



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

March 2016 newsletter

FBC Brady, TX

325-597-2956

<http://fbcb rady.org>

Vol. 17, No. 3

March, faith, water, and wind

by Dr. Kevin McDonald

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The word “march” can be used in many ways: *Proper noun - the third month of the year in both the Julian and Gregorian calendars. It is one of seven months that are 31 days long. In the Northern Hemisphere, the meteorological beginning of spring occurs on the first day of March.*

Verb (used without object) to walk with regular and measured tread, as soldiers on parade; advance in step in an organized body. 2. to walk in a stately, deliberate manner. 3. to go forward; advance; proceed.

Verb (used with object) 4. to cause to march. noun 5. the act or course of marching. the act or course of marching. 6. the distance covered in a single period of marching. 7. advance; progress; forward movement: the march of science. 8. a piece of music with a rhythm suited to accompany marching.

It is one of a few words that can function as a noun, a proper noun, or as a verb, (an action). That’s pretty impressive, as not many words can fill so many grammatical slots.

Here’s another one for you: Faith. It is a proper noun, a name. Most of us know someone named Faith. It is also a noun. We speak of faith as a “thing” all the time. We speak of having faith, of being saved through faith, and of sharing faith.

And here is our problem: far too often, we leave faith as a noun, content to let it only be a person, place, or thing.

We *know* there is more to faith than just being a name for something we can’t really describe with words. And yet we never move outside of words to explore and more fully define faith.

The reason the faith of many Christians is incomplete and unfulfilling is because faith has never been turned from a noun into a verb.

I want to ask you two questions.

1. What is the shape of water? Think about that for a second. The only shape water has is its container. I ask you again, what is the shape of faith? Go look in the mirror. You are looking at the shape of faith. The Lord poured faith into you, giving it shape, even life.

2. What does the wind look like? And you can’t say water. What does the wind *look* like? It looks like what it does. It looks like leaves rustling and grass swaying. It looks like ripples on the water, windmills turning and a dust-devil. Wind may not have a shape, but it certainly is a force, isn’t it?

So now, how do you define *your* faith? Does it have shape and form, and does it have motion? Is your faith only a noun, a word without shape or form, without motion and effect?

Can your faith only be named or is it a verb, defined not just as a name, but defined by who and what it looks like, defined by what it does (and does not) do?

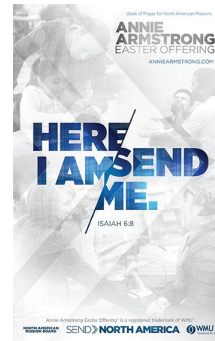
Let this new month be a verb for you-march into, march by faith.

—Bro. Kevin

Coming April 3: Howard Payne Symphonic Band

The Symphonic Band of Howard Payne University will be traveling through the area on its upcoming spring band tour. The band, under the director of Brady High School alumnus Corey Ash, will be leading in worship at our church on the morning of Sunday, April 3. It will be a great time of praise as the band presents sacred pieces and leads in congregational singing.

Corey Ash, the director, is a former member of our church and the son of former Pastor Ray and Rita Ash. Mark your calendar for this fine event. For more information contact James Mallow at 325-597-2373. We hope that you will tell your friends and join us for this morning of worship in music with the HPU Symphonic Band.



Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, Week of Prayer for North American Missions: March 20-27

Consider these statistics:

- Approximately 259 million people in the United States and Canada do not have a personal relationship with Christ.
- The **church-to-population ratio** in the US is one church to 6,194 people; in Canada, the ratio is one church to 115,040 people.
- 4% of Southern Baptist churches are engaged in church planting as a primary sponsor.
- Only 1,926 lead church planters were serving in 2014..

News from LIBA

by Keith Simpson

As I sit down to write this news article, I cannot help but thank God for the loving, caring, compassionate pastors that we have in this association. As I have visited various churches around the association, I see pastors devoting their every effort to guide and protect their flock as they go about their daily tasks in building their church members spiritually by equipping, encouraging, and yes, oftentimes, exhorting their members to be the church in their respective communities. Pastors are not HIRED, but rather CALLED, and this calling is NOT only from the church, but rather from God. Thank God men (and women) still answer the call to fulfill God’s purpose in their lives, both as pastors and deacons, Sunday School teachers, VBS directors, and other positions according to Acts 13:2. These people certainly merit our appreciation. (Keith’s article continues on page 2.)



Treasure Hunt Day Camp

WHO: Kindergarten - 5th graders

WHEN: March 14 – 18, 2016

8AM to Noon

WHERE: First Baptist Church

COST: Early Bird Registration: \$50/child

Day of Registration: \$60/child

Come join us for a week of fun filled treasure hunting fun and games. Crafts, games, music, fun and excitement. Daily snack provided. Proceeds will benefit Joshua Collier on his mission trip to Kaili, China Summer 2016. Call 597-2956 FMI.

Youth News by Gabe Rios, Minister of Youth and Music

Hello to all the Brady and surrounding area youth (grades 6th-12th) and to your parents! The purpose of this section of the FBCB Newsletter is to let you know of upcoming events and the accomplishments of our youth. Kids are now allowed to begin arriving at the church/ family life building on Wednesdays right after school! We will open at 3:30pm so all kids, middle school and high school, are welcome to come and do homework, play in the gym, play outside, play games etc... At 6:30pm we eat a great meal together and around 7pm we will head back to the youth room for worship and a lesson. Youth group ends at 8pm, so please make the proper arrangements to get home and PLEASE invite your friends from school to come join us.

Food is taken care of by Stephanie McKay, Matt Popnoe, Lynn Munden, Austin Reeves, Jeanagayle Behrens, and Jerlene Smith and we are very grateful! If anyone is interested in helping out with the youth or special events call or text Gabe @ [830-391-4367](tel:830-391-4367).

Past Events

***Lecrae** - this ended up being a great concert in Abilene that a few kids, John Morgan from K-life, and myself attended.

***Faith Development** - Francis just finished up a Wednesday night series discussing the different stages we go through in our faith from when we first accept Christ till we begin to become a more mature Christian.

***Brady Playoff Games** - I took two bus full of kids to each basketball playoff game in Cross Plains and Brownwood to cheer on the Bulldogs. The kids had a great time. Congratulations to the Bulldogs on their season.

***Sunday Night Hoops** - every Sunday night starting at 8 the gym will be open to high school age and above to come fellowship and play some basketball. We have been averaging 15-20 a Sunday and would love to have you!

Upcoming Events

***Sunday School** is ongoing every Sunday from 9:45 – 10:35am. The youth meet in the Family Life Center. We would like to have as many youth attend as possible. Youth Sunday School is currently taught by Francis Schmaltz, Sharon McDonald and Charlie Elliott.

***Youth Lock-In** – I have been asked about having a lock-in by a ton of kids. A date in April will be announced very soon.

***Movie Night** - March 16th, this Wednesday is over spring break. Times for youth will be normal 3:30-8:00pm but we will watch a movie. This would be a great time to invite a friend from school to youth!

***Summer Camp** - it looks right now that July 3rd-8th is the week we will be attending summer camp. More details will be coming very soon.

New . . .

***Lunch** - I have enjoyed attending the middle school lunches on Thursdays the past several weeks and look forward to getting to know more and more students! I eat with the high school somewhere in Brady outside of school on Wednesdays, so come join us!

***School Activities** - I've really enjoyed watching the middle school and high school basketball games this season because it's my favorite sport! Great job to all the girls and boys. Track and baseball season are upon us so I look forward to attending as many of those meets and games as I can!

***Wednesday Night** - some new activities that we have started this month have been the addition of a ping pong table that the kids use very much as well as the addition of an Xbox 360 that the kids love. We have also been playing ultimate frisbee in the back field and it's been great because everyone is involved and it has helped me learn names faster!

***Wednesday Night Series** - I will begin a new series this week on A.C.T.S. Teaching Kids How to Pray. It occurred to me that a lot of times we teach on the importance of prayer and that it should be a daily habit in our walk with Christ, but we never go into detail on how to pray. Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication can be a great template for kids to learn how to pray.

and Important. . .

We have decided to postpone the D-Now retreat because there is just too much going on with school activities at this time of the year.

If a Wednesday is not listed here as a special event or as “no youth,” we are having a regular youth night.

If there are any concerns that you as students or parents may have please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your prayers and support.

News from Lake Ivie Baptist Association by Keith Simpson (continued from page 1)

One such person who exemplifies the true calling and compassion of a pastor is Ferris Akins, who officially retired at Hopewell Baptist Church from the ministry after 65 years of preaching the Gospel. Knowing Ferris, I know he will continue to serve the Lord in whatever way he feels called. Ferris started his full time ministry at Shiloh Baptist Church in Comanche County in 1951, and has served various churches, including First Baptist Church, Ballinger, throughout this region of Texas. He also served as the Brady-Coleman-Runnels “Area Missionary” for several years, and has remained active in the association for many years, and we certainly want to give our best wishes to Ferris and Ramona on the next step in their retirement. Ferris has devoted his life to serving the Lord, as has Ramona as pianist, WMU director and organist for many churches. I'm sure they have tons of stories that they could tell. Thank you, Ferris and Ramona, for your faithful service to the Lord for 65 years and congratulations on the retirement.

Now, on to other things. March appears to be a month when few things seem to be happening, but as usual, we do have some things going on. March 7 will be our Brady breakfast, March 14 will be the Coleman breakfast and March 21 will be our Ballinger breakfast. On March 27, we will celebrate our risen Savior by observing Easter Sunday. I know that several churches will be having Easter Son Rise services, and I encourage each of you to remember what Easter is all about.

April 2, we will be hosting an “unApologetics” Workshop/Conference at FBC, Coleman from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., with Scott Willingham, Director of Evangelism and Apologetics with BGCT as our presenter. Lay people and oftentimes, pastors, have a difficult time in defending the faith so Scott will give us some guidelines and strategies to help us all as we encounter those who do not believe or those who are uncertain if God really exists. Apologetics is the discipline of defending a religious position through the systematic use of information, and in today's society, each of us needs to be able to do as Peter instructed in I Peter 3:15, “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts; and BE READY ALWAYS TO GIVE AN ANSWER TO EVERY MAN THAT ASKETH YOU A REASON OF THE HOPE THAT IS IN YOU WITH MEEKNESS AND FEAR.” We encounter people every day who question our faith, and this workshop will give us the tools we need to be able to answer them. This is NOT just for pastors, but for any church member who would like to attend. **We do ask that you call the office to register in order that we may know how much food to prepare for lunch.** May God continue to bless and keep each of you.

Keith Simpson, LIBA Ministry Director

March 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Jackie Behrens	2	3 Roger Villarreal	4 Mike Slone Darlene Friar Becky Martin Joy Jennings	5 Wanda Burns Shelly Bean
6 <i>Deacons meeting</i>	7 Gerald Nobles <i>LIBA Brady breakfast, 8:30, El Flamingo</i>	8 Leanna Davis	9	10 Dillon Munden	11 Tessa Moreno <i>Food Pantry food distribution, 10:00-12:00</i>	12 Bobbie Williams Debbie Nobles
13 <i>Business meeting, 5:30</i>	14 <i>Triple S, noon</i>	15	16 Joel Jennings <i>Youth movie night</i>	17	18 <i>Food Pantry food distribution, 10:00-12:00</i>	19
<i>Day Camp, 8:00 AM to Noon</i>						
20 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	21 Paige Bauer	22 Jeanine Willis Brannan Kolb	23	24 Faith Bean Jerry Jordan	25 <i>Good Friday</i>	26
<i>Week of Prayer for North American Missions</i>						
27 Bobby Williams <i>Easter Sunday Children's Easter egg hunt, 9:45</i>	28 <i>Triple S. 5:30</i>	29	30	31		

Weekly Events

Sunday
 9:45 AM Sunday School
 10:50 AM Morning Worship
 6:00 PM Bible study

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
 3:30 PM FLC opens for all youth
 5:30 AWANA, missions organizations
 6:00 Adult prayer meeting
 6:30 Youth meal
 7:00-8:00 Youth worship and 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 March
 East Door
 March 6 Jim and Betty Smith
 March 13 Pete and Oralia Barrera
 March 21 Jerry and RaNon Caraway
 March 27 Jason and Karen Behrens
 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 Betty Smith, Shane Owens, Lynn Munden, and Judy Oden for recording radio spots in February.
 March devotionals will be done by Ida Owens, Cynthia Reeves, Debbie Nobles, and Gerald Nobles.

Food Ministry Report

February 2016

- 149 families
- 165 adults
- 84 children under 18
- 287 total individuals



Food distribution days for March are the 11th and the 18th from 10:00 to noon. (The usual 4th Friday day is changed to the 3rd Friday this month because of Good Friday.) New volunteers are welcome! Help is also needed on Thursday mornings from 9:45 to noon to bring donated food from Walmart to the Food Pantry in the FLC.

Deacons on call in March

Virgil Middleton	597-2629
Jim Smith	597-0740

Let's pack the bus!

- FBC has chartered a 56-seat bus to Austin for April 26 to attend a special event at the State Capitol, a rally by Franklin Graham and other speakers with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association as a part of his 50-state "Decision America Tour."
- The bus will leave from Bulldog Stadium at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 26. It will be back in Brady at approximately 4:00 p.m.
- Cost is \$40.00 per seat. Bring a sack lunch. Bottled water will be provided.
- Please register (and pay) in advance in the church office.
- The purpose of the rally is to call our nation back to God.
- Talk to Charlie Elliott for more information: 597-0066.

Pray without ceasing. . .

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."
John 20:21

- 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
 - AWANA and missions organizations
 - Day Camp
- | | |
|---|---|
| Richard Aguirre
Jerry Bean
Jackie Behrens
Jim Benson
David Bishop
Diane Bradshaw
Helen Bolton | Vickie Brown
April Carson
Misty Chandler
Sherry Cox
Fayrene Easley
Charlie Elliott
Jacque Elliott
Laurie Evans
Tina Feemster
Holly Groves
Roy Guthrie
Jackie Harper
Linda Hendley
Theda Henniger
Josh Hudson
Eva Little
Kelly Jenkins
Curtis and Genna Jennings
Bill Johnson
Jerry Jordan
Mary Beth Lewis |
|---|---|

- | | |
|---|---|
| Peggy Lohn
Janie Lowery
Mike Lowery
Evelyn Martin
Louise Morrow
Carol Newport
Gerald Nobles
Tracy Parsley
Diane Peavy
Bobbye Petty
Dorothy Reeves
Linda Seago
Edith Slaughter
Mike and Laurie Slone
Junior Smith
Sherry Thomas
Tinsley Thompson
Jack and Susan Turk
Ernie Walker
Tess Warren
Kristan Wilson | Peggy Lohn
Janie Lowery
Mike Lowery
Evelyn Martin
Louise Morrow
Carol Newport
Gerald Nobles
Tracy Parsley
Diane Peavy
Bobbye Petty
Dorothy Reeves
Linda Seago
Edith Slaughter
Mike and Laurie Slone
Junior Smith
Sherry Thomas
Tinsley Thompson
Jack and Susan Turk
Ernie Walker
Tess Warren
Kristan Wilson |
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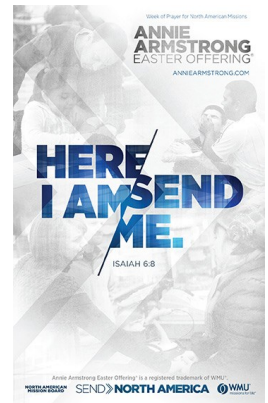
- In military:*
- Jon Bradshaw
 - Howard Brown
 - Brandon Haymon
 - Talisha Hendley
 - David Hernandez
 - Jose Lopez
 - Moses Marmolejo
 - Concho Moore
 - Brandon Pfannenstiel
 - Jace Telford
 - Jonathan Torres
 - Alisha Slone
 - Wes Stark
 - Justin Williams
 - Ricky Williams, Jr.

We extend sympathy to the family of Harry Sellers.

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rios_gabe@yahoo.com
 830-391-4367
Francis Schmaltz, Youth Ministry Intern
Jerry Caraway, Maintenance Supervisor
Christy McAnally, Nursery Director
Kim Coleman, Preschool Director
Norma Ridout, Pianist
Deryl Bishop, Organist

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

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"
Isaiah 6:8



We want to thank everyone for all the prayers, cards, and phone calls following my surgery. All of your concerns are heartfelt, and we are blessed to have such a loving church.
George Matula

Just a note to say Thank You for sending me the church letter by mail for so long. I am too old for the computers!
I enjoy your letter as I like to know about what friends I have left there.
Thank you again,
Maxie Myers

The Food Bank is such a wonderful ministry! Thank you for the time and organization—a lot is involved behind the scenes! We just hope all of the recipients are aware of the effort and show their gratefulness for it!
Sincerely,
Larry and Jan Donop

Children's Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt, Easter Sunday at 9:45. Meet in your Sunday School room. Bring your Easter basket! Refreshments will follow. Bring a friend with you!

The Missions Committee will meet with the Preschool Board on Monday, March 7, at 5:15 to explore ways for our church to be engaged in the vital ministry of the preschool. Serving on the Missions Committee are Claudette Young, Debbie Nobles, Ida Owens, Marsha Gainer, and Becky Martin.

Thank you to the Public Relations Committee and Bro. Kevin for creating the new visitors packet and church logo. Serving on this committee are Joyce Hollingsworth, Betty Smith, Joyce Collier, Ida Owens, Joyce Scott, and Linsey Woodard.

Josh Collier is available to do odd jobs to earn money for his summer mission trip.. He can be contacted at 325-792-8054 or 325-792-8181 or 325-792-4848.
References available.

First Baptist Church of Brady is now hiring a pre-school director for Godly Impressions Preschool. The applicant must be able to pass an FBI background check, must have at least 2 years experience in childcare and/or a CDA. Applications can be picked up at the church office at 1103 West 17th St., Brady.