

First Baptist Church

Volume LII

BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

March 20, 2018

No. 11



The Bridge Builder

225 / 300

CONNECT

CELEBRATE

CONTRIBUTE

INVITE 3

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH . . .

Dear Church Family,

The mortar shell exploded nearby shaking the ground and spraying his face with dirt. The fear gripped his mind and body squeezing the breath from his lungs. As the bullets whizzed over his head, he had not been hit yet, but he knew soon the command to charge would come. He did not want to be here. He envisioned being home with his wife adorned in a summer skirt twirling in the sunshine with his two kids giggling while playing chase around the big solemn oak in the middle of the field. That is where he wanted to be, not here, not now. He had been conscripted into the army, volunteered by the government's pressing need. He wanted to live his life, not fight, and possibly die in some foreign land, over issues he did not even understand. None of that mattered now because now he was facing the choice to charge or not. His buddy in the foxhole next to him had volunteered, bragged about his desire to fight and serve. All through training, he talked about his family's legacy of military service and the brave men of his family. His buddy was ashen white with the glaze of terror across his eyes. He knew this was the moment he had been waiting for, but The order came, breaking through the violent uproar and clamor of war. He turned looking at his buddy, his buddy was frozen, tears forming and slowing drizzling down his mud smeared face. His buddy shook his head no. He wasn't going. He couldn't, despite all he had said before the battle ensued. He smirked at his friend understanding the fear, feeling it deep in his own heart, and nodded, mouthing, "I have to." As he raised up, the first bullet ripped through his arm, but he did not even pause to acknowledge it. He had not wanted to be here, but he was now. He was here, and he had a mission to accomplish. The order was given, and he was answering it. The dirt kicked up behind his feet as he propelled his self forward, splattering his buddy, the brave one, he was leaving behind. Today, he became a solider as he moved forward into the battle.

In our "Tell Me a Story" sermon series, we look at another parable in which Jesus compares two sons (Matt. 21:28-32). There is a job to do and the father comes and tells one son to go take care of it and he refuses. The father tells the other son who promises he will go. The son who refuses, repents and goes into the field to do the work, while the one who promised to go decided to stay home. Jesus poses the question, "Which of the two did the will of his father?" (v.31) Words and promises have value only when they are backed up with action and deed. Regardless of where or how we may have failed in the past, today we have the opportunity to do the will of the Father. Followers of Christ go as Christ leads. Followers cannot be passive. Are you ready to go? Are you a follower of Jesus?

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.

For His Glory,

Douglas Shows
Matthew 5:19-20

Invite 3

"Connecting Christ with People" is our purpose as a church. We accomplish this by doing three things as a member of FBCBC: Connect, Celebrate, Contribute. Every person needs this connection. Every person needs to celebrate this connection. Every person needs to contribute in helping others make this connection worth celebrating. Every person matters. The challenge: intentionally invite 3 people every week to our Sunday School to begin making connections with people and ultimately Christ. 3 people as you go about your daily activity. 3 people God places on your heart. 3 people you have not seen in a while. 3 people who need to connect. **Invite 3.**

WORSHIP DIRECTOR

Easter Choir.....

I will sing of the LORD's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations. [Psalm 89:1](#)

The Easter Choir will sing on Palm Sunday, March 25, 2018 and on Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018. If you are in the Easter Choir, please be in the sanctuary on March 25th and April 1st at 8:30 a.m. to run through our song. You will also fill the choir loft for the entire service and we can use this time to rehearse the worship music for that day.

The choir has been very dedicated and worked hard to prepare two selections for this beautiful Easter season and we are looking forward to sharing with you. We hope to see you there.

Remember on Good Friday, March 30, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. we are planning the Reflective Lord's Supper. We have a special guest group, ARK, coming in to lead us in worship on this night. The members of this group are Amy Shows, Rick Golden and Kaye Drumm. Please be in prayer for them as they prepare to share with us.

We had a good attendance in Sunday school and church this past Sunday, along with spirit-filled worship and the Word. There is an excitement in the air at FBCBC as the Holy Spirit moves and encourages us to desire to see lost people come to know the Lord. Come and see what the Lord has done!

For His glory,
Debbie Anderson

YOUTH NEWS

No human can comprehend God's love for His children! Our limited experience of human love hinders us from understanding God's unconditional love for us. We can see a picture of this love in the life of Hosea. Hosea was a righteous man, but God told him to marry a sinful woman. Hosea obeyed and took Gomer as his wife. He cherished her and treated her with dignity and respect. Never had Gomer experienced this kind of love, but she soon grew dissatisfied. She began giving her affections to other men. She became so involved in adulterous pursuits that finally she abandoned Hosea altogether. Other men used her until she had nothing left to give. Then they sold her into slavery. After this, God gave Hosea an amazing command: "Go and buy her back." Despite the intense pain and hurt that Gomer had inflicted on him, God told Hosea to forgive her and to pay any price to bring her back into his home. God's message is clear: When we reject Him, and turn our devotion elsewhere, our rejection carries the same pain as an adulterous betrayal. After all God has done for us, it is incomprehensible that we should reject Him. It is even harder to fathom that God could love us even after we have rejected, ignored, and disobeyed Him. Yet God's love is completely different from ours. His love follows us to the depths of our sinfulness until He has reclaimed us. His love is undaunted when we run from Him, and He continues to pursue us. What incredible love He has demonstrated to us.

Be Intentional,
Aaron

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

I am really looking forward to our "Walk with Jesus" workday coming up this Saturday! Just a reminder, we will meet in the Family Life Center at 9 a.m. to bring out decorations and costumes, then begin decorating! I would like to finish the day with prayer over the event, as well. Even if your class did not sign up for a specific station, and would still like to help, be here at 9 a.m., and we will find the perfect place for you! If you are unable to attend the workday, or the event itself, you can still help! We need a team of people willing to pray over the event, that hearts and ears would open to hear about the sacrifice Jesus gave for us.

Also, we are still in need of filled Easter Eggs, and a team of workers to put out eggs, as well as serve food at lunch time. If you or your Sunday class would be interested in doing this, please let me know a.s.a.p.!

We had such a wonderful time in Sunday School and Children's Church on Sunday. God is moving in the hearts of the children of our church in a mighty way! We have had wonderful discussions lately about God's love, the choices we make, and so much more! Every time we meet, I see God at work in their hearts, and I am so excited to see what He has in store for them down the road!

Finally, this Sunday, in addition to the "Walk with Jesus" event, the older children's choir will be performing a very special song called, "Shoulders" during the Worship time. This song is a very special favorite of the kids, and they have worked very hard to learn it, as well as learn the sign language to "sing" it another way. The kids will have one final practice this Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., then need to be at church by 9:15 a.m. on Sunday to go over it before Sunday School. We want to invite family and friends to come and hear this special presentation this Sunday morning.

That the next generation may know,
Chris



REFLECTIVE LORD'S SUPPER

March 30, 2018

6:30 p.m.

NURSERY WORKERS March 25, 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

March 18, 2018

Projected Budget Need:	\$115,728.03
Actual Budget Receipt to Date:	\$115,178.86
Actual Budget Spending to Date:	\$109,922.25

Digital Sign Goal	\$20,000.00
Digital Sign Receipts to date	\$10,247.00

ATTENDANCE:

Sunday School Goal	225
Sunday School	157

WORSHIP SERVICE:

Worship Service Goal	300
Worship	158
Nursery	8
TOTAL WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	166

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
	Minister to Senior Adults
Chris Bailey	Director of Children's Ministry
Debbie Anderson	Worship Director

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
8:00 — 4:30
MONDAY — FRIDAY

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Sunday, March 25, 2018

9:15	Sunday School
10:30	Worship Service
	Children's Church
	for 4 yr. old — 2nd grade
4:30	Easter Choir Rehearsal
5:30	No pm Activities

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

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

Wednesday, March 28, 2018

5:30	Wednesday Night Supper
6:30	Mid-week Worship Service
	Children's Activities
	Youth Activities

Friday, March 30, 2018

6:30	Reflective Lord's Supper
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CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
FRIDAY, MARCH 30



The Perfect Study Companion

The FBCBC Cup is available for \$10

The purchase provides the proceeds for our Guest Retention Program and promotional efforts.

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