September 2022 Volume 49, Issue 9



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## Special points of interest:

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 Labor Day is September 5th

Financial Information

- Men's Breakfast 9/3
- BSF starts 9/13
- Mary Ellen's Wednesday morning Bible Study- Sept 21st 10:30 a.m.
- Regularly Scheduled Business Meeting is September 24
- Men's Retreat
   Sept 30- Oct 1st

### First Baptist Church



## FBC Welcomes Dr. Ben Craver

FBC, Floresville, is blessed to welcome Dr. Ben Craver as our Intentional Interim Pastor! He and his lovely wife Ginny were welcomed on August 14 with a sandwich and finger food luncheon following the morning service.

Ben has been in pastoral service for more than 40 years, serving five Baptist churches in Texas. In 2020, he stepped down as Command Chaplain, Air Component Command, of the Texas State Guard. He has also been called as Interim Pastor for thirteen Baptist churches prior to FBCF, with his most recent IP position at Shearer Hills Baptist Church in San Antonio. In addition, he serves as Professor of Theological Studies and Coordinator of Christian Studies Programs at Wayland Baptist University at the San Antonio campus. He joined Wayland in 1999. A graduate of East Texas State University (B.B.A.), he also holds a Master of Divinity and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from Southwestern Seminary.

Ben and his wife Ginny, who recently retired from Wayland, make their home in San Antonio and are members of Trinity Baptist Church. They have four grown children and five grandchildren. We are happy to welcome the Cravers, and know that God has great plans for his ministry here as he paves the way for our new pastor!

## A Big THANK YOU to Jim Browning!

FBCF wants to say a heartfelt "THANK YOU" to Dr. Jim Browning for serving as our interim pastor for the past four months! We have been very blessed by his ministry and by the experience and expertise he has brought to us. He has worked tirelessly and without any monetary compensation to rebuild the ministry and fellowship following Covid and the retirement of Dr. Mike Clements, and we are grateful for the way God has blessed us every week! We have experienced growth through professions of faith and baptisms, and by people joining by letter. All of this has been happening at a time that there is usually a "summer slump" in attendance.

Jim continues to work as Director of the Marsh Center for Chaplain Studies, so due to his work and travel schedule this fall, his last Sunday to serve as Interim Pastor was on August 7. The good news is that Jim and Jan are two of our own FBC church family who live here and will continue to worship alongside all of us! We love them and thank God for them and their sacrificial service to FBC. God provided the right man at just the time he was needed, and we are grateful that Jim answered His call!

## MATT

#### A Church that Cares

I've been wrestling with Galatians 6:1-2 a lot lately. The context is how does a church deal with someone caught in sin, but I think of this as a general rule for us as Christians. We are called to bear each other's burdens. (6:2) You are called to care for the soul of the brother or sister in Christ that is sitting next to you in Bible study. You are called to care for the soul of the brother or sister in Christ that frustrates you every time you talk to them. You are called to care for the souls of the brother or sister that has wronged you in the past. Are we willing to be a body of Christians that seek to fulfill the law of Christ? (6:2) If your brother or sister has a sin problem that has come into the light, you are called to lovingly and gently challenge them to trust in Christ and confront the sin. (6:1) Your goal should not be to shame or destroy your brother or sister. Your hope is that they would follow Jesus. How can we better do this at First Baptist? Here are some simple steps...

First, be committed to praying for other church members. When someone in the hallway shares a prayer request with you, pray with them right then and there. Imagine if our halls and our foyers were filled with people praying for each other.

Second, lovingly and gently confront each other's sins in private. This is best done when there is already a friendship between two people. It is probably not wise to confront the apparent sin of a person in your Bible study if you've never even had a conversation with them. We should be seeking to follow Matthew 18:15-20. Have no doubt that this can be messy because people are messy.

Third, speak/read/memorize/study the Bible with others outside of Sunday mornings. We believe God is faithful in using His Word to change our lives. (Psalm 119:11, Isaiah 55:11, Hebrews 4:12, 1 Peter 1:23) If you desire to see your brothers and sisters become more like Jesus it will happen when the Holy Spirit uses God's Word to transform them inside and out. This role is <u>not</u> limited to teachers, preachers, or someone with a special gifting. Speak the Bible into each other's lives and see what God can do.

I am thankful that I have had two church members committed to do this last step for me every day of the week. It has been surprising how many times what they have shared with me is the very thing I need that day. Praise the Lord for brothers and sisters in Christ who seek to encourage each other through God's Word!

## TERRY'S NOTES

CHOIR MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

"BREATH OF HEAVEN"

The Praise Choir is currently rehearsing new anthems for Sunday mornings, and they have begun rehearsing the Christmas musical, "Breath of Heaven." The choir is planning to present "Breath of Heaven" sometime in December. This is a great time for individuals to join our choir ministry. Since Covid interrupted our choir ministry over two years ago, our choir is building back up and is experiencing new growth! It is exciting to see the wonderful people our Lord is sending to this great ministry! We would like to extend the invitation for more individuals to be part of our choir and praise team ministry.

Choir Rehearsal: Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm. & Sunday mornings at 9:00 am.

"Shout praises to the Lord, everyone on this earth. Be joyful and sing as you come in to worship the Lord."

Psalm 100:1-2

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Operation Christmas Child season is upon us. Come join us on Monday, September 12th at 10am for our next Mission Monday gathering.

OCC has been ongoing for several months now. Some months have been pretty quiet. We had a small get together a couple weeks ago, August 1, when we emptied all of our storage containers onto tables so an assessment could be made of our progress. At this gathering we were able to fill half of the pencil cases we had, 24 of 50. We were short on a couple items to complete those. I asked for help on the Facebook page I created, "Floresville FBC - OCC", and the response was very helpful. I have several more projects that could be completed with enough manpower. Things like cutting laminated instruction sheets to fit in a toy package, winding fishing line onto a cork for the fishing kits, gluing pictures in the top of the shoeboxes, and we

need some more notepads created. There is probably something for everyone to do. For those who prefer to complete your own boxes at home, feel free to check with us to see if there is some of our extra items that might help you finish your boxes.

Questions: send a text or call Sallie Bluff @ 830-391-2344.

## September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	-			Judith Smith Funeral	2	MEN'S BREAKFAST
4 Sunday School Meeting Deacon Meeting *Bob Herndon	5 Labor Day Office closed	6	7 WNS	8	9	10
*John Long	12	Fun Bunch BSF STARTS 6:30PM	WNS	15	16	17
*Shaun Murray	19	BSF	BUSINESS MEETING	22	23	24
*Bill Perry	26	BSF	WNS WNS	29	MEN'S RETREAT	

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1 2 2	Eliza Keller Piper Parsons Sandra Keith Miles Keith	12 13 15	Joe Holcomb Michael Guerrero Layla Brown	19 20 20	Jackie Lozano Sandra Gonzales Bill Varnon	25 25 27	Gwen Cason Sarah Booker Sally Gaertner
_		15	Celeste Savage	21	Alexis Fewox	27	Wyatt Miller
4	Russell Dickerson	16	Isabelle Fewox	21	James Hankins	28	Carlos Gonzalez
4	Karla Hankins	16	Samuel Brannon	21	J.T. Mills	28	Veda Voyles
5	Julie Brannon	16	Jeffrey Lanning	21	Ed Pipes	29	Kristy Zaiontz
7	Susan Hillerich	17	Tyra Mosier	21	Bruce Whitley	30	Lorraine Young
8	Tommy Detamore	17	Andrew Young	21	Frances Weyrick	30	Denise Kelley
8	Carter Herndon	17	Elijah Booker	23	Jason Sellers	<b>3</b> 0	Kacey Zaiontz
9	Cissy Dippel	17	Jan Nissen	24	Yogi Gaertner	30	Jimmy Bell
9	Sarah Baird	18	Mark Burris	24	Louise Lotspeich	30	Terri Zendner
10	Kyrissa Parsons	19	Chance Addington	24	Thomas Stringer	30	Terri Zendilei
10	Ray Klespies	19	Chance Addington	24	Tanya Tackitt		
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# Schedule of Events

#### Sunday

- 9:15—Bible Study for all
- 10:30—In-person Worship and online worship through Facebook LIVE

#### <u>Tuesday</u>

•6:30-- BFS Starts Sept. 13th

#### Wednesday

- 5:30 WNS
- 6:30—Prayer Meeting/ Youth Bible Study
- 7:30— Choir Practice

#### Weekly Activities

- Creative Hands—
   Quilting Mondays at 10:00 am
- •• Line Exercise Classes Mon, Tues. & Thurs. from 9:30-10:30



Facebook Live Every Sun-8am day

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Our fall ladies Bible study will be "Jonah - Navigating Life Interruptions", with Priscilla Shirer, beginning September 7, in Fellowship Hall. In this 7 session Bible study Priscilla redefines interruptions and shows that interruption is actually God's invitation to do something beyond our wildest dreams.

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Daniel Hargrove

Order your book on Christianbook.com, Lifeway.com, or Amazon.

For more information, contact Sally Gaertner, 361-290-1068.



#### TEAM KIDS PRAISE

TKP began their first rehearsal on Wednesday, August 31. Sheila Brieden, Taeylr Coleman and Grace Lanning lead this fun and exciting children's choir program! TKP meets at 4:45 pm on Wednesdays in conjunction with our Team Kidz ministry, which begins at 3:30 pm.

#### FUN BUNCH- EVENT CALENDAR

SEPT. 13 GOLDEN CORRAL San Antonio, Texas

OCT. 18 THE DEN La Vernia, Texas

NOV. 15 CAFE CHRIS Pleasanton, Texas

DEC. 6 DON PEDRO'S San Antonio, Texas

(Departure time will be 10:30 am)



Judith Smith

Funeral Service-9/1/2022

Viewing- 10:00

Service- 11:00

Lunch- 12:00



Condolences go out to

LaJuana Newnam-Leus and family in the loss of her son William "Bill" Newnam, who passed away on July 29, 2022.

with deepest SYMPATHY

Also, condolences go out to the Paula Gorzell Family, who's uncle Billy Bodiford passed away on August 8, 2022.

Judith Smith passed away on August 28.

Each new day brings a gentle reminder of the loving and caring hearts of others. So many of you have reached out to us with prayers, calls, meals, cards, trips to surgery, and Dr. appts. You all hold a special place in our hearts. "Thank You" seems so inadequate for

all the blessings we have received. Thanks!

From Brenda and Danny

Dear Church Family... Words are not adequate for a time like this, and we never seem prepared to lose a child, as I was not; however, I know that he is in a better place and that he was ready to go home. Thank you so much for all of the loving cards, as they have certainly been a solace to me and appreciate them all so much! Thank you for all of the ones who so lovingly prepared food and brought them to the meal following the services! I was so overpowered with all that was done and prepared for this meal and the fellowship that followed. Again I was overjoyed by all who stayed and visited with our family!!! Of course, everyone had to leave the next day and of course that leaves a void...but our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ finds a way to wrap his loving arms around us and helps fill that void. I could write accolades for the Lord's presence, but I think my son's poem that he wrote several years ago says it better: So, I want to share that with all of you as it really says it better: so hear his words and his love for our church. Thank you so very much, LaJuana

## Thank You

#### 4th & B

4th & B have a special meaning for me From here to God's ear

Voices are heard in solemn prayer. Not for themselves only, but for people every-

where
These voices ask for protection and guidance
Wisdom and patience, health and reliance

On God's mercy and care.
With each other, their accomplishments and downfalls

They openly share.

These voices are from mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters.

Grandparents alike, friends and ministers. Our names are heard, even if not spoken aloud.

From 4th & B, up and beyond the clouds. I look around me to my left and to my right. I'm still here because those voices fight the good fight.

Written by Bill Newnam, 2007



## First Baptist Church

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409-656-3089

Zoé Fox, Office Manager

Christie Davis, Family Ministry

Asst.

Rosa Beltran, Custodian

Because He First Loved Us



We're on the Web and Facebook! WWW.FBCF.ORG



Monday, September 5, 2022 Office Closed

#### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!

Ty, Denise & Rayne Beasley

Jacob, Jessica & Christopher Fossler

Mary & Geoffrey Zarosky



Wednesday, September 21, 2022 6:30 pm





September 11, 2001 Remember





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-	Actual Giving Receipts	Required to Meet Budget
July 2022	\$ 51,343.67	\$ 43,438.49
YTD thru July 2022	\$ 383,200.78	\$ 304,069.43



BUILDING **HIStory** Original Loan Amount: \$ 525,000.00

May Loan Payment: \$ 1,500.00

Current Loan Balance: \$ 21,505.51

"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