

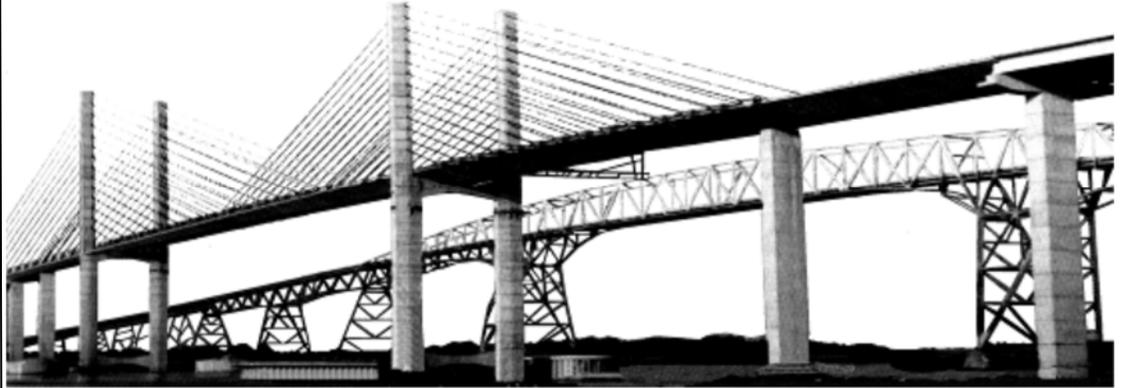
First Baptist Church

Volume LII

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

October 9, 2018

No. 40



The Bridge Builder



OCTOBER PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

October 14 Breakfast Treats
A light breakfast will be served in the Welcome Center Sunday in honor of our pastor in conjunction with pastor appreciation month. Please stop by.

October 21 Pictures
Worship Service

October 28 Pastor's Favorite Hymns

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH . . .

Dear Church Family,

Sunday night we looked at the devastating effect of evangelical churches being top-heavy in age. We have failed to produce disciples seeing less and less young people become followers of Christ. On average 68% percent of the giving within a church comes from people 55 or older. The net effect of this is that churches experience debilitating financial strain as each older person passes away or is restricted by health issues. FBCBC is a microcosm of this reality playing out across America. The church of the future must get back on mission, winning people to Christ and training them to win others, while operating on a more efficient and less dollar dependent ministry model. Join us as we begin to discuss the framework of these models and how we can adapt to be a church for the future.

Psalm 103 is a psalm celebrating the great forgiveness of God. No one has hope if God is unwilling to forgive. No one has hope without the forgiveness offered through Jesus Christ. If God dealt with each one of us on our merits the result would be eternal damnation. "He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities." (v. 10) God extends mercy and grace beyond the bounds of our sins and beyond what we can even imagine. He has stricken his son, Jesus, so as to keep from striking us. Why, O Lord, would you love me (us) at such a depth? Through the sacrifice of Jesus, God removes our sin "as far as the east is from the west" (v. 12) making sure we will never be rightfully condemned for it. Christ died for me. Christ died for you. To experience such forgiveness brings a total heart transformation and an evident life change to the one who receives it. Have you been transformed? Is there evident life change in you?

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 103:1



If any of our new church members are veterans, we are making a veterans poster. Please turn in military pictures with your name on the back to the church office.

Shirley Lynd

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

We have kicked off the month of October with lessons in Children's Church entitled... "*Weird! The Strangest Stories in the Bible*". Sunday we talked about the plagues, focusing on the frogs and gnats. We talked about the heart that God wants us to have, a heart full of compassion and love for others. This coming Sunday's lesson is "Chariot of Fire" any guess what it's about?

We are continuing on with the "App Store" on Sunday nights. We talked about praising God at all times, how it can spread to others. The older kids also talked about 8 things that praise does, primarily helping us keep our focus on God. We have had fun exploring the App Store, and learning how much God is still APPLICABLE in our lives today.

Fall Festival is right around the corner and candy collection is in full swing! Containers are located in the foyer of the Sanctuary, in the Welcome Center, and in the Church office. We will also be giving out gospel CD's to the children and families at the Fall Festival as another form of outreach. Anyone who has ever helped with VBS knows the way the music sticks with you, even when VBS is long over. Our prayer is that these CD's will help families to hear the amazing truth of God's love and that it may plant a seed that will grow to furthering a relationship with our Heavenly Father. The songs on the CD are scriptures put to music, such as Romans 8:28, Romans 5:8, Romans 10:9, James 1:22 and several others. If you would like to have a part in this outreach, please let me know.

That the next generation may know,
Chris



**Who belongs
in this chair?**

YOUTH NEWS

The national average Sunday school report has just recently been released and quite frankly it does not look well. The continuing trend seems to be downward, as the national average Sunday school attendance across Baptist churches went from 105 in 1960 to just 94. The good news is that our numbers are still well above average at 139 but are still nowhere near where we would like it. Overall, from last year, our Sunday school attendance has grown. I am excited to say that most of this growth has come from our younger group, specifically 18 years old and younger. This year, our average of 18 and under Sunday school attendance makes up a whopping 32% of our overall attendance. While at first glance this number does not really jump off the page, but when you consider the national average to be just above 10%, then it looks amazing. Our students 6th-12th grade has almost doubled this year, while below the 6th grade has really made an impact. Chris has done a super job of putting together a program that works. While 6th-12th grade makes up roughly 10%, our children have really jumped up to 22%, this is amazing. If one was to remove the typical summer "slump" numbers from this equation, you can get an even greater overall impact, with that number raising up to near 40%. Congratulations to Chris and her hardworking group of volunteers, as well as all those responsible for growing our 6th-12th grade group. The even better news is that this age range is still trending up! I can not wait to see where God takes these ministries in the future, as I know He is doing an amazing work here at FBC!

Parents, please do not forget to get me your students Hot Hearts deposit on or before Sunday! No deposit will mean no ticket! Tickets will be purchased Monday morning the 15th.

Be intentional,
Aaron

WORSHIP DIRECTOR

Praise and Worship.....

Romans 15:6 "That together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

So grateful for the outpouring of praise and worship we had at FBCBC this past Sunday. There was much excitement and hand-clapping as we opened our worship service with I Saw the Light and I'll Fly Away. As we used some of this time to welcome each other

with hand-shaking and hugs all around, you could feel the Holy Spirit's presence as we worshipped in one accord.

As is our custom, the children, students and adults poured into the choir loft with just seconds to spare and helped lead out on our call to worship.

Community-wide Christmas Choir –We had another record crowd at choir practice and they sound wonderful. It's a joy to have First Baptist Orangefield and Circle Drive Baptist joining us to make up this community-wide choir. I know it's going to be a very special night when we bring our presentation about the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. The musical will be held on Sunday, December 9, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. We will have our annual Taste of Christmas immediately following the musical. 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

"Unexpected Endings Bring New Beginnings"

It wasn't supposed to end like this. He was the hope of thousands. A contingent of faithful friends and students followed him everywhere; multitudes traveled miles to hear him speak. Only a few short days before, he had been welcomed into town by a crowd of joyful men, women, and children who had called him their king; but now, he had been arrested on false charges and condemned to die. And die he did. It was over. But it wasn't over -- it was finished! *"Unexpected" meets in the media room next to the Prayer Room at 9:15 Sunday. Each session is independent, so you can jump in any time.* — Suzonne

NURSERY WORKERS
October 14, 2018



Thelma Wheelis
Connie Claus

Volunteers always needed. Please call
Thelma Wheelis at 409.293.6276.

LOOK AT THE RECORDS

October 7, 2018

Projected Budget Need:	\$420,829.20
Actual Budget Receipt to Date:	\$360,188.20
Actual Budget Spending to Date:	\$408,137.90

Digital Sign Goal	\$20,000.00
Digital Sign Receipts to date	\$15,229.00

ATTENDANCE:

Sunday School Goal	225
Sunday School	132

WORSHIP SERVICE:

Worship Service Goal	300
Worship	150
Nursery	5
TOTAL WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	155

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Sunday, October 14, 2018

9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Worship Service
 Children's Church
 for 4 yr. old — 2nd grade
 4:00 Deacon's Meeting
 4:30 Christmas Choir Practice
 5:15 Children's Activities
 5:30 Adult Classes
 Youth Activities

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

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

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

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

Thursday, October 18, 2018

4:30 Golden Harvest Game Night



WIDOW, WIDOWERS, see you Saturday at 2:00 p.m. in the family life center for an ice cream party and meet your new Deacon! Let the church office know if you need a ride.

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

THE BRIDGE BUILDER (USPS 551-260) is published weekly except Christmas week. First Baptist Church, 200 W. Roundbunch Road, Bridge City, Texas 77611. Periodical Postage paid at Bridge City, Texas 77611. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the above.