

First Edition

Senior Adult Valentine Luncheon

The student ministry of First Baptist Church would like to honor all of our Senior Adults by hosting a Valentine Luncheon on Sunday, February 16, 2020, in the Fellowship Hall. A spaghetti meal will be served immediately following the late worship service. This is an opportunity for our students to show their love and appreciation for our senior adults, and to thank them for all of their support, encouragement, and wisdom that they continually provide to our young people. The students will serve the meal, and even take care of the cleanup! The students will set up a photo booth, and hope to have some fun striking a pose with their new senior adult friends. See you there!



Is not *wisdom* found among the *aged*?
Does not *long life* bring *understanding*?
Job 12:12

From the Averills in Scotland

To our new and wonderful Church Family -

As the Scots would say, "What a brilliant time, being at First Baptist!" It was a joy and a blessing for Elizabeth and me to share about our ministry and to simply share life with you last week. Thank you to Pastor Mike, Pastor Terry, and Pastor Matt for trusting us to present the truth of scripture and the validity of ministry and missions through the arts with you all. And thank you to each of you who showed us love and friendship while we were in Floresville. Thank you for the opportunity to add joy and laughter to the "hearing" of the word, to share with Bible studies and Sunday school, and to have time challenging the students to consider who God says they are. God has blessed us mightily through each of you and we pray that He will continue to weave our paths together as we advance His kingdom. The possibilities are endless and we are excited to see what He has in store. Your prayers and support make you a vital part of our ministry through the arts in Scotland and in Europe.



To learn more about what we do, follow us on Facebook @AverillsinScotland, visit our sponsoring organization's, Greater Europe Mission's, web page at www.gemission.org/missionaries/averill, or email us at averillcreatives@gmail.com.

Blessings and Thanks,
Jerry & Elizabeth Averill

Volume 46, Issue 2

February 1, 2020

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First Edition

Belize Bible College
Preparing the next generation
to know Christ and make Him known



Coffey Family News

- Happy New Year!
- The greatest news we could ever share is that Caleb accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior in October and Aaron baptized Him on December 1st! We are so excited to watch God work in his life.
- Ashley's private lesson students (piano and voice) gave a Christmas Recital the second week of December. It is always a joy to watch how these students have grown as musicians over the year!
- We had the opportunity to furlough for three weeks at Christmastime to visit with family. It was a blessing to be home.

Send your support to

First Baptist Church
1115 B. Street
Floresville, TX 78114

Or online at:
www.fbcf.org
Designate "Belize Fund"

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

What's happening in Belize...

The spring semester's classes began January 27, 2020. We have four students now pursuing their Bachelor's degree in Theology and we have a total of 18 students taking Bible College and music classes.

We had a visiting professor come and teach Christian Doctrine and the Gospels in January. Thank you, Dr. Bernie Domowski, for your willingness to serve.

Our greatest need is for more professors to come teach long-term. Would you pray with us as we search out more people to partner alongside us as we minister here at the Belize Bible College?



We need your help!

- ◇ Please pray about becoming a monthly supporter and being a part of our team. God continues to be 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 18 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 Bible College Financial support please send money to the following address:

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

 **Commission**
TO EVERY NATION

Women's Ministry News

Wow! How did January fly by so fast? I'm praying that everyone will have a healthy new year! In so many ways it is good to have schedules back after the holidays. Routines and schedules definitely have their place!

We were so fortunate to have enjoyed the special gifts of missionaries Jerry and Elizabeth Averill from Scotland. Their experiences as missionaries were so different from other missionaries we've heard from. Their creative way of reaching people through the dramatic arts that they shared with us show what an opportunity they have to present theater based upon God's Word and it was definitely a blessing to all!

There is a Women's Retreat opportunity at the Highland Lakes Camp for February 21-22, 2020. If you are interested in attending or just want more information, their website is: www.hlccc.org/womens-conference. Registration is open through Monday, February 10, 2020. They have some wonderful speakers and worship leaders lined up with flexible registration options.

On Wednesday, February 26, 2020, from 6:30-7:30 pm, Char Hauser, who has ministered to military wives for almost 40 years, will share with us how to choose a word for the year... to help us refocus on what God is personally teaching us. Many of us had the opportunity to meet her several years ago. Please add this date to your calendar!

We have several other activities in the planning stage. In the spring, we will try to plan another CardMaking class. We had so much fun with the Christmas card activity in the fall. Several years ago we had Painting, Pasta, and Praise. This was a creative, fun event for the ladies! It was so much fun and many ladies were interested in another class.

So far, we have been through a very mild winter, which means to me that planting season is not that far away. I'm also reminding everyone of our 6th Annual Spring Plant & Flower Exchange on March 28, 2020. You will definitely want to prepare some plant cuttings, flower seeds, and clean out your green house or tool shed and come to exchange with others. I have started some small plants using empty cans—just punch a hole at the bottom—nothing to purchase, and it's cute, too!

Remember to stop by and check out the Women's Ministry Calendar near the Coffee Corner!

Upcoming dates:

- February 21st-22nd—Empowered Women's Retreat—Highland Lakes Camp
- February 26th—Char Hauser will help us refocus on what God is personally teaching us
- March 28th—6th Annual Spring Plant & Flower Exchange

If you have any Women's Ministry activity ideas or any other questions or concerns, please contact Sally Gaertner at 361-290-1068 or me, Donna Arispe at 210-560-9642.

Special Guest—Char Hauser

On Wednesday, February 26, 2020, from 6:30—7:30 pm, Char Hauser will be speaking during the Life Group hour to women. Char has ministered to women (mostly military wives) for close to 40 years and has a heart to see women fully trust the Lord through both the easy and the difficult times. Come hear her challenge women to select a word to focus on in 2020 that will strengthen and guide women through difficult times. Char isn't a stranger to FBC Floresville. She has spoken to women's groups here before. Regardless of whether you have heard her before, you have a treat in store! See Sally Gaertner with any questions.



**Women's Retreat
Highland Lakes
Friday-Saturday
February 21-22**



**Plant & Flower
Exchange
Saturday
March 28, 2020**

The South Texas Children’s Home Says THANK YOU!

FBC Floresville,

Thank you so much for taking the time to choose Angel Tree gifts for all of our little ones! We appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity!

Many Blessings! ~ Youker Cottage



Dear FBC friends -

Thank you so much for making Christmas so special for our boys. They loved the gifts and really did realize that you sent them because God loves them! We appreciate your thoughtfulness and willingness to be "God's hands" to children that need Him!

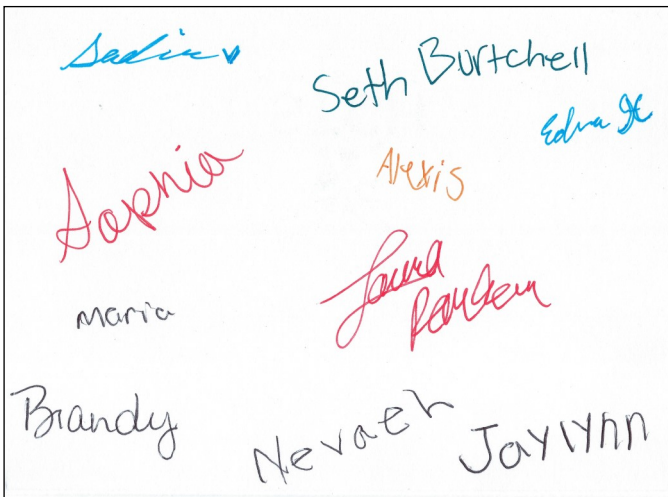
Blessings—Foster Cottage



Dear Friends at FBC,

I wish you could have seen the children’s faces as they opened their gifts! We had such a wonderful time watching each child open their gifts. Thank you so much for your generosity. We pray your Christmas season is filled with joy!

~ Barnes Cottage



Dear FBC Floresville,

We cannot thank you enough for the gifts you gave to our cottage! We thank you for your continued support of not only our cottage, but also our home (STCH). It’s simple acts of kindness like that which touch our hearts and give us the motivation to be good and live out an excellent life. Once again, thank you!!

~ Hope Cottage

Trips for the Fun Bunch

In addition to our monthly, local trips, the Fun Bunch is planning two trips for later this year. There are fliers and sign-up sheets in the foyer to express your interest in the following:

- National Quartet Convention in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee—This is a four-day trip full of southern gospel music and Dollywood in late September and early October.
- Branson, Missouri—This trip is scheduled for November 29–December 5, 2020, when everything in Branson will be decorated for Christmas and the shows will all be Christmas-themed.

We have extended an invitation to the First Baptist Churches in both Pleasanton and LaVernia, but our people will have priority if space becomes an issue. The pricing is based upon 30 people attending, so keep that in mind. There is travel insurance available for both trips and I strongly recommend purchasing it.

We have another trip in mind for the spring, but we are waiting on the bus situation to be resolved before planning it. Please keep this in prayer since transportation is key to our trips.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Karen Sada at k.sada@att.net or by phone at 210-414-4751. Please leave a message and Karen will return your call.



Trips Planned:

National Quartet Convention

Branson, Missouri



FBC Youth Camp Fundraiser
Golf Tournament
 Saturday, March 14, 2020, 8 am
 River Bend Golf Course
 See Pastor Matt Keller for details

Floresville Food Pantry's Suggested Donation for FEBRUARY **All Kinds of SOUPS**

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.

DNow

2020 **DiscipleNow Weekend**
 for 7th-12th grade students

**Friday through Sunday
 April 3-5, 2020**

Students will travel to the South Texas Children's Home in Pettus, Texas, where they will spend the weekend together for a DNow weekend. Details to follow.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Cowboy Breakfast
 Saturday, February 1st—6:30 am

Super Bowl Party
 Sunday, February 2nd—5:00 pm

Dinner @ the Kellers
 7th-8th grade families
 Sunday, February 9th—5:00 pm

Singing Men of South Texas
 FBC, Pleasanton
 Thursday, February 13th—7:00 pm

Sr. Adult Valentine Luncheon
 Sunday, February 16th—Noon

President's Day Holiday
 Office Closed
 Monday, February 17th

Dinner @ the Kellers
 9th-10th grade families
 Sunday, February 23rd—5:00 pm

Char Hauser—Women's Event
 Wednesday, February 26th—6:30 pm

Kids' Movie Night
 Wednesday, February 26th—5:30 pm

Utah Mission Trip Report - Rebekah Dickerson

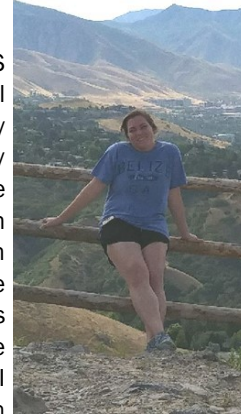
First Family,

“Imagine sitting in a full football stadium and realizing that you may be the only believer there.”



“When you meet someone who is Mormon, treat them with love, respect, and kindness.”

I cannot thank y'all enough for your prayers and support for the SWBTS Utah Mission Team. We could feel the power of prayer, and we saw it all around us as well. I am writing this as an update on what's going on in my life as well as to share a little of my recent trip to Utah. Beginning with my life, I am now confident that the Lord is calling me to move to Utah some time after graduation. Before the trip I was still unsure if that is where I am supposed to go, but I was sure that Mormons are “my people.” Now, I am confident that Utah will be my home likely within the next few years. I have several friends there now who have become my family, and my heart longs to be with them again, witnessing to the lost in Provo, Utah. They became my home and have opened up their arms for me to join them in Utah, and I plan to. Now, regarding my recent trip to Utah and all that happened, I can



tell you that the Lord is certainly moving in the hearts and lives of those there! They are seeing more and more lost people be saved and more and more Christians are moving there to start/join ministries. There are ministries that reach the Fundamentalist communities (the Mormons that still practice polygamy) and the Lord is doing great work there! Those ministries with the Fundamentalist communities are what I want to do and where I want to be. The people in some of these communities, the women especially, experience abuse and loneliness due to the fact that they are not their husband's only wife, and possibly not his most beloved one of the several that he has. There are fundamentalist communities that have suicide rates that are through the roof, one which averaged a suicide a week. However, when someone started a ministry to help reach this particular group, the suicide rate decreased. So, you can see that the Lord is really moving there!

I have a few prayer requests for y'all if you would be willing to pray for these things. First, I have a few friends that are either beginning to seek the truth and leave Mormonism, who have already found the truth and are transitioning out of the LDS Church, or are ex-Mormons who have become believers but are having to remain undercover to stay off the LDS Church's radar and not lose everything that they have. When they say you have to be willing to open up your home for ministry, they mean that literally in Utah for many who leave the LDS faith for Christianity lose quite literally everything they have. They are the ones living out the parable of the man who sold everything he had for the treasure he found in the field. They are giving up everything they have ever known and loved to follow Jesus, and they could all really use your prayer. Second, please pray for the believers there who are witnessing to those there. The Provo/Orem area is the most unreached Metro area in the entire nation, having a population of 0.5% Evangelical Christians for the entire area. This place, as of 2010, has a population of 527,000, and for every 20,300 people, there is one believer. Imagine sitting in a full football stadium and realizing that you may be the only believer there. It is a very, very dark place. The spiritual warfare there is unbelievable, and many of us on the trip experienced it while there. It can be a very discouraging thing to be one of very few believers in the area, and I know the believers that are working there to share the good news of Jesus would greatly appreciate your prayers. So please pray for them while they follow the Lord's will and bring the gospel to a very dark place, risking all they have for this.

Again, thank you so much for all y'all are doing, and please, when you meet someone who is Mormon (or any lost person), treat them with love, respect, and kindness. Share truth with them, but make sure that you do it in love and not simply to win an argument. Check your heart when you do it and make sure that it's in the right place. Let it be the Holy Spirit that speaks, not you. I can recount times where I didn't let the Holy Spirit speak through me and I can tell you that the conversation was an utter disaster. So, take it from me, and let the Holy Spirit lead, but be willing to do what He leads you to do.

With much love, Rebekah Dickerson

February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Cowboy Breakfast 6:30 am Men's Prayer 8:30 am
2 Deacons Mtg Noon Kids Faith—10:30 am Youth Camp deposit due *Darrel Dundas	3 Worship at FV Nursing Home 3pm	4	5 WNS Lasagna Ole'	6	7	8
9 Dinner @ Kellers 7th-8th grade families *Danny Fenner	10	11	12 WNS—Hamburgers	13 FBC Vols @ Food Pantry Singing Men 7pm FBC Pleasanton	14	15
16 Sr. Adult Luncheon Noon *Amos Garcia	17 Office Closed 	18	19 WNS Fettuccini Alfredo	20	21	22
23 Dinner @ Kellers 9th-10th grade families *Bob Herndon	24	25	26 WNS—Chalupas Kids' Movie Night 5:30-7:30	27	28	29

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday

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

Wednesday

- 10:00am—Ladies Mid-Week Study
- 4:30pm—FLC open for students
- 5:30pm—Supper
Kids Movie Night LAST Wed/mo
- 6:30pm—Life Groups / Prayer Mtg
Kids on a Mission / Youth Study
- 7:30pm—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
Tue & Thu from 9am-2pm

* Deacon of the Week

February Birthdays

1 Kim Lanier O'Neal	8 John Kelley	16 Jan Aldrich	24 Kaitlin Parker
1 Emily Smith	8 John Long	16 Kimberly Posey	25 Jan Browning
2 Cara Little	8 David Lozano	16 Ray Addington	25 Kaitlyn Keylich
3 Mac Gleeson	8 Dale Yeager	17 Jerry Berry	27 Kathy Hargrove
3 Tim Lanier	9 Amos Garcia	17 Sally Jenkins	
3 Clara Kotzur	10 August Gleeson	18 Ricky Cox	
3 Pam Talley	10 Carol Bagley	18 Patrick McKeen	
4 Brook Lynn Whatley	10 Bonnie Rice	18 LeeRoy Wagenfuehr	
4 Bob Whitley	11 Jerry Fewox	19 Tim Bays	
4 Esther Remling	11 Nick Nissen	19 Monroe Sickenius	
5 David Wehmann	11 Jerry Aldrich	20 Brook Lynne McKeen	
5 Patty Swahn	12 Jewel Gleeson	21 Terry Garza	
6 Mia Ham	12 David McKeen	23 Karen Gulick	
6 LaShea Addington	15 Laura Yeager	23 Jason Guerrero	
7 Carter Thomas	15 Carolyn Sickenius	23 Tyler Mills	
7 Abygail Burns	15 Roy Idrach	24 Hulon Drewett	





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.



WE'RE ON THE WEB!
/FIRSTBAPTISTFLORESVILLE
WWW.FBCF.ORG

BUILDING HISTOrY

Original Loan Amount:
\$ 525,000.00

January Loan Payment:
\$ 5,000.00

Current Loan Balance:
\$ 165,368.74

**"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)

Heartfelt condolences are extended to the family of Gary Kensing, father of Kimberly Embrey and Mandi Sralla, who passed away on January 7, 2020;

Deepest sympathy is offered to the family of Laura May Estes, cousin/sister-in-law of Barbara Estes, who passed away on January 15, 2020;

Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family of Sybil Kathleen Jenkins, mother of Cara Little, who passed away on January 19, 2020.

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for remembering me with a Thanksgiving basket of a turkey and all the accompanying side dishes. Our church carries out the admonition from the Lord to care for the widows and orphans. I feel blessed to be a part of such a giving church family.

~ Bonna Reed

Dear Kitchen Volunteers,

My heart is overwhelmed with gratitude for each of you incredible church volunteers that arranged the lunch for us. We had mostly out-of-town guests and you gave us a place to gather. The tables were beautiful too. Thank you so very much for your hard work.

~ The Shiefelbein family

A sincere heartfelt gratefulness to our blessed church family,

Thank you to our pastor, Mike Clements, for the attentiveness to our needs during the loss of our loved one, Marshall Livingston. You are a true shepherd to your flock. Thank you, Mrs. Penny Smith, for your love and guidance through the process and decision making as we grieved with unclear heads.

Thank you, Pastor Terry Smith, for your insight of music and loving ability to make it easier. Thank you, Mrs. Sheila Brieden, for honoring us with your gift of music, which is truly a gift from God. Thank you, Linda Downs, for making sure the Celebration Service went without a hitch.

Thank you to Mr. John Long and his lovely wife Mary-Ellen for preparing and serving the brisquet, beans, and potato salad for the celebration service that was served after the burial of my beloved. There are no words for your generosity of love and care.

Most of all, thank you, Church family, for your great outpouring of love through letters, phone calls, flowers, monetary gifts, and many heartfelt condolences as we mourn the passing of our Husband, Father, and Papa. He was faithful; he fought the good fight and won the race and he rests with Our Heavenly Father.

Again, thank you. *"The LORD appeared to him from afar, saying, "I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore I have drawn you with loving-kindness."* ~ Jeremiah 31:3. Until we meet again, my beloved...

Thank you, Helping Hands class, for ministering to our family's needs. You exhibit what God teaches. Thank you, my sisters.

Love, Jeanine Livingston

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the generous Love Offering you gave to each of us for Christmas. You helped make the

Christmas Season so special for us. It is a pleasure to serve the Lord along with each of you.

Thanks again,
FBC Pastors and Staff

FROM ALL OF US
ON THE
CHURCH STAFF



New Members

By Letter

Linda Stephens
769 Killarney Road
Floresville, TX 78114
678-943-4744

**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, or scan the QR code with your smart phone.

BUDGET-AT-A-GLANCE	Actual Giving Recelpts	Required to Meet Budget
December 2019	\$ 74,603.97	\$ 56,493.17
YTD thru December	\$ 671,263.85	\$ 677,918.00