

First Baptist Church

Volume LII

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

September 25, 2018

No. 38



The Bridge Builder



OCTOBER PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

- | | |
|------------|------------------------------------|
| October 7 | Special prayer
All Men |
| October 14 | Breakfast Treats
Welcome Center |
| October 21 | Pictures
Worship Service |
| October 28 | Pastor's Favorite Hymns |

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH . . .

Dear Church Family,
Sunday night we looked at the book from Thom Rainer, *Breakout Churches*. The book highlights the reality of the decline across American churches with an emphasis on the few who actually rebound. From a pool of data covering 50,000 churches, only 13 churches were identified as "breakout" meeting the set criteria. All 13 churches had six primary characteristics which facilitated the rare, but phenomenal success in experiencing sustained growth. Sunday night we will return to the Dickerson' book, *The Great Evangelic Recession*, wrestling with the dire state of churches.

Our sermon series through the Psalms, "Songs for the Soul", brings us to Psalm 100. We live and operate in a world corrupted in such a manner to steal or kill a person's joy. Heartache and tragedy are everywhere. Even if it is not directly effecting you presently, there are those we know, love, and are connected to who suffer. Our news sources continually bombard us with the tragedies both near and far. It is inescapable. It is across the globe and down the street, while soon coming to pay you a personal visit. Where can we find joy and how can we maintain it in such an environment?

The writer of the psalm directs us to look beyond our circumstances. "For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations." (v. 5) Remembering the reality of who God is and how he loves us is the means for experiencing joy while we contend with the reality of life. We are called upon to "make a joyful noise to the Lord." (v. 1) The joyful noise can be song. The joyful noise can be praise. The joyful noise can be tears. The joyful noise can be groans of agony. The joyful noise is not the noise, but the reason for the noise. When we are expressing our trust in God, his goodness and love, we are making a joyful noise. It is our heart crying out to him, rejecting this world, and trusting in his promises. Are you making a joyful noise? Are you trusting God?

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 100: 3

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

This coming Sunday we will be finishing up the Children's Church Series with Mr. Potato head... We are the Body of Christ... one body many parts. The children have learned each week about the hands and feet, the eyes and ears, the mouth, and so on. They have learned that each part has a special place and special job to do. It has been so much fun to go through these lessons with them, and see them begin to understand that even though they are little, they too, have a special place in God's kingdom work. Stop by the Children's Choir room Sunday and see their amazing creations!

Sunday night, we continued on in the App store with the app for "Angry Birds". We learned that God wants us to forgive, NOT get even. If you don't know the back story, the little green pigs stole the eggs from the birds, and the birds want to get even! We learned that revenge is never the right thing to do, and that God says that we should not only forgive, but take the next step, to love our enemies. This is something that can only be truly accomplished with God's help. Next week, we will "Crush" is when we discuss the next app... any ideas what game it might be?

Finally, the Fall Festival is just a few weeks away. I will be sending out sign up sheets to the Sunday School classes to give us an idea of the booth space needed. I would like to encourage your classes to sign up for 2-3 booths if possible. We also need representatives who will be willing to mingle among the crowd and make connections with families through prayer and conversation. We may have a short meeting for those willing to "represent" in the coming weeks, so stay tuned!

With Fall Festival fast approaching, the candy round-up begins this Sunday! We will have containers located in the church office, welcome center, and sanctuary foyer beginning this Sunday. We will also be having a work day on Saturday, October 20th from 9 a.m. to noon, over by the bus garage.

That the next generation may know,
Chris

Thank You

Thank you, First Family, for all your prayers after my recent surgery. Please continue to pray for me as I continue to heal.

Ann Rothering

YOUTH NEWS

It was one crazy week last week around my house. Most of it was spent flat of my back with a nasty virus that one of my kids blessed me with. I am extremely thankful for the text messages checking in on me and my family during our time of healing. Continue to pray for my family as we continue to serve God on this mission field.

This past Sunday night students met in the welcome center to discuss the “Sola Scriptura”, which is Latin for “only scripture.” It is becoming more common to see, yes even Christians, believe in scripture but not use it to live their daily lives. This study, which will go through the month of October, will focus on the question, Is the Bible sufficient for all our needs? Please make sure that your student makes every effort to attend.

See You At The Pole will be this Wednesday morning at each BCISD and OISD school campuses. This is a set aside day for students and faculty alike to join in prayer around the flag pole Community is welcome to attend, and I would love to see FBC represent at each campus. There are few investments more critical than the investments we put into our graded ministries. They are the future of the church, and in many cases are the here and now as well. That evening we will join other local churches at Commonground Community Church for a join Wednesday night service! The service will begin at 6:30 p.m. and end about 8:30 p.m. Please make arrangements to either pick up your student(s) at Commonground, or if you would like to pick them up here at FBC, expect us to arrive back about 9:00 p.m.

Be Intentional

Aaron

WORSHIP DIRECTOR

THIS IS MY STORY, THIS IS MY SONG.....

Another worshipful Sunday at FBCBC. We sang about the blessed assurance we have as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ.

I John 5:13 “These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that you may know that you have eternal life and that you may believe on the name of the Son of God.”

It was a great day to be in the house of the Lord. I am so thankful that we have the freedom to worship together, but we can't let our gathering and worshipping be the end of it. We must go out into our community and spread the love of Christ. We must let them know that we are willing meet them where they are, just as Christ does.

Call to Worship – It seems like it will be a challenge each Sunday to go out into the congregation and gather up singers to help lead the call to worship, but the Lord always provides. We had another full choir loft with excited worshippers. Thank you again for your willingness to lead.

Community-wide Christmas Choir – I can't say enough about what the Lord is doing in our Christmas Choir. It is a joy each week as we gather and practice to share the story of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ with the community. Everyone is working hard and loving it. Thank you all for your continued prayers for this ministry.

We will continue to practice each Sunday at 4:30 – 5:30 p.m., unless otherwise notified.

For His Glory,
Debbie

UNEXPECTED

By
Christine Cane

I have a small stack of T-shirts looped over the back of a chair in my bedroom. I put them there several days ago to allow some of the wrinkles to fall out before folding them and putting them in a drawer. I have walked by them at least 50 times since I put them there – they have now become part of the décor – I don't SEE them anymore. In “Unexpected” Session 2, “Unexpected People”, Christine Cane tells of a dinner Jesus attended at the home of a “blind” Pharisee as recorded in Luke 7. An uninvited, unwelcome, and unexpected person came to the “blind” Pharisee's home during the dinner and unexpected events occurred. The “blind” Pharisee did not SEE this person, but Jesus did. Come join us this next Sunday at 9:15 to hear this powerful and convicting teaching session. You can find the “Unexpected” Bible study in the Media Room next to the Prayer Room.

Suzonne

NURSERY WORKERS
September 30, 2018



Thelma Wheelis
Connie Claus

Volunteers always needed. Please call
Thelma Wheelis at 409.293.6276.

LOOK AT THE RECORDS

September 23, 2018

Projected Budget Need:	\$399,787.74
Actual Budget Receipt to Date:	\$341,581.64
Actual Budget Spending to Date:	\$390,470.77

Digital Sign Goal	\$20,000.00
Digital Sign Receipts to date	\$14,939.00

ATTENDANCE:

Sunday School Goal	225
Sunday School	132

WORSHIP SERVICE:

Worship Service Goal	300
Worship	138
Nursery	5
TOTAL WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	143

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Sunday, September 30, 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, October 2, 2018

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

Wednesday, October 3, 2018

9:00 Quilting for Buckners
 6:30 Prayer Meeting
 Youth Activities
 Children's Activities

Thursday, October 4, 2018

4:30 Golden Harvest Game Night

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 2:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center.
 Watch your mail for more information.

First Baptist Church

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Website: www.fbcbc.org

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

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

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