

First Baptist Church

Volume LI

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

November 21, 2017

No. 47



The Bridge Builder



Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

National Goal:

\$160 Million

Our Goal:

\$5,500.00

ANGEL TREE



Angel Tree

Once again we have the opportunity to share God's love with children in Bridge City. We have been given 27 names, and a few remain in the Brides room at church. If you take an angel tag, you will know the age and size of the child. We are asked to shop for clothes only, toys will be added from another source. The gifts are due at the church on Sunday, December 3. Thank You! You will be blessed as you bless

these children. Questions, call or text Juana Matthews—
409.594.3151.

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH . . .

Dear Church Family,

By the time you read this Thanksgiving will be underway or just past. I know I am looking forward to the time we will be having with our children and grandchildren (hopeful most if not all will be present). There is truly an endless list of blessings to be thankful for or as the old hymn encourages to count. One of the blessings that Amy and I count often is the joy of being a part of FBC Bridge City. We are thankful to be here with you serving Christ together. Our prayer is for each of you to be blessed with God's evident presence during this season and lovingly reminded of the joy and blessing of Jesus Christ. Thank you all for loving us and encouraging us in Christ.

We continue our sermon series, "All in the Family", this Sunday by diving in to the second part of 1 Corinthians 13. We were humbled by the reality of God's love for us demonstrated in Jesus' life, death, burial, and resurrection. We were reminded of the absolute necessity of love being the driving force for all we do. We began to understand the magnitude of real love, a divine love, and wrestle with the fact we are lacking in it. However, we are called to love in this way because God has loved us in this capacity. We are to be the proclaimers of the Gospel by means of living out a divine love before and in the midst of the people.

The trouble is we also see that any action devoid of love is simply an action of the flesh and of no value in God's economy. Yet, to love in a divine manner requires an action in which we demonstrate it. At times the dilemma feels like a riddle. "Which came first, the chicken or the egg?" "Which came first, the love or the action?" Paul is instructing us to move away from childish thinking in that we need the emotion of love to be able to love. Divine love is an act which places the recipients need above the givers own well-being. We do not need to "feel" the love to love our neighbor, our spouse, our children, etc. God loved us when we did not even care about God. Are you ready to love others God's way?

FBCBC is where the "impossible" is a living reality every day and Christ is who we seek to exalt. Invite someone to be a part of what God is doing at FBCBC.

Your Pastor,
Douglas Shows
1 Corinthians 13:13

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

Happy Thanksgiving! In children's church, we continued learning about how God wants us to have an "Attitude of Gratitude"! We talked about the Thanksgiving holiday, and our favorite part of the Thanksgiving Meal...dessert! Pumpkin Pie (topped with whipped cream... or not) ranked among the favorites. We talked about how that delicious piece of pumpkin pie is gone way too fast... no matter how fast or slow we eat it, eventually, it will come to an end. The goodness of that pie doesn't last, but God's love endures forever. Psalm 136:1 says, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, His love endures forever". Of all the things, we have to be thankful for, that is the greatest... that even in knowing who we were going to be, God still loved us enough to send His Son to die on a cross for us...His life for ours... the intensity of that love for us, endures forever. Wow!

On Friday, December 8th at 7:00 p.m., the Children's Choir will be having a dress rehearsal with the Adult Choir for the upcoming Christmas Program. We will be rehearsing our song with the adults, and going over last minute details. Just a reminder, please have the children dressed in ALL BLACK the night of the program... please be sure there is no lettering or color on the shirt or pants. They will also need black socks. If you need help with getting any of these items, please let me know a.s.a.p. As there are no Wednesday evening services this week, Children's Choir practice will resume this Sunday evening at 4:30 p.m.

That the next generation may know,
Chris

Thank You

Words cannot express how grateful we are for such a loving and caring Church family. Thank you all for your phone calls, food and encouragement, but most of all you your prayers during Knox's final battle against cancer. We are comforted to know with assurance that he is in our heavenly Father's care now. We love ya'll so much.

Gussie Clark and Family

YOUTH NEWS . . .

Martha loved Jesus dearly and would have done anything for Him. Her struggle came in being still! Martha spent so much time serving Jesus that she had no time to enjoy His company or to get to know Him better. The harder Martha worked, the more frustrated she became with her sister Mary. Mary was sitting at Jesus' feet while Martha ran around the house to make sure everything was in perfect order for Jesus. Martha's service, though it started out with gladness, deteriorated into resentment. It is good to want to serve Christ as an expression of love for what He has done. Yet when our activity consumes our time and energies so that we have no time for Him, we have become too busy! We may think, as Martha did, that if we do not do the work, it will not get done. That may be true, but Jesus taught that our highest priority must be our relationship with Him. If anything detracts us from that relationship, that activity is not from God. God will not ask us to do something that hinders our relationship with Christ. At times, serving God and carrying out His mission is the best way to know and experience God. At other times, it is more important to sit quietly at His feet and listen to what He is saying. We are not called to continually sit at the feet of Jesus, otherwise our service for Him would cease. Neither are we called to serve Him incessantly, without taking time to find restoration in His presence. This Thanksgiving, be sure to invite Christ to the table you have prepared, be grateful for His rich bounty, and sit in His presence!

Be Intentional,
Aaron

Safety/Security Meeting



December 3 @ 5:30 pm
Adult 7 Classroom
(across from Nursery)
Sign up and come
see how you can serve in this
vital ministry.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

WORSHIP DIRECTOR

Sunday morning we sang "As we gather in this place today, Holy Spirit come and have your way", and He did. We had a wonderful time of worship, singing praises to our Lord and a powerful sermon from our Pastor.

We are to use our gifts to exalt Christ, not ourselves. We were reminded that whatever we do, love should be the motivation. We are to strive to love as Christ loves us and the only way to begin to pursue this love is to give up self. A great challenge for us (for me) as we move forward with the work the Lord has for us at FBCBC.

The choir moved into the sanctuary Sunday evening to practice for our up-coming night of worship. I appreciate everyone's dedication to our practices. I want to say a special thanks to Suzonne as she worked in the sound booth during practice helping us to begin to put the finishing touches on our presentations.

A reminder that on Friday, December 8th at 7:00 p.m. we will have a dress rehearsal for the choir. This rehearsal will only be for the adult choir and children's choir.

Sunday, December 10th at 2:00 p.m. we will have a dress rehearsal for all of the singers and musicians who will be performing that night. Be sure to bring your accompaniment tracks if you will be using them for your performance. If you have any questions or concerns about this rehearsal time, please let me know.

If you are interested in singing a special during one of our Sunday morning worship services, please contact me. I had several people sign up this past Sunday to sing for us in the near future. Looking forward to it!

Psalms 40:3 He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the LORD and put their trust in him.

For His glory,
Debbie Anderson

Christmas Night of Worship

Dress Rehearsal for choir
Friday, December 8, 2017
7:00 P.M.

NURSERY WORKERS November 26, 2017

**Sunday School Brittany Ernst
 Connie Claus**

Worship Service Thelma Wheelis

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

LOOK AT THE RECORDS

November 19, 2017

Average Weekly Needs	\$ 9,927.13
Sunday Receipts	\$ 9,218.84
Y-T-D Avg. Weekly Receipts	\$ 10,232.76
Digital Sign Goal	\$20,000.00
Digital Sign Receipts to date	\$4,490.00
ATTENDANCE:	
Sunday School	119
WORSHIP SERVICE:	
Worship	128
Nursery	5
TOTAL WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	133

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Sunday, November 26, 2017
 9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Worship Service
 Children's Church
 for 4 yr. old — 2nd grade
 NO PM Activities

Tuesday, November 28, 2017
 10:00 Ladies Prayer Meeting

Wednesday, November 29, 2017
 6:30 Mid-Week Worship Service
 Children's Activities
 Student Worship
 7:30 Instrumental Rehearsal

COMING IN JANUARY . . .



**Quilts for
Buckner Children**

QUILTING GROUP

**Interested persons
Contact Imogene Ernst
409-313-6468**

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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