

First Baptist Church Newsletter

Happy Thanksgiving

by Bro. Kevin McDonald fbcbrady.org@gmail.com

As I write this, I am of course, thinking about all that I have to be thankful for. But it really isn't thanksgiving until you have given thanks, is it? So I say "thank you" to RaNon for her service to all of us, as she serves Jesus by serving us as our secretary. You have no idea of all that she (and Jerry) does for you. Thank you to Becky and the newsletter crew who come up here and get the newsletter out every month. They are a well-oiled machine that never misses a beat. Thank you to Maria for cleaning up our messes and making us look good when visitors come in our buildings.

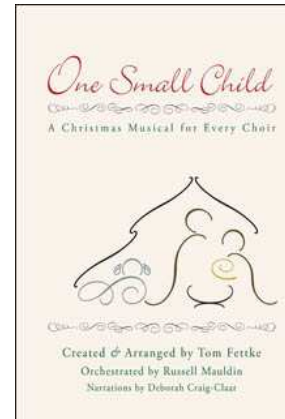
Thank you to all the musicians and singers who help us worship. Their time and skills often are taken for granted, and that should not be. Thank you to the food pantry workers. The second Friday of the month seems to come every-other week, but you are here, (some of you once a week to prepare), and you are my heroes.

Thank you to all the Awana, R.A., G.A. and other workers. It is a chaotic time, but Jesus gets more exposure at FBC Brady during Awana than all the rest of the week combined. Thank you to all the Sunday School workers and teachers. Your devotion to your flocks, Jesus and God's word inspire me. Thank you to the cooks and kitchen workers during Awana. It would not happen without you. Thank you to the hospitality folks. You do an insane amount of work on short notice, and never fail to do a good job.

Thank you greeters. You are the face of FBC, and I'm glad it always has a smile. Thank you Jerry. There is not enough space for all the reasons. Thank you deacons, for being deacons and not anything else. Your servant hearts and servant leadership are blessings to many. Thank you flower ladies, who do both the inside and the outside beautification. You are as beautiful as the flowers you share. Thank you nursery workers, for loving all the babies. I know I forgot someone, so please forgive me. Your service does not go unappreciated or unnoticed.

I hope you will not just be thankful this holiday season, but GIVE thanks. Give it to others, to those who deserve it, who have earned it, to those who need a little encouragement to continue to do all that they do for us. We are reminded how much we have and how much we need each other when we give thanks.

Thank you, Lord.



Christmas musical set for Sunday, Dec. 15

The Christmas musical *One Small Child* will be presented by the combined choirs of First Baptist Church and First United Methodist Church on Sunday, Dec. 15.

Director is Tyler Cooper of FBC. Assistant director is Kathleen Gray of FUMC.

The presentation will be at the Methodist Church at 10:00 in the morning and at our church at 6:00 pm.

Invite your family and friends to join you at either or both of these performances for a special Christmas blessing.

RA project will purchase bicycles, Bibles, and more

The RA's have been working on a mission project to "put feet to" what they are learning about the Lord and service to Him. Rick and Donna Kent have led the boys to learn about rocks and rock polishing. The boys sold the rocks to raise money to send to Samaritan's Purse ministries.

The sale raised \$420 in donations, which exceeded what the boys were hoping for. They chose specific items to purchase for mission work through Samaritan's Purse: 2 or 3 bicycles, Bibles and Christian literature, sports gear, hot meals, Jesus-loves-me musical lambs for traumatized children, milk, blankets, and baby chicks!

Thanks to everyone who purchased the beautiful rocks, and thanks to Rick and Donna for providing this hands-on project for the RA's.



In your Christmas giving, please consider a generous donation to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, which provides support to Southern Baptist missionaries and ministries around the world.

Operation Christmas Child boxes taken to San Angelo

Donna Kent took 57 gift-filled Operation Christmas Child boxes to the Christian Church in San Angelo on Nov. 21. From there they would be taken to a distribution center and shipped around the world.

The boxes contained school supplies, toothbrushes and toothpaste, small toys, hard candy, and other items for boys and girls of different ages. The boxes will be given to children in impoverished countries along with a Christian witness and the story of Jesus.

Thank you to all who helped with this project sponsored by Samaritan's Purse. Their website says, "Since 1993, more than 100 million boys and girls in over 130 countries have experienced God's love through the power of simple shoebox gifts from Operation Christmas Child. Samaritan's Purse works with local churches and ministry partners to deliver the gifts and share the life-changing Good News of Jesus Christ."



Dec. 15 fundraiser chili supper for Josh's mission trip

A fundraiser for Josh Collier's mission trip to Spain next summer has been scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 15, after the Christmas musical in the evening. Josh and his team will be serving chili and cornbread, hot dogs for those who don't want chili, desserts, coffee, tea, and water. Everyone is invited to stay after the musical for this meal, or for dessert and coffee. If anyone would like to help by providing a dessert, that would be greatly appreciated.

Josh's goal of \$4000 for this mission trip is within reach. The trip itself is \$3500, plus \$500 for passport, travel and from the departure point, and other preparation expenses. A big thank you goes to everyone who has donated so far. As of Nov. 21, Josh has raised \$2264.00.

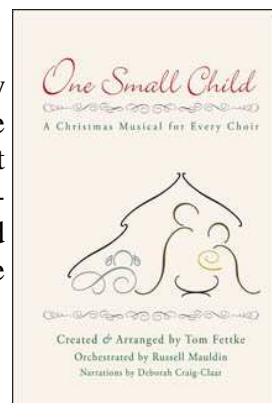
Another fundraiser meal is being planned for Feb. 2 after the morning service.

Josh is available to help folks with yard work, cleanup, moving, putting up Christmas lights, etc., for a donation. Call Seth Spurgin at 792-4750 or Joyce Collier at 792-4848 to arrange a time.

Music Ministry: *One Small Child* set for Dec. 15

The Christmas cantata is rapidly approaching as we near December! We are currently combined with our Methodist neighbors across town and are praising God as one! The program will be held on December 15th, in the morning at the Methodist Church at 10:00 and at our church for the evening service at 6:00. We are still open to more members coming and singing with us, Especially men!!!! We have a wonderful choir and would love to have anyone that would like to make a joyful noise with us. Hope to see all of you there!

—Tyler Cooper, Minister of Music



Youth events

November was a great month for the youth!

- November 10 we had our very first S.M.A.C. (Sunday morning after church). This was a youth activity where the youth met in the FLC building after the morning church service and we had lunch and then played different games. This was a fun activity and there will be plenty more S.M.A.C.'s in the future!

- December 6th and 7th the youth will be having a campout/ Christmas party! There will be a white elephant gift exchange and more activities at this event! We will meet at the church on Friday at 4:30 to load up and leave to the camp site. There is a signup sheet in the FLC building for this activity. There is a limit on the number of students that can go, so hurry and signup!!!

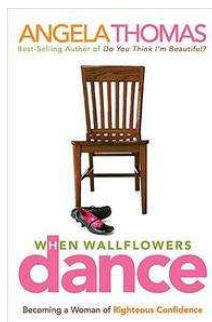
- Come and join us on Wednesday nights at 5:15!!! The junior high service starts at 5:45 and the senior high service starts at 7:15. Come get challenged and encouraged as we dig into God's Word for strength to make it through our busy and difficult weeks. We need each other to stay focused on our mission in life as followers of Jesus Christ, and what that should look like in our everyday lives. We are so easily distracted, and this is one tool to keep us on track! Don't miss this opportunity!

- Jack Wells, Youth Minister

Women's ministries: Girls Night Out, Christmas cookies, Bible study Report from the "Sassy Sisters":

December "Girls Night Out" will be on December 12 at 6:00 in conjunction with our Christmas service project: cookies and goodies for the Food Pantry recipients. Susan is bringing soup and others volunteered to bring cornbread, etc. We will bag cookies to be given out the next day at the Food Pantry. Please bake a batch or two of cookies for this project.

The 7-week Bible study "When Wallflowers Dance" will begin on Tuesday, January 6, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. All ladies are invited even if they didn't attend the Ladies Retreat. There will be a sign up sheet and an order form for books for those who do not already have one. Deadline is December 20th to order books with RaNon. The first night is "meet and greet" to discuss the nature of the study and make any needed changes in time or place.



Preschool to begin all-day child care program

The children at the preschool were blessed to have the following "community helpers" come to visit us in the month of November: Dr. Susan Joliff (dentist), Officer Hernandez (police), James Coleman (construction worker), Christy Poe (hairstylist), Melissa Burkhart (nurse) and Branan Lawrence (veteran). The children learned so much from these people coming and showing their tools and sharing their trades. You can see some pictures of these visits on our Facebook page. Thank you to each of these individuals!

For the month of December the children will be learning about "Winter in the Woods", the letters "W", "O", "H", the numbers "4", "14", the colors "red" and "white", and the shape of a "square".

The Bible lesson for the month is "God Asks me to Serve Others", featuring the story of Mary. Our monthly Bible verse is "Use whatever gift you have received to serve others." 1 Peter 4:10

As many of you may know by now, the church decided at the last business meeting on November 10th for the preschool to now start offering childcare. As of December 2nd, the new hours of operation will be Monday thru Friday 7:00a.m. to 5:30p.m. for childcare. We now have 2 preschool classes with the class hours being Monday thru Friday 9:00a.m. to 12:00p.m. God is blessing us as we bless other families in this community by ministering to them through their children.

Please remember the Pre-school bake sale at Ace Hardware on Sat., Dec. 7. Any home-baked items would be greatly appreciated and can be brought to the store that morning. Proceeds will go to buy classroom supplies.

I just want to thank this church for all the support, prayers, and love. This preschool program is a ministry of this church and it is growing because of you.

—Kim Coleman, Preschool Director

December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Jessica Castillo Jackie Maxcey Evening worship 6:00; deacons meeting, 7:00	2	3 Cheyenne Huckins	4	5 Berniece Taylor	6	7 Pre-school bake sale, Ace Hardware
Week of Prayer for International Missions, Dec. 1-8				Youth campout & Christmas party		
8 Corde Morris Sassy Sisters, 5:00; business meeting, 6:00	9 Lois Patton Triple S lunch, noon, Fellowship Hall	10 Grace Class meet- ing, 3:00, FLC	11 RaNon Caraway	12 Charles Jordan Mary's Christmas gathering, 4:00 Sassy Sisters Girls Night Out, 6:00	13 Food Distribution, 10:00-12:00	14 Camille Sparks
15 Jerry Caraway Christmas musical 10:00 & 6:00; chili supper fund- raiser to follow (for Josh's mis- sion trip)	16	17 Maurice Mallow Stephen Everett	18 Leslie Morris Grace Spurgin Roy Guthrie	19	20 Gwen Bush Claire Bishop	21 James Ridout Josh Day Denise Sim- mons
22 Cooper Bean Kannon Kirk Lana Coston Visitation, 6:00	23 Triple S meal and game night, 6:00	24	25 Christmas Day	26	27 Rita Estes Isaac Escobar	28 Mary Ann Wil- ton
29 James Mallow Reno Alonzo	30 Ed Weber Laney Woodard	31				

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
5:15	Youth group: Jr. high at 5:45, high school at 7:15
5:30-7:15	AWANA, missions organizations
6:00	Prayer meeting/Bible study
7:30	Christmas cantata rehearsal
Thursday	
9:30-11:00	Dorcas quilting ministry

Deacons on call for December

Ed Weber	325-475-3471
Jerry Caraway	792-1299

Greeters for December

	East Door
Dec. 1	Joyce Collier and Josh Collier
Dec. 8	Becky and Charlie Elliott
Dec. 15	Pat and Travis Gary
Dec. 22	Maurice and James Mallow
Dec. 29	Cynthia and Robert Reeves
	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 Bobbie Williams, Deryl
Bishop, Velma Hendley, and Kevin
McDonald for recording radio devo-
tionals in November.

December devotionals will be done
by Becky and Ed Weber, Norma Ri-
dout, Becky Elliott, Bro. Kevin, and
Becky Martin.

Food Ministry Report

November 2013

- 124 families
- 159 adults
- 78 children under 12
- 56 adults 65 and older

December food distribution
will be Friday, December 13,
from 10:00 to 12:00.



Pray without ceasing. . .

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."
Luke 2:10

- our nation's leaders
- our members in the nursing homes
- our homebound members
- the lost and un-churched in our community
- Brady children & youth
- Our Sunday School
- Josh Collier's mission trip to Spain

Catherine Adams
Don Ash
Mary Ballew
Pam Beasley
Maggie Behrens
Ricky Bentley
David Bishop
Dorothy Bishop
Joyce Blackwell

Bill Boswell
Marcus Burell
Karla Burleson
Amelia Britteon
Alan Brown
April Carson
Sandra Carson
Sue Crow
Fayrene Easley
Robert Evans
Patsy Finley
Marty Flores
Janet Gloria
Louise Hammett
Jimmy Hodges
Kenneth House
Wesley Hyatt
Curtis and Genna Jennings
Mike Lowery
Joe Mallow

Colton Lane McMullin
Paul and Connie Nix
Brian Owen
Tracy Parsley
James Patton
Ann Roberts
Betty Schaffner
Jerry Slaughter
Mike and Laurie Slone
Marcell Smith
Opal Smyrl
Jim Spurgin
Joy Taylor
Jack and Susan Turk
Jim Underwood
Richard Valdez
Chelsea Watts
Billy and Doris Whitaker
Lilly Williams
Alice Young

Kaelie Dawn Young
In military:
Daryl Booth
Jon Bradshaw
Brandon Haymon
Talisha Hendley
David Hernandez
Concho Moore
Tyler Remini
Jace Telford
Jonathan Torres
Alisha Slone
Wes Stark
Justin Williams
Ricky Williams, Jr.

We extend sympathy to the families of J.H. Slaughter and Moss Seward

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Kim Coleman, Preschool Director
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325-792-6529
Norma Ridout, Pianist
Deryl Bishop, Organist

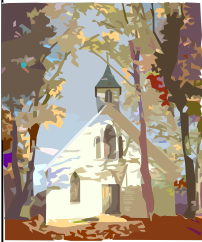
The newsletter is available on the church website: fbcbrady.org. It can also be sent to your email address each month; just send your address to becky@scottmartin.net.

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."
Luke 2:11-12

TOTALLY HIS
HEART, HANDS, VOICE
2013 LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING*
WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS DECEMBER 1-8

CHURCH GOAL: \$3000.00

Merry Christmas

<p>Congratulations to . . .</p> 	<p>Ty and Erica Gerstenberger Married November 16, 2013 at East Sweden</p>
<p><i>Lottie Moon mailboxes</i> will be set up in the hallway until Christmas for the "mailing" of cards within the church fellowship. For a donation to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, you can use this means to share Christmas greetings with your church family and support international missions.</p>	