



FIRST BAPTIST C H U R C H

April 2016 newsletter

FBC Brady, TX

325-597-2956

<http://fbcb rady.org>

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Choose ye this day. . . but choose wisely.

by Dr. Kevin McDonald

fbcb rady.org@gmail.com

In case you hadn't heard, we are in an election year. While the candidates will be working to prove how different they are from their opponents, they all have one thing in common: they want your vote.

Your vote. You will be encouraged over the television, radio, the phone, by mail-out and in person to vote. You will be told of the power of your vote: that you can make or change history. You will be reminded of the value of your vote: that men and women served and sacrificed so you could have a vote to cast. Candidates will talk about your responsibility to vote; your civic duty. Others will call your vote a privilege, and speak about oppressive governments that do not allow the people to choose their leaders.

Your vote, your right, your duty, your obligation, your opportunity. The importance of you and your vote. Cast it wisely, because (unless you live in Chicago), you only get one vote.

Democracy (and the voting that comes with it) is not Christian. Democracy is at least 2600 years old, the result of probably Mesopotamian, Indian, and then Greek thought. Democracy is one of the high points of the philosophy of Modernity, which gradually brought us to see the value of the individual, and the right to vote is a powerful expression of the value of the individual. Voting is American, but isn't automatically Christian.

There seems to be a serious lack of voting in the Bible. There are a few times we see voting in Scripture, but except for Acts 6, I can't think of a time voting reflected and was congruent with the will of God. The biblical community, whether it is found in the New or Old Testament, is not based on individual rights. It is based on God's grace and sovereignty. The biblical community says "Thy will be done", not "My will" or "Our will be done". The biblical community (we would call that a church today) understands it is made up of individuals who are learning to value the needs of others above their personal and constitutional rights. The citizens of a biblical community are often in the process of learning to give up their worldly rights, (1 Cor. 6, 8 & 9), and are learning to exercise their Kingdom rights: the right to forgive and be forgiven, the right to go the extra mile and the right to turn the other cheek, and the right to pray for their persecutors as well as their brothers and sisters. They are exercising their right to bear one another's burdens, and the right to be lovingly confronted and corrected.

Voting is, in some way, just a special time to choose, and we choose all the time. That's a right from God, not the Constitution. I believe it is more important that you vote every day to love your neighbor as yourself, than who you vote for in the election. It is more important that you vote to forgive someone who dared to offend you than it is to vote in November.

But go vote, by all means. It is one of your rights and responsibilities as an American. But remember this: you, Christian, live under the authority of a king, not a president. The King doesn't ask for your vote, He expects your obedience. You are a slave, you are not free. Your allegiance is already pledged, your choice was made when you took up your cross. Your God will save you, not a politician. Let that truth guide you as you vote.

—Bro. Kevin

Coming April 3: Howard Payne Symphonic Band

The Symphonic Band of Howard Payne University, under the direction of Brady High School alumnus Corey Ash, will be leading in worship at our church on the morning of Sunday, April 3.

Day Camp, T-shirts, and China update

by Joyce Collier

We had an awesome week of day camp during spring break. Monday-Thursday the kids enjoyed a Bible lesson based on the theme The Great Treasure Hunt and on the Superheroes of the Bible. They also had a craft each day along with snacks and games. On Friday, we played Bible Bingo, enjoyed a bounce house, and had an Easter egg hunt.

I would like to thank those who contributed to the snacks and crafts with donations. I would also like to send a huge THANK YOU to those folks that helped at Day Camp: Sharon McDonald, Marsha Gainer, and Charlie Elliott for teaching the Treasure Hunt Bible lesson, Kevin McDonald for helping Josh with the Superheroes of the Bible lesson, Becky Martin for helping in crafts, and Bobbie Williams for helping in snacks. (Note from Becky: Josh, Joyce, and her two daughters, Lisa Spurgin and Susan Miller (Josh's mom) planned, organized, set up, cleaned up, and generally made this camp a very positive experience for everyone involved!)

The camp raised \$890.00. With other donations we have raised \$3613.00. The trip cost is \$4100.00. We are getting very close. We still need \$487.00. Please continue to pray for Josh as he prepares to go to China and for the people of China that he will be meeting.

The next fundraiser will be a T-shirt sale. We will have two designs: an FBC Brady shirt with the new church logo and a China 2016 mission trip shirt. They will be selling for \$15 each. Orders will be taken until April 17 for the first run.

Order forms will be available Sunday, April 3. Sizes are youth medium - adult xxxl. The adult xxl and xxxl will be \$2 more per shirt. Check the church web site for pictures.

St. Paul Speaks— Performance Scripture by Philip Smith

Philip Smith will be at FBC on Sunday, April 24, at 6:00 PM to present his dramatization of the book of Colossians. He will portray the Apostle Paul as he writes to the Church at Colosse.

For more information about this dramatic and moving event, go to www.stpaulspeaks.com.

Everyone in the community is invited.

Church cookbook project

by Lynn Munden

Members and friends of First Baptist Church are putting together a cookbook! We are in the planning stages of the project, and there are many decisions to be made. The Grace Class "graciously" helped with the decision of what type of cookbook we are going to use. We still need to decide on a cover for the cookbook.

We also need recipes for the following categories: Appetizers and Beverages, Soups and Salads, Vegetables and Side Dishes, Main

Dishes, Breads and Rolls, Desserts, Cookies and Candy, and Gluten Free. We would also like to have help choosing the dividers for our book.

Anyone who would like to help should call Lynn Munden at 456-9029. Recipe collection sheets have been placed in all of the adult Sunday School rooms. Men, we want your ideas and recipes also. The deadline for turning in your recipes is April 15th; we would like to have around 250-300 different recipes, so get out your family favorites and fill out a collection sheet. If we get everything submitted by May 15th, we get a major discount on each cookbook.



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 Center 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.

Past Events

***High School Outing** – on March 12th I took 7 high school students to San Antonio for some fun! We ate at Chili's, went bowling, and saw the movie Zootopia at the Palladium. It was a great time getting to hang out with just the high school group and reward them for their faithfulness in being involved in youth group.

***Movie Night** - over spring break we ate pizza and watched the movie My All-American. It was a good time of fun and fellowship and we had about 15 students attend.

***Movie outing** – last Friday March 25th John Morgan from K-life and myself took 12 students to Fredericksburg to see the newly released Batman vs Superman movie.

Ping-Pong – a small group of us have been playing ping-pong on Tuesday nights at 6:30pm. If you like to play please come out and join us and invite a friend.

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! Occasionally we will also play during the week on a Tuesday or Thursday at 7pm. Text Gabe to get updates on when the gym will be open.

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 Sharon McDonald and Charlie Elliott.

***Youth Lock-In** – April 24th – April 25th will be our lock-in. It will start at 8pm Sunday night and end Monday morning at 8am. The kids are out of school that Monday so hopefully the dates will work for many kids!

***Summer Camp** - July 3rd-8th is the week we will be attending summer camp at Mt. Lebanon Baptist Camp. It is open to current 6th – 12th grade students. Sammy Lopez will be the speaker and the Nick Gainey Band will lead worship. This will be a blast and it would be great to take as many students as possible.

Game Room – we would like to turn the upstairs space above the gym into a game room and hang out area for the youth. To make it more functional we would like to lay carpet squares up top and build some cool stylish furniture. We would also like to add some video game consoles and small tvs for kids to enjoy. If you can help or would like to help in any way please contact Gabe so that we can get this vision off of the ground.

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 - Track and baseball season are upon us so I look forward to attending as much of those meets and games as I can!

Wednesday Night Series – We are still continuing our series on A.C.T.S. 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 in to detail on how to pray. Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication can be a great template for kids to learn how to pray.

IMPORTANT –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. God bless. . .

Gabe Rios, Youth Minister

April 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Bill Burns	2 LIBA "unApologetics" Workshop, FBC Coleman, 9-3
3 Howard Payne Symphonic Band in morning service Deacons meeting	4 LIBA Brady breakfast, 8:30, El Flamingo Sherry Cox Mabel Jones	5 Farion Morton	6 Robert Reeves	7 Austin Reeves	8 Food Pantry food distribution, 10:00 -12:00 Charlie Elliott	9
10 Business meet- ing, 5:30 Women of Faith- sponsored singing, Melvin Baptist Church, 4:00 John David Bishop	11 Triple S, noon Robby Paradise Raymond Tally	12	13 Becky Elliott	14 Margaret Mitchel Kevin McDonald	15 Deadline for reci- pe submission Jonathan Torres	16
17 Deadline for T-shirt orders	18	19	20	21 Billy Whitaker	22 Food Pantry food distribution, 10:00 -12:00 Glenda Douglas Cy Nobles	23 WMU Ladies Spring Luncheon, First Baptist Eden, 11:00
24 Philip Smith performance Scrip- ture, 6:00 Youth Lock-in at FLC	25 Triple S. 5:30	26 Decision America Prayer Rally, Austin	27 AWANA Family Night	28	29	30 Carrie Pearson Beth Snowden Tommy Urban

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 April

East Door
April 3 Virgil and Glenda Middleton
April 10 Jackie and Jeanagayle Behrens
April 17 Tim and Ida Owens
April 24 Robert and Cynthia 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 Ida Owens, Cynthia Reeves, Debbie Nobles, and Betty Smith for recording radio spots in March.

April devotionals will be done by Janis Groves, George Matula, Norma Ridout, and Lisa Remini.

Food Ministry Report

March 2016

- 105 families
- 118 adults
- 52 children under 18
- 35 adults over 65
- 205 total individuals



Food distribution days for April are the 8th and the 22nd from 10:00 to noon. 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 April

Terry Bean 792-6399
Bobby Williams 597-7573

Coming in June:

- June 20-24: Day Camp in Richards Park, 8:00 till noon, Monday-Friday, led by mission team from FBC Midland and our youth and other volunteers. No fee. Youth activities every afternoon
- June 24, 25, and 26: Churchwide revival led by the Midland team
- June 24-July 3: Navajo mission trip to Eagle Spring Baptist Church in New Mexico. Contact Betty Smith at 597-0740 FMI.

Coming in July:

- July 3-8: Youth Summer Camp at Mt. Lebanon Baptist Camp for 6th-12th grade
- July 11-14: Vacation Bible School at FBC, in the evenings, for pre-K-5th grade

Keith's Connections

by Keith Simpson, Ministry Director, Lake Ivie Baptist Association

Ahh, Spring. The mesquites and the pecan trees are beginning to put out, the scissortails are here, and the weather is warming, and we just got through celebrating our Risen Christ at Easter. We do not celebrate Black Friday, but rather Resurrection Sunday, BECAUSE HE LIVES! Springtime and Easter always remind us of the new life that is bursting forth from the trees, the bluebonnets, the Indian paintbrushes, and seeing new life in the pastures and fields around us. This is a good time of year to reflect on our own lives, and see maybe if we don't need a new life, a new perspective on life itself, and make some changes to affect our world, communities, and make our churches better places because of our being a better person. As we enter this time of year, I want to encourage each of us to resolve to be a better person, dad, mom, son, daughter, church member and community member in order to bring honor and glory to the ONE whom we just celebrated this past weekend. Each of us can always do better, be better, and do more. Volunteer at your church or community; spend more time with family, draw closer to God. Ask yourself this question, "Am I the same Christian I was five years ago?" If the answer is "Yes" then you have a lack of growth problem.

And with this time of year come new opportunities. This Saturday, April 2 at FBC, Coleman from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., we will be hosting an (un)Apologetics seminar/workshop to help each of us to be able to defend the faith and "be ready always to give answer to every man that asks you a reason concerning the hope that is in you, yet with meekness and fear." I Peter 3:15, ASV Each of us is oftentimes asked to explain our faith and hope to someone struggling with their issues in life, and we MUST be able to answer their questions clearly and concisely. This workshop will help us all to be able to do that.

Also, on April 24, at 6:00 p.m., Philip Smith (the Apostle Paul) will be presenting his performance Scripture from the book of Colossians at FBC, Brady. For those who have seen Philip, you know what a tremendous performance he gives, and if you haven't seen him, I encourage you to do so. This event is open to any and all who would like to attend that Sunday afternoon. I promise you will not be disappointed.

Our breakfasts continue and the crowds continue to grow. We enjoy a great breakfast together, some fantastic fellowship, and just generally, have a good time. Remember, the breakfasts are for anyone who would like to attend. Brady at El Flamingo, 8:30 a.m. on April 4, Coleman at Hidalgo's at 8:30 a.m. on April 11, and Ballinger at Beefmaster's at 8:30 on April 18. I encourage you to attend.

Glory Road Cowboy Church, just outside Ballinger, will be celebrating their anniversary this Sunday morning at 10 a.m., then have a building dedication after lunch. All are encouraged to attend. On April 10 at 4:00 p.m., the Women of Faith, will be hosting their quarterly singing at Melvin Baptist Church. This is a fun time, and all are encouraged to attend. Snacks will follow the singing.

One last thing, and this applies mostly to the youth. If you are interested in seeing how to make methane gas using manure to help people in Africa have gas for cooking, etc, or if you would like to take part in how to make purified water, or how to hand drill for water for people in Africa, please call Don Sessom at 325-234-7601 and he will put you in touch with Larry Billingsley at Lake Ivie and Larry will set up a demonstration at his place there on the lake.

May God continue to bless and keep each of you, and may our churches continue to build the Kingdom of God. As our time to depart from this earth and we enter into God's presence, would you rather hear, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant" or "Depart from Me, for I never knew you?" The choice is ours.

April Events

- **Apologetics Workshop**, Presenter: Scott Willingham, Director of Evangelism and Apologetics with BGCT. First Baptist Church, Coleman, 9:00 am- 3:00pm. (Lunch Provided Please RSVP)
- **Glory Road Cowboy Church** Building Dedication and Anniversary will be on April 3rd beginning at 10:00 am. Anniversary Service will be from 10:00 am to 11:00 am followed by lunch and Building Dedication will begin about 12:00. Everyone is welcome!!!
- **Brady Breakfast**, April 4, El Flamingo, 8:30
- **Women of Faith** will be hosting a singing at Melvin Baptist Church on April 10th @ 4:00 pm.
- **WMU Ladies Spring Luncheon**, April 23rd @ First Baptist Church Eden beginning at 11:00 am.
- **Harmony Quartet**, Rockwood Baptist Church on April 23rd @ 6:30 pm
- **Phillip Smith "Paul the Apostle"** will be performing his rendition of Colossians at First Baptist Church Brady on April 24th @ 6:00 pm.

Pray without ceasing. . .

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.
Colossians 3:12

- 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
 - Navajo mission trip
 - Josh's China mission
- Richard Aguirre
Louise Baker
Jerry Bean
Jim Benson
Dr. Alton Bishop
David Bishop
Diane Bradshaw
Helen Bolton

- Vickie Brown
April Carson
Misty Chandler
Sherry Cox
Isla Dodds
Fayrene Easley
Charlie Elliott
Jacque Elliott
Tina Feemster
Hope and Faith Gray
Chuck Green
Holly Groves
Roy Guthrie
Linda Hendley
Theda Henniger
Josh Hudson
Eva Little
Kelly Jenkins
Curtis and Genna Jennings
Bill Johnson
Mary Beth Lewis
Peggy Lohn
Janie Lowery

- Mike Lowery
Evelyn Martin
Betty McMillan
Louise Morrow
Gene & Shirley Nelson
Carol Newport
Tracy Parsley
Diane Peavy
Bobbie Petty
Dorothy Reeves
Linda Seago
Edith Slaughter
Mike and Laurie Slone
Junior Smith
Sherry Thomas
Tinsley Thompson
Jack and Susan Turk
Jack B. Waide
Tess Warren
Billy Whitaker
Kristan Wilson

- 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 families of Tammy Tovar, Ernie Walker, Ann Roberts, Duan Lewis, Greg Gunter, and Richard Mattox

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
Gabe Rios, Minister of Music and Youth
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.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Be knit together by strong ties of love.
Colossians 2:2

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions
Our goal: \$1500
Our giving through Easter Sunday: \$1339.98
Pray fervently: Pray for the mission field where you live and for the pastors and ministry leaders committed to this area.
Give generously: God's asking for sincere, sacrificial gifts that will glorify Him. Ask the Lord what amount you should give to the mission offering.
Go intentionally: Ask God what your "Send me" looks like. He may ask you to minister in your neighborhood, across town, or several states away

Preschool Prayer Partners
Thanks to everyone who has been praying for our preschoolers. Preschool Prayer Partner cards are available every Sunday in the adult classes. Please take one home, pray for that child during the week, and return the card the next Sunday, with your signature. Add a note to the child and his/her parents if you would like. Then the cards will go home with the children on Monday.
There are 55 children in our preschool at this time, taught and lovingly cared for by seven teachers and childcare workers.

Welcome new members:
By statement
Tommy Urban
Misty Urban

Wedding announcement
Madison Jurrius and Christopher Goff were married on Saturday, March 5, at First Baptist Church Waco.
Madison is the daughter of Lisa Remini and the granddaughter of Jim and Norma Ridout.
Paden Behrens of Brady conducted the ceremony. Norma played the piano.
Congratulations to the newlyweds!

