

# First Baptist Church Newsletter

## If we don't have love. . .

by Bro. Kevin McDonald

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What are the essential components of a "good" church? How important are a nursery, children's programs, or a youth group? How important is it that these programs have high attendance? Does a church have to have activities and opportunities for all the ages, mindsets, and socio-economic levels of its members? How about organizational structure, committees, polity and policy, and the role of deacons? Don't forget the importance of the physical plant, the condition of the building(s), curb appeal, and location, location, location. Last of all, there is the quality of the religious education (Sunday School), and the music and preaching.

All of the above and more are vital aspects, significant pieces of the puzzle that makes up "church". We spend a lot of effort and energy (not to mention money) on these things and more. Did I mention ministry and missions, the Great Commission?

It would be hard to eliminate any of the above elements from our list of what makes a good church, and impossible to limit the list to what I have already suggested. So--what makes for a good church?

I have touched on this a time or two already, but it bears repetition. We must love each other with all our strength. We will be studying 1 Corinthians 13 tonight and probably next Wednesday night as well. I think of Paul's words as I write this:

*"If I have a state-of-the-art sound and video system, but do not have love, I am just broadcasting static.*

*"If I am the biggest church in town running out of room with a large budget and money in the bank, but do not have love, I am empty in every way."*

*"If I fund ministry and missions from the front door of the church to the farthest place on earth, but don't love, I haven't gone anywhere."*

The greatest problem the Corinthian church had was that they did not love each other enough. THAT was the root of all the other problems they faced. I don't know what problems we (FBC Brady) will encounter as we move through time. Some will come to us, and we will create others. Problems will come and go. Some will be solved, some will be resolved, some will just dissolve, and so on. But there is one problem I am determined that we as a church will NEVER face, that we don't love each other enough.

"Good" churches have all the programs and activities I spoke of in the first two paragraphs. Great churches love each other extravagantly. I want us to be a great church, not just a good one. I hope you do too.

## Preschool gets a boost from fundraiser dinner

by Kim Coleman, Preschool Director

Thank you to ALL the wonderful people who gave their time to help with the Spaghetti Fundraiser! And thank you to all the people who came out to support the preschool and its wonderful ministry with these precious children! This church and the people of the church have been a blessing and we appreciate all the prayers and support!

Our curriculum theme for the month is "Down on the Farm." The children will be learning the letters C, X, U, the numbers 2, 12, 20, the colors red and brown, and the shape of a triangle. They will also learn about different farm animals, farm equipment, and harvesting crops.

The Experience God curriculum theme is "God is the Good Shepherd." We will be discussing how God protects us; takes care of our needs, and how to be like Jesus. Our Bible verse is "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." John 10:11

If you purchase any Campbell Soup products and would like to save those labels, the preschool is now collecting them. We will be using these labels through the "Labels for Education" program to receive free items for our preschool from Campbell's. So, just start saving those labels and turn them in to the church office or leave them on my desk.

Blessings to all,  
Kim Coleman

## Josh Collier chosen for iGo Global mission trip to Spain

Joshua Collier will participate in a mission trip to Madrid, Spain, with iGo Global from June 28-July 8, 2014.

Josh learned of this opportunity at youth camp this summer and has felt led to participate. He has begun raising funds to pay for the trip.

Please remember Josh in your prayers. If you would like to help financially, you may donate through the church. An account has been set up in Josh's name. Two fundraisers—T-shirt sales and a barbecue meal in December—are being planned.

Josh is a freshman at Brady High School. He accepted the Lord at the FCA Fields of Faith last October. He participated in mission trips to Arizona and to Arkansas this summer.

## Committees on the job for 2013-2014

The Sept. church business meeting approved the committee appointments for the new church year. Committee members are listed on page 2.

If you are a chair of a committee, please call a meeting soon to discuss the duties of your committee and make plans. Thanks!

## Staff appreciation month event planned

Sunday, October 13, Staff Appreciation day will be celebrated with a potluck meal for the FBC church family at noon.

The Sassy Sisters group will provide the meat. Everyone is asked to bring one or two side dishes, using this plan:

- If your last name begins with A-H, please bring a dessert.
- If your last name begins with I-P, please bring a vegetable.
- If your last name begins with Q-Z, please bring a salad.

Please plan to participate in this event to let our pastor and staff know that we appreciate them!

You might also remember these individuals with a card or phone call of thanks sometime during October.



## LIBA Annual Meeting at our church, Oct. 20

FBC Brady will host the Lake Ivie Baptist Association annual meeting on Sunday, October 20. The board and WMU will meet at 4:00, the meal will begin at 5:30, and the worship service will start at 6:30. Please plan to attend and get to know your fellow Baptists!

## Ed Weber to deliver donations to Banda ministries

Ed Weber is collecting donations for the Frank Banda ministries and will make the trip to Eagle Pass on October 24.

Donations of clean, gently used clothing and household articles are always welcome. Bro. Banda's ministry includes a daily meal for children in need; beans and rice are a staple for this meal and are always needed.

If you have questions about this ministry to people on the Texas/Mexico border, or if you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Ed at 325-475-3471. You may bring your donations to the Hope men's classroom or the church office before the 24th.

## Music Ministry: Christmas is coming!

This month in our music ministry has been very exciting and has also been a huge reminder of how much we all depend on one another for love and support.

The Christmas program has been selected. We will be uniting with the Methodist Church to form one choir like we have done in the past. If you would like to sing in the choir for this program (and I hope anyone who has a voice will feel a tugging at their heart to come and sing) then we will begin rehearsing soon in October on Wednesday nights. Anyone at all is invited to be a part of this wonderful experience in singing and praising our Lord.



This month has also been slightly challenging, revealing exactly how much I depend on those around me for support and cooperation. I cannot begin to express my gratitude to my praise team and musicians; they all make the worship service so much more than I could provide alone. This being said, it is very noticeable when one of these members is missing during our worship. These wonderful people all bring their best and lay it down at the feet of God, praising Him with all of our congregation. Like I said, I can't begin to express my gratitude, so as far as words can go -

I thank you all for your diligence, love and support.

*Love and Blessings—Tyler Cooper, Minister of Music*

## Youth events

September was a busy month for the youth group!!

\*On Sept 21 we Rocked the Flags(!) with a Christian concert of 5 bands at Fiesta Texas!! Excitement abounded! It was a long day (from 7:45am til midnight) but a good time was had by all!

\*See You At The Pole was Sept. 25 -- There was a good group in attendance both at the Middle School and at the High School. Prayers were said for our local campuses, teachers, and students. At the High School worship songs sung as well.

\*During the month of September we interviewed 3 different possible youth directors. Any youth that wanted to ask questions got to be a part of the process and do that.

\*Stay tuned for more news on the subject of youth director coming up.

\*\*\*UPCOMING Event -- FIELDS of FAITH coming up on Wed., October 9, 2013. We will be going to Brownwood for this event. Be ready for an awesome night and invite a friend, too!

Remember.....Always represent Christ where you are!

*Sharon McDonald, Chair of Youth/Recreation Committee*

## Women's ministries: A place for everyone

### Report from the "Sassy Sisters":

- The Girls Night Out on Sept. 21 was lots of fun. We shared brown bag sandwiches in Mary's backyard then played Bible Trivia. Thanks, Mary and Susan, for your hospitality!
- The October planning meeting will be on Sunday afternoon, October 6, at 4:30. We will be working on a project for the next Sunday.
- Sassy Sisters will host a pot luck meal for the church on Sunday, Oct. 13, as part of Staff Appreciation month.
- Weekly Bible study at Mary Ballew's is open to all. The current study is "A word from the Word," an in-depth exploration of key words from the Bible. The group meets every Monday at 4:00.



AWANA will begin on Wednesday, Oct 2, at 5:30 until 7:15. This program is open to all children in the community from preschool through fifth grade. The children gather in the sanctuary to sign in and have the pledges and songs. Then each age group follows a different schedule of Awana Bible study (Cubbies, Sparks, and T&T); missions organizations (GA's, RA's, and Mission Friends); and a light meal.

Thanks to Sherrie Pierce and Seth Spurgin, our newest volunteers. Sherrie will help with Sparks and Seth with T&T. We are still in need of at least two more volunteer helpers. If you could help for any part of the 2-hour period, please talk to Cynthia or RaNon.

—Cynthia Reeves, Children's director

The **Nominating Committee** presented the 12 church committees for 2013-2014 for approval at the Sept. business meeting. Thank you to all who agreed to serve! Each committee should be having a meeting in the near future to make plans for the church year, which starts October 1. Here are the committees, with the chair listed first:

1. Hospitality: Kathy Brandenberger, Bobbie Williams, Rick Kent, Donna Kent, Julie Armstrong, Stefani McKay. Susan Turk and Lynn Munden are church hostesses.
2. Constitution and By-laws: Joyce Scott, Ed Weber, Doris Collins, Becky Martin
3. Finance/Budget/Stewardship: Gerald Nobles, Mabel Jones, Judy Mitzel, RaNon Caraway
4. Missions/Outreach: Bobbie Williams, RaNon Caraway, Sharon McDonald, Debbie Nobles, Becky Weber
5. Music: Terry Bean, Becky Weber, Jody McKay, Norma Ridout, Janet Guthrie, Payton Brandenberger, Tyler Cooper
6. Nominating: Becky Martin, Karen Behrens, Doris Collins, Kathy Brandenberger, Joyce Hollingsworth, Pat Matula, Bobby Williams, Shane Owens
7. Nursery: Melissa Burkhart, David Munden, Kim Howard
8. Personnel: Lynn Munden, James Smith, Brad Woodard, Bobby Williams, Gerald Nobles, Melissa Burkhart, Terry Bean, Jerry Caraway, Sharon McDonald
9. Properties and Services: Jerry Caraway, Joyce Scott, Kenneth Young, Jackie Maxcey, Ronnie Holloway, Bobby Williams, Roy Guthrie
10. Youth and Recreation: Sharon McDonald, Stefani McKay, Destani Roberts, Becky Bauer, Payton Brandenberger, Julie Armstrong
11. Public Relations: Deryl Bishop, Maurice Mallow, Oralia Barrera, Angie Willis, Betty Smith, Joyce Collier
12. Flowers: Cynthia Reeves, Jeanagayle Behrens, Jackie Maxcey

# October 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Erica Reeves Austin Paradise	3 Wendy Clark	4	5
6 Sassy Sisters, 4:30; Evening worship 6:00; Deacons meeting, 7:00	7	8 Grace class hosts "Pie Party" at Brady West, 3:00 Alysa Lacy Doris Whitaker	9 Fields of Faith, Brownwood Susan Turk Brad Woodard	10 Samuel Torres Kaitlyn Everett Walker Bauer	11 Food Distribution, 10:00-12:00	12 Erica and Ty's shower, 10:00- 11:30 Ashley Salinas
13 Pot luck lunch, noon; Business Meeting, 6:00 Elmer Nelson	14 Triple S lunch, noon, Fellowship Hall	15 Jack Turk Logan Harper	16 Bryan Martin	17 Nelda Martin	18 Loreta Hiller Kameron Roberts	19 Benjamin Galindo Caleb Galindo
20 LIBA Annual meeting here, 4:30 Patsy Finley	21 Travis Gary Becky Weber	22 Hillary Turk	23	24 Ed Weber goes to Eagle Pass with contributions for Frank Banda ministry	25 Jamie Taylor Dana Walker Helen Pierce	26 Bill Johnson Opal Smyrl Judy Mitzel
27 Visitation, 6:00 Howle Maddux	28 Triple S meal and game night, 6:00 Lovie Nowlin Dillon Roberts	29 Geneva Joslin Susan Lohn	30	31 Gary Mitzel		

## Weekly Events

### Sunday

- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 10:50 AM Morning Worship
- 6:00 PM Evening Services/Events

### Monday

- 4:00 PM Ladies Bible study  
home of Mary Ballew
- 6:30 PM CWJC, Building Men for Christ

### Wednesday

- 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast  
Presbyterian Church
- 5:30 AWANA, missions organizations
- 6:00 Prayer meeting/Bible study
- 5:45-6:30 Middle School Youth
- 6:30-7:00 Youth snack time
- 7:00-8:15 High School Youth

### Thursday

- 9:30-11:00 Dorcas quilting ministry

### Deacons on call for October

- Virgil Middleton 597-2629
- James Mallow 597-2373

### Greeters for October

- East Door
- Oct. 6 Travis and Pat Gary
- Oct. 13 Charlie and Gwen Bush
- Oct. 20 Rex and Geneva Joslin
- Oct. 27 Bill and Wanda Burns
- West Door: Youth

### Broadcasts on KNEL 95.3 FM

Sunday morning: live broadcast at  
11:00 AM

Weekdays: Morning Devotional at  
7:45 AM

Thanks to Claudette Young, Becky  
Martin, Shirley Nelson, and Lynn  
Munden for recording radio devo-  
tionals in September.

October devotionals will be done  
by Cynthia Reeves, Betty Smith,  
Maurice Mallow, and Joyce Collier.

### Welcome new members

By letter  
Lane and Joanna Coston  
and Shelby Gothard

### Food Ministry Report

#### September 2013

- 116 families
- 140 adults
- 66 children under 12
- 49 adults 65 and older

October food distribution  
will be Friday, October 11,  
from 10:00 to 12:00.



*Pray without ceasing. . .*

But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

*James 3:17*

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• our nation's leaders</li> <li>• our members in the nursing homes</li> <li>• our homebound members</li> <li>• the lost and un-churched in our community</li> <li>• Brady children &amp; youth</li> <li>• Our Sunday School</li> <li>• Josh Collier's mission trip to Spain</li> </ul> <p>Catherine Adams<br/>Pam Beasley<br/>Maggie Behrens<br/>Ricky Bentley<br/>David Bishop<br/>Dorothy Bishop<br/>Joyce Blackwell</p> | <p>Marcus Burell<br/>Karla Burleson<br/>Betty Caraway<br/>April Carson<br/>Sue Crow<br/>Fayrene Easley<br/>Patsy Finley<br/>Clarence Friar<br/>Janet Gloria<br/>Louise Hammett<br/>Jimmy Hodges<br/>Kenneth House<br/>Wesley Hyatt<br/>Curtis and Genna Jennings<br/>Mike Lowery<br/>Colton Lane McMullin<br/>Paul and Connie Nix<br/>Brian Owen<br/>Tracy Parsley</p> | <p>Rick Penny<br/>Ann Roberts<br/>John and Liz Rudder<br/>Betty Schaffner<br/>Jerry Slaughter<br/>Mike and Laurie Slone-<br/>Marcell Smith<br/>Opal Smyrl<br/>Jim Spurgin<br/>Joy Taylor<br/>Jack and Susan Turk<br/>Frances Tybo<br/>Jim Underwood<br/>Richard Valdez<br/>Chelsea Watts<br/>Billy and Doris Whitaker<br/>Skylyn Whitaker<br/>Lilly Williams<br/>Kaelie Dawn Young</p> | <p><i>In military:</i><br/>Daryl Booth<br/>Jon Bradshaw<br/>Brandon Haymon<br/>Talisha Hendley<br/>David Hernandez<br/>Concho Moore<br/>Tyler Remini<br/>Jace Telford<br/>Jonathan Torres<br/>Alisha Slone<br/>Wes Stark<br/>Justin Williams<br/>Ricky Williams, Jr.</p> |
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The newsletter is available on the church website: [fbcbrady.org](http://fbcbrady.org). It can also be sent to your email address each month; just send your address to [becky@scottmartin.net](mailto:becky@scottmartin.net).

Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.

*James 3:18*




Awana and missions organizations begin on Wednesday, October 2, at 5:30.

Dear Sassy Sisters, Thank you so much for the back-to-school basket full of goodies! It was such a neat surprise! I am looking so forward to this school year!  
Sterling Roddie  
*Teacher, Godly Impressions Preschool*

Thank you for the goody box. Everything was delicious. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity. I appreciate all you ladies.  
Linda Torres  
*Paraprofessional, BHS*

*You are cordially invited to a brunch honoring Erica Reeves, bride-elect of Ty Gerstenburger*  
October 12, 2013  
10:00-11:30  
FBC Family Life Center



*Bring your favorite recipe with non-perishable ingredients and a pan to cook it in.*

I want to say thank you so much to everyone who has shown concern for me. Those who brought food, called, sent cards, and visited me. For the runs to the grocery and drug store. A special thanks to Virginia, Tessie, and Joyce for trips to doctors and hospital. For my sister Elouise who is such a blessing to me. For the prayers offered on my behalf. I hope to be back before much longer. God bless you all!  
Love,  
Fayrene Easley