

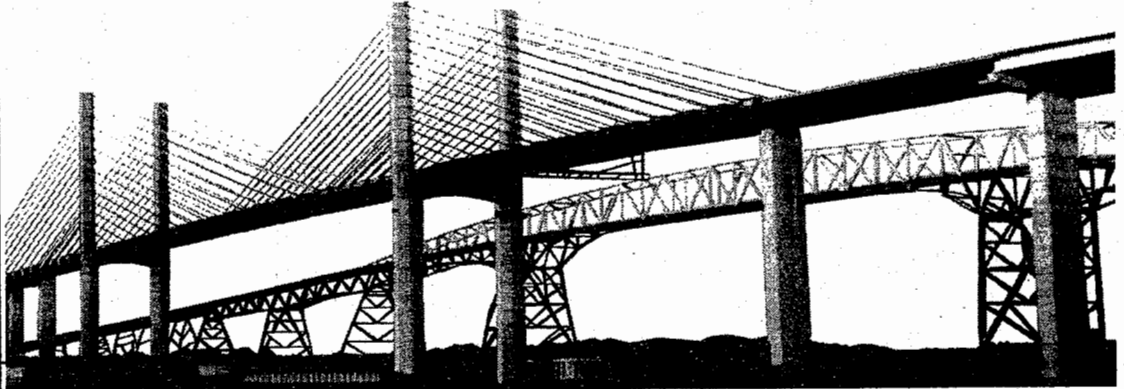
First Baptist Church

Volume LVI

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

November 28, 2022

No. 49



**First Baptist Church
Kiddos to go Caroling**
(using the church bus)

Sunday, Dec. 11 at 5:00-7:00 p.m.

(Please meet in the gym.)
Parents welcome.



Dress "Christmassy"
We will return to the church for a snack
and games if time allows.
Please call or text Lynn Richard 409-920-5508
with questions.



The Bridge Builder

BK'S KORNER

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. I hope that you reflected on things that you are truly thankful for. One of the things I am thankful for is my church family. We have, in my opinion, entered into that time in a church's life where if you miss a Sunday then you miss something. It was a great day worshipping together yesterday. I cannot put my finger on anything specific, but The Spirit of God was present and He moved among us.

I shared with all of you yesterday that one of the things I thought was "missing" from our church was a very real and evident "power of God." I think that there is nothing that we can actually do to manufacture that. Only God can do that. We are completely at His mercy. Therefore, we must pray and ask God to send His power through His Holy Spirit who is in us. While praying we must be willing to surrender ourselves to the purpose of the Holy Spirit, which is to testify of Christ. If that is the purpose of the Spirit, it only makes sense that if we want the Spirit's power then we better get on board with His purpose.

You will want to be sure to read your Bridge Builder and Worship Bulletin each week during December so that you can keep up with all the happenings. We will do our best to make sure you know what is happening. Be certain to keep your eyes and heart focused on Jesus during this Christmas Season. Christmas is the time that God became Man so that He might redeem mankind from his sins. Be sure to celebrate that.

Please be praying for our church during the New Year. I anticipate that God is going to do a work. We will move closer to Him. We will become more committed to following His leading. We will become more aware of His purposes here in our community and church. We will be more active in fulfilling our role in God's plan.

Blessings and love to you all.

Merry Christmas.

BK >>

YOUTH MINISTER

The Reason for the Season

Thanksgiving day has come and gone. Many gathered together with friends and family to eat copious amounts of food. Now that Thanksgiving day is gone it is "acceptable," according to some, to begin decorating for Christmas. Whatever your take on decorating for Christmas, consider Christmas for a moment. What is it? Why is it important? What is the reason for the season?

Since you are reading the Bridge Builder, you know that Christmas day is the day we celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. We celebrate this day because Jesus, the Eternal Son of God, took upon Himself humanity, and came to give His life as a ransom for many. Knowing what Christmas is and why it is important gives us the reason for the season. The phrase many use and love, "Jesus is the reason for the season." It rolls off the tongue quite easily. However, do we truly believe it?

This coming Christmas falls on a Sunday. There will be churches that do not hold service on Christmas day, and there will be individuals and families that skip service on Christmas day. This is a bewildering concept. Why would a church not hold service on Christmas day? Why would believers not desire to gather together to celebrate the Incarnation of our Lord? I suspect that many like to say that Jesus is the reason for the season, yet do not believe it.

Christmas, for our nation, is a day to be with family, give gifts, and have a little fun. These things are not evil or bad in themselves. Yet, these things are not the point of Christmas. We, the Church, celebrate the incarnation of the Lord Jesus. So, as Christmas approaches, gather with your family, give gifts, have a little fun, and eat some home cooked meals. But above all, celebrate Christ. Do not let your Christmas be Christless. Wherever you find yourself on Christmas day, celebrate Christ. Talk about Jesus, read about Jesus, sing about Jesus, gather with the people of Jesus. For, Jesus is the reason for the season.



OUR GOAL: \$6,000.00
RECEIPTS TO DATE: \$ 100.00

MUSIC DIRECTOR

SLOW DOWN AND KEEP CALM, GOD IS IN CONTROL . . .

I hope ya'll had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday, however you spent it. I know there were many who had large family gatherings. I know there were those who celebrated with friends. There were some who stayed home and others who traveled.

We traveled to Broken Bow, Oklahoma to meet family members for our holiday. We stayed in a beautiful, rustic cabin at the foot of the Ouichita Mountains. The many colors of fall surrounded us, but it rained pretty much the entire weekend, so I could not get a picture that showed these vibrant colors that were all around us. You just have to take my word for it.

Shelia, my sister, Sharon, my niece and I were pretty much content to eat, nap and visit repeatedly all weekend so we were able to hear Shelia's testimony that she had given recently at a regeneration workshop she attended at her church. I am sharing a small part of it.

"Slow down and keep calm." God doesn't want me running around stressed and obsessed about what I am doing, even when I am doing it for Him. He wants me to trust Him and obey Him and allow His spirit to work in me and thru me. Isaiah 26:3 "You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in You, all whose thoughts are fixed on You." Perfect peace, calm, letting God work and be in control. A huge reminder of the perfect plan that he put into place not only to give us eternal life but to give abundant life here. Jesus says in John 10:10 "The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life." Being reminded of that – walking through that again will give you a renewed sense of who he is and who you are in Him.

So, we are back to our daily routines this Monday morning. As we head into the Christmas season, now more than ever we need to remember God's promise to keep us in perfect peace if we just trust in him for everything. One minute at a time. One task at a time. He is in control and has a plan.

I am counting on it.

(MUSIC DIRECTOR continued) VINTAGE TASTE OF CHRISTMAS

I hope you have our Taste of Christmas on your calendar for Sunday evening, December 18, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. Sunday School departments make plans for your table decorations and food you will be serving. Guest are invited to dress in "vintage style" if you would like.



Be sure to bring someone with you. Brings the kids out. We have gifts for them as well as a couple of special guests.

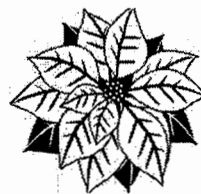
For His glory,
Debbie

Thanking God For You

Thanking God, this Thanksgiving, for a generous, loving church that continues to support and help our community through First Saturday give aways. We strive to seek God's will as to what is needed for the community each month. There is still time to collect gently used toys, games, etc. for the December 3rd Childrens' Christmas Give-away. Please bring toys to the church office by December 1st.

Let us all give thanks to God for the care and provisions that he showers upon us, His Church.

Happy Thanksgiving
Ladies Prayer Group



GOLDEN HARVEST MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, December 13
11:00 a.m.

Christmas music by the Meaux's
Catered meal.

LOOK AT THE RECORDS

November 27, 2022

Projected Budget Need:	509,784.48
Weekly Receipts:	5,838.50
Actual Budget Receipt to Date:	438,110.76
Actual Budget Spending to Date:	449,667.28

ATTENDANCE:

Sunday School	111
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WORSHIP SERVICE:

Worship	150
Nursery	4
TOTAL WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	154

PRAYER REQUEST OR UPDATES



If you would like special prayer scan the QR code and enter the information. If you have an addition or deletion to the prayer list it can also be made by scanning the QR Code

DEACON OF THE WEEK

December 4 — 10, 2022

Philip Clark Deacon
Ronald Ellis Visiting Partner

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Sunday, December 4, 2022

9:15	Bible Study for all Ages
10:30	Morning Worship
4:00	Choir Practice

Monday, December 5, 2022

10:00	Ladies Prayer Meeting
5:30	Hope Home School Christmas Concert

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

6:30	Men's Prayer Meeting
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Wednesday, December 7, 2022

6:30	Prayer Meeting
	Youth Bible Study
	Preteen Bible Study
	Children's Choir

*Our Church
History*

The Church History room is located near the library and is open for viewing Sunday mornings before Sunday School. You can also contact Brenda Woodall at 409-670-3361 if you would like to see it during the week. You can still bring memorial folders or wedding pictures if you were married at FBCBC.

First Baptist Church

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BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611
(409)735-3581
Website: www.fbcbc.org

Keith Royal Pastor
Cody Hamilton Youth Minister
Debbie Anderson Worship Director

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
7:30 — 5:30
MONDAY — THURSDAY

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