

September 2014

First Baptist Church Newsletter

Brady, Texas

<http://fbcbrady.org/>

Vol.15., No. 8

Playing it safe

by Dr. Kevin McDonald

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Well, school has started again, and many are getting back into their school-time routine. For the next nine months or so, many of us already know exactly what we can and can't do, where we can and can't go, and that we can't leave until Friday afternoon and that we must be back Sunday night, in time for school. Morning and bed-time schedules will be determined by when school starts, homework, UIL, band, and athletics.

Routines are handy. They help us get where we need to be when we need to be there. John Archibald Wheeler said, "Time is what prevents everything from happening at once," and a routine is often critical to keeping everything from happening at once, or not ever happening at all.

But there is danger in routine, isn't there? Remember the Dunkin Donuts man who eventually met himself coming and going, saying "Time to make the donuts" as he passed himself? The danger of routines is that they allow us to live on autopilot, never having to think, never engaging life, never appreciating the moment, smelling the roses, or enjoying the ride. The textures of life become flattened out, and all the colors run together into gray.

If we are not careful, this can happen in our faith-life as well. The routine becomes the rut. G. K. Chesterton said, "If you look at a thing 999 times, you are perfectly safe; if you look at it for the 1000th time, you are in danger of seeing it for the first time." The routine of church, of "doing the things I do because I am a Christian," can become a spiritual routine and rote that allow the life and light to fade from our faith. I hope that Experiencing God will help you to break out of your safe religious routine, and examine Scripture, God, and your personal faith relationship in a new light.

—Bro. Kevin

Godly Impressions Preschool growing, ministering to Brady children

by Kim Coleman

The Lord has really been working in the community of Brady. This ministry opened its doors on January 4, 2012 with 9 children enrolled in the preschool program. As of August 26, 2014, we have 27 children in our preschool program, 12 toddlers, 4 infants, and out of those children, we have 27 that stay all day. We have a grand total of 43 children enrolled. I don't know about you, but I can only stand back and look around me in total and utter amazement! Praise God!

We had a great turnout for our "Meet the Teacher" night on August 17th, we only had 4 families that did not make it. A huge thank you goes out to Susan Turk, Lynn Munden, and Stephanie McKay for cooking the hot dogs, cupcakes and serving up the drinks. And thank you to our newest preschool board member, Shelly Bean, for her new and creative ideas, and for making the "goody bags" for all the students.

Shelly has come up with two different ways that the church members can get more involved with their preschool ministry. One way is to become a "Prayer Partner". Just pray for a specific child and their family every week. Find the black box in most Sunday school classrooms, pull out a card, pray all week, and return that card the next Sunday. Please write a short message on the card or you can just sign your name. On Monday, those cards will be sent home with those children. The second way is to become a "Rocking Reader." All you do is fill out a form, and Shelly will give you the times that you can come visit the classroom. You will pick a child and just read a short story to them. It's all very easy and it is such a great way to minister to a child and their family.

On Monday, September 8th, we will be hosting "Grapes for Grandparents", in honor of Grandparents Day on September 7th. The grandparents of our students are invited to come and have a special snack of grapes with their grandchild. We will gladly appreciate donated grapes by the church members.

For the month of September the children will be learning about "My Amazing Body", the letters "A", "B", "H", the number "9", the color "brown" and the shape of a "circle".

The Bible lesson for the month is "God Cares about My Body" featuring the story "The Miracles of Jesus." Our monthly Bible verse is "I praise you God, I am wonderfully made." Psalm 139:14

Thank you all for the prayers and support! God bless, *Kim Coleman*

Experiencing God study continues

The 13-week Experiencing God study is about halfway through. The study is held at church on Sunday nights at 6:00 and again on Tuesday nights at 7:00 for those who cannot attend on Sunday.

Welcome new members

by letter

Farion Morton
Laura Morton

Brady Community Ensemble in concert: Our America

The Brady Community Ensemble, which was formed earlier this year, will present a free concert of patriotic music on Monday, September 1, at 7:00pm at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Tyler Cooper, FBC minister of music, is the director of the group. Norma Ridout is the pianist. James Mallow and Lisa Remini sing in the ensemble.

Please come and enjoy this time of music that honors our country.

Fill the boot and put the star back on the Texas flag

by Becky Weber

Did I get your attention? Are you wondering what this is about? Well it's time for the Mary Hill Davis Offering for Texas Missions. This year our church goal is \$2000.00. Although the official week of prayer for the Mary Hill Davis Offering is September 14th through September 20th we wanted to provide everyone an opportunity to donate throughout the whole month of September. As contributions come in, the amounts will move up the boot and when \$2000.00 has been reached, the well known and loved Texas star will be placed on the Texas shaped flag.

I sincerely hope that you will help to fill the boot and reach our goal to help the missionaries who serve here in our beautiful state of Texas. Also pray for the missionaries who have dedicated their lives to spreading the Gospel to those who are lost. Their service is needed just as much in our own backyards as it is overseas.

Thank you for your contributions and let's watch the boot fill up.



Youth events: come and get involved!

The youth will be going to a concert in Abilene to see the Newsboys and others Thursday October 30th! It is free so be sure to bring friends and be ready to have a great time!

- Come and join us on Sunday mornings! Sunday school starts at 10:00am. We are going through 1 Peter as a group sharing what God reveals to us personally in order to help each other grow in our walk with Christ!
- Come and join us on Wednesday nights. Service starts at 6:00pm. Starting September 17 junior high service will start at 5:45 and the senior high service will start 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 help keep us on track! Don't miss this opportunity! I look forward to seeing you there!

- Jack Wells, Youth Minister

Women's ministries

Thanks to everyone who made cookies for the gift trays for the BISD teachers on the first day of school. Please continue to pray for the teachers and students.

- **Mary's Bible study:** Everyone is always welcome at the Monday afternoon Bible studies at the home of Mary Ballew. The one-hour study involves a discussion of a Biblical word/concept, with everyone sharing from their own study that week. Also a prayer time is included for individuals on the prayer list and others. (Not to mention the coffee and goodies and fellowship!) Call Mary at 597-1393 FMI. Bring a friend! (Note: the group will not meet on Labor Day, Sept. 1.)
- **Dorcas Quilters:** This group meets on Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:00 in the Grace Class Sunday School room. A beautiful quilt is in progress. Beginning and experienced quilters are welcome. Call Becky at 597-1372 FMI.

AWANA, mission groups to begin Sept. 17

It's time for AWANA! This outreach program for children in our community has been an important part of FBC children's ministry for several years. All children (ages 4 through 5th grade) are welcome, with many coming from other churches. For some children, AWANA is their church experience.



- Times: 5:30-7:15, Wed. nights
- Place: The evening begins in the sanctuary, then age groups go to classrooms.
- AWANA clubs: Cubbies (pre-K and kindergarten); Sparks (1st and 2nd grade); T&T (3rd-5th grades)
- Mission organizations: Mission Friends (preschool); GA's for girls; RA's for boys
- A meal is served in Fellowship Hall to children and workers
- Volunteer opportunities: If you would like to join the small army of volunteers that make AWANA happen, please sign up in the West Foyer or talk to RaNon. There are never too many workers. You may be just the Christian influence that one child needs.

Does the church office have your cell phone number?

We are trying to update our phone and email records. Please call or email RaNon to help us with this.

Office number: 597-2956

Email: mrc48nona@yahoo.com

September 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Welmann Bauer <i>Community Ensemble in concert, 7:00, St. John's Episcopal Church</i>	2 Jamaica Villarreal	3	4	5	6
7 Mackie Ranne Joyce Collier <i>Nominating Committee, 5:00 Experiencing God</i>	8 Raymond Torres <i>Triple S lunch, noon, Fellowship Hall</i>	9 <i>Grace Class meeting, FLC</i>	10 Virgil Middleton	11 Joshua Torres	12 Collins Armstrong <i>Food Distribution, 10:00-12:00</i>	13
14 <i>Experiencing God study, 6:00</i>	15 Jody McKay	16 Sue Tucker	17 Rodney Simmons <i>AWANA, mission groups begin</i>	18	19	20 Leslie Ranne
Week of Prayer for Texas Missions/Mary Hill Davis Offering for Texas Missions						
21 <i>Experiencing God study, 6:00</i>	22 Serena Alexander Laurie Morton <i>Triple S meal and game night, 6:00</i>	23 Judy Oden	24 Gregory Torres	25	26 Gracie Galindo Shelby Gothard <i>Food Distribution, 10:00-12:00</i>	27
28 <i>Experiencing God study, 6:00</i>	29	30	Deacons on call for September George Matula 792-0430 Jim Smith 597-0740			

Weekly Events

Sunday	
9:45 AM	Sunday School
10:50 AM	Morning Worship
6:00 PM	Experiencing God study
Monday	
4:00 PM	Ladies Bible study home of Mary Ballew (no meeting Sept. 1)
6:30 PM	CWJC, Building Men for Christ
Tuesday	
7:00 PM	Experiencing God
Wednesday	
7:00 AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast Presbyterian Church
5:30 to 7:15	AWANA, mission groups (starts Sept. 17)
5:45	Middle School Youth group
7:15	High School Youth group (These times for youth begin Sept. 17)
6:00	Adult Prayer meeting/Bible study
Thursday	
9:30-11:00	Dorcas quilting ministry
9:45-12:00	Food Pantry: donated food brought from Walmart to the church
Greeters for September	
	East Door
September 7	Joyce Scott & Darlene Friar
September 14	Pat and Travis Gary
September 21	Cynthia and Robert Reeves
September 28	James and Maurice Mallow
	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 Becky Martin, Lisa Remini, George Matula, and Lynn Munden for recording radio spots for August.

September devotionals will be done by Rod Young, Pat Matula, Joyce Scott, James Mallow, and Kevin McDonald.

Food Ministry Report

August 2014

- 127 families
- 150 adults under 65
- 74 children under 18
- 53 adults 65 and older

September food distribution will be Friday, September 12, and Friday, September 26, from 10:00 to noon. Help is needed every Thursday morning from 9:45 to noon to bring donated food from Walmart to the Food Pantry in the FLC.



Pray without ceasing. . .

"Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment."
—Matthew 22:37-38, NIV

- *Experiencing God* study
 - 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
 - Our preschool
- Richard Aguirre
Jamie Akins
Maggie Behrens
Rick Bentley
David Bishop
Dorothy Bishop
Joyce Blackwell
Michelle Bradshaw
Marcus Burell

- Chris Burkhart
Mike Caldwell
April Carson
Sue Crow
Dayton Dennard
Terri Lee Edwards
Charlie Elliott
Curtis and Genna Jennings
Robert Kibbe
George Kohl and wife
Mike Lowery
Jerry McDonald
Hazel Medders
Louise Morrow
Carol Newport
Paul and Connie Nix
Brian Owen
Kathy Parsley
Tracy Parsley
James Patton
Jon Randles

- Ann Roberts
Harry Sellers
Mike and Laurie Slone
Jim Smith
Opal Smyrl
Jim Spurgin
Jennifer Thomas
Jack Threadgill
Jack and Susan Turk
Richard Valdez
Tess Warren
Bob and Jana Watts
Chelsea Watts
Billy and Doris Whitaker
Lilly Williams
Kristan Wilson
Wes Woodard
Alice Young
Blake
Claudette Young

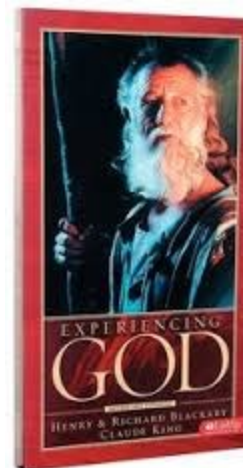
- In military:*
Daryl Booth
Jon Bradshaw
Brandon Haymon
Talisha Hendley
David Hernandez
Jose Lopez
Concho Moore
Jace Telford
Jonathan Torres
Alisha Slone
Wes Stark
Justin Williams
Ricky Williams, Jr.

We extend sympathy to the families of Danny Turnbow and W.C. Carrasco.

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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.

"Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him."
John 14:21, NIV



Lane Coleman has scheduled a "Work Day" for Sunday, Sept. 7th to complete his Eagle Scout Project. The project is painting and restriping the school zone and parking lot at the First Baptist Church. If you would like to volunteer your time for this worthy project, please meet him at the church at 4:00pm.



- Principles of *Experiencing God***
1. God is always at work around you.
 2. God pursues a continuing love relationship with you that is real and personal.
 3. God invites you to become involved with Him in His work.
 4. God speaks by the Holy Spirit through the Bible, prayer, circumstances, and the church to reveal Himself, His purposes, and his ways.
 5. God's invitation for you to work with Him always leads you to a crisis of belief that requires faith and action.
 6. You must make major adjustments in your life to join God in what He is doing.
 7. You come to know God by experience as you obey Him, and He accomplishes His work through you.