

# First Baptist Church

Volume XLX

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

December 13, 2016

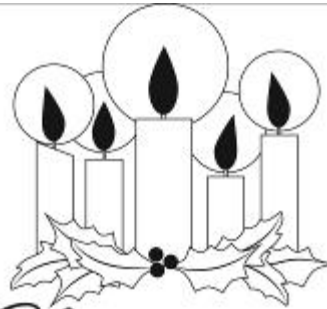
No. 50

# The Bridge Builder



Saturday

December 24, 2016  
6:00 p.m.



Sunday

*Christmas*  
DAY  
December 25, 2016  
10:00 a.m.

## PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH . . .

Dear Church Family,

I had the privilege Sunday night to join the Children's Christmas event to share the reason for Jesus' birth and the gift that Jesus is for each of us. Seventeen children had just returned from caroling at the homes of some of our members and were ready to eat reindeer pancakes. However, they politely and boldly answered questions with biblical insight. The knowledge that the kids shared in answering my questions was humbling. It is a joy to see truth being shared and transferred to the next generation.

Sunday we continue our sermon series, "Here Comes the King", by exploring Luke 2:8-21. The shepherds are outside of Bethlehem watching over the sheep in the thick darkness when an explosion of light and sound engulf them. The light is blinding them and forcing them to cover their faces. The pronouncement rings out reverberating deep in their soul and shaking the ground. The chorus of angels and the blast of trumpets shock them into submission. Once the angels had left and the horror of the moment subsided the message takes root. They must go, they cannot delay in seeing this "born" King, a Savior, the Christ. Upon arriving, they marvel at this child which appears so ordinary, but brings such heavenly promise. When they depart, a spontaneous outburst of praise and singing pours forth. Tonight everything has changed. Tonight they can never be the same.

We can find ourselves experience the full veracity of Christmas, but never being changed. The hurried and demanding schedule of activities and obligations can put us in a robotic state, doing everything and feeling nothing. Jesus is not like others kings. Those kings can be exciting to meet, but do not change everything or you. Jesus has an eternal effect when you interact with Him. How many Christmas seasons have you gone through? Have you interacted with Jesus? Is there a lingering effect?

Sunday night, December 18 at 6:00 pm, I want to invite you to join me at Oakwood Baptist (corner of Hwy 62 and Skeeter Dr.) in Mauriceville. We are taking FBCBC on the road to be an encouragement to a struggling local church. We will be leading the music and I will be preaching a special message. Your attendance will have an enormous impact in reminding the church, we are all working for the same King and striving to grow His Kingdom together. The "impossible" is a living reality for those who trust in Jesus.

Your Pastor,  
Douglas Shows  
Psalm 35:28

## YOUTH NEWS . . .

Parents,

Our Winter Retreat sign up deadline is quickly approaching. Please make sure and remind your student(s) to sign up soon! The cost for the event will be \$ 30.00 and we can accept credit cards. The Deadline to sign up and pay is December 21st! For a packing list and schedule of events please see our church website [www.fbcbc.org](http://www.fbcbc.org) and click on the student ministry tab! These will be made available in the youth room now until the 28th!

Our Christmas party will be held on the 21st from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Please make note that we will have a gift exchange and everyone will need to bring one gift valued at \$10.00 or less. Girls will need to bring sweet snacks while boys will bring salty snacks.

Be Intentional,  
Aaron

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
BRIDGE CITY

On The Road  
At  
Oakwood Baptist Church  
Mauriceville

December 18  
6:00 p.m.

## CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR . . .

We had a great time Sunday at our Children's Christmas Party! We had 17 children and 8 adults load up on the bus and head out to 6 different homes! I can honestly say I don't know who enjoyed it more... those we sang to, or those who were singing! It was such a blessing to go visit, and share a little bit of Christmas Cheer! After our caroling adventure, we returned to the church and Bro. Doug shared the Christmas Story with the kiddos and then we enjoyed reindeer pancakes and hot chocolate! We had so much fun! Thank you to all those who rode with us, to Bro. Doug, and to those who stayed behind to prepare the meal.... It was wonderful!

Looking forward to the coming year, we will be having a separate class for the fifth graders on Sunday mornings and Sunday evenings. By giving them their own class, it will help them with the transition from the Children's Ministry to the Youth. We will be doing some fun activities, but also learning about standing up for your faith, heroes of the faith, and about using and studying our Bibles. I am really excited about this class and am hoping to see this age group grow! Please spread the word, and invite all the 5<sup>th</sup> graders you know! I will be teaching the class on Sunday mornings, and Branden and I will teach it on Sunday nights. Please be in prayer for this class.

That the next generation may know,  
Chris

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## SETBA (Southeast Texas Baptist Area) EVANGELISM RALLY

Wednesday, January 11, 2017  
6:30 p.m.  
at  
First Baptist Church  
Bridge City

Dr. Herb Reavis — Preaching  
The Whisnants—Singing

## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

December 18	No PM Services
December 23 — January 3	Church Office Closed
December 24	Christmas Eve Service 6 pm
December 25	10:00 am Worship Only (No Sunday School or Evening services, enjoy time with your family!)
January 1	9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship No pm Services

## 2016 CONTRIBUTIONS

All contributions you wish to have posted to 2016 must be turned in to the church office on or before December 31.

## Sunday School News

Our attendance Sunday was 145. Very good – glad you were here! Among those were at least three adult visitors. This is good. We need more. Obviously this leads to more members, so invite your friends and let's see our numbers grow.

A special, special thanks to Doris Connor, Janice Overman, and Patsy Dowden for all the hours and days they spent getting the beautiful Christmas decorations ready to put up – they are amazing. (the decorations and the ladies!) And thanks to all the others who came and helped put the decorations up. Our sanctuary looks great!

See you Sunday,  
Troy

**NURSERY WORKERS    December 18, 2016**

**Sunday School             Brittany Ernst**  
**Worship Service        Thelma Wheelis**

**Volunteers always needed. Please call  
 Brittany Ernst at 409.313.1215.**

<b>LOOK AT THE RECORD</b>	
<b>December 11, 2016</b>	
Average Weekly Needs	\$10,163.14
Sunday Receipts	\$ 9,441.70
Weekly Expenses	\$ 4,241.64
Y-T-D Avg. Weekly Receipts	\$ 9,692.68
<b>ATTENDANCE:</b>	
Sunday School	145
<b>WORSHIP SERVICE:</b>	
Celebration Service of Worship	132
Nursery	6
TOTAL AM WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	138

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE**

**Sunday, December 18, 2016**

9:15    Sunday School  
 10:30   Celebration Worship Service  
           Children's Church  
           for 4 yr. old — 2nd grade  
 5:30    No PM Activities

**Tuesday, December 20, 2016**

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

**Wednesday, December 21, 2016**

6:30    Mid-Week Worship Service  
           Children's Activities  
           Student Worship  
 7:30    Instrumental Rehearsal

**Saturday, December 24**

6:00    Candlelight Lord's Supper

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  
 DECEMBER 23 — JANUARY 2

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thank You</b></p> <p><b>Thank you First Family for your participation in the Angel Tree this year. Your willingness to share helped provide Christmas to over 435 children. Sixty bicycles were also given to children. Again thank you for your generosity.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Shirley Lynd</b></p>
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**First Baptist Church**

200 W. ROUNDBUNCH RD.  
 BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611  
 (409)735-3581  
 Website: [www.fbcbc.org](http://www.fbcbc.org)

Doug Shows             Pastor  
 Aaron Little           Minister to Students  
 John Woods            Minister to Senior Adults  
 Christine Bailey      Director of Children's Ministry  
 Suzonne Vann         Interim Worship Director

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

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