



# Thanksgiving Outreach Ministry

The pastoral staff, deacons, deacon wives, and youth would like to invite the entire church family to join us in our annual Thanksgiving Outreach Ministry by providing Thanksgiving food baskets to families who could use a helping hand within our church body and in the local community. All non-perishable food items need to be brought to the church by Monday, November 13th in order to allow enough time to sort and organize the food. If you would like to assist in providing perishable food items, please donate money designated to the Thanksgiving Outreach. We will purchase perishable frozen items such as turkeys, rolls, and pies with these donations. Also, this year, we would like to include a homemade dessert in the baskets to give each one a personal touch. If you are interested in helping deliver baskets, we will meet at the church at 8:00 am on Saturday, November 18, 2017, and divide up into delivery teams.

### NON-PERISHABLES TO BRING

- Canned yams
- Canned cranberry sauce
- Canned green beans
- Canned corn
- Instant potatoes
- Boxed dressing
- Foil pan for turkey

### THINGS WE WILL PURCHASE WITH DONATIONS

- Turkeys
- Frozen pies
- Brown & serve rolls

### SUGGESTED HOMEMADE DESSERTS TO MAKE

- Pie (any kind)
- Cookies or Brownies (packaged by the dozen)

**GIVE THANKS**  
FAMILY • FRIENDS • GRATITUDE



The church office will close at noon on Wednesday, November 22nd, and reopen on Monday, November 27th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

## Community

### Thanksgiving Service

Our Community Thanksgiving Service will be held this year at the Floresville High School auditorium on Sunday, November 19, 2017, at 6:30 pm. We will participate with other local churches and give thanks to our Lord together as a community of believers.

### Inside this issue:

Missionary Updates & Bake Sale Fundraiser	2-3
OCC Packing Party, Reformation Event, & Children's Alliance Thank You	4
Operation Christmas Child Q&A	5
Women's & Children's Ministry News, Bridal Shower & Birth Announcement	6
November Calendar & Birthdays	7
Acknowledgements & New Members	8
Budget-at-a-Glance & Building HIStory Report	8

Sunday, November 5th  
Set your clocks back.  
See you in church!



## Coffey Family News

- *We would first like to say Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year from Belize! Thank you for all of your support to our ministry! We pray you have a blessed holiday season!*
- *We have been hard at work teaching classes at the Belize Bible College.*
- *We have finished up one 8-week semester of classes and have begun another 8-week session of classes. We have a total of 8 students enrolled in the college and are anticipating more to come.*
- *Caleb started kindergarten in September and is loving it. Every day he comes home eager to show us what he did that day. Praise the Lord!*

### Send support to

First Baptist Church  
 1115 B. St  
 Floresville, TX 78114

Or online at:  
[www.fbcf.org](http://www.fbcf.org)

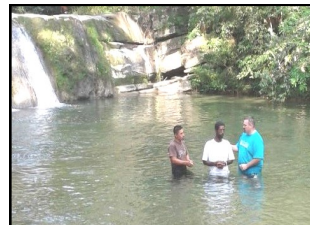
Phone:  
 830-391-0036

Email:  
[thecoffeys5@yahoo.com](mailto:thecoffeys5@yahoo.com)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN BELIZE...

- Ashley began the Toledo School of Music on August 28, 2017. She now has 16 students and a growing waiting list. If only we could clone Ashley!
- God is doing some amazing things in Belize. In the last two months we have baptized 10 new believers in Christ. Praise the Lord!
- In early October, we were blessed to have Ashley's dad visit us for a week! We were all very glad to see him and Caleb was especially glad to see his grandad! He was also a big help on the house that week!

I have had the opportunity to baptize several in the last few months. One of those was a man named Clifford. I met Clifford over 3 years ago on a mission trip to Belize. On that trip Clifford was begging for money and food so a team member and myself prayed over Clifford and prayed that he would receive Christ. Wow! Three years later God has answered those prayers and we got to bear witness to a life changed. Please pray for Clifford. He is in the process of making some major life changes and has a long road ahead of him to becoming what God has called him to be.



I also had the privilege of baptizing Nick Requena. We had been praying for Nick for several months and one day Nick had a flat tire outside the Bible College. While helping Nick fix his tire, Bob Farley was able to share Christ with him and he accepted Christ right there. Not only was

Nick saved, his whole family has been saved since then. Wow! God works even through flat tires to change people's lives.

The missionary residence is coming along. Thank you to all those who have helped both financially and physically. Caleb has even helped work on the house. He loves to go and see the progress. Especially in his room!



## We need your help!

- Pray about becoming a monthly supporter and being a part of our team. We only need \$400 in monthly donations to reach our 80% goal for monthly support .
- Pray that the remainder of the finances to build a missionary residence will come in. We need \$20,000!
- Continue to pray for finances to purchase a second vehicle. \$6,000
- Pray about becoming a sponsor for the college. For \$1,500 you can sponsor a student and help that student achieve their goal of receiving a Bible degree. These students are the future of Belize!
- The Bible College needs computers and office/classroom furniture. If you have any questions about any of our needs, please feel free to contact us via email.
- As a reminder, we are coming to the end of 2017. Now is the time to give and receive a charitable donation on your 2017 tax return.



# A Word from Your IMB Missionary in Japan...

Japan has 127 million people living in one of the most commercialized and technologically advanced countries in the world. Yet there are less than 1% who know Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. They truly have gained the whole world and lost their soul!

Families are failing. Young people are daily contemplating suicide. The extreme pressure to succeed is crushing many, from adults in the workplace to children in primary school. Promiscuity is the norm while love is seen as unrealistic. Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines dot the cityscapes filled with idols made by human hands. How will these millions ever know the joyous salvation offered by Jesus Christ? Is this a task just for our family of five? Thankfully, NO! You can join us! We cannot hope to impact such a dark place without help from healthy churches back in the U.S. So, what can you do?

1. Pray! Pick up a prayer card. By taking a card and signing up for our prayer updates, the hard soil of Japanese souls will slowly become fertile for the fruit of the Gospel.
2. Give! You already do this, but giving to the Cooperative Program through the Southern Baptist Convention allows thousands of IMB missionaries to continue this kind of work. You can also give directly to the IMB through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. We are always available to share through Skype what is happening in Japan. We do not require or ask for any special donations to our specific family.
3. Send & Go! Your church probably already has teams that invest in other missions, but we would ask each church to consider sending teams to Japan. Short-term teams are an essential part of our ministry, and they are sure to have life-changing experiences as they proclaim the Gospel to many who have never heard. Could God be calling people from your church to GO to Japan? If so, where would you start? We want to be your first point of contact as you explore these questions and more. The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few and we believe that God may be calling workers from your congregation to join us!

Please pick up more information at stations around your church, and visit [www.FlemingFamInJapan.com](http://www.FlemingFamInJapan.com). Please contact me with any questions at [treydfleming@gmail.com](mailto:treydfleming@gmail.com) or contact First Baptist Church in Willis, Texas, at 936-856-5575. Thank you so much for your support, prayers, and faithfulness!



~ The Fleming Family  
Trey, Adria, Clara, Trinity, and Bethany  
IMB, East Asian Peoples

## Baked Goods for Belize

Tiffany Gonzalez is organizing a baking fundraiser to help support the Coffey family and the missions efforts in the Central American country of Belize. She will be taking orders for baked goods with suggested donations as indicated to the right of this article. You will find a sign-up sheet located in the worship center's foyer, or you may call Tiffany directly at 630-605-0854. Place your order quickly, and she and the youth girls will have everything ready to go before Thanksgiving.

### Menu

#### Cookies \$5 a dozen

- ❖ Chocolate chip
- ❖ Oatmeal raisin chocolate chip
- ❖ Peanut butter
- ❖ Snickerdoodle
- ❖ Sugar

#### Brownies \$10 13x9"

- ❖ Chocolate
- ❖ Chocolate and peanut butter
- ❖ Chocolate with pecans or walnuts + \$2.00

#### Rice crispy treats \$10 13x9"

We thank you so much for your continued support in our church and hope you enjoy the treats. Happy Thanksgiving and God Bless



# Operation Christmas Child Packing Party

Join us on Saturday, November 4, 2017, at 2:00 pm in the home of Sally Gaertner (2184 County Road 401). Bring your items to donate, and we'll work together to fill as many shoeboxes as we can to bless a boy or girl somewhere around the world. Remember to be in prayer for each child who receives a shoebox gift and the opportunity to meet Jesus.

All shoeboxes are due NEXT Sunday, November 5, 2017. Please include \$9 per box to cover shipping costs. Check out [www.operationchristmaschild.com](http://www.operationchristmaschild.com) for gift ideas.

Contact Sally Gaertner at 361-290-1068 with questions.



# 500th Anniversary of the Reformation

Let's continue to commemorate the historical significance of the day 500 years ago when an inquisitive monk in Wittenburg, Germany, questioned the church's teachings. Martin Luther wrote his "95 theses" and nailed them to the door of the Castle Church on October 31, 1517.

On **Tuesday, October 31, 2017**, 10 area churches took part in the reading aloud of the four Gospels. What a wonderful time of coming together to hear the reading of God's Word as a community of believers!

On **Saturday, November 4, 2017**, join area believers for an all-day time of worship at the Floresville Event Center. Make plans to attend [With One Voice, Floresville, TX](#), from 11:00 am - 7:00 pm. This FREE event is our town's way of commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The public is invited, and several local churches are participating. We will welcome GMA DOVE Award nominated singer/songwriter Joseph Habedank, who will perform throughout the day. There will be music from different cultures and traditions, games, food trucks, kids' activities and more. Join us as our community joins together to celebrate One Lord Jesus Christ.



# Because You Gave...

The Children's Alliance of South Texas provides "a place where the trauma ends and justice and healing begins." They provide a tremendous service to boys and girls in need of an extra measure of comfort and care. When the Children's Alliance of South Texas expressed a need for stuffed animals and blankets, FBC answered in a generous way. Thank you, First Family, for sharing Christ with our community in a tangible way. Representatives from CAST write:



"Thank you so much for your donation. I wish you could see the smile on a child's face when they leave with a goodie that's just for them. Above is a picture from one of the kiddos. Please know that your donation will mean a lot to a great child in our community."



Thank you so much for your donation. I wish you could see the smile on a child's face when they leave w/ a goodie thats just for them. Above is a picture from one of the kiddos. Please know that you donation will mean a lot to a great child in our community.

-Cmartinez  
Diane G. Cronan  
Joseph Habedank

# Operation Christmas Child Q&A

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## What is Operation Christmas Child?

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. Our mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. We ship these simple gifts outside the United States to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease; and to children living on Native American reservations in the U.S.

## Can I find out where my shoebox is sent?

Yes! You can [Follow Your Box](#) and discover the destination of your shoebox by making the \$9 shipping donation online. Just print and attach your unique shipping label to your shoebox gift.



## Who started Operation Christmas Child?

The program was started in the United Kingdom in 1990 by Dave and Jill Cooke. Three years after this beginning, the Wales-based shoebox gift project merged in a partnership with Samaritan's Purse, allowing us to share 20 years of expertise in relief and aid work with the project, and expand the reach of the shoebox gifts to more than 28,000 children that year. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has delivered gift-filled shoeboxes to over 146 million children in more than 100 countries.

## Why shoebox gifts?

Shoebox gifts are a way to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to needy children around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

## What happens after my shoebox gift is delivered?

Our local ministry partners distribute your shoeboxes to children in their communities. After receiving shoebox gifts, many boys and girls are invited to enroll in The Greatest Journey, our 12-lesson discipleship program. Through the program, our local ministry partners are able to establish long-term, caring relationships with children and families by sharing the love of Jesus Christ. Visit [www.operationchristmaschild.com](http://www.operationchristmaschild.com) to learn more about the eternal impact of a shoebox.

## Are gifts delivered by Christmas?

The shoebox gifts are shipped out from our processing centers by the middle of December, and depending on the distance they must travel, some are delivered by Christmas—primarily those in Central/South America and Eastern Europe. Most of the gifts are sent via ship. Although the collection of Operation Christmas Child gifts is during the Thanksgiving/Christmas season, the delivery of some gifts is sometimes delayed due to international shipping. They may not clear customs in receiving countries until spring. In addition, many countries that receive the gifts must transport the gifts to rural areas using very poor roads. Distributions typically occur from late December through spring each year, extending the joy of Christmas to children that receive them!

## Can I sponsor the child who receives my shoebox gift?

Operation Christmas Child is unable to facilitate this; however, if you are contacted by your recipient child, you may be able to build a relationship with them. Samaritan's Purse does have a [gift catalog](#) with several items supporting young children, such as a donation for a week's supply of food for a hungry baby. You can also give a scholarship to a child to participate in The Greatest Journey discipleship program. It takes \$6 to provide a child the opportunity to participate and receive discipleship materials including a certificate and New Testament in their language. Donors can fund one child, equip a church, or sponsor a country.

## Is this project forcing religion on the child who gets the gift?

Samaritan's Purse and Operation Christmas Child seek to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way through each shoebox gift. One of our core values is to never be manipulative. We work in and through local volunteers in each country that understand their context and are respectful to the people they serve. At the same time, we do seek to share the Gospel wherever we go, which can be challenging at times. In some regions, we are not permitted to distribute literature, but we are still grateful for the opportunity to bless the children with gift boxes carefully prepared by people who love children. Boys and girls do not have to do or say anything to receive their gifts.

Information obtained from [www.operationchristmaschild.com](http://www.operationchristmaschild.com) and [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org).

## Women's Ministry News

Hello everyone! I want to thank our special guest speaker Char Hauser for the wonderful presentation of "Share Our Story! - SOS!" Char shared some great tips about how to create our story of what the Lord has done in our lives! I hope all who attended were blessed. I know I was!

### Dates to Remember:

We have a packing party for Operation Christmas Child (OCC) on **Saturday, November 4, 2017, at 2:00 pm**, in the home of Sally Gaertner (2184 CR 401).

We are encouraging everyone to begin collecting items to fill a shoebox. Please check online for a list of items for the Christmas shoeboxes. Mark this date on your calendar and join us for the fun and fellowship. Everyone wishing to fill a shoebox as a family activity is definitely encouraged. The shoeboxes to bless children around the world need to be **returned by Sunday, November 5, 2017.**

Thanksgiving Baskets—FBC has annually been involved in collecting items for Thanksgiving baskets to help out those needing a bit of extra assistance during this time. We will be distributing these baskets on **Saturday, November 18, 2017.** The youth will assist the volunteers as we fill each basket and anyone wishing to participate is definitely welcomed. Detailed information will be in the weekly bulletin in the coming weeks. Many of you have already signed up for the baked goods that will be added to each Thanksgiving basket. Those that have signed up will receive a reminder to bring their baked goods during the week of November 16-17, 2017. Contact me at 210-560-9642 if you would like to help.

Thanks so much! ~ Donna Arispe



## Children's Ministry News

As Thanksgiving is approaching, let's remind our children to be thankful for ALL God has provided for them. What a great conversation to have with your child!

The TeamKidz Praise team is busy working on their Christmas program. It is sounding fantastic! Mrs. Sheila and Mrs. Taelyr are busy getting the little voices just right.

There will be no activities on Wednesday, November 22, 2017, because of the Thanksgiving holidays.

Movie night is Wednesday, November 29, 2017, from 5:45 pm—7:30 pm. A kid-friendly meal and movie snack bag are provided to each child through 6th grade.

Remember, Sunday morning Bible study is each week at 9:15 am. Bring your parents, boys and girls! There's a class for them too!

All for Jesus! ~ Mrs. Joyce Hurt



Congratulations to  
**Tammy & David Skloss,**  
big sister, *Kyleigh Jo,*  
grandmother *Wanda Bodiford,*  
and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins  
on the arrival of a baby girl,

*bamdyn ♥ marie*

born October 5, 2017, at 1:08 pm.  
6 lbs. 11 oz.,  
20 1/4 inches long.



# November 2017

## Schedule of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 WNS— BBQ	2	3	4  Reformation Day Celebration 11 am-7pm
5 Youth Ctee & Personnel NOON  Movie Night  *Ron P. Tipton	6	7	8 WNS— lasagna	9 FV Nursing Home 3:30	10   Youth Fifth Quarter	11  8am <b>Deacons Meetings</b>
12  *Ronald T. Tipton	13	14 FBC Vols @ Food Pantry 10am	15 WNS— bacon- wrapped chicken	16 FBC Vols @ Food Pantry 10am	17   Fun Bunch to visit Gruene 8am	18   Thanksgiving Food Baskets
19  Community Thanksgiving Svc @ 6:30  *Bob Whitley	20	21	22 NO Evening Activities	23	24   Lanier Shower 1-3p  8am <b>MEN'S BREAKFAST</b>	25 
26  No Evening Activities  *Marshall Livingston	27	28	29 WNS— pizza & salad  Kids' Movie Night	30		

### Sunday

- 8:00—Worship Service (except Lord's Supper and 5th Sundays)
- 9:15—Bible Study
- 10:30—Worship Service
- 3:00—VA Home except 2nd Sunday
- 4:00—Youth Choir
- 5:00—Experiencing God—Youth
- 6:00—Monthly Movie (1st Sunday only) or Sunday Life Group

### Monday

- 6:30—IBLP Class

### Wednesday

- 3:30—TeamKidz
- 4:45—TeamKidz Praise
- 5:30—Wednesday Night Supper
- 5:45—Kids Movie Night LAST Wed
- 6:30—LIFE GROUPS/Praise Band/  
RAs/GAs/Mission Friends/  
Youth IMPACT
- 7:30—Praise Choir Rehearsal

### Weekly Activities

Creative Hands—Quilting

Mondays at 10:00 am

Ladies Bible Study

Tuesdays at 9am (Jesus, Joy & Java)

Thursdays at 10:30 am

Sr. Adult Game Day

Thursdays from 1-4 pm

Line Exercise Classes

Mon, Tue, & Thu from 9:30-10:30 am

\* Deacon of the Week

## November Birthdays

1 Heather Moss	8 Cynthia Guerrero	15 David Arispe	23 Loretta Hartmann	27 Bonnie Dickerson
1 Traci Yosko	9 Kimberly Embrey	17 Darlene Seesengood	23 Rhea Nell Rogers	27 Sharron Wesley
2 Matthew Hankins	10 William Perez	19 Casey Reed	24 Shelbi Bays	27 Ralph Minard, II
4 Capri Montgomery	10 Tyler Holt	20 Angie Garcia	24 Terry Bolf	27 Thomas Taggs
5 Kenneth Kotzur	11 Bradley Davis	20 Dee Smith	24 Agnes Moody	28 Tammy Bodiford Skloss
5 Heather Montgomery	13 Jamie Burris	20 Atticus Tipton	25 Nuel Collins	28 Elizabeth Coldewey
5 Dawn Coldewey-Norment	13 Timothy McKeen	21 Julie Fischer	25 Fred Curnow	29 Atalia Graham
6 Terry Mills	14 Makayla Miller	21 Leon Payne, Jr.	26 Bonnie Banks	29 Stephanie Moss
6 Bill Newnam	14 Adair Welfel	22 Amanda Hawkins	26 Beverly Elliott	30 Kimberly Parker Norman
7 Terri Bombei	14 Erin Pam Mollenkopf	22 Kaly Johnson	26 Lyle Mikolajczyk	
7 Marc Gulick	15 Sharon Danysh	22 Tom Kuykendall	26 Pat Tackitt Ray	





**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

1115 B Street  
Floresville, TX 78114

Phone: 830-216-4946  
Fax: 830-393-3613  
E-mail: office@fbcf.org

*Because He First Loved Us.*

**Mike Clements**, Pastor  
830-391-2016

**Terry Smith**, Worship Pastor  
830-391-3362

**Scott Davis**, Interim Youth Pastor  
210-861-3885

**Joyce Hurt**, Children's Director  
830-391-0262

Penny Smith, Office Manager  
Christie Davis, Office Assistant  
Marti Kelly, Church Custodian

[www.fbcf.org](http://www.fbcf.org)  
[www.facebook.com/firstbaptistfloresville](https://www.facebook.com/firstbaptistfloresville)

Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Mary Flaschenriem, grandmother of Jeanette Kunath, who passed away on September 29, 2017;

Our sincere condolences are offered to the family of Gerald Eckel, brother to the Ronnie Eckel family, who passed away on October 6, 2017;

Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family of Bill Bishop, father of Terri Bombei, who passed away on October 6, 2017;

Our deepest condolences are offered to the family of Alan Brown, father of Sandra Keith, who passed away on October 9, 2017.

You keep him  
in perfect peace  
whose mind  
is stayed on you,  
because he  
trusts in you.  
*Isaiah 26:3*



Thanks to everyone who helped with the youth parking lot fundraising during last month's Peanut Festival. The event was a huge success, and we raised more money than we ever have. Many kids will be able to attend camp this summer because of our volunteers.

**New Members**

By Statement

Aaron Palan  
Kelsey Palan  
124 Chuckwagon Dr.  
LaVernia, TX 78121  
719-648-6779 (Aaron)  
719-648-6780 (Kelsey)

By Letter

Cody Bland  
116 Parkcrest  
Floresville, TX 78114  
903-571-8162 (Cody)  
bland33112@gmail.com

By Baptism

Melissa Bland  
116 Parkcrest  
Floresville, TX 78114  
903-571-1697 (Melissa)  
bland33112@gmail.com



You're invited to

*Come Home for Christmas*

65th Anniversary Celebration  
Saturday, December 2, 2017, 3pm

RSVP: [www.stchm.org/come-home-for-christmas](http://www.stchm.org/come-home-for-christmas)

*Save the Date*  
**KENDRA SCOTT POP UP**  
Shop a curated collection of jewels  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH | 10:15AM-1:15PM  
SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
1007 Trail St., Floresville, TX 78114  
20% of the proceeds benefit Sacred Heart.



The Fun Bunch  
will visit  
Gruene, Texas, on  
Friday, November 17th  
at 8:00 am.  
Watch for more details.



**BUILDING HISTORY**

Original Loan Amount:  
\$ 525,000.00

August Payment Amount:  
\$ 5,500.00

Current Loan Balance:  
\$ 278,917.84

*Take from among you an offering to the Lord,  
Whoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it as an  
offering to the Lord.*

~Exodus 35:5a (NKJV)

**online GIVING**  
easy. fast. effective.

Online giving is an easy, convenient, and secure alternative to writing a check. Go to the church's web page, [www.fbcf.org](http://www.fbcf.org), or scan the QR code with your smart phone.

BUDGET-AT-A-GLANCE	Actual Giving Receipts	Required to Meet Budget
September 2017	\$ 46,335.21	\$ 55,724.83
YTD thru September	\$ 461,284.20	\$ 501,523.47