

# First Baptist Church

Volume LII

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

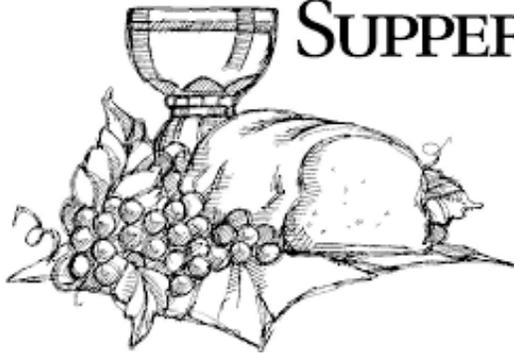
December 18, 2018

No. 50



# The Bridge Builder

## THE LORD'S SUPPER



Sunday  
December 23rd

During the  
Morning Worship

## Candlelight Service



Sunday  
December 24th

5:30 P.M.

## PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH . . .

Dear Church Family,  
FBCBC was brightly displayed to the community in the Bridge City Christmas Parade. We had a grand float with two scenes separated by a wall. The first half of the float depicted a grandmother reading the Christmas Story to her daughter and grandchildren around a cozy fireplace. The second scene, on the other side of the wall was the actual manger scene and birth of Christ being played out. The innovative float connected the reality of Christmas and the birth of Christ to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We had dozens of people help make this happen by donating time, money, and effort. Thank you to all who helped us connect others to Christ.

Sunday we will continue our look at the question, "Why a Savior?" by looking at John 9:35-41. A man has been healed of his blindness by Jesus on the Sabbath. The Pharisees and other religious leaders are incensed that the healing took place on the Sabbath. They claim the blind man was too much of a sinner to be healed and that Jesus is a sinner for healing on the Sabbath. Therefore, from their perspective God could not be involved in any of this event. The religious leaders had decided they knew what God could and could not do and how God would do it.

The one who was blind believed in Jesus experiencing not only the physical healing but also the fullness of salvation by trusting in Jesus. The former blind man declared, "Lord, I believe" trusting in Jesus' declaration of who he was as the Son of Man, a savior come to the people. Jesus not only came to bring clarity for the blind, physically and spiritually, but to reveal to the ones who thought they could see, knew all about God, that they were truly blind and to be pitied even more. A person who thinks he knows can never learn. A person who thinks he sees will never realize he is blind. Are you blind enough to see Jesus?

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  
John 9:39

## CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

The parade is over, the Christmas party is through... the year is winding down sweetly toward Christmas and the New Year.

Sunday night we had received a blessing when we went caroling to Mary Ann Cruze, Norris Brandon, and Bill & Moyse Dorsey. 17 kids and 10 adults went on the bus (and believe me it was full) and spread a little Christmas Cheer. The children really enjoyed their time with these wonderful saints. Thank you to each and every person that came along to help, whether making pancakes or driving the bus!

We had a wonderful time in the parade on Saturday, and even though we came in 4<sup>th</sup> I believe that our float conveyed the true meaning of Christmas and the vision of our church. Thank you for all those who helped build and create the float I imagined, and thank you to all the kids and their families that helped make our float so beautiful!

Finally, the video of the children is now available in the office. If you would like a copy, please see me during the week, or on Sunday! This was such an amazing look into the way children see Christmas, and was a wonderful opportunity to share the gospel with others. Our video has been seen almost 4,000 times, and has been shared by people as far away as Colorado and Montana. The responses that people have posted are wonderful... some funny, some touching. Thank you all for helping make this so special, and letting your children have a part in this memorable video. I'm looking forward to what God has for us in the coming year!

That the next generation may know,  
Chris

**LOTTIE MOON:**  
Supporting  
International  
Missions



Support International Missions  
Through Southern Baptists' Annual  
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

<b>Lottie</b>		<b>Moon</b>
<b>Goal:</b>	<b>\$6,500.00</b>	
<b>Receipts to date:</b>		<b>\$3,188.36</b>

## YOUTH NEWS

This past Sunday was one of the most difficult Sundays I and my Family have ever faced. As many of you already know, I have resigned as Minister to Students here at FBC effective December 30th and have accepted a call to Southside Baptist Church in Port Neches as Pastor. While we do not feel as if we are losing a family, we do feel as if we are simply adding to our already loving church family. A big thank you to all of you and the kind words and encouragement over the last week and of course over the past seven years! I know God will bring you someone who is well and above better than myself, as He continues to bless FBC!

Please also be aware that Winter Retreat is still very much in the works! Students who have yet to bring their liability release form still need to do very quickly. Without this form signed and filled out they will not be able to go. Please see our church website at [www.fbcbc.org](http://www.fbcbc.org) – click on the student ministry tab, and you will find a link to student forms. [<http://www.fbcbc.org/ministries/students>] Click the student forms link and it will guide you to the liability waver form, packing list, and schedule for winter retreat. Students who have signed up to go must be at church on the 28<sup>th</sup> no later than 9:00 A.M. in the Family Life Center. Breakfast will not be provided, so make sure and eat breakfast before you arrive that morning. We will return home right around 3:00 P.M. on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

As always and for the final time,

Be Intentional,  
Aaron

## RECEPTION HONORING LITTLE'S

First Baptist Church, Bridge City is hosting a reception on Sunday, December 30 at 3:00 p.m. for Aaron and Crystal Little (Jonah and Callie). Aaron was “called” and has accepted the pastoral position at Southside Baptist Church in Port Neches. Please join us in the FLC for cake and words of encouragement, as they continue on their journey of service.

Cards are welcomed. Love gifts can be given in envelopes or on the money tree.

## WORSHIP DIRECTOR A GREAT DAY IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD.....

We had a wonderful worship service this past Sunday at FBCBC. We celebrated the season with the singing of some of our favorite Christmas songs. Thank you to all the children and adults who joined us in the choir loft to help lead out. We had some new faces up there and you are truly appreciated.

## BRIDGE CITY CHRISTMAS PARADE.....

It was an honor to be involved in our float this year in the Christmas parade. The theme of the parade was “One Starry Night” and our float showed two families joined together because of that one star which led the way to the stable where baby Jesus was born so many years ago. One family was a modern-day grandmother with her daughter and grandchildren, reading the Christmas story. The other family was Mary and Joseph and the baby Jesus, along with some angels and shepherds.

It was a wonderful night for the parade and I believe hearts were touched.

## CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE-LIGHT SERVICE

Please make plans to attend our Christmas Eve service at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, December 24, 2018.

## IT BEGAN IN A MANGER.....

Curious, this royal throne room. No tapestries covering the windows. No velvet garments on the courtesans. And, instead of a golden scepter, the king holds a crudely whittled olive-wood rattle. Curious, the sounds in the court. Cows munching, hooves crunching, a mother humming, a babe nursing. It could have begun anywhere, the story of the king. But, curiously it began in a manger. Step into the doorway, peek through the window.

He is here! .....Max Lucado  
For His Glory,  
Debbie

## SETBA EVANGELISM RALLY

Wednesday, January 9, 2019  
6:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church, Bridge City

Dr. Herb Reavis, Preaching  
The Whisnants, Music

Youth Rally  
6:30 p.m.  
Robert Nixon & Frank Aragon

Special Children's Ministry Activities

**NURSERY WORKERS**  
**December 23, 2018**



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

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

**LOOK AT THE RECORDS**

**December 16, 2018**

Projected Budget Need:	\$515,515.77
Weekly Receipts:	\$ 8,064.18
Actual Budget Receipt to Date:	\$440,442.41
Actual Budget Spending to Date:	\$489,586.93

<b>Digital Sign Goal</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>
<b>Digital Sign Receipts to date</b>	<b><u>\$25,059.00</u></b>

**ATTENDANCE:**

<b>Sunday School Goal</b>	<b>225</b>
Sunday School	126

**WORSHIP SERVICE:**

<b>Worship Service Goal</b>	<b>300</b>
Worship	141
Nursery	6
<b>TOTAL WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>147</b>

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE**

**Sunday, December 23, 2018**

9:15 Sunday School  
 10:30 Worship Service  
 Lord's Supper  
 Children's Church  
 for 4 yr. old — 2nd grade

**Monday, December 24, 2018**

5:30 Candlelight Service

**Tuesday, December 25, 2018**

Merry Christmas!

**Wednesday, December 26, 2018**

9:00 Quilting for Buckners  
 6:30 No PM Activities

**STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT**

First Baptist Church is blessed to have a group of hardworking professionals in our church staff who are dedicated to their calling and are always available to assist us with our needs. It has been our tradition at Christmas to present each of them a gift showing our appreciation. You have the opportunity to participate in this gift. This donation will be collected during Sunday school on Sunday, December 23rd. Contributions can also be brought to the church office this week. Mark "Church Staff" on the envelope.

**Donnie Stanton**  
**Deacon Chairman**

**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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