



FIRST LIGHT

Becoming and Developing Disciples of Jesus

fbccollegestation.com

FIRST BAPTIST COLLEGE STATION

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Ph. 979-696-7000

October 8-21, 2017
Fax 979-693-4778

Please PRAY for our members and relatives.
Names in bold are new additions.

Joey Blackmon, Marilyn Brown, Elizabeth Booker, Iris Burkett, BJ Conrad, Nancy Coppock, Martha Evans, Mary Lou Franklin, Maurice Gibbs, Linda Grant, Sandee Hartsfield, Nancy Higgs, Austin Hodge, Matthew Jackson, Charlotte Jones, Edsel Jones, Rosemarie & Richie Kotara, Gary Kovar, Don Landry, Eddie Lockett, LaNelle McCulley, Kay Meek, Jim & Sue Melton, Dianne Miles, Vic & Cookie Pears, Marilyn Radke, Fred Rivera, Chris Sellers, Dorothy Siegert, Peggy Shafer, Jennifer Sibold, Brad Smith, Karen Steele, Jace Steubing, Bernice Thompson, Beverly Watson, Helen & Arthur Whittington, John Williams, Wilma Youngblood, Hung Chi & Jeanne Yu, Our Ministers & their Families; Office & Building Staff & their Families; FBC Worship Services, Ministries, Activities, & their Leaders; Law Enforcement, First Responders, Our Military, & their Families; Our Country & Leadership, Victims of Recent Hurricanes, Natural Disasters, and Violence.

If you need to add someone to the prayer list or remove someone, please call the office at 696-7000 or email daralyn@fbccollegestation.com.

A NOTE FROM PASTOR TROY



This week, another tragedy struck our nation. This was not a natural disaster, but one of man's own doing. When events such as these occur, people often wonder, 'Where was God? Why didn't he stop this from happening? Why did this happen?' These questions and others like them have passed through our minds and the mind of others this week. These questions are valid and difficult. Let us not discount them because they are challenging. Instead, let us wrestle with them and see how God

answers. I have found myself answering the first question this way, 'God is where He always is, on His throne.' I am reminded of the words of Jim Denison who often says in the wake of events such as these, 'God redeems all that He allows.' It may be difficult to fathom, but God can use the events that occurred in Las Vegas for His glory. To the second question, we need to consider that God gave humans free will. There are times that free will is abused and used to harm others. Yet, even then, God can receive glory and honor. To the third question, the honest answer is that we may never know. Sometimes the inability to know something is the most difficult. In the end, let us keep this in mind - God is still on His throne. Again we have seen the effects of sin ravage the lives of people. As I read on social media, 'Jesus, come quickly.' In these days may we remain faithful and diligent in prayer and the sharing of the gospel.

We had a team do fantastic work this past weekend at Pine Drive Baptist in Dickinson. We will be planning a follow up trip soon to finish the drywall work. Sign up to receive updates on disaster relief/recovery projects at <http://www.fbccollegestation.com/harvey>. We are also working on plans at FBC Port Aransas. We are currently putting together an order of projects that need to be done. Our hope is to send a team down for 3-4 days at least once a month. There is no shortage of work to be done. Please continue to pray for these churches, their pastors, and the communities in which they serve. The physical needs are great, but the spiritual needs are greater.

I am really excited to spend the next few weeks in John 15 with you as we continue the 'Abide' series. I hope that you are taking time each day to read the devotionals we provide that go along with the week's message. I also hope that the journal you received Sunday is helpful. Use it to jot down sermon notes, thoughts or reflections on Scripture. It is also helpful as a prayer journal. If you did not get one, you may stop by the office and pick one up. I am praying that these next few weeks in John 15 will be foundational and transformational for your walk with Christ and for the life of our church. If we are going to abide with the Lord, then we must dwell with Him.

Blessings,

BUDGET REPORT



October 1, 2017	Week	Month	Year
Budget Needs	\$25,735	\$25,735	\$1,262,025
Budget Receipts	\$44,113	\$44,113	\$1,227,282
Over/Under	\$18,378	\$18,378	\$(34,743)
Mary Hill Davis Offering (Goal: \$7,500)	\$5,972.74		



Our Deepest Sympathy

Our sincere condolences are offered to former members Phil & Savannah Eable on the loss of his father, Mike Eable.



Advent Devotionals

Come, Thou long expected Jesus...

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!...

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming...

You know the words and the tune to these and many other songs of the Advent season. This year's Advent devotionals will be based on scriptures related to these and other songs. If you would like to be a contributor to this year's booklet, please contact Mary Jo Powell for an assignment or with questions (mary.jo.powell@icloud.com).

FIRST FEST OCTOBER 29

5:00-7:00pm * A FREE community-wide Fall Festival with carnival games, candy, moon walk, and more!
Wear your costumes!

WE NEED CANDY & VOLUNTEERS!

Donations of individually wrapped candy may be placed in the bin by the church office. Volunteers are needed to staff booths. To volunteer, call Angela in the church office or sign up at the tables outside the office.

Sarah Duewall, *Business Administrator* sarah@fbccollegestation.com

Giving — FBC College Station is excited to offer some new options for giving. In addition to accepting checks/cash and accepting gifts through our website, we now offer MOBILE giving, TEXT giving, and SWIPE giving. There are videos on the church website to help you understand how to use each of these.

- ★ **MOBILE giving:** Download the Give+ app on your mobile device. Once open, you can search for FBC College Station. You can give an offering towards the budget or to the Mary Hill Davis State Missions offering.
- ★ **TEXT giving:** Text a dollar amount to [979-315-7812](tel:979-315-7812). Please use a dollar sign in front of the amount (Ex: \$100). The first time you do this, you will be required to register your contact information and list a debit/credit card to be used. After registration, you will receive a text verification as well as a receipt via e-mail. For future giving, simply send a text with an amount and it will process automatically. When there is a special offering, we will give you a word to include in front of the dollar amount. For example, to give \$25 to the Mary Hill Davis state offering, text: mhdavis \$25 (*Please note that these special words are case sensitive – it must be entered exactly as shown here.*)
- ★ **SWIPE giving:** We have an iPad with an attached swipe feature set up on a podium/stand. You can go to this iPad, enter an amount on the appropriate field (budget offering or Mary Hill Davis) and swipe your debit/credit card. If you register, then a receipt will be sent to you via e-mail.

FBC College Station is now accepting credit cards on all of these systems, as well as our online giving system. However, we do not want anyone to go into long-term debt when making an offering.

If you are currently giving by check or cash, we would like to encourage you to continue to do so. There are no fees associated with these gifts. The second most cost-effective way to make an offering is by linking your savings or checking account – you can do that through the online system or the Give+ mobile app. The church is charged less than 1% for these gifts. Any time a debit or credit card is used, there are fees of about 3%, which comes directly off of the amount of the gift.

As always, we are truly grateful for your contributions. Please let me know if you have any questions or problems with any of the above giving options.

Properties — As we continue our partnership with Ideal Impact, please let us know if there are situations where you feel the air is not running when it should be or if it is running at a temperature that is too low. As we set up the schedules and temperatures, it is very important that you let us know if you have a meeting. If your meeting is not on the schedule, the air will not be running. Please contact Lisa in the church office to get your meeting or activity listed on the calendar. Thank you!

Jordan Whittington, *College Minister*

jordan@fbccollegestation.com

Popsicles in the Plaza - Each Monday afternoon from 1:15-3:00 students are handing out popsicles in Academic Plaza. Our intention is two-fold. First, as a ministry, we seek to bless our campus. We simply want to do good for the students at A&M and one way of doing this is by brightening their day with a popsicle and friendly conversation. The second reason we do this is to let students know that we exist. We share with them that we are with First Baptist College Station. This gives us a great opportunity to connect with students we might not otherwise speak to and share with them how they could be a part of our church. If you are on campus on Monday afternoon, swing by the plaza for a sweet treat and fun time.



Clay Hopkins, *Associate Pastor*

clay@fbccollegestation.com

This past Sunday in our Growing Up class, we spent the hour discussing prayer and had some powerful takeaways shared by the group. First, and this seems so simple, but to be an effective pray-er, you must pray! Reading books on prayer will not make you better; attending conferences on prayer will not make you better; and listening to sermons on prayer will not increase your capacity to pray in a manner that will bring about the growth God wants to see in your life. You must pray! A second takeaway is we must become more specific in our prayers. Robby Gallaty writes, "Unspecific prayers are powerless prayers, and they are an insult to a God who genuinely loves people, one who invites us to join Him in His great work through prayer." Pray for people by name. When praying for situations, pray specifically for how you desire to see God work in that situation. Finally, pray without ceasing. To a person, we were convinced we need to adopt a mindset of walking with God continually every day.

We had a great day of work at Pine Drive Church in Dickinson on the 30th of September. The work is not finished there and it is just beginning at FBC, Port Aransas. If you have not done so already, please go to fbccollegestation.com/Harvey to sign up for disaster relief updates and opportunities to serve.

Bill Killion, *Minister of Music*

billk@fbccollegestation.com

I know you can't tell it when you walk outside, but Christmas is near. Maybe not on our calendars, but for the folks that are part of our Music Ministry, Christmas is definitely near. In fact, we've been working on Christmas music for the past 6 weeks. And even though we've been looking at Christmas music for a while, it's not too late to become involved in our Music Ministry.

We're always looking for new Sanctuary Choir Members...and we're always looking for new Instrumental Ensemble Members...and we're always looking for new praise team members. So, if you can sing the line from that old song that says, "I got the music in me...I got the music in me...I got the music in me," have we got a place of service for you! So, give me a call and let me tell you how to become a part of the most vocal group in the church.

Josh Price, *Minister to Youth*

josh@fbccollegestation.com

FIELDS OF FAITH

OCTOBER 11, 2017 * 6:30-8:30 pm
MERRILL GREEN STADIUM

The youth will be attending this FCA-sponsored event at Merrill Green Stadium in Bryan. Transportation to/from this event will be provided. We will leave FBC @ 5:30pm and return by 9:00pm. Pizza will be provided at the event.

Bronwyn Stanley, *Minister to Children*

bronwyn@fbccollegestation.com

First Fest will be here soon! There is a purple bin outside the church office for donations of individually wrapped candies. Volunteer sign-up sheets are also outside the church office. We will need help with set up, clean up, manning games, preparing snow cones, face painting, registering our guests, etc. Sign up as a family or with your small group to be in charge of a game. We have games you can use or you can make your own! Candy is provided.

First Kids Fun Night is on Friday, November 10 from 6:30-9:30pm. This free event is a night for 1st - 6th graders to hang out and have fun. While the event is free, you must register your children (so we know how many to plan for) and have a current medical release on file.

The next Parents' Night Out will be Friday, December 1 from 6:00-10:00pm. Cost is \$10 per child. The theme for the evening is Candy Cane Lane. A prepaid reservation and medical release are required to attend.

You are always welcome to stop by the children's ministry office to sign up for events or sign up online, (fbcfirstkids.com) where available.

two are better than one...

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

TRACK + MATES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

6:30 to 8:00pm * Room 1030

Track Mates Dinner & Fellowship

For all women interested in this one-on-one discipleship ministry. Please RSVP to Paige Allen at sarahpaige67@icloud.com by October 12, or contact her if you have any questions about Track Mates.

2017 TEXAS BAPTISTS
ANNUAL MEETING

Compelled

MESSENGERS NEEDED

For the BGCT Annual Meeting

November 12-14, 2017

Waco Convention Center

Contact Lisa in the church office if you are interested in attending.

NEWCOMERS

Fellowship

First Steps

October 15 @ 4:30pm
in the Fellowship Hall

This is an opportunity for new members & those interested in membership at FBC to meet the staff. A light dinner will be served. Please RSVP to Lisa at 696-7000 by OCTOBER 11th. Need childcare? Please provide the names and ages of your children when you call.

COMING TO FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FOR OCTOBER 8-21, 2017

OCT 8 * DEACONS' MEETING * 4:00 pm in Room 1030.

OCT 9 * SCHOOL'S OUT FUN DAY * We will be going to Franklin Safari. We are almost full! Please contact Angela in the children's ministry office to see if any spaces are left. Children need to bring a sack lunch, snack, and extra water.

OCT 11 * FIELDS OF FAITH * 6:30-8:30 pm. Merrill Green Stadium, Bryan High School. Sponsored by the Brazos Valley Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Note: Refuge will NOT meet this night.

OCT 15 * FIRST STEPS NEWCOMERS' FELLOWSHIP* 4:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. This is an opportunity for new members & those interested in membership at FBC to meet the staff. A light dinner will be served. Please RSVP to Lisa at 696-7000 by OCTOBER 12th. Need childcare? Please provide the names and ages of your children when you call.

OCT 16 * TRACK MATES FELLOWSHIP/DINNER * 6:30 to 8:00 pm, Room 1030. For all women interested in this one-on-one discipleship ministry. Please RSVP to Paige Allen at sarahpaige67@icloud.com by October 12, or contact her if you have any questions about Track Mates.

COMING SOON

Food Pantry Offering Oct 29
 First Fest Oct 29
 Joy Group Potluck Luncheon Nov 2
 Daylight Savings Time Ends Nov 5
 First Kids Fun Night..... Nov 10
 Deacons' Meeting Nov 12
 Business Conference Nov 12
 Harvest Fellowship Nov 19
 Bldg. Closed for Thanksgiving.... Nov 23/24

DO YOU NEED TO UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS? PHONE NUMBER? EMAIL? Please contact lisa@fbccollegestation.com

OUR WEEKLY EVENTS SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS

Early (Traditional) Worship..... 8:30am
 Youth Praise Band Rehearsal..... 9:15
 Sunday School for all Ages 9:45
 Brown Memorial Library Open 9:45 & 10:40
 Late (Blended) Worship 11:00
 Youth Bible Drill..... 4:30pm
 Brown Memorial Library Open 5:00
 W.A.M. (Music) for Kids & Preschool Activities 6:00
 Youth D.I.G. 6:00
 Adult Bible Study 6:00

MONDAYS

Deacon-led Prayer Time (open to all) 6:30am
 Community Bible Study (open to all)..... 7:00pm

TUESDAYS

Ladies Exercise Class..... 9:15am
 Food Pantry (volunteers @ 9am)..... 10:00

TUESDAYS, continued

Quilt-n-Peace..... 10:00
 Praise Team Rehearsal..... 6:00pm
 Evening Quilters (1st & 3rd Tues) 6:30
 Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal 7:00
 Ladies Evening Prayer Group 7:00
 Men's Evening Prayer Group 8:00

WEDNESDAYS

Youth Praise Band Rehearsal 5:00pm
 Adult Handbells Practice 5:30
 Adult Sunday School Teachers 5:45
 Refuge Meal 6:00
 Youth Refuge Bible Study 6:30
 Mission Friends (birth-K) 6:30
 Bible Buddies (1st-3rd) 6:30
 Bible Drill (4th-6th)..... 6:30
 Sanctuary Choir (adults)..... 6:30
 Adult Bible Study 6:30

THURSDAYS

Ladies Exercise Class..... 9:15am
 Tender Warriors Day (men's Bible study) Noon
 Men's Evening Bible Study (Blue Baker) 7:30pm

UPCOMING FIRST LIGHT DEADLINES:

MONDAY, OCT 16 @ 5:00PM

(covers October 22—November 4)

Please bring information to the office
 or email daralyn@fbccollegestation.com