pastor I am fortunate enough to get to live there. Truth be told, this is quite easily the biggest and nicest house I have ever lived in. Growing up a military brat we often lived in small and old houses on base somewhere in the US or abroad. Then when I got married, Jolee and I always seemed to live in fixer-uppers. Her idea, she likes to remake houses as she thinks they should be, while I would prefer to move into a perfectly fine house and simply enjoy it. When we visited the house for the first time and walked through it, I couldn't believe how nice it was. I stopped at the front door, and noticed that there were three glazed windows right next to the door. I mentioned how nice those windows were, letting in light but not letting people look into the house. That's when someone told me sheepishly that those windows weren't glazed, but had some time ago shattered and what I was looking at was not nice and clean as it appeared, but was in all actuality something that was broken.

Yesterday afternoon as I was sitting in the living room, I glanced over at the front door and with the light coming through the windows just right I could see the many small cracks in the glass that showed that while it appeared beautiful, in reality it was a shattered version of its former self. And the more I thought about that the more I thought about people I encounter all the time. When I first meet them they always seem so nice and wonderful and put together. However, the longer I get to know them, and the deeper relationship I develop with them the more I come to realize that they are not what they first appear. More times than not, what I see is a shattered and broken version of something that once was. It's always something different that has made them that way: a broken marriage, a deep depression, great loss of a loved one, frustration at work, trouble with the kids, disappointment, failure, loneliness, loss of hope. The more I look, the more I see shattered lives all around me, and I wonder if anyone else sees?

It seems that people are scared to admit that they are shattered and broken. They are worried what others might think about them, that being that open and vulnerable might lead to them getting hurt again, or perhaps they are just embarrassed at the situation they find themselves in. Yet what they long for and need more than anything, is for someone to see them in their broken state and to tell them that they are still beautiful and priceless, just like they were before they were broken and shattered.

So here's what we're going to do about this: First, if your life is shattered and broken: You are precious and loved and treasured by God! Jesus said He didn't come for the people who had it all together, but for those who were broken and falling apart (Luke 5:31-32). It is ok to be broken, because everyone is, some are just better hiding it than others. God loves you just like you are, and if you ask Him to He will help put you back together one piece at a time. It will be slow, and it won't be easy, but He loves you so much that no matter what you've done, He thinks you're worth the time and effort to piece back together! You matter to Him, He loves you more than anything!!!

Second, if your life is not shattered and broken right now or you've been put back together: Find the broken and love them. How else did you think Jesus was going to put them back together again but through you? God's favorite way of working is through those He created. Your job is to love others and help them put the pieces back together through the Holy Spirit. Invest your life in broken people. Open yourself and your scars up to them. Be accepting and forgiving, guide gently, pray fervently. Give yourself to them and help them heal.

Here's my final thought. You know what I secretly think about those windows in my house? I think they're the most beautiful windows we have. Yes, they're broken, but the way they look when the light shines through them takes my breath away! And you know why? Because we're all broken to, and when The Light (Jesus) shines through our brokenness, how we look takes God's breath away. And that is a beautiful thing indeed!

Weekly Schedule

Sunday:
SS 9:45
Worship 11:00
FBCU 6:00
Youth 6:00
Praise Service 6:30
Choir 7:30

Wednesday:
Prayer Meeting 6:30

Prayer List



- Spiritual Growth
- Unity as a church
- The 414 Project
- TSEASA Ministry
- Youth/Children's Minister

Memory Verse

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”
Romans 12:2

Sound Bytes

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Exsulemus, et in ipso jucundemur. Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum. Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero. Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Simul ergo cum in unum congregamur: Ne nos mente dividamur, caveamus. Cessent iurgia maligna, cessent lites.

Et in medio nostri sit Christus Deus. Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

Simul quoque cum beatis videamus, Glorianter vultum tuum, Christe Deus: Gaudium quod est immensum, atque probum, Saecula per infinita saeculorum. Amen.

English Translation: *Where charity and love are, God is there. Christ's love has gathered us into one. Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him. Let us fear, and let us love the living God. And may we love each other with a sincere heart. Where charity and love are, God is there. As we are gathered into one body, Beware, lest we be divided in mind. Let evil impulses stop, let controversy cease, And may Christ our God be in our midst. Where charity and love are, God is there. And may we with the saints also, See Thy face in glory, O Christ our God: The joy that is immense and good, Unto the ages through infinite ages. Amen.*

There are numerous radio applications from the internet available today. From Pandora to iFM, the market is saturated. My favorite "app" of this kind is Spotify. This program is superior to me in that they include virtually every album in every genre ever made for free listening from a computer. I use this program in my band classes almost every day simply because of the virtuosity of it.

What does this have to do with the Latin text at the beginning of this article, you say? Over the past week I have been listening to chorale music that I performed in college and came back across this piece titled "Ubi Caritas" by John Rutter. When I rediscovered this particular piece, it immediately stirred up my affections for Christ.

It's difficult for me to put into words for someone who has never heard the piece exactly how it sounds. From the opening notes the voices are bunched in tightly woven harmonies for an abnormal amount of time. Finally the listener gets relief about fifteen seconds in and the bass part drops down to the bass note. This is followed several moments later by such an unexpected chord; it's like a bright ray of sunlight in the midst of a cloud filled sky. From there it changes moods again to a minor feel with full choir voices. Coming next is one of my favorite parts of the piece as a tenor vocalist, the classic "A-men" vocal resolution of a IV chord to a I chord. At this point, we return to the opening passages of the piece with a softer, and if possible, sweeter sound. At last, to finish we close with the soprano part holding out a straight tone while the other vocal parts move around everywhere except for where the listener's ear expects it to go until finally it resolves into a glorious root chord. The beauty of the final chord is that if it's done in a concert hall, not only does the audience get to enjoy the final sounds, but the vocalists do as well from the ringing of the room.

As you can probably tell, I lied at the beginning of the last paragraph, because I can obviously put into words the way the music makes me feel, but the greater point is that listening to music like this and reading through the English translation it reminds me of how much I love my Jesus and He loves me. Let me challenge you to find something in your life over the next few weeks that pushes you towards the beautiful face of Jesus and pursue Him with all you have.

~Nathan Jones

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for all the prayers, support, and kindness you provided during Mother's illness. The meal following Mother's service was greatly appreciated. You each have helped Jann and I in so many ways during a difficult time. We will always appreciate your kindness.

Sincerely,
Suzanne and Jann Rhodes
daughters of Jacquelyn Rhodes

Stewardship

	Budgeted	Received
Month:	14,982.17	40,344.85
Year:	134,839.53	246,656.38

FBC Kenedy invites all ladies to join them for special guest Karen Knowlton who will be sharing about her ministry "Reasons of HOPE Maternity Home" on Monday Night, October 15 at 6:30 PM. There will be a light meal provided as well as information about this special ministry just down the road in Beeville. If you would like to bring baby items to donate they are appreciated but optional. Please let Lavon Johnson know if you plan to attend by Thursday, October 12th.

The WMU and our church family will be having our annual luncheon for Texas Baptist Offering for World Hunger on Sunday October 28,



2012 after the morning service. We would like to invite each and everyone to come join us by participating and bringing either your favorite soup, beans or cornbread. In doing this we can be made aware that Jesus asked us to generously and joyfully feed the hungry in his name and change the world. In 2 Corinthians 9:11, Paul says through their great generosity they will be enriched in every way. Come join us and know the power of faith and change a hungry world.

School Supplies Collected From Kids During VBS



The school supplies above were collected in August and taken along with the ones collected by the VBS kids to RES Elementary in September. Thank you church for your donations that show God's love to this community.

Family Friendly Festival Saturday, Nov. 10th



If at least 10 people sign up in the church office by October 14th, group tickets will only cost \$22.50.

Contact Teresa Kunschik if you would like more information.

