

# First Baptist Church

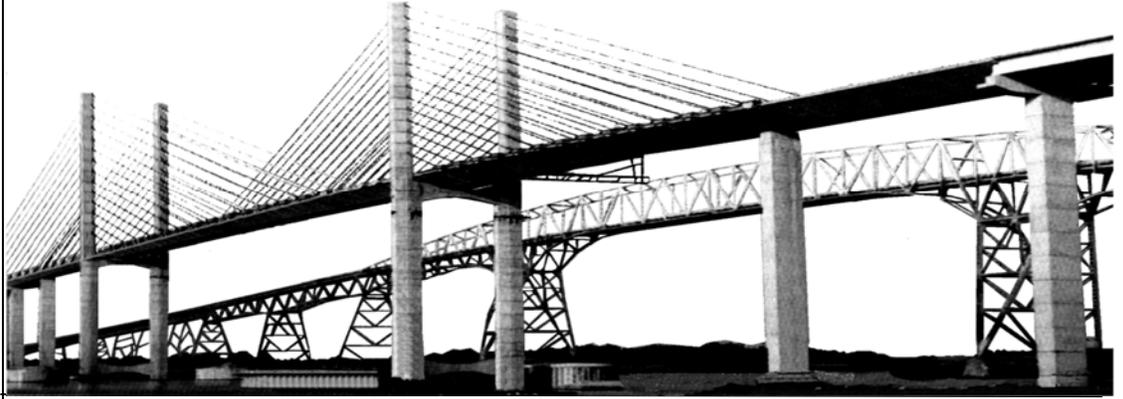
Volume LI

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

January 17, 2017

No. 03

# The Bridge Builder



## SOUTHEAST TEXAS RALLY FOR LIFE

*(Sponsored By: Right to Life of Southeast Texas)*

**Sunday, January 22, 2017  
2:00 P.M.**

**St. Anne Catholic Church; Beaumont**  
(Calder @ 11<sup>th</sup> Street)

*Please join us for our 'Sanctity of Life' Celebration, commemorating the  
44<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court Decision to legalize abortion - on this  
exact date...*

**Keynote Speaker: Dr. Joe Pojman; PhD**  
Executive Director – Alliance for Life; Austin, Tx.

**Music Provided By: Beaumont Diocesan Youth Band**

For more information please call: Darrell Segura at 409-720-9999 -or- Karen & Vic Soares @ 409-866-8652

### **Baby Bottles for Life Campaign 2017**

If you haven't done so, please pick up a baby bottle near the sanctuary exits. Fill the bottle with spare change, bills, or checks and return to the baskets by February 12. Money raised in our Baby Bottle Campaign will support the life changing work of meeting the physical and spiritual needs of young men and women who find themselves facing an unplanned pregnancy. May God bless you for your act of mercy and generosity.

**SOUTHEAST TEXAS RALLY FOR LIFE**

## PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH . . .

Dear Church Family,

The opportunity to sit amongst other pastors and learn together in my previous doctoral class was such an enriching blessing for me. I had the joy of not only preaching in this class, but the joy of listening and receiving God's Word from some of God's gifted servants. The faithfulness of this church and its leadership allowed me to depart without concern. I am thankful to hear that Bill Collier and the SET-BA Rally with Dr. Herb Reavis and the Whisnants was a blessing to all. As much as I enjoyed my learning opportunity, I was overjoyed and thrilled this Sunday to be back with the people and church I love dearly.

Sunday we continue our new series, "Faith that Moves Mountains", by looking at Luke 17:11-19. The story of the ten lepers is one of my favorite stories in scripture. It highlights a unique aspect of faith and is such a vivid real life parable happening before the people. Jesus is making his way diligently to Jerusalem, to the cross, when he is interrupted by ten lepers outside a small village. The lepers stand at a distance begging for help in dealing with their devastating disease. Forbidden by the Levitical law to worship and required to be quarantined these men are desperate. Jesus responds to their cries in the most unusual way. He does not offer to touch and heal them nor does Jesus speak a word of healing to them. He simply tells them to go see the priest. Being lepers they are unable to go into town, they cannot venture into the Temple, nor come within a certain distance of people. They boldly obeyed and proceeded to town. While walking to town they experienced a healing. Ten people healed, but one turns back.

One man turns back and praises God and celebrates his healing by worshipping at Christ's feet. One was a man who most would reject even without leprosy. One was willing to recognize the fullness of who Christ is and be humbly subservient to this truth. The others have experienced healing, but Jesus differentiates this one. Jesus declares, "Your faith has made you well." Is there a difference between being healed and being well? Have you experienced God's blessings without worshipping God and praising Him for it?

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Our Sunday Night Classes are off to a great start. It's not too late to jump in and take advantage of these opportunities to grow in Christ. It is a new year, but the same God who does the "impossible" at FBCBC every day.

Your Pastor,  
Douglas Shows  
Psalm 121:1-2

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## CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

We are continuing on with the story of Joseph during Children's Church. This week we learned about how God had a special job for Joseph! We have had so much fun learning about Joseph and God's special plan for him, and that God has a special plan for us as well!

We are learning two songs right now on Wednesdays that go right along with our lesson on Joseph, as well as the year of learning about God's promises! The first song is one most of you are familiar with, "I Am a Promise", but the second, you may not have heard. The name of the song is "He Had a Plan For Me" and is a beautiful song that reminds us that God knows everything about us, and knew us before we were born! These songs are both so encouraging and beautiful, we just can't wait to share them with you!

Finally, I am so excited to share with you about a new upcoming class that will be starting on Sunday night February 5<sup>th</sup>! The class will be for current 5<sup>th</sup> graders, and will be an exciting adventure learning about the Bible and studying about Heroes of the Faith. This class will help 5<sup>th</sup> graders learn to stand up for their faith, teach them how to share Christ with others, and will be a wonderful transition for those moving from the Children's Department up to the Youth.

Please be in prayer for this upcoming class, as well as the teachers and workers that will be leading and sharing with the children.

That the next generation may know,  
Chris

## Sunday Evening Classes Spring 2017

The following studies continue on Sunday evenings at  
5:30 p.m.

**The Book of 1 John / Of Mice and Men**  
Teacher: Aaron Little

**I Will: Nine Traits of the Outwardly Focused  
Christian** – Thom Rainer  
Teacher: Troy Woodall

**A Biblical Marriage in a Broken World** – Danny  
Akin  
Teacher: Douglas and Amy Shows

### Sunday School News

Good things are happening!  
The historical decorations in the Adult Sunday  
School wing look good.

The number of children participating in chil-  
dren's activities is encouraging.

Janice Clark is filling in for Deanna Crull who is  
recuperating from back surgery. Thanks,  
Janice, and we hope to see Deanna back soon.  
Come be a part of Sunday School.

Attendance Sunday was 134.  
See you Sunday,  
Troy

### Thank You

*To the Deacons of FBC,*

*Thank you so much for the lovely goodie bag at  
Christmas! So many useful as well as delicious  
treats! The visit with Philip and Sandra Clark was  
so enjoyable, they are such special people.*

*Thank you Deacons for all you do for our church.  
You, individually, contribute so much to our church  
family. Thank you.*

*May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very  
special, wonderful, and Happy New Year!*

*Love, Doris Conner.*

*Thank you for your responsibilities and duties in our  
church. Thanks much for the neat and useful  
"goody" bag at Christmas. I really enjoyed Ron El-  
lis' visit and delivery. God bless you all.*

*Lillie Henderson*

### YOUTH NEWS . . .

I would like to take a moment and invite you to be an active participant in our Sunday night classes! Currently we are offering three classes that are considered open to all who choose to attend. The class that I have been blessed with the opportunity to teach over the next six weeks takes a in depth look through the book of 1 John. While some see the book of 1 John as a short letter, it in fact is full of rich theological treasures that we can use effectively in the measurement of our Christian walk. This past week we discussed most of the first chapter, focusing on Christ as the light and as His children we are to walk in that light. The scale simply asked the question, are you fooling yourself by fooling others? John Calvin writes as it pertains to cleaning a home "We shove our junk in the closet, stuff it under the bed, etc. where it can't be seen. Out of sight it doesn't exist to our guest. That is not a horrible way to clean a house, but it a terrible way to deal with the spiritual junk in our lives." Often, we find ourselves waking up on church days and "cleaning up" just long enough to look put together, but in reality, we all know, as John eludes to in 1 John 1:8, that by simply sweeping our spiritual junk under the rug, will never clean up the mess. For us to act as if we are the standard, only points to ourselves and our own abilities. The only way to truly clean our spiritual home, is to get rid of the junk. Straight to the point John writes in 1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Be a people of confession and honesty, for in only that can we truly begin to walk in the light.

Be Intentional.  
Aaron



<b>OUR GOAL:</b>	<b>\$5,200.00</b>
<b>RECEIVED:</b>	<b>\$3,814.00</b>

