

First Baptist Church

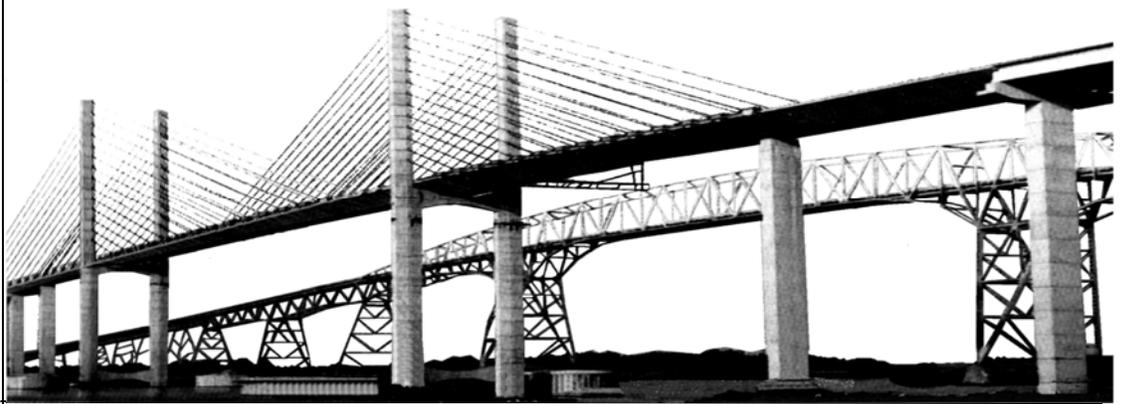
Volume LI

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

January 24, 2017

No. 04

The Bridge Builder



Dear Church Family,

We were blessed to have God show up in a real and evident way this past Sunday. As individuals we each have our unique hurts and troubles, as a church we face many challenges, but when we come together, pointed in the same direction (toward Christ), God moves in mighty ways, individually and corporately. Never forget God is with us every Sunday; never forget He is with you even now.

Sunday we continue our sermon series, "Faith that Moves Mountains", with Mark 9:14-29. The passage is a parallel passage to Matthew 17:14-20 which we looked at in the beginning of this series. However, it provides an expansion in the details of the healing Jesus performs for the possessed child. The Matthew account focuses on the disciples and what Jesus is teaching them. The Mark account centers around the father and what he is demonstrating in seeking out Jesus. The father has approached the disciples while Jesus is away with John, James, and Peter during the transfiguration. The disciples are unable to heal the boy. Upon Jesus' return, the father is desperate and pleads with Jesus to heal his son "if he can." Jesus responds that His ability is not lacking. The only thing lacking is a fully vested belief (trust, reliance) upon Jesus. The father immediately responds, "I believe." However, that is not the end of the father's statement. He adds, "Help my unbelief." The father is so desperate he is willing to be brutally honest with Jesus.

I personally find the father's statement to be one of the most humbling passages in all of Scripture. Rarely are we willing to voice such a statement publicly or privately. We are determined to present an aura of firm and unwavering faith, but no person possesses such a faith. Is it wrong to struggle to believe or to have doubt? We often feel guilty and are ashamed of the reality which resides in the depths of our heart. We have fears. We wonder if God will act on our behalf. We do not understand all God is doing. We believe, but we need "help" to believe. Do you need help to believe, to trust in God and what He is doing even while it hurts? Are you willing to be honest and live desperately?

God is always doing the "impossible." FBCBC is where the "impossible" is a living reality every day. Invite others to join with you in living out the "impossible."

Your Pastor,

Douglas Shows
II Timothy 2:20-21

NEW SONG

On Sunday, January 29th our Worship Team will revive a song that we sang at FBC a few years ago named "All Things Are Possible" (by Darlene Zschech). We love this song because it is rich in scripture. Although not taken from any one scripture, the lyrics are from a compilation of verses from the Psalms and the Gospels. Here are the lyrics:

"Almighty God, my Redeemer, my hiding place, my safe refuge: no other name like Jesus, no power can stand against You. My feet are planted on this Rock and I will not be shaken. My hope: it comes from You, alone, my Lord and my salvation. Your praise is always on my lips. Your word is living in my heart, and I will praise You with a new song, my soul will bless you, Lord. You fill my life with greater joy. Yes, I delight myself in You, and I will praise You with a new song, my soul will bless You, Lord. When I am weak, You make me strong; when I'm poor, I know I'm rich for in the power of Your Name all things are possible, all things are possible, all things are possible!"

We are looking forward to a great time of worship and word this Sunday.

To God Be The Glory, Suzonne

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

This committee is meeting Sun. 29th at 4:30 in the conference room. Anyone interested in being a visitor to our members who are either in a nursing home or homebound and unable to attend church services is encouraged to attend. All present members are needed in this meeting also.

ALL COMMITTEES MEETING

Saturday, February 4, 2017 9:00 a.m.

If you are a member of one of First Baptist Church's committees, please make every effort to attend this meeting. It will be a great time of fellowship and planning the new year.

Thank You

Thank you First Family for your gifts (\$563.00) to the Gideons. Their ministry is very important and we are proud to be a part.

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

We finished up our unit on Joseph, Sunday, and the kids really enjoyed finding out how his story ended. We learned that God has made us all special and has a very special plan just for each of us. We also talked about Joseph's journey to get exactly where God needed him to be. Sometimes, we have to go through hard times, but God knows what's best and prepares us through the circumstances we are in. We also learned about forgiveness. Even though Joseph had the chance to "get back" at his brothers for the way they treated him, he responded with love.

We are still excitedly preparing for the upcoming 5th grade Sunday evening class beginning on Feb. 5th. We will meet in the Children's Church room for now. As they complete the class, they will receive several rewards, such as a certificate, a set of dog tags and more. They will also get to help do some things for the younger kids, and will possibly have some ministry/mission opportunities as well. This is going to be an exciting "outside of the box" kind of class, so please invite all the 5th graders you know to come be a part.

Finally, I want to make you aware of an upcoming ministry opportunity in the 3-5 grade Sunday school and Sunday evening classes. In May, Ron and Cheryl Ellis will be stepping down from this wonderful ministry after many years of faithful service. They have prayerfully considered their decision and feel this is their time. Please pray for these classes and for God to speak to the heart of the person He has been preparing for this time. If you feel that you are that person, please come and talk to me, or to the Ellises! We are sad to see such wonderful teachers moving on, we are excited to see what God has planned for these two classes.

That the next generation may know,
Chris

Sunday School News

Attendance Sunday was 147 – that's great!! Adult 7 had twenty, which is very good - only three empty chairs. Congratulations! Other departments did well also. Let's keep it up.

Also, take advantage of one of the evening classes on Sundays at 5:30 pm. Attendance is good and you will like it.

See you Sunday,
Troy

YOUTH NEWS . . .

Hot Hearts 2017

Hot Hearts student conference is already upon us. Just seems like a few short days ago we sat across the Thanksgiving table with some of our dearest family members and friends. FBC students will head to Ford Park a little after 4:00 p.m. Friday and a weekend conference which features evangelist Ed Newton and artist Lauren Daigle, Switchfoot, and Rend Collective. This conference is a great way to begin our new year as students from all over Texas and Louisiana, numbering around 10,000, join hearts is Worship of the One Creator. We shall return back to the church about Midnight that night and then meet again at church the next morning about 7:15 a.m. to return for the Saturday portion and return home around 5:00 p.m. Saturday afternoon. I am very excited to announce that as of this publication all of our tickets for Hot Hearts have been spoken for, and that we should be taking a bus full of eager teens. I must request that you set aside some time Friday evening and Saturday to pray for our students and adults who will be attending, that God will move in their lives in their largest area of need and that our travels will be safe.

Be Intentional
Aaron

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



First Family Fellowship

Saturday, Feb. 11 6:00 p.m.

Theme: Spaghetti Dinner, Desserts,
Fun & Fellowship

Departments are asked to bring the following...

<u>Adult 2-3</u>	Desserts
<u>Adult 4-5</u>	Chicken Spaghetti
<u>Adult 6</u>	Green Beans
	Tossed Salad & dressing
<u>Adult 7</u>	Garlic Bread
<u>Adult 8</u>	Dessert

Thank You

Maxie there are not enough words to thank you for what you do for our church and our people. The Christmas presents were wonderful that you gave me and I have enjoyed them so much. May our Lord bless you each and every day for what you do for others. God Bless you,

Geneva Wickware

Thank you Deacons of our church. I appreciate all that you do for the widows. I especially want to thank Troy and Brenda Woodall for their sweet visit and the goodie bag. Love you & God loves you more.

Rita Anderson

A very special "Thank You" to the deacons for the Christmas Gift bag. It is so nice and thoughtful of all of you to remember us this way. Also, thanks to Ron Ellis for delivering the Christmas bag to me. I enjoyed your visit.

Patsy Peters.

NURSERY WORKERS January 22, 2017

Sunday School Brittany Ernst
Worship Service Thelma Wheelis

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

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Sunday, January 29, 2017

9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Celebration Worship Service
 Children's Church
 For 4 year old — 2nd grade
 5:30 Children's Activities
 Youth Activities
 Sunday Night Classes

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

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

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

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

Thursday, February 2, 2017

4:30 Golden Harvest Game Night

Saturday, February 4, 2017

9:00 All Committees Meeting

LOOK AT THE RECORD

January 15, 2017

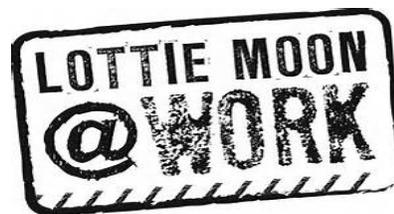
Average Weekly Needs	\$ 9,927.14
Sunday Receipts	\$ 7,429.55
Weekly Expenses	\$ 1,636.89
Y-T-D Avg. Weekly Receipts	\$10,128.08

ATTENDANCE:

Sunday School	147
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WORSHIP SERVICE:

Celebration Service of Worship	155
Nursery	8
TOTAL AM WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	163



OUR GOAL:	\$5,200.00
RECEIVED:	\$4,439.00

First Baptist Church

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

Website: 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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