

# First Baptist Church

Volume LII

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

November 27, 2018

No. 47



# The Bridge Builder



## DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| December 2  | First Family Worship Sunday  |
| December 9  | Deacon's Meeting at 4:00 p.m.  |
| December 9  | Christmas Night of Worship, 6:00 p.m.<br>Followed by A Taste of Christmas in the<br>Family Life Center |
| December 12 | Church conference at 6:30 p.m.   |
| December 16 | Children's Christmas party & caroling at<br>5:00 p.m.  |
| December 19 | Youth Christmas Party at 6:30 p.m.   |
| December 23 | Lord's Supper  |
| December 24 | Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  |

Church office closed December 21 — January 1

## PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH . . .

Dear Church Family,

The holiday season is upon us, ready or not. It is interesting how we seem to comingle a joyous celebration with a flurry of stress laden activity which prevents us from actually focusing on what we were originally trying to celebrate. We will often find ourselves making the Christmas season about family, gatherings, traditions, and more each bringing a burdensome set of expectations. The way we can sometimes do Christmas is like showing up to someone's birthday party doing all the things which one personally enjoys like eating cake, socializing, being seen, etc. without every acknowledging the honoree. What might need to be different for us this year to make certain we are celebrating Jesus and not just celebrating?

Sunday we will suspend our sermon series in the Psalms. Over the next four weeks we will search through the Scriptures together and seek to answer the question, "Why a savior?" You may be able to answer the question right now, but has that answer permeated the depth of your heart, soul, and life? Knowing we need a savior and that we were given a savior does not mean we have actively applied this truth to ourselves and others. Jesus came to change the world. Jesus changing the world starts with changing us.

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  
Revelation 22:12



**Lottie Moon Goal: \$6,500.00**  
**Receipts to date: \$ 80.00**

## CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

We are nearing closer to the parade date and I am so excited about our entry. This Monday we will gather over at the bus garage to decorate the float. The parade is Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. Adults participating in the parade should arrive at 5 p.m. and children at 5:30 p.m. Please drop off your children on the Texas Ave. side of the Family Life center. We will be making a final potty stop and loading up on the float at 5:50 p.m. sharp. Please have your liability waivers signed, notarized, and returned to me as soon as possible. **Children without notarized waivers will not be able to ride the float...**this is a requirement of the city. I will also need workers to walk and ride in the parade.

We will be showing our children's video the night of the Christmas Night of Worship. The video will be the opener to the program, so be sure to get their early to see it in its entirety. The Christmas program will begin immediately following the video. We invite you to stay after for the annual Taste of Christmas.

A few Sundays ago, we learned to be thankful for family. I helped the kids to understand that we should be thankful not only for our home family, but for another special family.... Our Church Family! This Sunday will be our first Family Worship Service. During this service, on the first Sunday of each month, families will have the opportunity to stay together and worship. There will be no Children's Church on these Sundays, but the nursery will still be available. These services are an opportunity for our children to see the importance of coming together as a church body to worship and hear Christ's message. Children are invited to participate in the service in various ways. I will be talking to the children more about this Sunday morning. This is a wonderful opportunity to begin training the church leaders of tomorrow. Please take time to help these children feel a part of our wonderful family. This will also be a learning experience for them. Please remember that God put the wiggles in the kiddos, so please be patient as they learn to connect with their church family in a new way.

Finally, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. we will be hosting the children's Christmas Party. We will meet in the FLC, load up the bus to go caroling to some of the shut-ins, look at Christmas lights, and then return for a meal activities and a reading of the Christmas story. We will need helpers to prepare the meal, as well as herd kids, and decorate for the party.

If you would be interested in helping with any of these fun events, please contact me at the church or by cell phone!

That the next generation may know,  
Chris

## YOUTH NEWS

Isaiah 35:8 states that "A road will be there and a way; it will be called the Holy Way. The unclean will not travel on it, but it will be for him who walks the path. Even the fool will not go astray." The nation of Israel was designed to have a place where other nations of the world could come to worship the true God. The temple in Jerusalem was to be the center from which the good news of God's salvation would spread to every corner of the world. But those who were supposed to be God's people forsook Him and practiced every kind of sin. Rather than being ambassadors for God, they disgraced His holy name. Rather than attracting the nations of the earth to God, they became stumbling blocks to those who were seeking the true God. The Israelites fell so far from God's original intent that God judged them and sent them into exile. Yet God promised that one day His people would be an avenue by which others could find salvation. It is God's desire that anywhere there is a Christian, God has a way for people to learn of His salvation. Whenever an unbeliever meets a Christian, the unbeliever ought to be face to face with everything he needs to know to follow Christ. Sadly, however, Christians can be like the Israelites of Isaiah's day. We can be so involved in our sin that we are completely disoriented to God, ill-equipped to direct others to Him. If our lives are filled with hypocrisy, we may turn people away from God, rather than helping them come to Him. If our lives are filled with doubt or anger, we will impede others from coming to Christ. Our lives should be a highway of holiness, providing easy access to God for anyone around us who seeks Him.

Be Intentional,  
Aaron

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## Sympathy

Bro. Doug and Amy Shows and the First Family wish to extend their sincere love and sympathy to the following:

Edna Knight and family in the home-going of her husband, John.

Thelma Sterling and family in the home-going of her husband, Glen.

## WORSHIP DIRECTOR GOOD NEWS FROM HOME – A CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

At Christmastime, our hearts and minds long for home. Some journey home to gather with family and friends. Some reflect on the memories of time gone by and joyfully await their eternal home. But for all, Christmas is a time to celebrate the birth of Christ.

First Baptist Orangefield and Circle Drive Baptist Church have joined with us at FBCBC to present this musical which combines festive original songs and beloved Christmas carols. It's a downhome family Christmas celebration.

The choir will lead the congregation in worship with some of our favorite Christmas carols. We also have a few local singers who will provide us with some specials which tell of Christ's birth and some that will remind us of the rest of the story, of what He did on the cross to save us and give us eternal life with Him.

Our children will have a special video presentation at the beginning of the evening. I hope you are planning to come to the musical on Sunday, December 9, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. and bring someone with you.

TASTE OF CHRISTMAS – Remember that we will enjoy our annual Taste of Christmas after the musical.

For His Glory,  
Debbie

## CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE

A committee has been formed to support revising the church constitution and we want your input. Forms can be obtained in the church office, welcome center or Sunday School classes so you can provide your input. Complete the form and return to the church office or to a committee member on or before January 27, 2019.

Brandon Bailey  
Juana Matthews  
Greg Quist

Dewey Stuart  
Brenda Woodall

**NURSERY WORKERS**  
**December 2, 2018**



**Thelma Wheelis**  
**Connie Claus**

**Volunteers always needed. Please call**  
**Thelma Wheelis at 409.293.6276.**

**LOOK AT THE RECORDS**

**November 25 2018**

Projected Budget Need:	\$484,447.31
Weekly Receipts:	\$ 6,901.32
Actual Budget Receipt to Date:	\$415,252.93
Actual Budget Spending to Date:	\$462,092.28

<b>Digital Sign Goal</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>
<b>Digital Sign Receipts to date</b>	<b><u>\$20,709.00</u></b>

**ATTENDANCE:**

<b>Sunday School Goal</b>	<b>225</b>
Sunday School	142

**WORSHIP SERVICE:**

<b>Worship Service Goal</b>	<b>300</b>
Worship	135
Nursery	9
<b>TOTAL WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>144</b>

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE**

**Sunday, December 2, 2018**

- 9:15 Sunday School
- 10:30 Worship Service  
 Children's Church  
 for 4 yr. old — 2nd grade
- 4:30 Christmas Choir Practice
- 5:30 First Family Break  
 NO PM Activities

**Tuesday, December 4, 2018**

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

**Wednesday, December 5, 2018**

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

**Thursday, December 6, 2018**

- 4:30** Golden Harvest Game Night

**Saturday, December 8, 2018**

- 6:00** Bridge City Christmas Parade

**First Baptist Church**

200 W. ROUND BUNCH RD.  
 BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611  
 (409)735-3581

**Website: [www.fbcbc.org](http://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**  
**7:30 — 5:30**  
**MONDAY — THURSDAY**

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