

First Baptist Church

Volume LI

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

February 14, 2017

No. 07

The Bridge Builder



"A friend loves
AT ALL TIMES."
"

PROVERBS 17:17, NRSV

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH . . .

Dear Church Family,

I hope you were able to be a part of our Family Fellowship this past Saturday. If not, know there will be more on the horizon. We had a football theme with families/teams competing against one another in Bible trivia. The kids and adults were able to show off their familiarity with God's Word. We witnessed the first ever Bridge City kazoo marching band during the halftime. There were some hyper and enthusiastic cheerleaders on each sideline. The referee (me) made some bad calls, but there was no replay to overturn them. The whole evening was a purposeful way of reminding us we are a family and every generation matters at FBCBC. Thanks for all of your participation.

Our sermon series, "Faith that Moves Mountains", continues by looking at a parable in Matthew 25:14-30. The Parable of the Talents is often used to teach or demonstrate stewardship principles concerning finances. However, the parable is only using finances as the illustrative means to communicate something far greater. We are stewards of more than property, assets, and money. We are stewards of the Gospel. Jesus is instructing his disciples in the way they are to live after his departure. Jesus is just days away from his death, burial, and resurrection and his eventual return to the Father. He is helping them to know what will really matter and be used to measure one's faith upon his return. He speaks this to the disciples two thousand years ago, yet it directly pertains to us today, as well. Are we putting to use what God has given? Are we trusting God to bless our efforts?

Thank you church for your faithfulness in not only meeting the Lottie Moon goal, but giving far beyond. It is a pleasure to serve our Lord with each of you. FBCBC is where the "impossible" is a living reality every day. Invite others to join with you in living out the "impossible" at FBCBC.

Your Pastor,
Douglas Shows
Titus 3:4-7

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

In Children's church, we are continuing our journey through Gideon's story. I was thinking about Gideon's story and how amazing it truly is! We are talking about a guy who was probably voted "Least likely to lead an army" his senior year of high school, and now God has call him to do just that! We talked about how God answered Gideon's prayers by the fleece. God showed His awesome power, and Gideon was assured that God would be with him through everything to come. Isn't it wonderful that God is still the same as we was back then? God never changes!

We still have several opportunities to serve within the children's ministry! We are needing a 4&5 grade Sunday School teacher, and a teacher for Sunday evenings as well. This is such a wonderful opportunity to help a great bunch of kids grow and learn about the plans that God has for them! Please pray about where you can serve, and if you feel lead toward the children, come talk to me!

Finally, please continue to pray for our 5th grade class... we have decided to call it "5th Element"! They are an important element to our church (as are all the kids), and we will be talking about the five elements of our Christian life. Our verse for the class is 1 Timothy 4:12.... "Let no one look down on you because you are young, but set the believers an example in faith, conduct, speech, love and purity... 5 elements! We will also be talking about Heroes of the faith and how their example is a model for us today. Invite any 5th grader you know to this special class, or if you would like for me to send them an invitation, let me know!

That the next generation may know,
Chris

YOUTH NEWS . . .

No human can comprehend God's love for His children! Our limited experience of human love hinders us from understanding God's unconditional love for us. We can see a picture of this love in the life of Hosea. Hosea was a righteous man, but God told him to marry a sinful woman. Hosea obeyed and took Gomer as his wife. He cherished her and treated her with dignity and respect. Never had Gomer experienced this kind of love, but she soon grew dissatisfied. She began giving her affections to other men. She became so involved in adulterous pursuits that finally she abandoned Hosea altogether. Other men used her until she had nothing left to give. Then they sold her into slavery. After this, God gave Hosea an amazing command: "Go and buy her back." Despite the intense pain and hurt that Gomer had inflicted on him, God told Hosea to forgive her and to pay any price to bring her back into his home. God's message is clear: When we reject Him, and turn our devotion elsewhere, our rejection carries the same pain as an adulterous betrayal. After all God has done for us, it is incomprehensible that we should reject Him. It is even harder to fathom that God could love us even after we have rejected, ignored, and disobeyed Him. Yet God's love is completely different from ours. His love follows us to the depths of our sinfulness until He has reclaimed us. His love is undaunted when we run from Him, and He continues to pursue us. What incredible love He has demonstrated to us.

Be Intentional,
Aaron

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE ANNOUCEMENT

The Scholarship Committee would like to award scholarships to deserving students. However, we desire contributions to help make this happen.

Please prayerfully consider donating to this worthy cause so that we can help students (graduating seniors, current college or technical school students, or adults returning to school).

We will determine the number of scholarships awarded based on the amount of donations. Any amount will be greatly appreciated. We would like to award these scholarships this coming May.

Further details will be announced in the near future.

Be a part of investing in the future.

NEW SONG

Is Amazing Still Amazing? The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines "*amazing*" as "*causing great surprise or wonder; astonishing.*" Synonyms of "*amazing*" include *astounding, astonishing, surprising, stunning, staggering, and shocking*. Many sources attribute the noun form of "*amazing*", "*amaze*", to have been derived from the Old English "*amasian*" which was used to convey the thoughts "*to confound*" and "*to stupefy*". The modern noun "*maze*" has a common derivation. In modern usage, however, the word "*amazing*", watered down through misuse, overuse, and slang-use, is often used in the context of "impressive", "very good", or "above average" – like "that was an amazing sale" or "what an amazing dinner". This next Sunday we will sing three songs with "*amazing*" in the title and in the lyrics. When we sing the lyrics "*amazing grace*", think of God's unmerited favor towards us that confounds our minds because it is so absolutely astonishing. When we sing "*amazing love*", think of God's agape love that is stupefying and astounding by its very nature—we don't deserve it, we can't earn it, but yet He gives it. Amazing!

To God Be The Glory, Suzonne

March 5th

NEW Sunday School Classes

Ladies Class — Amy Shows
Sunday School Conference Room

Open Class — John Woods
Office Conference Room



NURSERY WORKERS February 12, 2017

Sunday School Brittany Ernst

Worship Service Thelma Wheelis

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

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Sunday, February 19, 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, February 21, 2017

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

Wednesday, February 22, 2017

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

LOOK AT THE RECORD

February 12, 2017

Average Weekly Needs	\$ 9,927.14
Sunday Receipts	\$11,103.88
Weekly Expenses	\$11,662.56
Y-T-D Avg. Weekly Receipts	\$11,222.48

ATTENDANCE:

Sunday School 151

WORSHIP SERVICE:

Celebration Service of Worship	150
Nursery	6
TOTAL AM WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	156

Sunday School News

Changes are coming!

On March 5, two new Sunday School classes will begin. Amy Shows will teach a ladies class which will meet in the back conference room. This is open for all ladies, no matter the age. John Woods will teach a mixed class open for anyone all ages. This class will meet in the front conference room in the office area. This is exciting! We expect to see these classes be very successful and really grow. If you are interested in either of these, you are welcome. Will let you know about other changes on the horizon.

Attendance Sunday was 151.

First Baptist Church

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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**

THE BRIDGE BUILDER (USPS 551-260) is published weekly except Christmas week. First Baptist Church, 200 W. Roundbunch Road, Bridge City, Texas 77611. Periodical Postage paid at Bridge City, Texas 77611. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the above.