

First Baptist Church Newsletter

Cumulative effects

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

Remember when you used to “work on your tan”? People would lie out in the sun with all kinds of goop on their skin, just to get that healthy, outdoorsy glow. Now we know better, don’t we? Long sleeved shirts, hats, and sun-block with an SPF number approaching infinity are now beach attire. No more lying out by the pool. We learned that skin damage is cumulative-it adds up over the years, eventually producing wrinkles if you are lucky, and cancer if you’re not so lucky. The sunbonnets and long sleeved cotton shirts my great-grandparents wore in the summer make a lot of sense now.

Cumulative damage--that’s the key, isn’t it? The damage accumulates. It keeps adding up. A sunburn here, a trip with your left arm on the car door as you drive there, a day in the garden, at the beach, on the boat, or on the tractor, multiplied by the years you did it, and poof! You get a trip to the dermatologist, who either cuts out or burns off the fruits of your foolishness, or calls you and says “we need to talk”.

Our spiritual life has a cumulative aspect to it too, I think. Sinning is like soaking in and soaking up the sun. We might (or might not) experience a little discomfort from it, but usually we just go on our way, suffering little-to-no spiritual sunburn from our thoughts or actions. And yet the damage adds up, never going away, never being healed, waiting to turn into something dangerous, even life-threatening. Be careful that you do not discount the danger of little sins: the white lies, the compromises of character and integrity that often help things go the way you want, that no one sees, and “doesn’t hurt anyone”. Sin adds up. Sin grows.

But good things can add up too. Take reading the Bible and praying, for example. Maybe you don’t see any immediate results in your spiritual life from reading “the begats”, or some of the less exciting passages of Scripture. Remember: over time, the words of God begin to accumulate, adding up, growing, and eventually saturating your thinking, speaking, and actions. Praying may not seem to make the differences you thought it would, but again, as prayer becomes a part of who you are, the cumulative effect begins to show in your life and others. The presence of peace, wisdom, grace and truth begins to be seen in your life.

Your health is the sum of what you have done up to this point in your life. All the healthy things and all the unhealthy things you have done to your body over the years have produced your current state of physical health. No matter your age, adopting a healthy life-style can add quality and quantity to your years. The same is true of your spiritual life. Get out of the sun and into the Son You’ll be healthier for it.

Godly Impressions Pre-school celebrates Easter

The pre-school children enjoyed an Easter party on Wednesday, March 27. The morning included chapel time, with the Easter story presented, as well as an egg hunt.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this ministry with material or financial donations, purchasing T-shirts, or serving as substitute teachers.

Please continue to pray for the children and their teachers, Kim Coleman and Kim Galindo.



Go with us!

by Betty Smith

A sign up sheet is in the foyer for those who might be interested in going on the Navajo Mission Trip this summer, June 21-30. Signing up doesn't mean you are going for sure. It just means you are interested and want more information.

Anyone is welcome, and families with children, kindergarten age and over, are encouraged to go. There is no upper age limit since many of us are already too old, but still go.

The Navajo people are wonderful, and you will fall in love with them. Our campground is absolutely beautiful, and once your tent is up, the camping is a breeze. Please pray about it, and if the Lord leads you to go, we welcome you.

Frank Banda ministry donations

Ed Weber will be taking a load of clothes and food to Pastor Frank Banda in May for his work along the border. New or gently used clothing, household items, beans, rice, and canned food are some of the items needed.

Contact Ed at 325-475-3471 for more information.

Note: This is a ministry that Bill Finley promoted and held close to his heart. Bro. Banda spoke at Bill’s funeral. Thank you, Ed, for stepping up to continue this ministry.

Christian Women’s/ Men’s Job Corps session to begin

A six-week session of CWJC/CMJC will begin Monday evening, April 6, at 6:30. The focus will be on Bible study and parenting skills.

RaNon Caraway is the site coordinator. Betty Smith will teach the parenting class, and Shane Owens will teach the Bible study.

Contact RaNon in the church office for more information.



Our goal: \$2500.00
Our giving as of
March 26: \$1139.50

The GA’s are gathering nickels, dimes, and quarters for this offering. Paper rolls for coins are available as well as a can in the foyer.

Checks are also welcome! This annual offering supports SBC missionaries in North America.

Aver Harreld to be special guest at LIBA Spring Luncheon

The LIBA Spring Luncheon will be at FBC Eden on Saturday, April 27, at 11:30. Aver Harreld will be featured. Here is some background information about her:

Aver is a native Texan who travels with her husband, Mike, as a full-time Gospel Music Evangelist. After many years of abuse, addictions and severe depression, Aver accepted Jesus as her personal Lord and Savior in 1979. It wasn’t until 1989 that she began to emotionally heal and realized that God had a calling for her to share what Jesus had done in her life. She began singing in the choir, then branching out to local venues. After several years of preparation, God began to take Aver to another level of ministry where she would share her personal testimony as a means to encourage the believer, as well as lead the lost to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Aver shares the Gospel in song, Word, and personal testimony.

Youth ministry: the life of God's people

Skylar Maley, Youth Minister

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The youth have been going through the Bible from the beginning and have learned many things thus far. Recently we have been learning about the story of Joseph. We have talked about the life that Joseph started off with. We see how Joseph started off with a good life; he had it good. We also see that he was doing what God wanted him to. But he then ran into very hard times and then started to get better--and the cycle continued for some time. Joseph was sold as a slave and thrown into prison but each time he got back up. We also see that as things go on he still followed what God wanted him to do.

Throughout the Bible there are many stories of God's people doing as he asks but not having an easy life, but they are still blessed by God. God has never promised any easy life to the believer; if anything it's a harder life. The Bible tells us, "Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything" (James 1:2-4).

Whatever ups and downs may happen in our lives, God is there for us. He asks that we continue to trust and follow him in every situation. If we choose to trust him in the hard times, not just the good, we will grow in our faith and we will be complete and not lacking anything in God's eyes. I pray that you all remember to follow Him in all things.



Women's ministries: Two luncheons and a brunch!

This is *your* invitation to the "Spring Fling" luncheon on Saturday, April 6, at 11:30 in Fellowship Hall. The menu includes chicken salad, a frozen fruit cup, cheese and crackers, and cheesecake. Please sign up in the foyer for the luncheon and to reserve child care for your children.

The associational Sixth Annual Ladies Spring Luncheon is set for Saturday, April 27, from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM at First Baptist Church in Eden. Special guest is Aver Harreld of Harreld of Praise Ministries. Aver is a national recording artist, a 2007 Dove Award Nominee, Female Soloist of the Year Nominee, Female Entertainer of the Year Nominee, and Song and video of the Year Nominee. This luncheon is hosted by LIBA WMU at no charge. Everyone is welcome. Talk to Becky Weber FMI.

A Mother's Day brunch is being planned for May 12.

This month's Sassy Sisters planning meeting will be Sunday afternoon, April 14, at 4:30 in Fellowship Hall.



Music ministry: a 15-cent guitar pick

Tyler Cooper, Minister of Music

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This month I participated in the HPU Rock Then and Now concert as the lead guitarist. One of these two stories I shared this month with everyone present at that particular Sunday service, but here it is again!

The first part is about how much time and effort I had to put into the concert, but I still was so nervous before we took the stage. I have not felt "sick" before a show in years! But, with a little help from the big guy above, I was able to leave my fears and worries off stage and play my best to glorify Him!

The second, and most memorable to me, happened after the show was over and I was taking a breather on the front of the stage sitting down. A man with his two sons came up to me and expressed how much his youngest son enjoyed the show and asked if he could get a picture with me! We took the picture and as the smiling child was turning away, I pulled my last guitar pick from my pocket and handed it to him with a smile. His eyes lit up like Christmas morning! I cannot express how much joy it brought me to bring even a small amount of that to that child! This guitar pick cost maybe around fifteen cents, at most, but to this child it didn't matter. Never overlook the little, insignificant things because it could mean a world's difference to someone else!

AWANA will meet through May 1, then end the year with Family Night on May 8.

VBS is scheduled for July 21-25. Volunteers are always needed for this important ministry. There is a place for anyone who would like to help. Watch for a sign-up sheet in the foyer.

Thanks to everyone who has done a children's sermon recently. If you would like to help with this ministry, talk to Cynthia Reeves. *Your help is always appreciated.*



**Vacation
Bible School
July 21-25**



Girls in Action and Royal Ambassadors make a great pair! Find ways to bring your groups together this fall.



Mission Friends

April 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> CWJC/CMJC begins, 6:30 Bill Burns	<i>2</i> Graceson Williams	<i>3</i> Paul Nix	<i>4</i> Sherry Cox Mabel Jones	<i>5</i> Carl Lohn	<i>6</i> <i>Spring Fling luncheon, 11:30</i> Robert Reeves
<i>7</i> <i>Deacons meeting, 5:00</i> Austin Reeves	<i>8</i> <i>Triple S lunch, noon, Fellowship Hall</i> Charlie Elliott	<i>9</i> <i>Grace Class meeting, 4:00, FLC</i>	<i>10</i> John David Bishop	<i>11</i> Raymond Tally Robby Paradise	<i>12</i> <i>Food Distribution, 10:00-12:00</i>	<i>13</i> Becky Elliott
<i>14</i> <i>Sassy Sisters, 4:30, Fellowship Hall; Business Meeting, 6:00</i> Margaret Mitchell Kevin McDonald	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> Mikayla Springer Jonathan Torres	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> Zoey Sparks	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>21</i> <i>All-church fellowship, 6:00.</i> Billy Whitaker	<i>22</i> <i>Triple S meal and game night, 6:00</i> Glenda Douglas	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i> Zane Sparks	<i>27</i> <i>LIBA Ladies Luncheon, FBC Eden, 11:30</i>
<i>28</i> <i>Visitation, 6:00</i>	<i>29</i> Howard Grosse Carrah Sparks	<i>30</i> Beth Snowden Carrie Pearson				

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, CMJC
Wednesday	
7:00 AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast Presbyterian Church
5:30	AWANA, mission groups
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	Quilting ministry , Grace Class Sunday School room

Deacons on call for April

Jim Smith	597-0740
Jerry Caraway	792-1299

Greeters for April

	East Door
April 7	Gerald and Debbie Nobles
April 14	Virgil and Glenda Middleton
April 21	Welman and Becky Bauer
April 28	Greg and Becky Lohn
	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 Oralia Barrera, Tess Warren, Karen Behrens, and Joyce Hollingsworth for recording radio devotionals in March.

April devotionals will be done by Wanda Burns, Joyce Scott, Cynthia Reeves, and Deryl Bishop.

Food Ministry Report

March 2013

- 78 families
- 77 adults
- 47 children under 12
- 45 adults 65 and older

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



Pray without ceasing. . .

And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.
Romans 5:5

- 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
 - Godly Impressions Preschool
 - Charlie and Becky Elliott on mission to China
- Catherine Adams
Connor Armstrong
Pam Beasley

Joyce Blackwell
Marcus Burell
Betty Caraway
April Carson
Louise Hammett
Jimmy Hodges
Curtis and Genna Jennings
Tammy Kirkland
Mike Lowery
Edna Myers
Paul and Connie Nix
Brian Owen
Tracy Parsley
Bobbye and Jerry Petty
Dorothy Reeves
Alton and Destani Roberts
Ann Roberts

Red and Kay Simpson
Jerry Slaughter
Mike and Laurie Slone
Opal Smyrl
Joy Taylor
Joyce Torres
Jack and Susan Turk
Richard Valdez
Makie Jo Walters
Billy and Doris Whitaker
Skylyn Whitaker
Margaret White
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.

Please remember in your prayers the family of Bill Finley

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

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8



Thank you to Jerry Caraway for faithfully changing the sign in front of the church for the past several years. And thank you, Dillon Roberts, for taking on this responsibility.

Bus drivers are needed for picking up youth on Wed. nights. Please sign up in the West Entry or talk to Skyler. Thank you for helping bring youth to Christ.

Customers like you are a pleasure. We value your business and look forward to serving you again. Thank you, Bruce and staff at Spring Crest Drapery and Carpet Center in Brownwood

**Happy birthday, Bro. Kevin, April 14!
We love you!**



To thank you for your kindness and sympathy at a time when it was deeply appreciated—I want to thank everybody for the food, prayers, thoughts, and concern. From Pam Block, Jerry Lee Wilkins, the Glenda Carson family