

First Edition

February 2023

Volume 49 Issue 2



Craver, here, talkin' love.

Several years ago, when I was attending Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, I had the privilege of studying theology with Dr. Bert B. Dominy whom I've mentioned several times in my sermons. Dr. D passed away in 2021, but his legacy lives on in my heart and, hopefully, in my preaching and teaching.

One especially meaningful aspect of the course was our study of the attributes of God. To understand the attributes means that we know *who* God is because of *what* He has done. While there are many attributes, including holiness, righteousness, power and ability, and knowledge, the one that has really remained with me over the years is God's attribute of love.

Love means learning to know God through his *loving actions* toward us. The most familiar word for "love" when connected with God is the well-known Greek word "*agape*." An "*agape*" kind of love says, "I love you, even though you aren't worthy of it." That's how God shows us *agape* love. He loves us even when we don't deserve it.

February is often thought of as the month of love, especially with Valentine's day. Red cards are already everywhere. Hearts, roses, candies, and, yes, Cupid. It's all headed our way faster than an F-15E Strike Eagle, maybe even a sermon series about love.

I encourage you to celebrate Valentine's Day and the love associated with it. But, for Christians, love is an everyday action, not just toward those you "really" love; but, to everyone. Even those who don't deserve it. Why? Well, because: God Himself is love (1 John 4:8, 16); God has demonstrated His love to us as sinners (Romans 5:8); and God's love is a giving kind of love (John 3:16). So, give that love, y'all!

Blessed to be your pastor, in the interim!

Ben



PRAISE CHOIR And
PRAISE BAND REHEARSAL
7:30 PM Wednesday

TEAM KIDZ PRAISE
(Pre K- 6th Grade)
4:45pm – 5:30pm Wednesday

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Special points of interest:

- Men's Breakfast ~ Feb 4th
8:00-9:30 am
- BSF- Tuesday nights
6:30-8:00 pm
- Wednesday's Team Kids
& Team Kids Praise
3:30 pm-5:30 pm
- Wednesday Night Supper
5:30 pm
- Wednesday Groups 
6:30 pm
 - Experiencing God
 - Creation Class
 - Children's Bible Study
 - Youth Bible Study
- Office Closed—Feb. 20th



TERRY'S NOTES

TERRY'S NOTES

Howdy, again! Well, we are entering that time of year of San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo, Presidents' Day, unpredictable South Texas winter, and last, but not least, VALENTINE'S DAY!!! That's right...VALENTINE'S DAY!

For some reason, VALENTINE'S DAY, during my elementary school days, was one of the highlights of the school year, not to mention the cool classroom parties we used to have, when there were such things. It was super neat to get cards from the other classmates, and sometimes we would receive special valentine treats or gifts from other best friends, which made VALENTINE'S DAY even more special. I remember my siblings and I would receive a Valentine card from my grandmother Smith. Inside the card, she would have a dime taped down, so that we could, if we chose, to walk down to the local drive-in store and buy candy or whatever. (A dime in 1965 was worth a lot more than today)

After doing a little google research on the origin of VALENTINE'S DAY, I discovered some pretty rather bizarre pagan facts about this special day. Not until the last few hundred years did VALENTINE'S DAY become more of what it is known for today: a day of expressing our love to one another by giving and exchanging cards and gifts. VALENTINE'S DAY is a special day for expressing our love for one another. So much money is spent during this time of year, thus, resulting in being a multi-billion dollar revenue holiday! Crazy huh?

Let's talk about love a little further. The greatest commandment in the Bible is found in Matthew 22:37: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind....the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

As a Christian, it is my top priority to practice this Scripture verse daily. To me, to love God with all my heart, soul and mind, means to daily devote all of these aspects of my life to Him. My emotions, my will, my desires, my actions, my reactions, and even my physical health should all be surrendered to God. That means that I must have that special time with Him each day, no matter if it is early in the morning or later in the day. For me, early morning, no doubt, is best for me. When I meet with my Father God in the morning, I will immediately acknowledge Him as Sovereign God, and I begin to praise His Holy name. I, then, confess my shortcomings and sin to Him, according to 1 John 1:9. Then, I begin to thank my Heavenly Father for everything and in everything, according to 1 Thessalonians 5:18. The next thing I do is pray for my family, friends, the sick, my Church, etc.... Last, but not least, I pray for my needs. The next thing I do in expressing my love to God is to read His Word. I will usually begin with a devotion, followed by my daily Bible reading/study.

For some reason, loving my neighbor does not seem as easy. As I live out my day, I encounter my neighbors at home, the neighborhood, at work, at the store, at the restaurant, in the school car lines; I encounter neighbors everywhere! I am commanded to love them the way I love myself. I am to put them first, instead of myself. For example, I am not to get angry when a crazy driver almost runs over me at the grocery store parking lot. I treat a family member with love and understanding when they fuss at me for having the TV volume up too loud! (oops) As a church goer, I kindly allow someone to sit in my seat at church, even if that is "my seat." (Clearing throat) These expressions of loving our neighbors goes on and on.



How about forgiveness being a form of loving our neighbor? Indeed! Is there someone in your life you have had a very difficult time forgiving? I have had several. First of all, Ephesians 4:32 says, "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as Christ God forgave you." Matthew 6:14-15 says, "Yes, if you forgive others for their sins, your Father in heaven will also forgive you for your sins. But if you don't forgive others, your Father in heaven will not forgive your sins."

After sharing these last paragraphs about VALENTINE'S DAY and loving God and our neighbors, I would like to suggest a VALENTINE'S DAY card for you to give someone. That someone who you have resented for quite a while, who may have offended you in the most extreme way. You know, that person who talked about you. That person who did you wrong. Yes! That person. Have you forgiven him or her? Maybe this year, you could write them a letter or card, give them a call, or even invite them to lunch or dinner, and have a time of reconciling. You know, God will bless you beyond measure if you will do this! What better VALENTINE'S DAY gift to give someone this year.

Love You with the love of the Lord!


Pastor Terry Smith

February 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Women's Bible Study 10:30am WNS-Stacy Collins Tuscany Soup Wed. Evening events*	2	3	4 Men's Prayer Breakfast— 8AM
5 Danny Fenner	6	7 BSF 6:30-8	8 Women's Bible Study 10:30am WNS-Ragamuffins Lasagna Wed. Evening events*	9	10	11
12 SR Adult Luncheon Valentine Banquet After Service Ronald Tipton	13	14  Valentine's Day BSF 6:30-8	15 Women's Bible Study 10:30am WNS-Elizabeth Coats Amarillo Chicken Wed. Evening events*	16	17	18
19 Mike Hopper	20 President's Day <u>Office Closed</u>	21 BSF 6:30-8	22 Women's Bible Study 10:30am WNS-Jars of Clay Chalupas Wed. Evening events*	23 Fun Bunch Golden Corral/ IKEA 10:30	24	25
26 Thomas Welfel	27	28 BSF 6:30-8				

Schedule of

Sunday

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

Tuesday

- BSF 6:30

* Wednesday

- 10:30 Women's Bible study
- 5:30 WNS
- 6:30—Prayer Meeting/
Ex. God/ Creation Class/
Children Bible Study
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 am
- Tone & Stretch Classes
Mon, Tues. & Thurs. from 4:30 -5:15 pm

Birthdays

1 Al Riley
3 Mac Gleeson
3 Tim Lanier
3 Clara Kotzur
3 Pam Talley
4 Bob Whitley
4 Esther Remling
5 Patty Swahn
6 LaShea Addington
7 Abygail Burns

8 John Kelley
8 John Long
8 David Lozano
8 Dale Yeager
10 Katherine Brannon
10 August Gleeson
10 Carol Bagley
10 Bonnie Rice
10 Jenny Richards
11 Nick Nissen
11 Jerry Aldrich
12 Jewel Gleeson

12 Ron Wright
13 Connor Parkinson
14 Ansley Gates
15 Roy Idrach
15 Carolyn Sickenius
15 Laura Yeager
16 Kimberly Posey
16 Ray Addington
17 Collin Booker
17 Sally Jenkins
18 Ricky Cox
19 Monroe Sickenius

23 Karen Gulick
23 Jason Guerrero
23 Tyler Mills
24 Hulon Drewett
25 Jan Browning
25 Kaitlyn Keylich
27 Kathy Hargrove

March

1 Bob Herndon
2 Chris Coats
2 Sean Coats
2 Jane Lee

Dear Church Family,

Just wanted to write a short update for this month's newsletter to let everyone know that members of our Pastor Search team will be visiting Sunday School classes again this quarter to answer questions and provide a progress report on the pastor search effort.

If you're already a member of a Sunday School class, we're looking forward to talking with you again

If you are not a member of a Sunday School class, then as a Sunday School teacher myself, please allow me to urge you to consider joining a class as soon as possible! Not only can you deepen your understanding of the Holy Scriptures, but also the connections with other members of our congregation at the same time

Chris Coats

Chairperson, Your Pastor Search Committee



UP COMING EVENTS

MFuge **Youth CAMP**

Fort Worth July 3-7, 2023

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 12-16, 2023

Fun Bunch

Road Trip to
Mt. Rushmore, Badlands &
Black Hills of ND
May 19-29, 2023
\$1250. 11 Days/10 Nights

**Brochure available
in the Church Office

Road Trip



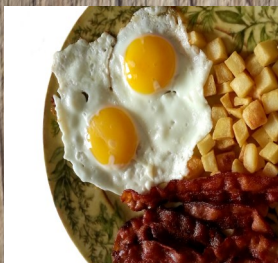
FUN BUNCH MONTHLY DAY TRIP SCHEDULE

Feb. 23.....GOLDEN CORRAL/IKEA

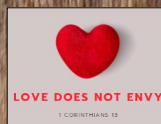
Mar. 22.....CLEAR SPRINGS, NEW BRAUNFELS/SHOPPING

Apr. 28.....MAMACITA'S, SAN ANTONIO

May 25.....GRUENE, GRISTMILL/SHOPPING



Saturday
February 4th
8:00-9:30 AM
Fellowship Hall
Men's Prayer
Breakfast



Senior Adult
Valentine Banquet
Sun. Feb. 12th
Following the service
Complimentary Spaghetti
Luncheon- Provided by

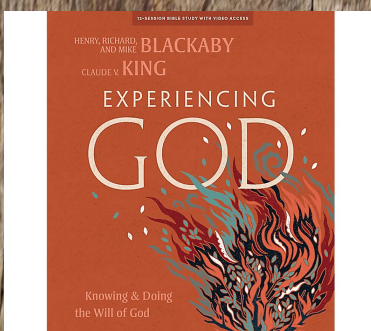


New CHURCH Members:

Norma Reyes, Ansley Gates, Caleb Oliver
Jimmy & JoAnne Rochester, Pamela Talmage

With Deepest Sympathy

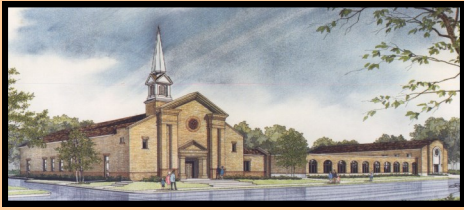
Condolences for the Families of
Jennifer Varnon and Carla Smith
In the loss of their father Kenneth Mills.



COME ATTEND 6:30PM
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS



First Baptist Church of Floresville Staff



Dr. Ben Craver, Intentional
Interim Pastor 210-687-6748
Terry Smith, Worship Pastor
830-391-3362
Zoé Fox, Office Manager
Christie Davis, Family
Ministry Asst.
Rosa Beltran, Custodian

1115 B Street
Floresville, TX 78114
Phone: 830-216-4946
Fax: 830-393-3613

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



Kitchen Drifts

Our Wednesday Nite Suppers are a great way to meet new members and form new friendships, Invite someone to come and eat with you.

Feb. 1st- Tuscan Soup
Feb. 8th- Lasagna
Feb. 15th- Amarillo Chicken
Feb. 22nd- Chalupas
Barb Herndon



[UN]APOLOGETIC EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

February 25, 2023

FBC San Marcos 325 W. McCarty Ln.,
San Marcos, TX 78666

<https://texasbaptists.regfox.com/2023-unapologetic-conference-san-marcos-participants>

TONE AND STRETCH CLASS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
4:30-5:45 pm
Starts September 12, 2022
FBC Annex Lobby
First Baptist Church, Floresville
Corner of 3rd and B St.

Class is free, but a donation for
utilities will be accepted.

Instructor: Linda Downs
Seated exercises, balance exercises,
and stretching.

Class is for men and women

Contact Linda with any questions
at 210-632-6018

GIVING Statements

All 2022 Contribution Statements
are available for pickup in the
foyer on Sundays, and will be in
the Office during the week
M-Th 8am-12/1pm-4pm



2023 EASTER OFFERING
ANNIE ARMSTRONG
NORTH AMERICAN
MISSIONS
GOAL: \$5000.

Needed Immediately

Volunteers to help with
Visual Ministry

We need several people
to help! Please talk to
Linda Downs
or Terry Smith



Online

Giving

easy, fast, effective



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

Attention: Children's ministry and nursery. The room that used to be the old tellers room is filled with toys and books and things that were probably left from VBS. Would you please look in that room and if there is anything you want please remove it before February 28th. Anything left in that room will be disposed of. Thanks for your attention. If you have any questions just let me know. Karen Sada



OFFICE CLOSED
FEBRUARY 20, 2023



BUDGET-AT-A-GLANCE	Actual Giving Receipts	Required to Meet Budget
December 2022	\$ 47,226.10	\$ 43,438.51
YTD thru Dec. 2022	\$ 641,332.35	\$ 521,261.90

Thank You

Dear Church Family

Sandra and I want to thank you for the amazing love offering you presented us for Christmas! We did not expect this blessing at all, but we really do appreciate it! You are a very precious church family! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Terry

Dear Church Family,

I want to say thank-you so much for the wonderful Love offering at Christmas, but even more that that I want to Thank-you for your kindness and Love that that you all have shown for me as I try to learn this new position. You all are amazing and I feel so blessed that I can help support our church, as we continue to share Jesus.

Zoe' Fox

Dear Church Family,


I want to thank God first and praise Him for His greatness and goodness and the miracles He performs. He is an Awesome God Indeed., and then to everyone else who have and are still praying for my healing and comfort. I am so thankful for my church family. Rose Hopper

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the outpouring of love and support since the death of my beloved Ray. The prayers, meals, cards, plants, and donations to the church in his memory have been a blessing. My family mourns his absence greatly but rejoice that his new body is now perfect and he is with our Lord and Savior.

Sincerely, Mary Grace (Sarah, Ross, and Laura)

First Family,

 Thank you all for thinking so highly of FBC's staff this past Christmas. The monetary gift was unexpected and helpful to me and my family. Thank you for blessing us so well. One of the greatest joys of my life is serving the Lord, and I'm so blessed to do life alongside each of you. Christie Davis

Christie Davis

STCH
Angel Tree
Thank You

Dean FBC Florenceville, Co. Peary Smith,
Thank you for blessing our boys
with gifts this season. It's always a
blessing their surprise of how many they
get. Israel Mykes Justin Cook
Matthew Thibault Vincent A. Goss
Ethan Goss Ben Goss Ben Goss
Damian Goss Devin Goss Wesley Plim
Goss Goss Goss Goss Goss Goss
Goss Goss Goss Goss Goss Goss

Dear friends
Thank you for thinking of us
this Christmas we all loved the
gifts. merry Christmas
Anise Adam
Doree Samira
Walter

Thanks for all the
gifts we all appreciate
the gift. Merry Christmas

Sonny
Eln
Elna
Marty D
Marty J
Louise Cottas

Hope Cottage CULC
Han Mah
I met them at
Christopher
Tupac's cousin Jack
Adyiah Casey
Nikki B
Dear FBI Floresville,
We at hope cottage are extremely
grateful that you thought of us
during this merry season. There
are 11 kids in this cottage and
we were overjoyed at your
generosity! Have a Merry
Christmas and Happy New Year
HopeCottage

Jack
 LeLani
 K'Ren J
 Terry's Mandy
 Cassidy
 Terrance, Mary Boo
 Hello FBC Floresville!
 Thank you so much for
 the gifts. Each one is very
 appreciated. Your generosity
 and thoughtfulness are an
 inspiration. May God bless you
 Faith Cottage

Carol H.

Sheila D.
Roxie
Dorothy
Luke

Dear Friends at ABC Fireville,
Merry Christmas! Thank you all for blessing all the kids here at STCH, especially ours in Barnes Cottage. I wish you could have seen their delighted smiles as they opened the gifts & kinds got for them.
I'm praying that you allow a blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!
Sincerely, Housequaint, Mother H.
Barnes Cottage

@ Marya Beckett Kelsey Hesse
 James P Joke again
 Sunday Phil
 End of Mrs
 many thanks Mary
 Abigail
 FEL Florence Fligi

We are so thankful for
 all the wonderful gift
 that you blessed with
 this season!!
 Merry Christmas to all!!
 - Marshall Cotton