

## Thanksgiving Outreach Ministry

The pastoral staff, deacons, and deacons' wives would like to invite the entire church 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 community. All non-perishable food items need to be brought to the church by Sunday, November 11th 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, we would like to include a homemade dessert in the basket. If you are interested in helping deliver baskets, we will meet at the church at 9:00 am on Saturday, November 17, 2018, and divide up the delivery teams.

### SUGGESTED HOMEMADE DESSERTS TO MAKE

Pie (any kind)

Cookies or Brownies (packaged by the dozen)

**GIVE  
THANKS**  
FAMILY • FRIENDS • GRATITUDE

### 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

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## Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule

In honor of the Thanksgiving holiday, the church office will close at Noon on Wednesday, November 21, 2018.

There will be NO afternoon/evening activities on that day. The church office will be closed all day on Thursday and Friday, November 22-23, 2018.

Enter into his gates with  
**THANKSGIVING**  
and into his courts with **PRAISE**  
be thankful to him and bless his name  
For the **GOOD** his mercy is  
**LORD** is **GOOD** **EVERLASTING**  
and his TRUTH endureth to all generations. Psalm 100:4-5

## Community Thanksgiving Service

Our Community Thanksgiving Service will be held this year at the

**Floresville Christian Fellowship**

(625 Bluebonnet,  
N. Hwy. 97 E.)

on Sunday, November 18,  
2018, at 6:00 pm.

We will participate with other local churches and give thanks to our Lord together as a community of believers.



### Daylight Savings Time Ends

Sunday, November 4, 2018.

Set your clocks back.

See you in church!

## *Invisible Widows*

by Jeannie McCarville

### **Who are we?**



Most of us are the invisible among you. I am one. I am a part of the fastest growing demographic in the United States as baby boomers age. There are over 14 million widows in the United States today. Seven hundred thousand join our ranks every day. We, as widows, lose 75% of our friendship network when we become a widow. Friendship connections that are primarily through our husbands, change; the loss of friends, while it may be appropriate, is still painful for us to process. Sixty percent of us experience serious health issues in that first year after our husbands' death. One third of us meet the criteria for clinical depression in the first month after our spouse's death, and half of us remain clinically depressed a year later. Most of us experience financial decline. My income was cut in half, yet I still have the same housing and automobile expenses. Seventy-five percent of widows below the poverty line were NOT poor **before** their husband's death.

Some of us have moved from the front row of the church to the back row. If you have noticed, some of our widows all sit together. That is because we are lonely and feel uncomfortable sitting alone. There is no greater feeling of discomfort for me than to have to walk into church alone and then sit by myself. Some of us have moved from singing and serving to solitude and silent sobbing. About 50% have left the church they attended with their husbands and have gone to find a place where they feel like they belong.

### **May I help you understand us by describing some of my personal experiences?**

Becoming a widow means nothing is ever going to be the same. When Tom passed away, absolutely every iota of my existence changed: my calendar, my check book, what is in the refrigerator, the thermostat, make-up is now seldom used, and my bed is now too big. When he was alive, Tom and I were "joined at the hip" so to speak. We did everything together; partly because he was disabled and needed my assistance, but mostly because we thoroughly enjoyed each other's company. Tom spoiled me and always put my wants and needs first. Now sometimes the loneliness is unbearable for me. Even though I might not be watching the television, I keep it on all the time just to have some "company" in the house. Loneliness and solitude are words that are not descriptive enough of the space that becomes the cocoon of the widow. We discover that our journeys are very different, and we don't fit into any mold. However, we have an incredibly strong connecting bond that links us to each other because of our shared experience. While every widow's story is different, we all share the common understanding of a loss that is final beyond description. There will be no more phone calls from him, no love notes or birthday cards, no second chance to right any past regrets we might have.

### **What else do we as widows share with one another?**

We might study the 103 scriptural references in the Bible about widows with desperation to find whether we are invisible to God as well. With gratitude, we discover that we are not only close to God's heart, but He measures everyone else by how they treat us. James 1:27 says, *"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."* This is both a comforting and sobering insight. Widows, orphans, prisoners, the voiceless—God chooses to speak for us. We might gain a fresh perspective on scripture. 1 Corinthians 1:3-4 is so relevant. *"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God."* No one can comfort us like another widow, because she has walked that road before us. In turn, we should be moved deeply when we see another woman enter this experience and we should want to comfort her in her grief.

If you'd like some ideas about how to help widows, or just want more information about ministering to the widows at FBC, contact me at [tamccarville@msn.com](mailto:tamccarville@msn.com).

WITH GRATITUDE, WE  
DISCOVER THAT WE  
ARE NOT ONLY  
CLOSE TO GOD'S  
HEART, BUT HE  
MEASURES  
EVERYONE ELSE BY  
HOW THEY TREAT US.

- Statistical information was obtained from an article titled "7 Reasons Your Church Should Have a Ministry to Widows" by Thom Rainer, published by Outreach Magazine. April 11, 2016. <https://thomrainer.com/2016/02/seven-reasons-why-your-church-should-have-a-ministry-to-widows/>
- Other information was gathered from a website called [www.widowsconnection.com](http://www.widowsconnection.com).

## Remembering Sutherland Springs

*"To all who mourn in Israel He will give: beauty for ashes; joy instead of mourning; praise instead of heaviness."*

~ Isaiah 61:3 (TLB)

Rather than focus on the tragic events of last November 5th, come join First Baptist Church of Sutherland Springs on **Sunday, November 4, 2018, from 1pm—6pm** for a commemorative anniversary celebration of all that God has done in our community during the past year. Governor Greg Abbott will be speaking, along with Dr. Jim Richards, the Executive Director of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention. There will be live music, and H-E-B will cater lunch for the first 400 attendees.



## Safety Committee

At a recent Business Meeting, First Baptist Church of Floresville (FBCF) authorized the creation of a Safety Committee. The Committee on Committees created this committee and recruited members to fill the new positions.

FBCF feels it is prudent, in light of recent events in our state and in our nation, to develop policies and procedures that, when implemented, will minimize or negate harm to our members and visitors in the unlikely event that disaster strikes.

The Safety Committee is charged with developing and implementing Safety Policy, a FBCF Safety Operating Manual, and procedures to implement the Safety Policies.

The Safety Committee has developed policies and procedures for the following unlikely scenarios:

- Medical Emergencies,
- Acts of God such as the following: tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, etc.
- Active Shooter.

Our initial focus is on greater monitoring of the Sanctuary, Nursery, and Family Life Center. Due to insufficient resources, we will only be able to cover Sunday School (Bible Study Hour) and second service on Sunday. We are currently working on procedures for Wednesday evening activities. We hope to have the Wednesday evening procedures developed to be implemented in the near future.

Our procedures include Greeters in the parking lots before and after service. The greeters will likely have radios to effectively and constantly communicate with the Safety Committee Chair or Vice-Chair. These radios are shock-resistant, waterproof, link with the National Weather Service, and contain flashlights in the event of a power outage.

Our future plans include purchasing and installing, in phases, fish-eye cameras at key locations along with equipment for a monitoring control center.

Our desired goal is to have in place procedures to react appropriately and quickly to minimize or negate vandalism and harm to our members and visitors.

If you are interested in receiving our current draft of the Safety Committee Operating Manual, please contact the church office.

If you have recommendations, suggestions, or specific questions, you can address them to Carter Thomas at [carter.thomas@frontier.com](mailto:carter.thomas@frontier.com) or by phone at 830-391-6872.



OUR DESIRED GOAL  
IS TO HAVE IN PLACE  
PROCEDURES TO  
REACT  
APPROPRIATELY  
AND QUICKLY TO  
MINIMIZE...HARM TO  
OUR MEMBERS AND  
VISITORS.



**Darlene McKeen**  
Children's Director

NOTHING LESS:  
COME LEARN THE TOP  
15 INFLUENCERS OF  
SPIRITUAL HEALTH TO  
GUIDE PARENTS AND  
CHURCHES TO AVOID  
NEGATIVE INFLUENCES  
AND FOCUS ON WHAT'S  
MOST IMPORTANT FOR  
OUR CHILDREN.

## KidMin News

Every November and December, many of us go through our kids' toys in order to make room for the new gifts they will receive at Christmas. Before you donate those gently-used toys, check out our list of KidMin needs below. Maybe you have just what we are looking for!

Blocks of all types  
Games  
Foam Floor Tiles  
Board Books

Puzzles  
Dolls  
(plastic only, no fabric)  
Animals  
(all types, but plastic only)

All gently-used toys appropriate  
for baby-6th graders.

Contact Darlene for specific  
questions.

You can drop off your donations at the Children's Welcome Desk located near the Coffee Corner or at the church office during the week between 8am-4pm. Donations not used by the Children's Ministry will be donated to our local foster closet.

Parents, don't forget to RSVP for the "Settle for Nothing Less" Parent Conference that will take place on Sunday, November 11, 2018, at 4:00 pm. Childcare provided by RSVP only. The deadline to RSVP is Tuesday, November 6, 2018. You'll find the link to RSVP at [www.fbcf.org/children](http://www.fbcf.org/children).



It's not too late to join the Team Kids Praise Choir (K-6th graders meet on Wednesdays at 4:45pm) or Bible Buddies (2-5 year olds meet on Wednesday at 6:30 pm). They are working on their skits and music for the Christmas program.

If you are interested in helping us make costumes for the Bible Buddies, watch the bulletin for information on our costume-making day.

The "More Than Moms" group (MTM) is starting a new book this week: *Made to Crave* by Lisa TerKeurst. MTM meets every Friday morning at 9:00 am. Childcare is provided.

### Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- 11/02 6:00 pm "More Than Moms" Movie Night
- 11/11 4:00 pm "Settle for Nothing Less" Parent Conference—Childcare provided by RSVP
- 12/13 9:00 am "More Than Moms" Field Trip to Devine Acres



**Everyone is invited to a 90th Birthday Party for Billie Riddle**  
**on Saturday, November 24, 2018, from 2-4 pm in the church**  
**Fellowship Hall.**

**No gifts please. Hope to see you there!**



## Women's Ministry News

Hello everyone!

Did everyone get their warm-ups, boots, sweaters, and hoodies out for our brief cold snap? Remember, don't put those flip-flops away just yet with our totally UNPREDICTABLE weather! The One we can all rely on to be UNCHANGEABLE and EVER-PRESENT is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

We all had a wonderful time at the Women of Joy conference! The sound of praising the Lord echoed throughout! What a beautiful aroma we lifted to the Lord (all 4,800 of our closest friends)! The speakers were just as amazing and uplifting with their messages they shared and our hearts received a word from the Lord. We hope to be ordering a copy of the DVD of the conference that will be available to share with all of you. We are already planning for the Women of Joy 2019 tour: "Deeply Rooted" on September 6-8, 2019, at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, so mark your calendars!



**FAMILY MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES:** We will have an Operation Christmas Child (OCC) shoebox packing party at the home of Sally Gaertner (2184 County Road 401) on November 3, 2018, from 3:00 pm—5:00 pm. Bring a snack to share because packing is hard work! We are encouraging everyone to begin collecting items to fill a shoe box. Empty boxes are available in the church foyer. Remember, the church will be collecting boxes Sunday, November 4, 2018, through Wednesday, November 7, 2018. The office is open daily from 8am-4pm (closed from 12-1pm for lunch), and they will be happy to take your OCC box during the week. Remember to include an additional \$9 to cover the cost of shipping and printed materials that will be shared with children around the world.

**THANKSGIVING BASKETS:** Our church has annually collected items for Thanksgiving baskets to help out those needing a bit of extra assistance during this time. We will be gathering on Saturday, November 17, 2018, to deliver these baskets. Everyone is invited to help! We need drivers, food donations, cash donations (to purchase turkeys), and help sorting and filling the baskets. We will be asking for baked goods to be donated as well. This is a wonderful ministry opportunity for the entire family!

Please check the Women's Ministry bulletin board near the coffee area for more information, or call Sally Gaertner at 361-290-1068 or Donna Arispe at 210-560-9642 for more information about any of these events.



During the month of November, the Floresville Food Pantry & Resource Center is requesting non-perishable food items that are typically associated with Thanksgiving. Please donate the following: canned yams, canned cranberry sauce, canned green beans, canned corn, instant potatoes, and boxed dressing. The Pantry always appreciates monetary donations as well. Call 830-321-1151 for more information about the great work that goes on there.

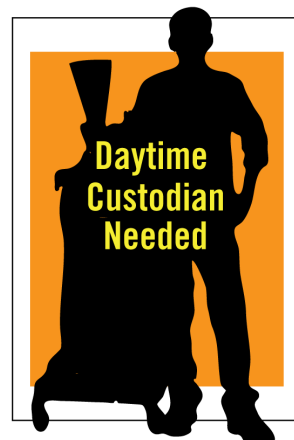
The Floresville Food Pantry is located at the corner of 5th & A. They are open each Tuesday and Thursday from 10am-2pm. See Bonnie Dickerson for more questions or to get information about volunteering.



Shoebox Collection Dates:

Sunday,  
November 4th  
through  
Wednesday,  
November 7th.

Include an additional \$9 for shipping costs.



Applications are being accepted for a church custodian. This is a full-time position. Prior custodial experience is required. Applications are available in the church office or visit the church web page at [www.fbcf.org](http://www.fbcf.org).

## Missionary Moments

A word from the Coffey family in southern Belize...



We are excited to welcome a new student to the Belize Bible College for the second 8-weeks of classes which began on October 22, 2018. We are currently teaching Paul's epistles, English I, and English II during this term.

We have 3 students that will graduate this spring with an Associates in Theology degree. They all plan to continue working toward their Bachelor's in Theology degree with us. Please pray for Denmark Jacobs, Abel Arriaza, and Jonell Baltazar. We're so proud of all they are accomplishing.

Construction will begin this month on a dormitory, and we hope it will be completed in the spring. This will open up several opportunities for students to attend the Belize Bible College from all over the country.

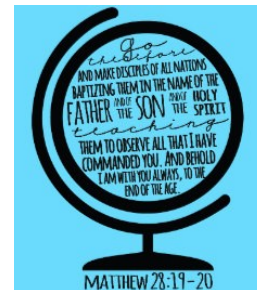
Please pray. Our funding has been on a steady decline since the summer. We are now around 65% funded. We are trusting God that He will provide. We want everyone to know that besides prayer, **monthly support** is our greatest need. We are truly grateful to FBC for your continued support and for the many members who faithfully support us. We know that if we don't share our needs, then fellow believers will not know how they can be a part of what God is doing in Belize.

Caleb is doing well. He is excelling in school and making all As (his lowest grade is a 95). All praise to God for blessing him. Caleb is learning to play the piano (of course). He loves it, and is gifted musically just like his momma.

~ Aaron, Ashley, and Caleb Coffey  
Missionaries to Belize

**Pray  
for our  
Missionaries**

Jerry & Elizabeth Averill Scotland	The Trey Fleming family Japan
The Aaron Coffey family Belize Bible College	The Derek Ross family Philippines
The Bob Farley family Belize & Guatemala	Paul & Sherry Sudolcan Philippines



Dear Friends and fellow church members:

Sandie and I are planning a mission trip to the Baja Peninsula of Mexico on January 11-27, 2019. We will be traveling with my sister, Irene, and her husband, Fred, working in Vicente Guerrero in Baja California with the Foundation for His Ministry ([www.ffhm.org](http://www.ffhm.org)). Their purpose is to Rescue Children, Reach the Lost, and Restore the Broken. We will be working with an orphanage there and also working and witnessing in a nearby village.

If you feel moved by God to support us financially in this trip, we would be grateful, but most of all we covet your prayers now to prepare the hearts of the children and their families that we will be working with, as well as for safe travels for the whole team. If you feel you want to donate financially, please submit your gift to the church office and indicate on your check or giving envelope that it is for the Baja Mission Trip.

We plan to hold a BBQ plate fundraiser some time in early November as well.

Thank you in advance for your support, prayers, and love.

~ Amos & Sandie Garcia



# November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 	3 Churchwide Cookout @ Welfels  OCC Packing Party 3-5pm
4 SuthSprgs Worship 1pm-6pm Baptism @ 10:30 Movie Night *Ron Bluff	5 FV Nursing Home 3:30	6 	7 WNS Chalupas  Community Worship @ Event Ctr	8	9	10
11 Deacon/Wife Luncheon  Parent Conference 4-6pm *Darrel Dundas	12	13 FBC Vols @ Food Pantry 10am	14 WNS Sloppy Joes	15 FBC Vols @ Food Pantry 10am	16 Pastor Matt's Birthday   ———Student Fall Retreat———	17 
18 Community Thanksgiving Svc @ 6pm *Danny Fenner	19	20	21 NO Afternoon/Evening Activities	22   ———Office Closed———	23	24 Billie Riddle 90th Birthday Party 2-4pm  8am <b>MEN'S BREAKFAST</b>
25	26	27	28 WNS Chicken Spaghetti  Kids' Movie Night	29 	30	
*Amos Garcia				———The Fun Bunch to Canton, TX———		

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Sunday

- 8:00—Worship Service (except Lord's Supper & 5th Sundays)
- 9:15—Bible Study
- 10:30—Worship Service
- 3:00—Veterans Home (except 2nd Sunday)
- 4:00—Student Choir
- 5:00—Student 1-to-1 Bible Reading
- 6:00—Monthly Movie Night (1st Sunday of month)

### Wednesday

- 3:30—TeamKids
- 4:30—FLC open for students
- 4:45—TeamKids Praise
- 5:30—Wednesday Night Supper
- 5:30—Kids Movie Night LAST Wed
- 6:30—Life Groups / Prayer Meeting  
Youth Bible Study / Bible Drill
- 7:30—Praise Choir Rehearsal

### Weekly Activities

Creative Hands—Quilting  
Mondays at 10:00 am  
Bible Study Fellowship  
Tuesdays at 6:30 pm  
Ladies Bible Study  
Wednesdays at 10:00 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 Sparks	10 Tyler Holt	23 Rhea Nell Rogers
1 Traci Yosko	11 Bradley Davis	24 Shelbi Bays
2 Matthew Hankins	13 Jamie Burris	24 Agnes Moody
2 Joe Leal	13 Timothy McKeen	25 Nuel Collins
2 Leif Joosepson	14 Makayla Miller	25 Fred Curnow
3 Terri Johnson	14 Adair Welfel	26 Bonnie Banks
4 Capri Montgomery	14 Erin Pam Mollenkopf	26 Beverly Elliott
4 Blake Moy	15 David Arispe	26 Lyle Mikolajczyk
5 Kenneth Kotzur	16 Matt Keller	26 Pat Tackitt Ray
5 Heather Montgomery	17 Darlene Seesengood	27 Bonnie Dickerson
5 Dawn Coldewey-Normant	20 Angie Garcia	27 Sharron Wesley
6 Terry Mills	20 Dee Smith	27 Ralph Minard, II
6 Bill Newnam	20 Atticus Tipton	27 Thomas Taggs
7 Terri Bombei	21 Julie Fischer	28 Tammy Bodiford Skloss
7 Marc Gulick	21 Leon Payne, Jr.	28 Elizabeth Coldewey
7 Chance Little	22 Amanda Hawkins	29 Atalia Graham
8 Cynthia Guerrero	22 Kaly Johnson	29 Stephanie Moss
9 Kimberly Embrey	22 Tom Kuykendall	30 Kimberly Parker Norman
10 William Perez	23 Loretta Hartmann	



### Church-Wide Event

Saturday  
November 3, 2018 @ 5pm  
at the Welfel home  
5290 FM 537  
Floresville  
Bring a side dish.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



1115 B Street  
Floresville, TX 78114

Phone: 830-216-4946  
Fax: 830-393-3613  
E-mail: [office@fbcf.org](mailto:office@fbcf.org)

**Mike Clements, D.Min.**, Pastor  
830-391-2016  
**Terry Smith**, Worship Pastor  
830-391-3362  
**Matt Keller**, Student Pastor  
409-656-3089  
Darlene McKeen, Children's Director  
Penny Smith, Office Manager  
Christie Davis, Office Assistant  
Marti Kelly, Church Custodian



BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED US.

We're on the web!

[www.fbcf.org](http://www.fbcf.org)

*Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Audrey Harrod, who passed away on September 29, 2018;*

*Sincere condolences are extended to the family of Brenda Foy-Perkins, grandmother of Ariel Howard, who passed away on October 4, 2018;*

*Heartfelt sympathy is offered to the family of Kathy Hall, sister of Linda Downs, who passed away on October 9, 2018;*

*Deepest condolences are offered to the family of Randy Dippary, brother of Jim Dippary, who passed away on October 11, 2018;*

*Heartfelt condolences are extended to the family of Celesta Nora K. Dippel, mother of Frankie Dippel, who passed away on October 15, 2018;*

*Sincere sympathy is offered to the family of Lynn Nollkamper, cousin of Tanja Olinick and Tami Kensing, who passed away on October 29, 2018.*

— B L E S S E D —  
**ARE THOSE WHO MOURN**  
FOR THEY WILL BE COMFORTED  
M A T T H E W 5 : 4



Dear First Baptist Church,  
Thank you so much for opening up  
your church once again so Bible  
Study Fellowship (BSF) may meet.

We at BSF don't take your generosity lightly so we thank  
God for your sacrifice through prayer and thanksgiving.  
May your blessings be multiplied! ~ Mavis Cantu

\*Bible Study Fellowship meets at FBC each Tuesday evening at 6:30 pm during the school year.



**ELECTION DAY**  
November 6, 2018



Congratulations to  
Colton & Deidre Kellum,  
big brothers,  
Emmitt, Jared, & Joseph,  
and grandparents,  
Mike & Karen Whatley,  
on the arrival of a baby boy,  
**EASTON MICHAEL-RAY**,  
born September 27, 2018,  
4 lbs. 3 oz., 17 inches long.

Congratulations to  
David & Caitlyn Bombei,  
big sister, Keely,  
and grandparents,  
Darrell & Terri Bombei,  
on the arrival of a baby girl,  
**Dorothy Jean**,  
born October 9, 2018,  
10 pounds.



Congratulations to  
Matthew & Jennifer Wimpee,  
big brother, William Jackson,  
and grandmother, Linda Downs,  
on the arrival of a baby boy,  
**Charles Robert**,  
born October 18, 2018,  
9 lbs. 8 oz., 20 1/2 inches.



### By Letter

Bernice Tatum  
301 County Road 405  
Floresville, TX 78114  
830-251-3507

Bob & Carol Bagley  
1830 Burr Oak Lane  
Adkins, TX 78101  
432-448-2206 (Bob)  
432-448-0498 (Carol)

**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 2018	\$ 56,429.81	\$ 54,829.00
YTD thru September	\$ 480,150.37	\$ 493,461.00