

First Baptist Church

Volume LI

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

September 12, 2017

No. 37



The Bridge Builder



Just to let you know,
you can now donate to
FBC Bridge City's
Harvey Relief efforts.
www.fbcbc.org

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH . . .

Dear Church Family,

I am personally so thankful for the whole of our congregation in how each of you served and shared the Gospel during this time of flooding and recovery. Our mission is not over and we will have many more opportunities to display Christ as Bridge City and its people rebuild their lives. Many of our own have suffered great loss so let's continue being a family lovingly helping one another. There will be teams of workers we will get to minister to and serve among. The task before us is great, but our God is greater.

We have certainly experienced a trying time in the last several weeks. As we all are active in reestablishing our lives and working out of our new norm, FBC Bridge City is doing likewise. On Wednesday we will have our regularly scheduled Business/Prayer Meeting. Sunday, September 17, we will return to having Sunday School at 9:15 and Morning Worship at 10:30. There will be no other evening activities on Sunday or Wednesday. We will return to a regular schedule of evening Youth/Children activities and/or Bible Studies on October 1.

From previous Bridge Builder:

Sunday our sermon series, "All in the Family", continues by looking at 1 Corinthians 9:1-14. Paul has begun to center in on the overarching principle every believer is to use to choose a course of action. Knowledge is a powerful tool which unfortunately be used like a weapon. Paul has advocated for filtering one's knowledge through the concept of biblical love. Doing this makes the Gospel front and center for others to see, know, and experience. Paul begins to assert the value of love and the crucial aspect of making the Gospel first above all else through a series of rhetorical questions. These questions pinpoint areas where the Corinthians have failed to make the Gospel first and foremost.

Paul makes a statement about himself and others who have made the Gospel preminent. "We endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ." (1 Cor. 9:12) He has eloquently pointed out that he is devoted to Gospel proclamation and willing to endure hurts, suffering, and abandon his rights for others to hear the Gospel. In our modern day church, we focus on comfort, preferences, opinions, rights, etc. forsaking the Gospel. When we elevate our self, we diminish the Gospel. When we exalt the Gospel, we deny our self.

Pastor's Paragraph . . . (continued)

Christ denied himself to present the Gospel to us and we can do no less for others. Is the Gospel premiere in your life? What are you willing to sacrifice so others can see, know, and experience the Gospel?

FBCBC is where the "impossible" is a living reality every day and sin comes to die in the presence of "Christ crucified." Invite others to join you at FBCBC.

Your Pastor,
Douglas Shows
1 Corinthians 9:12

WORSHIP DIRECTOR

CHRISTMAS NIGHT OF WORSHIP
December 10, 2017

Due to the recent visit of Hurricane Harvey to our city, we have make some changes to our Christmas Musical. We originally planned to do a musical/drama, but our cast member's time is limited now due to our community's hurricane recovery efforts. However, this will not stop us from having a wonderful Christmas program. With the success and enjoyment of our Night of Worship in July, we are now planning a Christmas Night of Worship. It will be an exciting and worshipful evening.

If you are interested in singing or playing an instrument at the musical, please let me know. I will be sending out more information in the near future.

My thoughts and prayers continue for all of our church family who have damages from the flood waters. It was wonderful to see you Sunday morning lifting your voices in praise. It's a true testimony of your faith and love for our Lord.

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus- Philippians 4:19
For His Glory,
Debbie Anderson

YOUTH NEWS . . .

I've always been told, "With the going is tough, the tough get going." I would say that indeed this quote, which is thought to have originated with former Notre Dame football coach Knute Rockne, fits our current circumstances. Over the last two weeks, FBC and the community really got going sharing the love of Christ to all! While everyone has certainly displayed Christ to this community, even my family, I'd like to take just a moment and share how one group of friends made a huge impact on my family and neighborhood. However, in doing so I along with I'm sure those who this story is about, will choose to keep names private, but glorify God! The night the storm was occurring, I received many text messages checking on myself and my family, little did I know but just a few short sleepless hours later, these same friends would be at my front door step loading my family into canoes and boats. Once the decision was made that we needed to leave, I simply called and within about twenty minutes, the boats arrived. Not just one, two, or even three but four boats. Knocking on every door in the community, evacuating children and their mothers first, making multiple trips until all had made it to dry land. During all of this, one song began to play in my head which will now have even more meaning to me. "Great Is Thy faithfulness, Great Is Thy faithfulness, Morning by morning new mercies I see; All I have needed Thy hand hath provided Great is Thy Faithfulness, Lord unto me!" Just think, with each new day, God gives us the chance to prove His faithfulness. And throughout history, He's never once been proven wrong, for His mercies are new every morning, no matter what. It was God's call to these great friends, who displayed and proved God's faithfulness to a neighborhood more in those few hours, than I myself have done in years. Thank you so much for not only taking care of my most valued, but for sharing Christ without regard to your own personal comfort! It will never be forgotten!

"Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning, great is Your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I hope in Him!" Lamentations 3:22-24

Be Intentional,
Aaron

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

The past few weeks have truly been a testament of God's love. The children of our church were able to see God's love in action. Over the next few weeks, we will be talking about that in Children's Church. Hard times, like we have gone through recently, show the character of a person's heart, and I want to share with the kids about all that has happened... the love shown from around the country by people who don't even know us, yet followed a call on their hearts to help someone in need. This is a moment that changes hearts.

This Sunday, we will be starting up with Sunday School and Children's Church at the regular times. Sunday night classes, however, will not begin until Sunday, October 1st. Please pray for these upcoming classes.

The fall festival work day that was scheduled for this weekend, September 16th, has been rescheduled for Saturday, September 30th at 9 a.m. We will be checking over all the games and props, throwing away unusable items and painting games that are unfinished!

Finally, we are looking for a recreation teacher for Sunday nights, or a teacher for 1st-3rd grade. If you would be interested in either of these areas, please see me or Lynn. Don't miss out on a chance to hang out with this great bunch of kids and share God's love with them!!!

That the next generation may know,
Chris

Digital Sign Capital Campaign **Goal: \$20,000** **Starting Fund Amount: \$3,210.00**

The church has elected to begin a capital campaign for an exterior digital sign which will be inserted into our present frame located in the parking lot area. The sign is our most effective mode of communicating and connecting with the community about events and services. The digital sign will allow for multiple messages and be a prominent tool for the church. FBC Bridge City, let your light shine.

NURSERY WORKERS September 17, 2017

**Sunday School Brittany Ernst
 Connie Claus**

Worship Service Thelma Wheelis

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

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Sunday, September 17, 2017

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

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

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

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

6:30 Mid-week Worship Service

LOOK AT THE RECORDS	
September 10, 2017	
Average Weekly Needs	\$ 9,927.13
Sunday Receipts	\$ 15,094.49
Y-T-D Avg. Weekly Receipts	\$ 9,774.63
Digital Sign Goal	\$20,000.00
Digital Sign Receipts to date	\$3,210.00
ATTENDANCE:	
Sunday School	—
WORSHIP SERVICE:	
Worship	115
Nursery	5
TOTAL WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	120

Thank You

Thank you church family for the outpouring of love for our family during Elmer's going home to be with our Lord. He loved this church family, pastor & Ms. Amy. He knew you loved him also. Thank you again.

*Love & prayers
Imogene Ernst & Family*

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
Chris Bailey Director of Children's Ministry
Debbie Anderson 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.