

First Baptist Church

Volume LI

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

December 5, 2017

No. 49



The Bridge Builder

Christmas
NOW
Come Let
Us *Adore* Him!

Sunday Night
December 10th
beginning at
6 p.m.

Join the celebration of Jesus' birth with local artists, and the FBC Bridge City Adult and Children's Choirs.

Then, stay and be our guest at the annual "Taste of Christmas" in the Family Life Center immediately following the program!



PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH . . .

Dear Church Family,

The angels could not hold back their praise any longer. The night had long been anticipated and all of creation and time had been moving toward this point. There was never a moment of doubt within the heavenly realm as to whether this day would come. As the events unfolded across the rock laden land in the quietness of the night, the angels were released to proclaim the message to the unsuspecting world. In the dead of night, the angels burst through the embedded darkness disrupting the silence and the weary watch of the shepherds. Gripped with fear the shepherds in hearing the words of the angels find themselves astonished and amazed. The shepherds intrigue drives from the field to go and see for themselves if the angels have spoken an unconceivable truth. "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those whom he is pleased." The greatest feat and God's moment of greatest exaltation has arrived in the form of a baby named Jesus.

Sunday the sermon series, "All in the Family", continues with a second part look at 1 Corinthians 14:1-25. Paul has demonstrated that the abuse and misuse of tongues does not edify the church and becomes a self-centered expression which detracts from the Gospel. Tongues has been used to share the Gospel with the aid of an interpreter and benefit the whole church. However, without any interpreter tongues is meaningless gibberish which can disrupt the opportunity for the Gospel to be heard. Tongues may offer a personal enrichment, but mature believers willingly sacrifice their preference for the benefit of the unbeliever and the proclamation of the Gospel.

We have been challenged to "speak the language" of those we are engaging with the Gospel. We are now being challenged to give up a personal preference, something we might enjoy, so others can hear the Gospel. Mature believers live a life marked by sacrifice for the edification of others. Mature believers even do things they personally may not like because it helps another. Are we marked in such a way? Can we truly say we can find joy in others worshipping in ways we may struggle to do so? Christ was marked in such a way. Christ put aside his personal desires. What about you?

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 14:19

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

We are so excited about the upcoming Christmas Night of Worship! The Children have been practicing so hard to get their song ready for the program, and they are doing great! They can't wait to show it to you this Sunday! I want to say a quick thank you to the youth that are helping out with the children during the song as well, we appreciate them so much!

We will be meeting in the Sanctuary on Friday, December 8th at 7 p.m. to rehearse with the adults. We need all the children who are participating in the program to be at this practice! You do not have to be dressed in black for the rehearsal. Our part of the practice shouldn't last very long. On the day of the program, the children need to meet in the Sanctuary at 4:30 p.m. dressed in their black long sleeve shirts, black pants and socks. We will quickly rehearse the song, and eat a quick snack in the Children's Choir room, then finish the final details for the program. The children will be the first to perform that night. After their song, they will return to the congregation to sit with their parents for the remainder of the night.

Following the program this Sunday, is also the annual "Taste of Christmas". This year, the children department will be hosting a table filled with cupcakes, cookies and coffee punch. If you have a child in the children's department, or are a worker, please bring your favorite cookie or cupcake on the night of the program! If you would like to help with the punch or table decoration, please let me know. This is such an exciting time for our church to come together as family in Christ to celebrate the birth of our Savior!

The Children's Christmas party will be at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 20th. We will be meeting in the Family Life Center that evening to eat, play games, and maybe do something special! For more information on the Christmas Party, or any of these upcoming events, please give me a call!

That the next generation may know,

Chris



YOUTH NEWS . . .

Winter Retreat Deadline

Parents, It's almost time for another Winter Retreat! Every year this seems to be one of our student's favorite trip! The ability to fellowship with one another, learn from the Word, and enjoy one another's company on our own schedule! This year's trip will be held Dec 28th-30th at Crystal Beach, near Galveston. The cost will only be \$35.00 as we try to keep this event's cost to a bare minimum, being it is right after Christmas! The cost will cover everything from their t-shirt, meals, activity fee, and of course lodging. I have had a few people ask if they could and or how to sponsor a student to go. The answer to the question in ABSOLUTELY and as simply as designating on your gift "Winter Retreat" and we will make sure the sponsorship is designated appropriately. If you desire to sponsor a specific student, simply get with me on who you wish to sponsor, and I will make sure that student is sponsored! Students must have their money and medical release form returned to me on or before Sunday, December 24th! The list of students attending seems to be growing more every week so make sure and reserve your students spot quickly as time is running out! Without a doubt this will be one of the most memorable retreats ever. Please be in prayer for our students, as usual, as they begin looking for those evangelistic opportunities to minister to one another over these few days!

Be Intentional,
Aaron



Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

National Goal:	\$160 Million
Our Goal:	\$ 5,500.00
Receipts to date:	\$ 1,991.00

WORSHIP DIRECTOR CHRISTMAS NIGHT OF WORSHIP

It is really hard to believe that the time is almost here for our Night of Worship. 2017 has been a very busy year for our church and has seemed to fly by.

Last Sunday evening, we held our final regular choir practice for our Night of Worship coming up on Sunday, December 10, 2017. Coming up this Friday, December 8th at 7:00 p.m. we will hold a dress rehearsal for the children and adult choirs. The adult choir will be a part of the children's portion of the program and we look forward to working on this together at our rehearsal.

Just a reminder that any singer or musician who will be presenting a solo or ensemble are asked to be in the sanctuary at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, December 10th to rehearse your song. The choir is asked to be in the sanctuary at 4:00 p.m.

There will be a nursery provided starting at 2:00 p.m. and going through the worship time. Everyone will attend the Taste of Christmas, so all parents will need to gather your children as soon as the Night of Worship is over.

The adult choir will be leading worship this coming Sunday morning, December 10th. We are looking forward to a full day of worship and praise.

I am honored to be your Music Director. Thank you so much for your continued prayers and your encouraging words.

For His glory,
Debbie Anderson

NURSERY WORKERS December 10, 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

December 3, 2017

Average Weekly Needs	\$ 9,927.13
Sunday Receipts	\$13,126.75
Y-T-D Avg. Weekly Receipts	\$ 10,388.94
Digital Sign Goal	\$20,000.00
Digital Sign Receipts to date	\$4,590.00
ATTENDANCE:	
Sunday School	137
WORSHIP SERVICE:	
Worship	164
Nursery	8
TOTAL WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	172

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Sunday, December 10, 2017

9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Worship Service
 Children’s Church
 for 4 yr. old — 2nd grade
 6:00 Night of Worship
 A Taste of Christmas

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

10:00 Ladies Prayer Meeting
 7:00 Men’s Prayer Meeting

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

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

A TASTE OF CHRISTMAS

A Taste of Christmas will follow the “Christmas Night of Worship on December 10th at 6:00 P.M.

Sunday School departments are hosting the following tables.\

Children’s workers	—	Cookies & punch
Youth — College	—	Tea cakes and soft drinks
Adult 2-3	—	Dips
Adult 4 –5	—	Chili
Adult 6	—	Hor d’ourves
Adult 7	—	Wassail and cookies
Adult 8	—	Candies
Adult 9	—	Sandwiches and chips
Ladies’ class	—	Jambalaya

First Baptist Church

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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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