

First Baptist Church

Volume LII

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

September 18, 2018

No. 37



The Bridge Builder



Empty?

“ Losing to Gain ”

5:30 p.m.

Sundays

In the Media Room

No more delusions. Investigating the current state of the American evangelical church and what our response must be.

Suggested read. The book will be a resource used in our class and can be purchased online.

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH . . .

Dear Church Family,

Sunday night we began our evening class, "Losing to Gain", which unpacks the current state of the American evangelical church and the collapse of its infrastructure. The reality of our actual population in the United States is shocking and heartbreaking. We are not converting people to Christ and attrition is dwindling our base rapidly. Turn around for the local church can happen, but it is rare. Sunday night we will be looking at what it takes to "breakout" from the pattern of decline.

Our sermon series through the Psalms, "Songs for the Soul", brings us to Psalm 85. The writer is crying out for revival and pleading for God's mercy. God's anger burns against sin. God's anger burns at its greatest when there is sin among his people. When his people are confronted with their sin and they refuse to repent and turn to Him, God's wrath is merciless. We cannot have revival without repentance. We cannot have revival without repenting of our own personal sin. Every person has sin, so why is it we refuse to repent and acknowledge that sin. We can look over the scope of our lives, our church, our community, our nation, and beyond seeing the evidence of sin run rampant. Where is the repentance? "Restore us again, O God of our salvation." (v. 4) There is no restoration to be had if we are unwilling to acknowledge our sin and repent. Revival starts with us, one on one with God. Revival starts with repentance, one on one with God. Have you got revival? Have you got repentance?

FBCBC is where the "impossible" is a living reality everyday and we are about **Connecting Christ to people. Invite 3** to come **connect, celebrate** and **contribute** to what God is doing at FBCBC.

For His Glory,

Douglas Shows
Psalm 85:2

WORSHIP DIRECTOR

BECAUSE HE LIVES.....

This hymn always gets us singing and praising. We know we wouldn't even be able to take a single step or sing a note if it wasn't for the fact that God sent His son to make a way for us to get to Him. We also know that if we have received Christ as our Savior and Lord, He lives in us. So each and every morning we can get up and put one foot in front of the other because.....

Life is worth the living, just because He lives!!

Call to Worship - I truly appreciate all of you who fill the choir loft for the call to worship. This coming Sunday we will open with Old Church Choir, so be ready to get up there and make that joyful noise!!

Community-wide Christmas Choir – God has truly blessed us with a wonderful group of singers for our Christmas choir. I love the smiles on each face as we come together for practice. There is much fellowship and laughter, but we still manage to get plenty of singing done. A bonus is that we are getting to meet and make friends with our brothers and sisters from other congregations in the area. If this sounds good to you, please come and join us.

We will continue to practice each Sunday at 4:30 – 5:30 p.m., unless otherwise notified.
Psalm 105:2 Sing to Him, sing praises to Him.

Speak of all His wonders.
For His Glory,
Debbie

UNEXPECTED

By
Christine Cane

This past Saturday, my LSU Tigers were predicted by 7 out of 7 ESPN analysts to lose to Auburn—by game-time, LSU was a 10 point underdog. But as time

expired, LSU kicked a field goal and won the game by one point - unexpected! This Sunday's session of the "Unexpected" Bible study is titled "Expect the Unexpected". In the DVD segment, Christine Caine recounts the story of a man whose "hopeless" life was invaded by a heavenly blessing – a blessing the man could not have imagined. Each session of "Unexpected" is independent from the previous, so you can jump in anytime. If you don't currently attend Sunday morning Bible study, this is a great place to connect. We are meeting in the Media Room next to the Prayer Room.

Suzonne

YOUTH NEWS

So glad to be back in the land of the living this week as over the weekend I was not well. I'd like to thank those of you who stepped up in my time of "rest" to fill in the few holes that existed. First, my wife Crystal, who has stepped up and took care of my immediate needs along with taking on full responsibility with the kids and so much more. She is a true blessing and warrior who God has set aside for His mission of the pastor's wife. It takes a true warrior for such a ministry. Thanks to Adam Snyder and Pat Rickenbrode for teaching Sunday School and keeping roll and Hiram Clark for taking on the closing prayer Sunday morning.

Breakfast of Champions was a huge success, as we had more than 300 points of contact with students in our school system. These contacts may seem minor in the short term, but they have huge implications on the future of our church and the extended Church. Many of you sacrificed sleep, work, and time to make this happen. We literally fed the very last student with the very last pancake. God provided the loaves and fishes right before our very eyes. God is good, and God provides for our needs. This is very evident if we take a step back, look and see that He has always done the providing.

Next Wednesday the 26th, students will all gather around their school campus flag pole for See You At The Pole (S.Y.A.T.P). This is an annual gathering of students throughout the nation, to pray for their schools. Community is certainly welcome to attend, and I encourage you to do just that at the campus of your choice. That evening at 6:30 p.m. our students will join other students from across the community at Common Ground Church in a joint Wednesday night service. We will meet at the FBC about 6:15 p.m. and drive over, however you are certainly welcome to just meet us at Common Ground. We will deliver the student back to FBC around 8:00 p.m. to be picked up or you may of course pick up your student at Common Ground.

Be Intentional,
Aaron

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

This past weekend was so wonderful! Our group got a chance to sing in Cleveland, TX, and at that little church, I came across a young man that touched my heart. His name was David, and he was about 8 years old, and was there with his mom and dad, visiting from another church. During the concert break, they took up a love offering, and when the pastor of the church asked for someone to help take, he immediately, without a moment's thought, threw his hand in the air, and said "ME! I WILL!" After the offering he helped receive the offering, I talked to this otherwise very shy young man, and told him that one day God will call on him to do something... maybe something big, maybe something small, but that regardless, I hope he answers God's call with the same gusto and boldness. Can you imagine if we as adults did that! How different would our church, our community, our state, our country and our world be? Wow!

We have begun a Bible Class on Sunday nights on Applying the Bible to Our Lives. This is a children's class that is geared to help kids understand the importance of the Bible today, in our everyday life, not just something we open on Sundays and Wednesdays. We are using everyday phone apps to help remind the kids of what the Bible says about anger, responsibility, bringing others to Christ and more. We are also looking for helpers to help on Sunday nights in a rotation. Let me know if you can help.

Sundays in Children's church are filled with Mr. Potato head and learning about the Body of Christ. This week, we talked about being the hands and feet of Christ. We each have a very special part in the church, and when we do our part, others are reached for God's Kingdom. This has been such a fun series to teach, and I know the kids have had fun building their own Mr. Potato heads. If you get a chance, stop by the Children's Choir room and take a look, we have them all hanging up!

We have so many wonderful things going on here at FBC and I pray that you find your special place to fit in and be a part of God's amazing work!

That the next generation may know,
Chris

NURSERY WORKERS
September 23, 2018



Thelma Wheelis
Connie Claus

Volunteers always needed. Please call
Thelma Wheelis at 409.293.6276.

LOOK AT THE RECORDS

September 16, 2018

Projected Budget Need:	\$389,267.01
Actual Budget Receipt to Date:	\$335,447.63
Actual Budget Spending to Date:	\$372,405.00

Digital Sign Goal	\$20,000.00
Digital Sign Receipts to date	\$14,889.00

ATTENDANCE:

Sunday School Goal	225
Sunday School	147

WORSHIP SERVICE:

Worship Service Goal	300
Worship	154
Nursery	7
TOTAL WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	161

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Sunday, September 23, 2018

9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Worship Service
 Children's Church
 for 4 yr. old — 2nd grade
 4:30 Christmas Choir Practice
 5:15 Children's Activities
 5:30 Adult Classes
 Youth Activities

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

10:00 Ladies Prayer Meeting
 7:00 Men's Prayer Meeting

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

9:00 Quilting for Buckners
 6:30 Prayer Meeting
 Youth Activities — See You After the Pole
 at Commonground BC
 Children's Activities

DEACONS
WIDOWS/WIDOWERS!!!

Mark your Calendar
 For
 Saturday, October 13

Cake & Ice Cream Party

Widows/Widowers, come meet your deacon for the
 new year at 4:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center.
 More information to follow!

First Baptist Church

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 BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611
 (409)735-3581

Website: www.fbcbc.org

Doug Shows	Pastor
Aaron Little	Minister to Students
Debbie Anderson	Worship Director
Chris Bailey	Director of Children's Ministry

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
8:00 — 4:30
MONDAY — FRIDAY

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