

First Baptist Church

Volume LI

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

October 3, 2017

No. 40



The Bridge Builder

Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize?

SO RUN TO WIN!

1 Corinthians 9:24, NLT



PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH . . .

Dear Church Family,

This past Sunday we returned to our evening classes and activities. It was great to get back to a more normal pattern after the disruption caused by the storm. I was excited by the attendance in the class I am leading "The Heart of Being Baptist." We looked at the history and distinctive way that Baptist view God's Word as authoritative above all else and is the sole form to be used in determining faith and practice. This week we will trace the line from this truth to the unique view of regenerate church membership. You cannot be born a Baptist. You must be "born again" to be a Baptist and demonstrate it publicly through "believer's baptism." The reason: for the sake of the purity of the church. Hope you can make it this week.

Sunday we continue by looking at 1 Corinthians 10:1-22 with our sermon series "All in the Family." Paul in Chapter 8 pointed out that as believers in Christ the Corinthians had been afforded freedoms and rights. However, instead of using these to draw people to Christ or share the Gospel, they had abused them for their own benefit in relation to meats sacrificed to idols. Paul boldly proclaims that it would better to "never eat meat" than cause a brother to stumble. In Chapter 9 Paul demonstrates from his own life that a believer has "rights" but a believer is to give up his "rights" for the sake of the Gospel. One must choose between elevating one's "rights" or the Gospel.

Paul now shifts back to the original dilemma of idols and sacrifices. He reminds them of the Old Testament events where people played too close to the fire of sin and were eventually burned by it. Paul is warning them of the arrogant stance they have taken by elevating their "rights" above the Gospel. He points the way of the Gospel by being driven by Christ and not self-indulgence. Paul is declaring an either/or scenario. We likewise face an either/or scenario every day. We cannot "partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons" (v.21) at the same time. We cannot be Christ-minded and self-centered at the same time. An old cartoon character from my childhood would ask concerning a mouse, "Which way did he go?" The question we must answer is "Which way will we go?"

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
Joshua 24:14-15

YOUTH NEWS . . .

It was good to have Sunday night classes back up and going again this past Sunday! It was another large step in the direction of normalcy for everyone! Students (6th-12th grade) enjoyed many helpings of homemade chicken and dumplings, great fellowship, and looking at our Biblical authority tree. Although we did not complete our tree this past week, we will continue to form our tree over the next week or two. Students decided to begin at the lower end of the tree and work their way to whom all authority is given, the master and creator of all. I challenge you, as well as your family, to look at authority as it relates to Biblical instruction and practice. How does authority break down in the home? How does authority break down in our government? How does authority break down in the church? How does it break down in the heavenly realms? What authority does the apostles have over our lives today? What role does the Holy Spirit play? This next Sunday night we will enjoy Chicken Spaghetti as our main course and of course continue our discussion on authority and what happens when the authority breaks God's commandments?

Hot Hearts 2018 tickets will go on sale to the public beginning November 1st. I will need to know from students if they plan on attending so that we can purchase the appropriate amount of tickets! The cost, while not officially set, will be about \$50.00, which will include the cost of admission and lunch on the Saturday afternoon of the event. Hot Hearts 2018 will truly be a very special Hot Hearts, as of the latest announcements Micah Tyler will be leading worship! It has been truly a blessing to have watched Micah grow from a youth pastor at Genesis Baptist Church in Buna, to the Real-Life stage, to the national stage, and now the Hot Hearts stage! Congratulations Micah on a job well done, to God be the glory!

Winter Retreat planning is underway with great enthusiasm. We are currently unable to announce much now, but what we can say is that it's going to be HUGE! Mark your calendars for December 28th-30th, save about \$40.00 per participant, and get ready! You will want to make sure and invite a friend! Do not miss out on this once in a lifetime event and even more on what GOD will do!

Be Intentional,
Aaron

CHOIR DIRECTOR

Our first choir practice of our Christmas choir was nothing short of a huge success. The Lord is calling His singers together and they sure showed up Sunday evening. We have more who will be there next week, so ya'll come on and join us this coming Sunday, October 8th at 4:00 p.m.

I am so thankful for all the singers and musicians who are part of our music ministry at FBC. We had a full house on the stage this past Sunday and the worship time was sweet. Thank you all so much for your commitment to using your gifts and talents for our Lord.

We are looking forward to the gospel group, Mansion View, coming in concert to FBC on Sunday, November 5, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. They will also join us in our morning worship service that same day to share their message in song with us. Be sure to mark this date on your calendar. You don't want to miss it!

I am starting to sign people up to be a part of our Christmas Night of Worship on Sunday, December 10, 2017. If you want to sing or play an instrument, please let me know. The Lord is blessed and honored when we step up and use the gifts and talents He has given us to use for His Kingdom purpose.

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10.
For His glory,
Debbie Anderson

Thank You

Thank you so much for being willing to be the people God could use to show His love to a hurting community. A lighthouse in the darkness, an outreach for those needing a hand to help them up. His hands and His feet to those without Hope. Thank you for making a home away from home for our team. You treated us royally.

Thank you,
Nancy Green

Bro. Doug, I've been thinking a lot about you folks and just wanted to let you know what an honor it was to serve you and your congregation. What great people . . . You are truly blessed. I hope by now your church is returning to "normal." If there is any way I can help please let me know. You are incredible people.

Ed & Diane Cote

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

We had a wonderful time last Saturday working on the games for the fall festival! Some of the games were given a fresh coat of paint, and some are in need of repair. There is still a little to do, therefore, we will be having another work day on Saturday, October 21st at 9 a.m. This year's theme is "Standing Strong with Jesus", and we will be giving your verses for your games booths that talk about strength and perseverance. I will be sending out forms to the Sunday School rooms for game sign ups. I encourage the Sunday School classes to sponsor 2-3 booths, if possible. If you are not sure what games you would like to do, we have a few in the Bus Barn that will need workers. Get with me for more information!

Sunday night we kicked off our children's activities with 12 kids eager to learn! We talked about Candy Corn and other sugary treats we will be receiving this month, and though we want to eat everything we get, we know it would be bad for us. Though we may sometimes be allowed to choose what we want, like eating too much candy, not everything we choose is beneficial or healthy to us physically or spiritually. Sin works that same way... it might look good at the moment, but it's never a good idea. We talked about 1 Corinthians 10:23-24 and the older children began a Bible Journal that we will work on together over the next few months.

We are needing light meals such as nachos, pizza, and such prepared for the children on Sunday nights. If you would be interested in providing a meal, please let me know so that I can put it on the calendar.

Please continue to be in prayer for these upcoming events, and ongoing ministries!

That the next generation may know,
Chris

FALL FESTIVAL

Tuesday, October 31



It is time to starting bringing Little Debbie cakes and wrapped candy for our Fall Festival. Help us make this an extra special time for the children in our area.

NURSERY WORKERS October 8, 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, October 8, 2017

9:15 Sunday School
10:30 Worship Service
 Children's Church
 for 4 yr. old — 2nd grade
4:00 Christmas Choir Rehearsal
 Deacon's Meeting
5:45 Children's Activities
6:00 Youth Activities — Sunday Night Life
 Adult Study—
 The Heart of Being Baptist

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

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

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

6:30 Mid-week Worship Service
 Church Conference
 Children's Activities
 Youth Activities

LOOK AT THE RECORDS

October 1, 2017

Average Weekly Needs	\$ 9,927.13
Sunday Receipts	\$11,321.76
Y-T-D Avg. Weekly Receipts	\$ 10,343.00

Digital Sign Goal	\$20,000.00
Digital Sign Receipts to date	\$3,340.00

ATTENDANCE:

Sunday School	111
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WORSHIP SERVICE:

Worship	140
Nursery	5
TOTAL WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	145

**Digital Sign
Capital Campaign**

**Goal: \$20,000
Fund Amount: \$3,340.00**

First Baptist Church

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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

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