

First Baptist Church

Volume LII

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

January 3, 2018

No. 01



The Bridge Builder



SETBA
Southeast Texas Baptist Area

Evangelism Rally

Wednesday, January 10th at 6:30 p.m.

Adult Rally in the
Sanctuary

Youth Rally in the
Family Life Center

Speaker: Herb Reavis
Music by The Whisnants

Speaker: Tim Ramsey
Music by Frank Aragon

Children will meet in the Children's Choir Room
then divide for small group activities

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH . . .

Dear Church Family,

Our Christmas season together has been such a blessing. Amy and I have been personally blessed by you all through your expressions of love and encouragement. We want to extend our thankfulness for each card, gift, edible goody, kind words, etc. you have shared with us over the holiday season. We both delight in this time of year as we reflect on and celebrate our anniversary of being called to serve FBCBC. I am honored and humbled to be your pastor. As we embark on another year together, our prayer is that we all together continue to grow in Christ so we all may exalt Christ all the more.

Sunday we return to our sermon series, "All in the Family", by doing Part 2 of 1 Corinthians 14:1-25. We have seen that Paul describes tongues as lesser gift and should only be used publicly to "build up" the local church. He has stated that if there is no interpreter, then the person should remain silent. By doing so, Paul is demonstrating that tongues is not uncontrolled utterances, but a gift which can be chosen to be used or not, like the other spiritual gifts. He has previously highlighted the fact that biblical tongues is an actual human language spoken in the presence of one who speaks that language in conjunction with an interpreter to translate for those present who do not. Otherwise, there is no value in the use of tongues other than self-edification. God is ever active at redeeming and transforming the heart of people. However, God does this through spoken words which enter through the mind. Unintelligible words offer no active redeeming and transforming work. We are not moved by words which we do not understand. Neither are those around us. We must be careful to not use our "tongues" of religious language in speaking Christ to those we interact. What language do they speak? The Gospel not understood is the Gospel not received. Let us choose wisely our words and manner in which we present the Gospel. Let us present a Gospel people can hear, understand, and receive.

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 14:20

YOUTH NEWS . . .

Well, as 2017 ends and is now in the rearview mirror most if not all of us can say THANK YOU LORD! Odd to say, as a pastor but I am so glad to turn 2017 over to the history books, as it was a rough one. I had to travel to 5 states and three countries, completed the grueling task of grad school, lost many a possession during the hurricane, lost many a friend to untimely passing, two root canals, and well you get the point 2017 was a tough one. Spending most of Winter Retreat in the bed sick, gave me time to really reflect of the craziness of the year that was, over those few hours God really impressed upon me probably the greatest lesson to date. Yes 2017 was tough, but it was also in the same token Great beyond measure. We tend to make the negative supreme in our lives, often overlooking the blessing that was received through the chaos. Because of 2017, I now have many things that I didn't have in 2016. For example, I got to travel to 5 different states and 3 different countries, I now have a Master's degree from one of the toughest seminary programs available, as Liberty University has only a 20% acceptance rate, and even smaller graduation rate. My friends and family who have passed are now celebrating the new year in Glory, and my mouth no longer hurts constantly. One of the biggest blessings however, is that now because of the storm, my neighborhood is closer than ever, as we now have an avenue to present to Gospel to those who are in need that we now call friends, and the friendships we had before the storm are only stronger. As a church we got to be the lighthouse we are called to be, and made a difference to many people. Sure, the work was tough, long, and even unpleasant at times but even in that we can find that the blessings do outweigh the hard. It's time we all take inventory of 2017, and see how God BLESSED US ALL in 2017 and for that reason we can all cheer!

Be Intentional,
Aaron

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

Happy New Year!!! This is such an exciting time! Each year, we follow a "theme" that our lessons and activities and events all work along. This year, our theme is "Incredible Faith". Through the year, we will be learning about incredible faith shown by people in the Bible, and what that means to us. We will also be learning about how to grow our faith and share it with others. I am excited about the coming year, and hope that you will want to be a part of the studies and events that will be going on throughout the year in the children's ministry.

Beginning Wednesday, January 10th, we will be dividing the Children's Choir into two classes, Pre-K to 1st Grade, and 2nd to 5th Grade. The younger choir will continue to meet in the Children's Choir room, and Jennifer Quist and Lynn Richard will be teaching the class. The Older choir will begin meeting in the 4th & 5th grade class room with me and Shelly Marshall. At the end of class, we will bring the older kids to the welcome center for pickup. I am hoping be able to do lots of fun and exciting programs with the children like they did for Christmas!

Finally, January 10th, will also be the SETBA Rally at our church. We will be having a special time for the children as well! A meal will be provided, and we will have a fun time kicking off our year of INCREDIBLE FAITH!!!!!!

Come be a part of such an exciting event! We will need extra hands on deck for the 10th! If you would like to be a part, or if you would like to prepare a simple meal for the kids, please let me know as soon as possible!

That the next generation may know,
Chris

WORSHIP DIRECTOR

A New Year of Music

2017 was a wonderful year for music at First Baptist. The Lord surely blessed the music ministry in our Sunday worship services and our special nights of worship during the summer and at Christmas. I am looking forward to the New Year and making plans for a year full of praising the Lord through song.

We have some tentative events on the calendar for some concerts and I will keep you informed as we confirm the artists and dates. Hopefully, we will have something that will appeal to everyone who loves southern gospel and/or contemporary music. My goal is to reach people of all ages for the Lord through music. As has been mentioned before, someone who has never stepped foot into a church sometimes will come to a concert to hear good music and to be entertained. I hope to give them the Word of God through the music and pray that something they hear will touch their hearts and change their lives.

I pray that 2018 will be a blessed and wonderful year for First Baptist. As always, I thank everyone who is praying for the music ministry and am thankful for the opportunity to serve.

For His glory,
Debbie Anderson

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY TIME!



In January we will have a photographer taking pictures for a new Pictorial Directory. Sign up sheets will be available each Sunday through January 14. Please visit the table in the foyer of the sanctuary soon so that you can choose a sitting time convenient to you. Each participating family will receive a copy of the directory and an 8 x 10 photo.

NURSERY WORKERS January 7, 2018

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 31, 2017

Average Weekly Needs	\$ 9,927.13
Sunday Receipts	\$ 6,459.37
Y-T-D Avg. Weekly Receipts	\$ 9,316.90

Digital Sign Goal	\$20,000.00
Digital Sign Receipts to date	\$4,685.00

ATTENDANCE:

Sunday School	121
---------------	-----

WORSHIP SERVICE:

Worship	135
Nursery	6
TOTAL WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	141

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Sunday, January 7, 2018

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

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

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

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

6:30 SETBA Rally
Adults—in Sanctuary
Youth — in FLC
Children — Children's Choir Room

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

January 17, 2018
5:00 PM — 6:15 PM
\$3 per person with a \$12 per family max.

First Baptist Church

200 W. ROUND BUNCH 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.