

REFLECTIONS

During this season of giving, I would like for us to consider the following:

Jesus had more to say about motives for giving than he did about amount or method. It is not enough to merely give. Our reason for giving is also important to the Lord. Motives for giving are perhaps as numerous and diverse as are givers. Some motives are good: some are not as good. Some are worthy; others are not as worthy. Motives, like people are never static: they are always changing. As people grow and develop spiritually they should reevaluate their motives, removing unworthy ones and taking on more exalted ones. Growing stewards give attention to their reasons for giving. They desire to know and apply the more worthy motives for giving.

I would like for you to consider three important motives for giving:

First, we are motivated to give based on NEEDS, many Christians have been encouraged and motivated to give by the needs of others. First Century Christians were encouraged to give to meet the needs of fellow Christians and to support the ministry (Acts 2:45) (1 Tim.5:17) The contemporary church has the responsibility of helping meet similar needs of people everywhere in the name of Christ. Jesus commends a mere "cup of water" given in his name (Matt.10:42). The second motive to give is based on GRATITUDE. Gratitude is a keynote to Christians giving. It is the human response to the love of God. A Christian's gratitude is not primarily for the gift, but for the giver. It is for God and what He means in one's life. The third motive to give is based on LOVE. Love always finds a way to give, for love isn't love until it gives. The evidence of God's love is everywhere: the gift of life, family, friends, food, shelter, clothing, abilities and enough material possessions to meet our needs and to give to others. God shows us his love through his gracious giving (Acts 17:25) The Christmas season provides the best venue for believers to practice and think in the act giving. However, our churches in the Coastal Bend area were blessed before Christmas by the unselfish giving of many individual and churches. I would like to thank you for your prayers and the support provided. But also, I will like to remind you there are still many open wounds and they are not healed yet.

Please, keep giving out of your prayers and support to our association of churches, as we support each other.

Feliz Navidad
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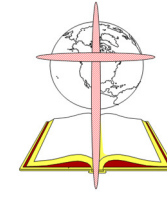
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Blanco Blessing

December 2017

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

FROM

BLANCO BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

RAFAEL

MYRTLE

TODD

Companerismo

Dec 3 3:00 PM will meet at Primera Iglesia Bautista Aransas Pass. A Christmas Program will be performed by members of Primera Iglesia Bautista El Buen Ingleside and a mini concert will be performed by Bonnie Vela.

Feb 4th 3:00 PM at Primera Iglesia Bautista El Buen Ingleside. The Youth (Jovenes) will be performing.

April 8 (Date changed due to Easter) 3:00 PM at Primera Iglesia Bautista Sinton. An Easter program is planned.

Reported by Ron Flores, Secretary
Pastor of Primera Iglesia Bautista, Mathis

The Blanco Blessing is available on line at: blancobaptistassociation.com. Just click on info link and select the month you wish to read. If you wish to receive a digital version of the Blessing, email us at: blancobaptist@sbcglobal.net.
Happy reading!!

Calendar of ACTIVITIES

December

- 1 Annual Blanco Baptist Christmas Party for South Texas Children's Home will be held at First Baptist Beeville, Christian Activities Center instead of at the STCH Campus. Party starts at 7:00PM.
- 2 Come Home for Christmas, 65th Anniversary Celebration of South Texas Children's Home Ministries. Open to the public at 3:00 PM. RSVP by Nov 17th at www.stchm.org/come-home-for-christmas
- 3 Companerismo Maranata will meet at Primera IB Aransas Pass- 605 N. Rife St at 3:00 PM. A Christmas program will be performed by members of PIB Ingleside and a mini-concert by Bonnie Vela.
- 3-10 Week of Prayer for International Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering will be taken.
- 21-26 Christmas- Office Closed.

January

- 1 New Year's Day -Office Closed

Beginning Tuesday, Jan 2, the Blanco Baptist Association office hours will change. The office will be open for three (3) days a week-Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday. The hours will be 9-12 and 1-4. Our phone has a message machine attached and if you leave a message, we will get back to you on the next day in the office.



December

Church Anniversaries:

12 Yrs	Glenn Killam, Pastor of White Creek BC	12/18
8 Yrs	Barbara Styers, Sec, FBC Beeville	12/01
1 Yr	Ronaldo Flores, Pastor, PIB, Mathis	12/04

Birthdays

3	Lisa Fleming	5	Samuel Estrada
5	Ronaldo Flores	10	Larry Martin
11	Mary Barlow	11	Jesse Berthold
13	Alan Albin	16	Clay Parish
19	Jeff Lanningham	20	Jimmy Hisel

Wedding Anniversaries

Pat & Dottie Traxler	12/4/1982- 35 years
Willis & Lee Ann Moore	12/5/1987- 30 years
Marcia & Chris Peterson	12/6/2009
Randy & Sherri Samuels	12/13/1985
Patty & Alan Albin	12/19/1998
Karen & Mike Perkins	12/20/1980
Ben & Polly Buchanan	12/24/1960
Jay & Lisa Fleming	12/28/1985



CHURCH NEWS

Pray for our church families as they rebuild their homes and communities. Pray for our churches as they rebuild and or repair facilities of worship across our association. Pray for strength, guidance, faithfulness to Him as decisions are made. Pray for the many churches who come to assist in the rebuilding process. And most of all, pray for blessings and safety.

Pray for our Pastors and Families who have been affected by Hurricane Harvey.

Pray for our churches and their Search Committees who are seeking for new pastors or other staff members. Churches without pastors are El Calvario, Edroy; La Esperanza, George West; Bethel & First, Ingleside; PIB, Odem; Emannuel, Pawnee; Bethel & Salt Lake, Rockport; PIB, Taft; Good Hope BC Three Rivers.