

First Edition

Spring 2020 Life Groups

The spring 2020 Life Group semester begins Wednesday, January 15, 2020. Our Wednesday evening family dinner begins at 5:30 pm for folks who plan to attend Wednesday evening classes. After dinner, stay and join a Life Group at 6:30 pm. The courses offered this semester are:

Prayer Meeting—*Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving* (Colossians 4:2). Prayer is foundational to the Christian faith. Let's gather with like-minded believers and see for yourself how God answers the prayers of His people. One of FBC's deacons will lead this weekly time of intercession in the Fishers of Men classroom each Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm.

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University—Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University seminar will continue this spring. This course helps participants pay off debt, budget, save money, and give generously. Dr. Jim Browning facilitates this class each Wednesday at 6:30 pm in the God's Playhouse classroom. This is a continuation of the class that started in the fall of 2019.

Slaying the Giants in Your Life—Fear. Discouragement. Loneliness. Worry. Guilt. Temptation. Anger. Resentment. Doubt. Procrastination. Failure. Jealousy. Which giant is intimidating you? Perhaps fear has your number. Maybe loneliness has you locked out. Whichever giant may be bullying you, the message of this series is that God has the strength to bring you victory! Bob and Judy Whitley facilitate this David Jeremiah study each Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm in the Green Room.

The Story—*The Story* is the story of the Bible, God's great love affair with humanity. It sweeps you into the unfolding progression of Bible people and events from Genesis to Revelation, told as one grand narrative. Tom and Jean Harris lead this study of the book *The Story* by Max Lucado. This is an overview of the entire Bible in chronological order. The emphasis is on the continuity of the Bible with Jesus as the central figure. This discussion-based study is offered separately on both Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm and on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am. You'll find the Harrises at the end of the hallway in the education wing.

Armor of God (women's study)—A devoted, devilish enemy seeks to wreak havoc on everything that matters to you: your heart, your mind, your marriage, your children, your relationships, your resilience, your dreams, your destiny. But his battle plan depends on catching you unaware and unarmed. If you're tired of being pushed around and caught with your guard down, this study is for you. Sally Gaertner will facilitate this study by Priscilla Shirer each Wednesday at in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 pm.

Live Brilliantly (women's mid-week study)—begins Wednesday, January 8, 2020—This rich study of the Book of 1 John will ignite a new passion and hunger for God within you and reveal how God calls us to be His light-bearers here on earth. When our lives reflect God's Word, light shines on our decisions, our relationships, and our actions. It also brings hope to brighten our heavy hearts when we rest in God's light. Sign up in the foyer to reserve a book. Patti Kuykendall will facilitate this study by Lenya Heitzig each Wednesday morning at 10:00 am in the Annex.

Student Bible Study—Pastor Matt Keller will lead the 7th-12th graders through a study of the Sermon on the Mount this spring. Meet in the Family Life Center each Wednesday at 4:30 pm. Bring \$4 for dinner and the students will eat together before beginning the 6:30 pm Bible study hour.

Kids on a Mission—Each Wednesday at 6:30 pm (except for the last Wednesday of each month), boys and girls through 6th grade will enjoy a study about missionary efforts taking place around the world. On the last Wednesday of each month, children will meet together from 5:30 pm—7:30 pm for Kids' Movie Night in the God's Playhouse classroom.

Inside this issue:

New Year's Resolutions	2
Missionary Spotlight - Averills in Scotland Canadys in SE Asia	3
Women's Ministry, Children's Ministry, Church Communication	4
Calendars and Birthdays	5
Acknowledgements, New Members, Budget Information	6



Life Groups begin

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Wednesday Night Supper

5:30 pm

\$4/adult, \$3/child, \$15/family



3 Ways to Accomplish Your New Year's Resolutions

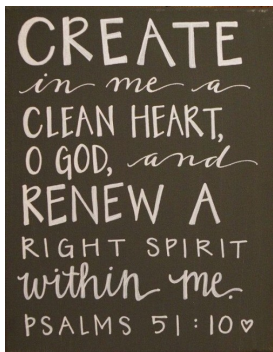
By Scott Attebery

It's the time of year when many people make New Year's resolutions. So, what's at the top of your resolution list right now? Weight loss? Financial stability? Career change? Relationship healing? Read on to find three ways to accomplish your New Year's resolutions.

“Set aside time specifically for you and God... setting times to seek Christ and worship Him.”



Download the *Bible.is* app on your smart phone or other electronic device to listen to an audio version of the Bible.



1. Determine a simple, long-term goal. According to University of Scranton Journal of Clinical Psychology, only 8% of people accomplish their New Year's resolutions. Why? The data suggests that people start with good intentions but burn out quickly due to a lack of results. It's understandable. We live in a results-driven world. *"Lose 20 pounds in 30 days or less!" "Unlock the secret to becoming a millionaire in weeks!"* Ads these days offer ridiculous promises with unbelievable turnaround times. While these promises seem enticing, they ignore the truth: accomplishments come by hard work and small, incremental wins. Instead of making a resolution this year with the intention of accomplishing it in a short amount of time, try setting one simple, long-term goal broken into smaller incremental "wins."

Take Action: Once you determine your goal, choose a deadline and be reasonable with your timing as to avoid burnout. Then split up your resolution into incremental goals based on the weeks and months leading up to your deadline. For example, if your resolution is to read a 300-page book by April 1, establish a plan to read 100 pages each month (25 pages each week).

2. Get motivated. As you jot down resolutions this year, consider your motives. Why, for instance, do you want to lose weight? Is it to honor God by becoming a healthier parent and enabling your body to serve others? Or is it simply for vanity's sake? Search your true motivation. Turn to God's Word. He will speak to you and guide you every step of the way of your goals and resolutions.

Take Action: As you create a list and set your resolutions, make a point to read the Bible at the same time. Meditate on your list and ask God for the tools to carry out His plans. Ask specifically for faith, humility and diligence. If you're not sure where to start in the Bible, try out the Book of Philippians.

3. Make time for God. Goal-setting and New Year's resolutions are great. They give us a chance to start over and for self-improvement. But as you take time for yourself, also make sure that you're making time for God. Here are a few things to consider:

- **Don't let goals get in the way of the vital things in your life.** For example, while Pharisees were busy with good things such as studying Scripture, they missed something vital: noticing and worshiping God.
- **Don't let busyness be a substitute for worship.** Set aside time specifically for you and God. If necessary, make a schedule for personal/spiritual reflection, setting times to seek Christ and worship Him.
- **Don't let your association with God be a substitute for following Him.** Many Pharisees were content in their association with God, but few truly knew Him. Seek God and ask for the wisdom and patience to truly know Him.

Take Action: Consider purchasing a study Bible or a one-year Bible (a Bible divided into 365 daily readings). These tools will help you create a routine of daily Bible reading.

Article adapted from *HomeLife* magazine, and may be found online at <https://www.lifeway.com/en/articles/no-fail-new-years-resolutions>.

Missionary Spotlight

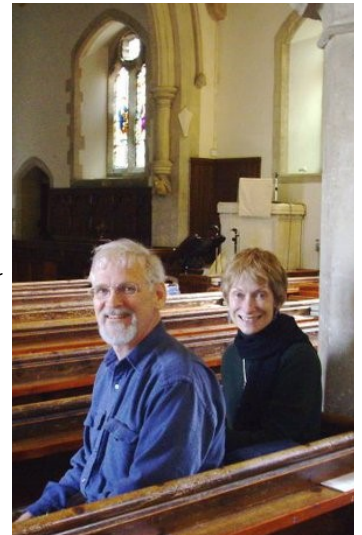
Jerry & Elizabeth Averill, Scotland, United Kingdom

God fulfilled a 25-year dream for the Averills when they were commissioned as career missionaries to Scotland/UK in June, 2010. Jerry and Elizabeth are trained actors, writers, teachers and directors who learned their craft from Jeannette Clift George (she played Corrie Ten Boom in the Billy Graham movie “The Hiding Place”) through working with the A. D. Players, a professional Christian Theatre Company in Houston, for 20+ years. Jerry was an actor, tour manager, director, and booked the company throughout the United States, Israel, and Europe. Elizabeth was an actress, performing at Grace Theatre in Houston and touring throughout the United States. God used every experience to prepare them for Scotland - Jerry’s 7 years at the June Shelton School in Dallas, where he wrote 26 scripts a year, then filmed and edited plays! Elizabeth’s speaking, fundraising for several charities - A.D. Players, Dallas Baptist University, the North Texas Food Bank, and studying at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Based now in Dundee, Jerry & Elizabeth travel willingly to minister anywhere in Scotland. From youth camps in Glasgow to a high school in Livingston, the Averills work with a variety of churches and seize every opportunity to present theatre based upon God’s word. The Averills also teach Bible studies, offer drama workshops, and seek to encourage young believers desiring to use their talents for His kingdom.

Jerry and Elizabeth will be in Floresville this month visiting Jerry’s sister, Jeannie McCarville, and will share with us on Sunday, January 19, 2020, about the ways God is redeeming Europe through the arts. Plan to attend the 8:00 am or 10:30 am worship service for a brief report, and then return at 6:00 pm where they will be featured the entire hour.

To get to know the Averills, visit <http://www.newscottish.org/averills/4590463455> to watch a 12-minute documentary video about their work.



Jerry & Elizabeth Averill, missionaries to Scotland, will speak at FBC Floresville on Sunday, January 19, 2020.

Hardship, Joys, and Hopes—from JP & Sarah Canady

It has been a little over three months since JP and I moved to Southeast Asia. We naively thought that taking on missionary work together would be easy; however, like most things, you don’t really know until you *know*. And missionary work is hard—one of the hardest things we have ever done! Being newly married is difficult enough, but when you add in language learning, adapting to a new culture and way of life, and trying to find friends, it’s a recipe for even more difficulty.

Throughout the holidays, our hearts have been filled with thankfulness, joy, and hope for what is to come in the new year! We thank you so much for partnering with us in prayer, but also in your financial giving. The Lord has allowed us to be here and you are instrumental in that provision. We trust that our obedience to the Lord will bring glory and honor to Him in our lives and ministry. We are excited for the day when we all get to meet the people who exchanged their lives for Jesus Christ because of your prayers and gifts. Please continue to pray.

- Please pray that growth would be evident and clear in our marriage. Pray that we always find our strength and love from the Lord;
- Pray that we would give each other grace and take the opportunities that the Lord provides to practice speaking the language in public and not to feel stupid or inadequate when doing so;
- Please pray that we serve in our ministry with humble hearts and that we are open to any opportunity to share the hope and truth of Jesus Christ.





Women’s Ministry News

Hello Everyone! Happy New Year!! I hope that everyone made some new and wonderful Christmas memories! We had a wonderful fellowship time with the family with food, food, and more food! Praise the Lord!

The Women’s Ministry is planning some activities for early in the new year, but we do not have dates yet or any of the specifics. As soon as we do, I will add them to the calendar near the Coffee Corner. Come give it a look!

We also need your input. We’re always looking for more ways to serve the Lord together as women who love Him. If you have any Women’s Ministry activity ideas to suggest (or if you just need more information), please contact Sally Gaertner at 361-290-1068, or me, Donna Arispe, at 210-560-9642.

Children’s Ministry News

The new year will bring a few changes to the Children’s Ministry.

- Mother’s Day Out’s spring semester will begin on Thursday, January 9, 2010, from 9am-2pm, and will begin adopting a Tuesday/Thursday schedule instead of last semester’s Monday/Wednesday schedule.
- Because of transportation and other scheduling conflicts, Wednesday afternoon’s TeamKids is on hold for a bit. More information will be shared directly with the children’s families, so please visit www.fbcf.org/children to register your child so you’ll be placed on Mrs. Darlene’s distribution list.
- A new KidsFaith class will begin Sunday, January 12, 2020, and will run through February 2, 2020. If your child has been asking about what it means to follow Jesus or wants to be baptized, plan for your child to attend. The KidsFaith class will meet on Sundays in the Fellowship Hall during the 10:30 am worship hour.
- Kids on a Mission will kick off on Wednesday, January 15, 2020, at 6:30 pm. Come have dinner together as a family at 5:30 pm and stay for a Life Group class while your child learns about missionary efforts around the world.
- FBC’s Children’s Ministry is implementing an electronic check-in system called KidCheck. If you have a child (birth-6th grade), please create a family KidCheck account. Visit go.kidcheck.com and select “Create your KidCheck Account,” and follow the prompts. There is also a KidCheck Mobile Check-In app available on the App Store or Google Play. Please create your account now so your transition to the new system will go smoothly. You’ll use your 10-digit phone number to check in.

Please see Darlene McKeen with any questions or email her at Darlene@fbcf.org.



KidsFaith Class

Sundays

Jan. 12–Feb. 2

10:30 am

Church Communication—Get the Word Out!



At FBCF, we want everyone to be aware of all that is happening within our church family. As always, our primary method of communicating is Sunday’s weekly bulletin or *First Edition*, the monthly newsletter. Please take the time to read these publications in their entirety. Electronic copies are always uploaded to the church’s web page, so visit www.fbcf.org and hover over the “About” tab. Visit www.fbcf.org/newsletter to have an electronic copy of the monthly newsletter sent to your inbox.

Occasionally, special events are posted on the church web page or the Facebook page. Follow the Facebook page by visiting www.facebook.com/firstbaptistfloresville and clicking the LIKE button.

From time to time, the office staff will send out notifications and prayer requests via e-mail. If you would like to receive these e-mail notifications, please send an e-mail request to office@fbcf.org and ask to be added to the e-mail distribution list.

January 2020

Schedule of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
			1 Office Closed	2	3	4
						8am MEN'S BREAKFAST
5 Youth Committee Meeting Noon Deacons Mtg Noon *Ronald T. Tipton	6 Worship at FV Nursing Home 3pm	7 BSF begins	8 Ladies Bible Study begins 10am Student Bible study begins	9 Mothers Day Out begins FBC Vols @ Food Pantry 10am	10	11
12 Kids Faith class begins 10:30am Lord's Supper NO 8am Svc. Youth Parent Mtg Noon *Bob Whitley	13	14	15 WNS Chili  Life Groups Begin	16	17	18
19 Jerry & Elizabeth Averill—missionaries to Scotland Sanctity of Human Life Sunday *David Arispe	20	21	22 WNS Chalupas	23	24	25 TX Rally for Life Capitol Building
26 *Ron Bluff	27	28	29 WNS Bacon-wrapped chicken Kids' Movie Night 5:30-7:30	30	31	

Sunday

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

Wednesday (begins 1/15)

- 10:00—Ladies Mid-Week Study
- 4:30—FLC open for students
- 5:30—Supper
Kids Movie Night LAST Wed/mo
- 6:30—Life Groups / Prayer Meeting / Kids on a Mission Youth Bible 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 Wed of 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 Tue & Thu from 9am-2pm

* Deacon of the Week

January Birthdays

1 Marie Schroller	7 Hilda Esensee	17 Jonathan Pehl	23 Paula Gorzell
1 Don Voyles	8 Dorothy Holley	18 Shelly Boyd	23 Jeanette Kunath
1 Dayna Deaton	8 Jim Holt	18 Jo Carolyn Hierholzer	23 Cadance Perez
2 Thomas Detamore	8 Harry Pehl	18 Mary Martinez	24 Rebecca Braune
2 Debra Yeager	8 Stan Swahn	18 Stephanie Pierce	25 Melissa Bland
3 Luke Keith	9 Tara Loeffler	19 Mary Jordan	25 Earlene Mullany
4 Kami Kunath	11 Paul Moss	20 Lenora Dickens	26 Tiffany Gonzalez
5 Tami Kensing	12 Russell Coston	20 Kelly Parker	26 Asa Welfel
5 Don McGee	13 Travis Miller	20 Linda Pipes	27 Mason Taggs
5 Charles Sawers	14 Neysa Choate	21 Jim Browning	28 Kathy Mills
5 Harold Snowball	14 Audrey Keylich	21 Cindy Mahula	28 Maryclair VanDeaver
6 Joni Huber	15 Grace Pierce	22 Gunter Clements	29 Sarah Collins
6 Patsy Roberts	16 Andy Eubanks	22 Elisabeth Kotzur	29 Daniel McKeen
7 Caiden Gorzell	17 Jerrid Alfaro	22 Madeline Street	29 Kathy Sawers
7 Wanda Bodiford	17 Otto Hierholzer	22 Midge Perry	



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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



Because He First Loved Us.



Sincere condolences are extended to the family of Bobby Leon Allsup, cousin of Tom Stringer, who passed away on November 15, 2019;

Heartfelt sympathy is offered to the family of Dolores (Dee) Hopkins, grandmother of Lauren Shine, who passed away on November 26, 2019;

Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Lester Franklin Lee, father of Jeanette Kunath, who passed away on November 28, 2019;

Heartfelt condolences are offered to the family of Angel Ricardo Olivares, brother of Iris Burris, who passed away on December 8, 2019;

Sincere sympathy is extended to the family of Dr. Robert Osborne, Sr., brother of Patti Kuykendall, who passed away on December 9, 2019;

Deepest condolences are offered to the family of Rudolf Edward (Doc) Schiefelbein, Jr., husband of Mary Ann and father of Pat Swahn, who passed away on December 13, 2019;

Sincere condolences are offered to the family of Robert "Robbie" Simmons, brother of Beverly Hardin, who passed away on December 26, 2019;

Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family of Adrian "Windy" Miller, husband of Laurie Miller, father of Les Miller and Lyle Miller, and brother of Jeanine Livingston, who passed away on December 29, 2019;

Deep condolences are extended to the family of Marshall Livingston, husband of Jeanine Livingston, father of Kristie Drew and Gina Evans, who passed away on January 1, 2020.



First Baptist Church Family,
 I wish you all the merriest of this season. I want to thank you as well for my Thanksgiving basket of food for me and my family. It is such a blessing to belong to a church such as ours. God bless you all!
 - Holly Deaton

New Members

By Letter

Kristy Zaiontz
 1830 CR 202 W
 P.O. Box 212
 Falls City, TX 78113
 830-581-8737

Kacey Zaiontz
 1830 CR 202 W
 Falls City, TX 78113
 830-254-0833

**Floresville Food Pantry's
 Suggested Donation for January
 Cereal**

The Floresville Food Pantry is 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 devotional time will be at 10am. Clients are asked 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.

BUILDING HISToRY	
Original Loan Amount:	\$ 525,000.00
December Loan Payment:	\$ 5,000.00
Current Loan Balance:	\$ 169,716.61



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

BUDGET-AT-A-GLANCE	Actual Giving Receipts	Required to Meet Budget
November 2019	\$ 49,293.43	\$ 56,493.17
YTD thru November	\$ 596,659.88	\$ 621,424.87