Volume 45, issue 11

**November 1, 2019** 



# First Edition

# Thanksgiving Outreach Ministry

Please join in our annual Thanksgiving Outreach Ministry where we provide food baskets to widows and families in our church and community who might not otherwise have a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

Please check the suggested list of non-perishable food items, which need to be brought to the church by Sunday, November 17, 2019. We will happily accept monetary contributions that will help cover the cost of the turkeys. Indicate "Thanksgiving Outreach" on your check's memo line or giving envelope; if giving online, select the "Love Offering" fund and specify "Thanksgiving Outreach." We will purchase perishable frozen items with these donations. We also like to include a homemade dessert in each basket, so baked goods (packaged by the dozen) are welcomed.

If you are interested in helping deliver baskets on Saturday, November 23, 2019, please contact Bob Herndon.



#### NON-PERISHABLES TO BRING

canned goods (yams, cranberry sauce)
canned green beans and corn
instant potatoes
boxed dressing/stuffing
foil pan for turkey

#### THINGS WE WILL PURCHASE WITH DONATIONS

turkeys frozen pies brown & serve rolls

#### SUGGESTED HOMEMADE DESSERTS TO MAKE

pies (any kind) cookies or brownies (packaged by the dozen)

# Daylight Saving Time Ends Sunday, November 3, 2019. Set your clocks back. See you in church!



# Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule

In honor of the Thanksgiving holiday, the church office will close at noon on Wednesday, November 27, 2019. The office will be closed all day on Thursday and Friday, November 28-29, 2019, and reopen Monday morning, December 2, 2019, at 8:00 am.

There will be NO afternoon or evening activities at the church on Wednesday, November 27, 2019.

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# Community Thanksgiving Worship Service

First Baptist Church will host this year's Floresville Ministerial Alliance's Community Thanksgiving Worship Service on Sunday, November 24, 2019, at 6:00 pm. We will participate with other local churches and give thanks to our Lord together as a community of believers. There will be a cookie fellowship to follow, so plan to bring a dozen cookies or brownies.

# Women's Ministry News

Greetings, Ladies! I want to start off with a huge PRAISE for all the wonderful showers the Lord provided last month! Please pray that the Lord continues to shower us with those wonderful drops of rain for all of our ranchers, farmers, and our spring crop of wildflowers!

It sounds like the WMU's Mission Jump Rope project was a great success! Additional jump ropes were created to add to our Operation Christmas Child (OCC) shoeboxes. We will be gathering to have our annual OCC packing party on Saturday, November 9, 2019, from 3pm-5pm. This event is OPEN to all! We have a great time preparing these boxes for children that may live around the world! Please mark November 9th on your calendar. The deadline to bring your filled shoeboxes is Sunday, November 10th. Remember to include an additional \$9 for shipping expenses.

This month, we'll also prepare Thanksgiving baskets to share. This too is a wonderful time to gather with others to reach out and help. All are invited. We have already put out a display board in the church foyer with a flier that includes a list of the items we need to fill the baskets. We'll also accept donations that will be used to purchase the turkeys, frozen pies, and rolls. So, when you're pushing your basket down the grocery aisle, please remember to add some green beans, corn, instant potatoes, cranberry sauce, yams, stuffing, and a foil baking pan for the turkey. We will be gathering to fill and deliver these baskets on Saturday, November 23, 2019. The time will be announced soon. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Bob Herndon at 830-534-7699. We also like to include in each basket a home-baked dessert, so please consider baking some cookies or brownies (packed by the dozen) that can be added to each basket.

If anyone has ideas for Women's Ministry fellowship ideas, just let Sally or me know. Please remember to check out the calendar near the Coffee Corner for more information!

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

November 9, 2019—OCC Packing Party November 10, 2019—OCC Deadline November 23, 2019—T'giving Basket Delivery November 23, 2019—The Woman Event We love to have visitors, neighbors, aunts, sisters, and friends attend any activity! If you have any questions or suggestions for Women's Ministry ideas or need more information, please contact Sally Gaertner at 361-290-1068 or me, Donna Arispe, at 210-560-9642. Wishing each of you a bountiful and blessed Thanksgiving season all month long!



# Wednesday Night Supper Broccoli Salad

## Ingredients:

- 1 family-sized bag of broccoli crowns
- 1 red onion (I like to use the container of pre-cut red onions from H-E-B)
- 1/2 pound bacon (Cooking the bacon yourself is fine, but a quick alternative is to buy the H-E-B 100% Real Crumbled Bacon Pieces in the package.)
- 3/4 cup Craisins (adjust to your taste)
- 1/2 cup roasted salted sunflower seeds (adjust to your taste)
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese

#### Salad Dressing:

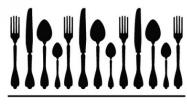
- 1 cup real mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar or cider vinegar

## Instructions:

- 1. Combine broccoli, onion, bacon, Craisins, sunflower seeds, and cheese in a bowl.
- 2. Whisk mayonnaise, sugar, and vinegar together in a separate bowl until dressing is smooth (let the dressing sit at room temperature until sugar crystals are dissolved); pour over broccoli mixture and stir to coat.
- 3. Keep in refrigerator until ready to serve.

Serves 12. Hope you enjoy this as much as we do! It's a family favorite.

~ The Welfel family



From the kitchen of The Welfel Family

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# **Operation Christmas Child**

Join us on Saturday, November 9, 2019, from 3:00 pm until 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall for a shoebox packing party. 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; pray their hearts soften to the gospel as it is shared with them through this project.

All shoeboxes are due Sunday, November 10, 2019. Please include \$9 per box to cover shipping expenses. Check out www.operationchristmaschild.com for gift ideas.

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

# 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.

#### 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.

#### 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 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!

#### 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 and www.samaritanspurse.org.



On Sunday, December 8, 2019, at 6:00 pm, come worship and enjoy an evening of celebrating the birth of Jesus, the event that set in motion God's plan for the redemption of His people. Team Kids Praise will lead in worship, followed by a special musical presentation by the combined choirs of First Baptist Church Floresville, First Baptist Church Pleasanton, and First Baptist Church Charlotte. There will be a cookie reception to follow, so please bring cookies or brownies to share.

In addition to regular Wednesday evening rehearsals, the combined choirs will also rehearse on Monday evening, November 11, 2019, at 7:00 pm at First Baptist Church in Pleasanton.



"Through [Operation Christmas Child], our local

ministry partners are able to establish long-term,

caring relationships with children and families by

sharing the love of Jesus Christ."

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# First Edition

# Belize Bible College

Preparing the next generation to know Christ and make Him known

# +

# "Coffey News"

- In August we were able to baptize seven new believers. Praise the Lord!
- We began a new semester of Bible drill. Looking forward to seeing what God is going to do in the lives of these children!
- We had a very busy summer on furlough. We made many new ministry contacts and were able to get some much needed rest.
- Caleb is in second grade! The picture below is from his first day of school.



Send support for the Coffey family to:

First Baptist Church 1115 B Street Floresville, TX 78114

Or give online at: www.fbcf.org Select "Belize Fund."

Phone: 830-391-0036 Email: thecoffeys5@yahoo.com

# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN BELIZE

- Classes began in August for our third year of teaching. We have four students now pursuing their Bachelor's degree in Theology and we have a total of 14 students taking Bible College and music classes.
- We had a visiting professor come and teach Eschatology. Thank you, Dr. Ken Yates, for your willingness to serve.
- One of our greatest needs is more professors to come teach either short term or long term. Would you pray with us as we search out more people to partner alongside us as we minister here at the Bible College?
- Aaron had the privilege of delivering new backpacks full of school supplies to Laguna Village School. A big thank you to Calvary Baptist Church in Homer, LA, for their generosity!







# We need your help!

- † Pray about becoming a monthly supporter and being a part of our team. God continues to be so faithful to us. Thank you to all those who sacrificially give monthly to support us. You are the reason we are able to continue the work God has called us to do.
- † Pray for direction for our family and the Bible College!
- † Pray for more students to enroll at the college. We currently have 14 students enrolled. Pray for more!!
- † Pray about becoming a sponsor for the college. For \$100 a month you can sponsor a student and help that student achieve their goal of receiving a Theology degree. These students are the future of Belize!

For all financial support for the Belize Bible College, please send money to the following address:

Flint Baptist Church 11131 FM 2868 Flint, TX 75762 Designate "for Belize Bible College"

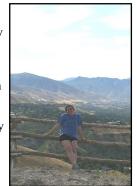




# From Scarborough College Student Rebekah Dickerson

Dear First Baptist Church Family,

I am VERY excited to share with y'all this amazing opportunity that the Lord has given me to help further His kingdom! As y'all already know, the Lord has given me a heart for Mormons, and has also really put Utah on my heart and mind lately. Well, I have been given an opportunity to serve in Utah AGAIN this upcoming January with a small mission team through my school, Scarborough College! On this trip, we will be partnering with a local church there and helping them out in any way that we can, for we are there to help and serve them because they are the ones doing the long-term work. I am so incredibly excited about this opportunity to serve there again as my heart breaks for those trapped in the bondage of religion. As I plan on how to fund this trip, I am learning to really trust in the Lord and to rely on Him, knowing that He will provide, for we know that if it is His will, He will make a way! You know my heart's desire for the LDS people, and you also know that I cannot do this on my own, for we are all part of the body of Christ. As it says in 1 Corinthians 12:12-14.



"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member, but many."

And so, if you feel called to do so, I would be greatly blessed and very appreciative if you would consider supporting me prayerfully and/or financially. Know that you too are helping to further the kingdom of God in doing whatever you feel led to do!

The total cost of the trip is \$1,200, which I need to raise by mid-December. I have already paid \$200 as a down payment for this trip, but still have a little ways to go. I am also seeking people who would be my prayer partners for this trip as we are going into a dark place and we all know that the devil likes to try and sow discord between believers while they are trying to serve the Lord. If you feel led to become one of my

"I am learning to really trust in the Lord and to rely on Him, knowing that He will provide, for we know that if it is His will, He will make a way!"

prayer partners for this trip, as well as for the unity of our team, I would greatly appreciate it for we are all to work together as the body of Christ, not any of us alone. If you feel led to support me financially, please know that your gift will be graciously received and will be used to help make known the Jesus of the New Testament to a place that has never heard the good news of the gospel! If you do decide to donate, my parents, Russell and Bonnie Dickerson, will receive the funds and they will be putting it aside to be used for this trip. Thank you for your support! I look forward to seeing all of you in December for Christmas as well as sharing with you all that happens on the trip when I return from Utah!

With much love,

Rebekah Dickerson

# A Word from JP & Sarah Canady



JP and I have been on the mission field for just over one month! We have finished our orientation, furnished our house, and have completed 3 weeks of language school! Learning the language is hard, but our teachers are great; living in the culture really helps! We have lots of practical training homework and have been able to walk around our neighborhood in the evening, practicing the language and getting to know some of the nighttime food-stand vendors! Our favorite vendor is Pak De and our favorite makanan (food) from his stand is kwetiaw goreing (panfried flat rice noodles)! Please pray for peace and patience for us as we adjust to the language and culture. Pray that we build relationships. Pray for strength for us—both physical and mental. Lastly, pray for the reason we are here—to spread the truth of Jesus and to be a light in this darkness and to not lose hope. Thank you, and we love y'all!

# Pray for our Missionaries

Jerry & Elizabeth Averill Scotland

J.P. & Sarah Canady Southeast Asia

Bryan & Lisa Catherman Salt Lake City, Utah

The Aaron Coffey family Belize Bible College The Bob Farley family Belize & Guatemala

The Trey Fleming family Japan

The Derek Ross family Philippines



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# Student Happenings-from Pastor Matt Keller

On Wednesday evenings, our students have been working through a study about prayer. My hope throughout this study is that students:

- 1. Are convinced of how important prayer is in their lives;
- 2. Have the tools to pray on their own;
- 3. Understand that reading the Bible and prayer should be intimately connected;
- 4. Are more willing to pray with friends, family, and other church members.

We are using the ACTS model as we pray with Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication to the Father. Students and their parents are always welcome to join us each Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm in the Family Life Center.

I am excited about the Student Ministry's Fall Retreat that will be held November 15-16, 2019, at Camp Zephyr. The 7th-12th graders will be discussing the idea of Dealing with Doubt. We have invited a group of students and leaders from the South Texas Children's Home to come along with us. My hope is to have honest and open discussions about how we can trust that Christianity is true. Please pray for these students and our leaders as they spend this time together.



# **Kid Ministry News**

The Children's Ministry would like to extend a great big THANK YOU to everyone who worked so hard to make our first Fall Festival's Trunk or Treat such a success and a fantastic ministry to our neighbors. We estimate that 400-450 people visited us where they played games, enjoyed some candy, and received the gospel message and information about First Baptist Church. Please pray for each boy and girl, teenager, parent and grandparent that participated.

We hope you will be in attendance on Sunday, November 10, 2019, at 10:30 am. Several of our children recently completed a class where they learned a little more about what being a Jesus follower is all about. Some of the children made the decision to give their lives to Jesus. These children will be taking their next step of obedience to God by following Jesus' example and will be baptized.

Please refer any questions about the Children's Ministry or Mother's Day Out to our Children's Director, Darlene McKeen.

# Greater Bethel Missionary Baptist Church presents

#### **Theme: Onward Christian Soldiers**

Everyone is invited to share in our Annual Choir and Ushers Day Celebration on November 10, 2019, at 3:00 pm, where Rev. Ricky Knighton of Galilee Missionary Baptist Church and the Galilee MBC church family will be our special guest. Please help us uplift the name of Jesus Christ.



# The Fun Bunch

The Fun Bunch is a group of senior adults (and many others) who enjoy spending time exploring the world near and far together. The group has made several short trips this year, culminating in a great cruise to Alaska. Anyone is welcome to join them on their trips, and every age is welcome. Check out some sites they are considering visiting in the future:

- Whooping Crane Cruise—December 5-6, 2019—Rockport-Fulton. We still have room for a few more if anyone would like to go along. The price is \$229 for a single room and \$308 for a double. This includes transportation, hotel, and cruise. If you'd like to stay somewhere else and only join us for the cruise on Friday morning, the cost is \$70 per person.
- National Quartet Convention—September 2020—Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.
- Yellowstone National Park—Either early spring or fall, 2020 or 2021.
- Branson, Missouri—Christmas of 2020 (November or December).
- Canton, Texas—shopping trip
- The Ark Encounter—April 2020—Kentucky. This trip is being planned by FBC of LaVernia. They have invited us to join them.
- New England / Canada Cruise—Late September or early October, 2020.

This is only a suggested list of possible destinations. If you'd like to join our email list, contact Karen Sada at k.sada@att.net. Of course, we will continue venturing out locally for movies and lunches, as well as seeing local sites of interest.

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November 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>**</b>		***	***	1	Fun Bunch to Wimberley Market Days  8am  MEN'S BREAKFAST
Fun Bunch Movie Night 5pm	4 Worship at FV Nursing Home 3pm	5 ELECTION DAY	6 WNS Drumsticks	7	8 Whataburger after the game	Operation Christmas Child Packing Party 3pm
10 Baptism in 10:30 svc Operation Christmas Child Deadline	11  EASPLY VETERANS DAY	12	13 WNS— Hearty Tuscany Soup	14 FBC Vols @ Food Pantry 10am	15	16
17	18	19	20 WNS— TBD  Kids' Movie Night 5:30-7:30	21	22	23  Thanksgiving Basket Delilvery
24  Community Thanksgiving Service @ FBC 6pm  *John Long	25	26	27 Office closes at 12pm NO Activities this evening	28 Office Closed	29 Office Closed	30

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## Sunday

- 8:00—Worship Service (except Lord's Supper & 5th Sundays)
- 9:15—Bible Study
- 10:30—Worship Service
- 4:00—Student Choir Rehearsal

#### Wednesday-after 9/18

- 10:00 Ladies Mid-Week Study
- 3:30—TeamKids
- 4:30—FLC open for students
- 4:45—TeamKids Praise
- 5:30—Supper Kids Movie Night LAST Wed/mo
- 6:30—Life Groups / Prayer Mtg Kids on a Mission / Youth Study
- 7:30—Choir Rehearsal

#### Weekly Activities

Creative Hands-Quilting Mondays at 10:00 am

Worship at Veterans' Home Wednesdays at 2:00 pm (except for 2nd Tues each month)

Sr. Adult Game Day Thursdays from 1-4 pm Line Exercise Classes

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

Mother's Day Out

Mon & Wed from 9am-2pm

#### \* Deacon of the Week

# November **Birthdays**

- Heather Moss Sparks
- Traci Yosko
- Matthew Hankins
- Joe Leal
- Leif Joosepson
- Terri Johnson
- Capri Montgomery
- Blake Moy

- Kenneth Kotzur
- 5 5 6 Heather Montgomery Terry Mills
- Bill Newnam
- Carson Addington
- Terri Bombei
- Marc Gulick
- Chance Little Cynthia Guerrero
- Kimberly Embrey
- 10 Tyler Hólt
- Bradley Davis 11
- Jamie Burris

- Timothy McKeen
- 14 Elizabeth Coats Makayla Miller 14
- Adair Welfel
- 15 David Arispe
- Matt Keller 16 Darlene Seesengood
- 17
- 20 Dee Smith
- 20 Atticus Tipton Julie Fischer
- 21 21 Caleb Coffev
- Kaly Johnson
- Tom Kuykendall

- Rhea Nell Rogers
- Shelbi Bays Agnes Moody
- 24 24
- 26 26 Bonnie Banks
- Beverly Elliott Pat Tackitt Ray 26
- 27 27 Bonnie Dickerson
- Sharron Wesley
- Jordan Respondek
- 27
- Thomas Taggs
  Tammy Bodiford Skloss 27 28
- Stephánie Moss
- Kimberly Parker Norman

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1115 B Street Floresville, TX 78114 Phone: 830-216-4946 Fax: 830-393-3613 E-mail: 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 Rosa Beltran. Church Custodian

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

#### Because He First Loved Us.



# www.fbcf.org

Church family,

Thank you for so many things... for giving my daddy a sweet send off! For supporting me with love at this time, and mostly for loving my parents. This church gave all of us a home; it gave us a refuge; it gave us friends. A special thank you to the



ladies (and John) that provided food for my dad's celebration. I am grateful.

~ Loree Dippary

First Baptist,

Thank you so much for opening up your church to us another year. Your generosity is truly a blessing to us as we try to reach souls for the Kingdom. May your church and household be continually blessed.

~ Mavis Cantu, BSF Class Administsrator

On behalf of the Gambrell Association's Women's Missionary Union (WMU), I want to thank so many of you who participated by generously donating t-shirts to be cut into strips and braided into jump ropes. Our event on October 5th at First Baptst Church in Stockdale was very successful! Women from nine churches in our area attended and enjoyed fellowship as they made jump ropes for Jesus. It really warmed my heart to have six representatives from our church attend. I really appreciated your support.

~ Judith Smith, Gambrell Association's WMU Treasurer

Thank you for the gifts, cards, and words of encouragement for Pastor Appreciation month. I always feel blessed to serve and worship the Lord with such a loving congregation. I look forward to seeing where God leads us in our journey together on this side of heaven.

~ Mike & Allison Clements

Sandra and I want to express our sincere thanks for all the sweet cards and words of encouragement this past month in honor of Ministers Appreciation Month. We are so blessed to be serving alongside a very loving congregation! We love all of you so much!

~ Terry & Sandra Smith

From the Pastors

Thank you so much for all the kind gifts and words you shared with my family and me. We are grateful to the Lord that we get to be a part of the family of First Baptist Church of Floresville.

~ Matt & Lyndi Keller

# New Members

# **By Baptism**

Ryann Miller 216 CR 240 McCoy, TX 78113 830-377-7868

Travis Miller 216 CR 240 McCoy, TX 78113 830-377-7868

Caiden Gorzell

P.O. Box 1210 Poth, TX 78147 210-394-4966

# Floresville Food Pantry

Suggested Donations for November

# Thanksgiving-related Non-perishables

Canned goods
(yams, vegetables, cranberry sauce)
Boxed potato flakes
Boxed dressing or stuffing

Last month, the Floresville Food Pantry began partnering with *Daily Bread* ministry of San Antonio to provide food to the needy of Floresville. The Pantry is now open on Thursdays only. Clients need to arrive at 9am to sign in and wait for food distribution. A prayer/devotional time will be at 10am. Clients are asked

ONATE DONATE

to bring their own bags. The Pantry is located on the corner of 4th and A Street and the phone number is 830-321-1151.

Volunteers are always appreciated.



# BUDGET-AT-A-GLANCEActual Giving ReceiptsRequired to Meet BudgetSeptember 2019\$ 63,540.20\$ 56,493.17YTD thru September\$ 487,114.36\$ 508,438.53

# BUILDING HIStory

Original Loan Amount: \$ 525,000.00

September Loan Payment: \$ 5,000.00

Current Loan Balance: \$ 178,442.40

"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 is an easy, convenient, and secure alternative to writing a check. Go to the church's web page, <a href="www.fbcf.org">www.fbcf.org</a>, or scan the QR code with your smart phone.