

April 2014

First Baptist Church Newsletter

Brady, Texas

<http://fbcbrady.org/>

Vol.15., No. 4

Uncharted waters of imagination

by Dr. Kevin McDonald

fbcbrady.org@gmail.com

How good is your imagination? How does it affect your life and your future? I just heard on the news that searchers have found a large debris field that is most likely Malaysian Airlines flight 370. If it is in fact the remains of the flight, tragedy will take the place of hope and facts will supplant mystery.

For weeks, we have been bombarded with theories of what could have happened, from UFOs and “shadow planes” to terrorist hijackings and the mental state of the flight crew. The number of possible landing strips and motives offered by the media were nearly endless. I think the imagination and speculation injected into this situation were neither responsible nor healthy.

There are times when we must guard our imagination. All too often we build a plausible (but false) reality in our mind, based on what someone told us, or what we thought we heard someone say. Malaysian flight 370 is an example of imagination run amuck.

On the other hand, what if we would dare to place our imagination under the control of the Holy Spirit? What if we dare to imagine what God could do if we had the courage (imagination) to ask Him? To dare to believe in and ask for renewal for ourselves, salvation for others, and for God to pour out His Spirit on, of all people, us?

Jesus said “You have not because you ask not.” What do you not dare to ask for? Peace? Forgiveness? Salvation? Something you don’t deserve? Do you have the imagination (courage) to imagine yourself as not only as forgiven, but as a forgiver?

I think that faith and imagination have a relationship we should explore. Dare to ask for the unimaginable. Why limit God to doing only the things you have seen or you can imagine? Stretch your imagination through your prayers. The motto of the British Special Air Services is “He Who Dares Wins.” What are you daring, what are you imagining in your prayers? Turn your imagination over to the Lord; to the Holy Spirit. Stop asking God to do the things you can imagine, and start asking God to do things He can imagine.

—Bro. Kevin

Angels Unaware

by a grateful member of FBC

Forgive me if I have misused the title. But I wanted to recognize some folks who do things around our church that everyone might not be aware of. For instance, no one does more than Jerry Caraway to keep our church running in every way, from yard work, to repairs, to changing our sign out front. No one really knows what all RaNon does, so I won’t go there.

Jackie Maxcey takes care of our beautiful patio area on the east side of the church. Of course we couldn’t read this newsletter if Becky Martin didn’t put it together each month. Deryl Bishop, Joyce Hollingsworth, and Pete and Oralia Barrera fold it.

After RaNon prints and folds our bulletins each week, Nelda Martin puts the inserts in them for Sunday use.

Our food pantry wouldn’t be operating but for the pre-work of individuals—led

by Travis Gary and George Matula—to pick up many pounds of food from Walmart each Thursday. They are assisted by Pat Matula, Pat Gary, Betty and Jim Smith, Glenda and Virgil Middleton, and Oralia and Pete Barrera.

Several times a year Ed Weber takes a collection of items from our church to the Mexican border to continue a ministry started by Bill Finley.

George Matula and James Mallow close up and lock the church every time we use it. People who run our sound and video system each week include Terry Bean, Jody McKay, and Gene Nelson. Sherry Cox puts “Home Touch” in bulletins and sends them to shut-ins each week.

Other people probably do things I am not aware of, and I apologize to those I have missed.

A big THANK YOU goes to ALL our unseen angels.

Easter events

- Palm Sunday: The children will make palms during Sunday School, 9:45 AM, and present them during the Children’s Sermon in the worship service.
- Good Friday: we will have a special worship service in the sanctuary at 6:00 PM.
- Easter Sunday: Annual Children’s Easter Egg Hunt during Sunday School with juice, milk and donut holes afterwards. The egg hunt will be on the baseball field in the back of the church. Each child will need to bring an Easter basket or a sack. Eggs will be furnished.

(For more information on children’s events, please call Maurice Mallow, 597-2373, or Claudette Young, 597-2485.)

United in prayer

Please continue to pray for our church as we reach the end of a 40-day period of concentrated prayer.

The prayer room across from the office is open each day for those who wish to pray there. Home prayer groups have been meeting. One group meets at the church on Tuesday night at 6:00, and everyone is welcome to take part. New home prayer groups are encouraged.

Thanks to Bro. Kevin for his powerful sermons on prayer during March and to Claudette Young, RaNon Caraway, Mary Ballew, Bobby Williams, George Matula, and Debbie Nobles for their example and leadership.

Summer mission trips

- **Alexa Bean** to a city in Central Asia, May 13-25
- **Betty Smith** and others to Tinian, New Mexico (Navajo Reservation), June 20-29
- **Joshua Collier** to Madrid, Spain, July 12-22.



**Annie Armstrong
Easter Offering for
North American
Missions
Church goal: \$2000**

FIRMLY PLANTED

Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23

ROOTED IN THE GOSPEL

Youth events

March was a great month for the youth group; we have had several new faces showing up on Wednesday night services. I ask that you pray that the youth group will continue growing.

Summer events

- June 9-13 youth will be going to the Dallas Baptist University campus for Super Summer!
- June 27-28 youth will be going to Y.E.C.!
- July 6-10 the youth will be going to church camp this year at the Heart of Texas Baptist Encampment in Brownwood!
- The cost of camp is \$195. A \$50 down payment is due the first of May.
- All these events are going to be extremely fun, and most importantly are going to challenge the youth to grow in their walk with God. I ask that you pray for these summer events and that God will work in the lives of the youth through these events.
- 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

Mary's Bible study:

The Bible study at Mary Ballew's meets each Monday at 4:00. Everyone is welcome to participate in "A word from the Word," as we read Scriptures and discuss key words from the Bible. A new word is chosen each week.

Dorcas Quilting Group:

The quilters are nearing completion of the hand quilting on the quilt in the photo. Another full-size quilt is being machine quilted.

Thanks to Debbie Nobles for her donation of a bag of quilting "treasures"!

This group meets on Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:00 in the Grace Sunday School classroom. *You* are invited!



Godly Impressions Preschool update

For the month of April the children will be learning about "Birds and Eggs", the letters "B", "N", "E", the numbers "8", "18", the colors "blue" and "white", and the shape of a "oval". The preschool will be closed on April 18th, for Good Friday.

The Bible lesson for the month is "God Is the Holy Spirit" featuring the story "Jesus Sends the Holy Spirit." Our monthly Bible verse is "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything that I have told you." John 14:26

We are collecting egg cartons that hold one dozen eggs (12). We will be using these egg cartons to make our very own Resurrection Eggs. Please just drop them off in my office.

Thank you all for your continued support!

God bless,
Kim Coleman

We are asking for snack donations: (We have plenty of Animal Crackers and Pop-Tarts)

Bottled Water – Gallon Size

Cheerios, Graham Crackers, Gold Fish Crackers, Nilla Wafers, Chex Cereal, Kix Cereal, Whales Crackers, Nutri Grain Bars, Cheez-It Crackers, Pretzels, Ritz Crackers, Cube Cheese, Cheese Sticks, Bananas, Apples, Oranges, Grapes, etc.

—Kim Coleman, Preschool Director



Awana Family Night

Awana and missions organizations will complete the year with Family Night on April 30. Families are invited to a meal with their children in Fellowship Hall and a program in the sanctuary.

Thank you to all the teachers, helpers, and food workers who have worked so faithfully in Awana this year. You have new stars in your crowns!



Mission Friends

April 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Bill Burns	2 Graceson Wil- liams	3 Paul Nix	4 Sherry Cox Mabel Jones	5 Carl Lohn
6 Robert Reeves <i>Evening worship,</i> 6:00	7 Austin Reeves	8 Charlie Elliott <i>Grace Class meet- ing, 3:00, 805 W. 15th St.</i>	9	10 John David Bishop	11 Raymond Tally Robby Paradise <i>Food Distribution,</i> 10:00-12:00	12
13 Becky Elliott <i>Palm Sunday Business meeting,</i> 6:00; <i>deacons meeting 7:00</i>	14 Kevin McDonald Margaret Mitchell <i>Triple S lunch, noon, Fellowship Hall</i>	15 Jonathan Torres	16 Mikayla Springer	17	18 Zoey Sparks <i>Good Friday Ser- vice 6:00 Preschool closed today</i>	19
20 <i>Easter Sunday</i>	21 Billy Whitaker	22 Glenda Douglas Cy Nobles	23	24	25	26 Zane Sparks
27 <i>Visitation, 6:00</i>	28 <i>Triple S meal and game night, 6:00</i>	29 Howard Grosse Carrah Sparks	30 Beth Snowden Carrie Pearson <i>Awana Family Night</i>			

**Broadcasts on
KNEL 95.3 FM**
Sunday morning: live broadcast at
11:00 AM
Weekdays: Morning Devotional at
7:45 AM
 Thanks to Cynthia Reeves, Lynn
Munden, Kathy Brandenberger, and
Joyce Scott for recording radio devo-
tionals in March.
 April devotionals will be done by
Judy Mitzel, Judy Odem, Linsey
Woodard, Kay Holloway, and Jeana-
gayle Behrens.

**Grace Class plans program
on nutrition**
 The Grace Ladies Sunday School Class will
meet for their monthly meeting on Tuesday,
April 8th, at the home of Maurice Mallow, 805
W.15th St., at 3:00 pm. Co-hostess is Wanda
Burns.
 The program will be presented by Judy Oden,
an employee in the Home Economics Depart-
ment under the Extension Agent. Representing
the Better Living for Texans, she will speak on:
“Get the facts on Nutrition.”
 Ladies, come and learn how to make your
cooking/eating more nutritional. We all need a
little reminder occasionally that our bodies are “a
temple of God” and he expects us to take care of
that body. Bring a guest.

Weekly Events
Sunday
 9:30 AM Special prayer time, parlor
 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
 5:45 Youth group: middle school
 at 5:45, high school at 7:15
 5:30-7:15 Awana, missions organizations
 6:00 Prayer meeting/Bible study
Thursday
 9:30-11:00 Dorcas quilting ministry
 6:30 Community choir, Choir Room

Deacons on call for April
 Jim Smith 597-0740
 Jerry Caraway 792-8749

Greeters for April
 East Door
 April 6 Chris and Julie Armstrong
 April 13 Bill and Wanda Burns
 April 20 Gerald and Debbie Nobles
 April 27 Andy and Kim Howard
 West Door: Youth

But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. —*Matthew 13:23*

Pray without ceasing. . .

- 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
 - Alexa Bean’s trip to Central Asia
 - Josh Collier’s mission trip to Spain
 - Navajo mission trip
- Catherine Adams
 Jamie Akins
 Dale Anderson
 Don Ash
 Pam Beasley
 Maggie Behrens
- Rick Bentley
 David Bishop
 Dorothy Bishop
 Ethel Blackwell
 Joyce Blackwell
 Alan Brown
 Marcus Burell
 April Carson
 Larry Collier
 Doris Collins
 Jessica Collins
 Sherry Cox
 Sue Crow
 Fayrene Easley
 Patsy Finley
 Louise Gainer
 Kenneth House
 Wesley Hyatt
 Arch Jacobson
 Juanita Jacobson
 Curtis and Genna Jennings

- Mike Lowery
 Leroy Keese
 Gary Mitzel
 Paul and Connie Nix
 Brian Owen
 Tracy Parsley
 James Patton
 Ann Roberts
 Betty Schaffner
 Mike and Laurie Slone
 Opal Smyrl
 Jim Spurgin
 Jack Threadgill
 Jack and Susan Turk
 Richard Valdez
 Mackie Jo Walters
 Mikayla Walters
 Chelsea Watts
 Billy and Doris Whitaker
 Lilly Williams
 Alice Young

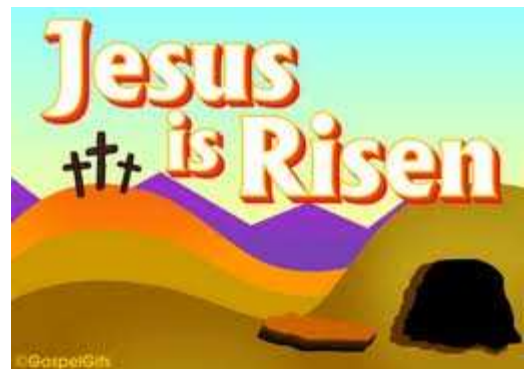
- In military:*
 Daryl Booth
 Jon Bradshaw
 Brandon Haymon
 Talisha Hendley
 David Hernandez
 Concho Moore
 Tyler Remini
 Jace Telford
 Jonathan Torres
 Alisha Slone
 Wes Stark
 Justin Williams
 Ricky Williams, Jr.

We extend sympathy to the families of Ed Keeling, Jerry Slaughter and Bea Virdell.

First Baptist Church
 (325) 597-2956
 1103 W. 17th St.
 Brady, TX 76825
<http://www.fbcbrady.org>
Dr. Kevin McDonald, Pastor
fbcbrady.org@gmail.com
 597-1926
RaNon Caraway, Secretary
mrc48nona@yahoo.com
Tyler Cooper, Minister of Music
tyler.cooper@hputx.edu
 325-200-7454
Jack Wells, Youth Minister
jack.wells@hputx.edu
 214-578-3967
Shawntè Virdell, Nursery Director
Kim Coleman, Preschool Director
godlyimpressionsfbc@gmail.com
 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.

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"
John 20:19



LIFEWAY'S
Agency D3
 DISCOVER DECIDE DEFEND | PETER 3:15

Vacation Bible School
June 15-19

Make plans now to participate in VBS at FBC! This event is always a highlight of the summer for children in Brady. Teachers have begun volunteering, even before the sign-up sheet went out. There is a place for everyone to help. Workers are needed to help with music, crafts, Bible stories, missions, recreation, snacks, and with food for the workers. Everyone is welcome. Come and be a part of this exciting week!

Dear Church Family,
 Thank you for remembering us during our time of sorrow with cards, food, and prayers. Thank you, Kevin, for the nice sermon. May the Lord bless each of you.
 The Family of Louise Hammett:
 Sherry Cox, Vicki Brown,
 and family

Food Ministry Report

March 2014

- 107 families
- 139 adults
- 44 children under 12
- 39 adults 65 and older

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

