



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

December 2018 newsletter

FBC Brady, TX
325-597-2956
<http://fbcbrady.org>
Vol. 19, No. 12

A Life Song

by ElizaBeth Sparkman, ARNP
Do You Hear What I Hear?
Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king,
Do you know what I know
In your palace warm, mighty king?
Do you know what I know?
A Child, a Child
Shivers in the cold
Let us bring Him silver and gold,
Let us bring Him silver and gold.

This is the third verse of one of my favorite carols, I remember singing it as a child and wondering what it meant. Oh, I understood the star leading the Wise Men and shining above baby Jesus; the song from the angels to the shepherds announcing the joy of His birth; even the command from the king to pray for peace.

It was the third verse that I struggled to grasp. Why would they describe the baby Jesus as a Child who "shivers in the night"? Didn't Mary swaddle that baby? Wasn't she prepared on her long trip for Him to be born? I know as a mother that before the birth of each of my children, I felt a driving motive to get things ready for my new baby, so I imagine she traveled with all she needed.

So why describe Baby Jesus as shivering? I did not understand. I still cannot truly say why the authors chose that description.

But now, I think of Jesus, the Word come to live on earth. He left the glory of Heaven to become human. Really?! Why would He do such a thing?

The parallel of Him leaving Heaven for earth could be compared to a baby leaving the warmth of the womb. The baby has spent 9 months cradled, rocked, protected--then in a matter of moments is required to breathe, maintain warmth, work for food. So again, why? John 3:16 gives us our answer..

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Do you know Him? Have you met the Savior who longs to give you everlasting life and was born to bring peace on earth?

A Christmas message from Bro. Lee

by Rev. Lee Floyd,
FBC Intentional Interim Pastor

The first Sunday of December will mark the beginning of Advent. This is the season of waiting on the arrival of a notable person, thing or event. For the Christ follower this is the coming of Christ to world, God Incarnate--the God of the universe paving a way for you and I to know Him and no longer be trapped by our sin. The Advent season is a celebration of God's love and the gift of grace lavished on us.

So as we celebrate Christmas this Advent through the decorating, the cooking, the parties, the family gatherings, the gift giving and the gift receiving, let us strive to keep at the forefront of our minds the gift of hope Isaiah prophesied long ago:

For unto us a Child is born, to us a Son is given;

And the government shall be upon His shoulder;

And His Name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God,

The everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. --Isaiah 9:6

Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign;

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son,

And shall call His name Immanuel. --Isaiah 7:14

Immanuel means God with us.

What a great hope - GOD IS WITH US!

See you Sunday,

—Bro. Lee



Schedule for Committees/ Transition Team meetings

- Dec. 2: Hospitality, Greeters, Public Relations, Flowers
- Dec. 9: Budget/Finance/ Stewardship, Properties and Services, Personnel, Nominating
- Dec. 16: Missions/Outreach, Youth and Recreation, Music, Music Technology

These meetings will all begin at 3:00.

Lottie Moon Offering

The Week of Prayer for International Missions is Dec. 2-9 Go to <https://www.imb.org/lottie-moon-christmas-offering> to sign up for daily emails that week with missionary stories, videos, and prayer requests.

Please pray about and give generously to the **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering** that funds SBC mission endeavors around the world. .



FBC Brady goal: \$2500.
National goal \$160M

God moves through Heaven's Gates & Hell's Flames drama Nov. 11-13

We are rejoicing at First Baptist Brady over what God has done through the *Heaven's Gates & Hell's Flames* presentations. He answered our prayers.

At least 53 people accepted Jesus as their Savior. 53!

At least 18 more rededicated their lives to Him.

The sanctuary was nearly full on Sunday night. That in itself is an amazing fact.

We are thankful to Ty and Cindy Fisher of Reality Outreach Ministries for bringing this ministry to Brady; to Keith Simpson of Lake Ivie Baptist Association and Ryan Buck of FBC Mason for their leadership and unfailing enthusiasm; and to countless others from our church and neighboring churches who worked together in this Kingdom work.

An After-Party to celebrate it all was held Saturday, Nov. 17, in the Family Life Center. A baptismal service will be Sunday, Dec. 2.

One casualty

RaNon Caraway fell during the first performance as she and Jerry were going on stage for their scene. She suffered a fractured pelvis, was taken by ambulance to the Brady Hospital and then to Shannon, where she stayed through the week. She is now back in the Brady Hospital for care and physical therapy. She is improving but is still not able to put weight on her leg.

RaNon sends her thanks to the church family for all the cards, calls, visits—and especially prayers. She has appreciated it all so much.

**PEACE
HAS
COME**
A MUSICAL FOR CHRISTMAS

Christmas
Musical
Sunday morn-
ing
Dec. 9
11:00

Keith's Konnections
by Keith Simpson, Ministry Director, Lake Ivie Baptist Association

First of all, let me say "PRAISE THE LORD" for what we got to witness through our Heaven's Gates and Hell's Flames presentations at FBC, Santa Anna and FBC, Brady. In the seven nights that the drama was presented, there were over 200 salvations (that we know of) and over 100 rededications (that we know of) as a result of the event. We were ecstatic, to say the least, but when we get to work doing God's business, HE always shows up and shows out in a big way. Thanks to these two churches for volunteering to host the two dramas, and a special thank you to ALL who helped with the meals, the prayers, the fellowship time, the counseling, and to those who were in the drama whether in the foreground or in the background. This could not have been done without a host of people stepping up and taking roles to pull this momentous event off. Thank you is never enough, but just think how the angels in Heaven were rejoicing over the souls that were won in those few short 7 performances, and be assured that we will see those souls in Heaven on the day when God calls us all home. If you missed your chance to see this presentation (or even to have a part in it), FBC, Mason will be hosting it at their church in July of 2019, and I know that the pastor and members would not turn down ANY help that you might want to offer. It is one thing to watch the drama, but it is so much more fulfilling to have an active part in it. It brings the entire group closer together as you meet together, eat together, pray together, praise God together and perform together. What a wonderful blessing you missed if you didn't get the opportunity to see it.

I suppose that most of us survived Thanksgiving just this past week, and now, Christmas will be upon us before we even realize it. There is so much to do and see this time of year that we sometimes forget what this season is truly all about, which is Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior's birth. HE is the ONLY reason for the season, so in our busy-ness, let us not forget why we celebrate this time of year. **Luke 2:6-14 "And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." KJV**

Speaking of this time of year, the Heart of Texas Baptist Camp in Brownwood is hosting Dennis Swanberg on December 13 for two performances: one at 11:30 am and one at 6:30 pm. This is the camp's annual dinner theater, so a meal is provided for a minimal cost of \$25 per person. You may call the camp to register at 325-784-5821, or visit heartoftexascamp.com for more information. You will really enjoy the performance, and the meal is always great, along with the fellowship.

January 7 will usher in our first association executive board meeting of the year at FBC, Santa Anna, with Dr. David Hardage, Executive Director of BGCT, being our keynote speaker. You will enjoy Dr. Hardage as he brings an update from the state office as well as detailing plans for our state convention for the upcoming year. The meeting will start at 5 pm with the executive board meeting, followed by a meal at 6 pm, then our worship time with Dr. Hardage at 6:45 pm. Hope to see everyone there.

DECEMBER, 2018

December 2nd – Cowboy Christmas,
Millersview Baptist Church, 3:00PM
December 3rd – Brady Breakfast
8:30am- El Flamingo
December 10th – Coleman Breakfast –
8:30am – Hidalgo's
December 13th – Heart of Texas Baptist
Encampment Dinner Theater 6:00pm
with Dennis Swanberg
December 17th – Ballinger Breakfast –
8:30a.m. – Beefmaster's
December 21-26 – Office will be closed
for Christmas
December 25th – Merry Christmas Day

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to one and all.

Blessings upon all—Keith



Please continue to pray for our pastorless churches:

El Cordero, Santa Anna
First Baptist Church, Brady
First Baptist Church, Paint
Rock
First Baptist Church, Winters
Millersview Baptist Church
Tennyson Baptist Church
Church

December 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Jessica Castillo Jackie Maxcey
2 Baptisms Hanging of the Greens Deacons meeting, 5:00 Committee meet- ings, 3:00	3 LIBA Fellow- ship breakfast, El Flamingo, 8:30 Robin Cook	4 Christmas Choir, 6:30	5	6	7	8 Christmas Choir rehearsal, time TBA
	Week for Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, Dec 2-9					
9 Christmas musical <i>Peace Has Come</i> , morning service Committee meet- ings, 3:00 Lois Patton	10 Triple S, noon	11 RaNon Caraway	12 Charles Jordan	13	14 Food Pantry food distribution and Christmas Reception, 9:00- 12:00	15 Jerry Caraway
16 Committee meet- ings, 3:00 Business meeting, 5:00	17 Maurice Mallow	18 Roy Guthrie	19 No AWANA	20 Gwen Bush Claire Bishop	21 Preschool Christ- mas program, 11:00 James Ridout Josh Day	22 Cooper Bean
23	24 Christmas Eve candlelight ser- vice, 6:00	25 Christmas Day	26 No AWANA	27 Rita Estes	28 Mary Ann Wilton	29 James Mallow Reno Alonzo
30 Ed Weber Raegyn Virdell	31 New Year's Eve					

Food Ministry Report

November 2018

- Adults (18-64) 129
- Children: 47
- Adults over 65: 26
- Families: 116
- Total served: 202

Food distribution day for this month is December 14 from 9:00-12:00.

Food Pantry Christmas

Reception This month is our annual Christmas Reception for the Food Pantry recipients. We need lots of cookies, cakes, and/or pies to provide a festive feast for these folks! Bring your contribution to Fellowship Hall on Dec. 14, or leave in the kitchen (clearly marked) the day before. Thank you!



*Hanging of the Greens
Special Service of
Christmas Celebration
Sunday morning
Dec. 2*

*Candlelight
service, 6:00 PM
Dec. 24*



Weekly Events

Sunday

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 10:50 Morning Worship
- 6:00 Prayer meeting

Monday

- 4:00 Ladies Bible study, this month at 2101 S. Pine, home of Doris Collins
Will not meet Dec. 24 or 31

Wednesday

- 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast
Presbyterian Church
- 5:30-7:00 AWANA & missions organizations
Youth group
Will not meet Dec. 19 & 26 & Jan. 2

Thursday

- 9:45-12:00 Food Pantry: donated food brought from Walmart, sorted, and stored
- 2:00-3:30 Dorcas quilting ministry
- 4:00 Bible study, Trails of Brady

Mission reports

- Ed Weber wants to thank the church and others in the community for their generosity in giving to the Frank Banda Ministry at Eagle Pass. Ed took a big load of donations on November 7 and reports that everything was greatly appreciated.
- Bro. Lee took our Operation Christmas Child boxes to the processing center in San Angelo on Nov. 18. We gave 42 boxes this year, 23 for boys and 19 for girls.

Broadcasts on KNEL 95.3 FM

Sunday morning: recorded sermon from previous week at 11:30 AM
Weekdays: Morning Devotional at 7:45

December devotionals will be done by Jeanagayle Behrens, George Marula, Bobbie Williams, Bro. Lee Floyd, and Tony Groves. Thank you!

Welcome new member
Awaiting baptism
Alisa Morton



Deacons on call in December:

George Matula
792-8611
Bobby Williams
597-7573, cell 456-4735

Change in contact information
George Matula:
792-8611
Pat Matula:
792-8609
(no more land line)

For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given,
And the government will be on His shoulders.
Isaiah 9:6a

Pray without ceasing. . .

- our church
 - our nation's leaders
 - our members in the nursing homes
 - our homebound members
 - the lost and un-churched in our community
 - Brady children & youth
 - Our Sunday School
 - Our preschool
 - The Transition Team
 - AWANA and missions organizations
- Terry & Serena Alexander
Mary Ballew
Louise Baker
Wendy Barley
- Oralia Barrera
Sherry Barsch
Deryl Bishop
RaNon Caraway
Melinda Cook
Sherry Cox
Sue Crow
Fayrene Easley
Charlie and Maria Garcia
Larry Garner
Tony, Janis, & Holly Groves
Roy Guthrie
Curtis and Genna Jennings
Sheldon Johnson
Vernon Jones
Charles and Jerry Jordan
Greg Jordan
Janie Lowery
Mike Lowery
Roselie Mascarenes

Michelle McCartney
Betty McMillan
Matt Popnoe
Cynthia Quinn
Adam Schoren
Mike and Tanzee Shedd
Edith Slaughter
Madison Slaughter
Jim & Betty Smith
Rochelle Smith
Rick Stone
Jackson Tijerina
Claude Tippon
Jack and Susan Turk
Megan Wall
Mackie Jo Walters
Bill Wilburn
Kenneth & Claudette Young

In military:
Jon Bradshaw
Howard Brown
Brandon Haymon
Talisha Hendley
David Hernandez
Jose Lopez
Moses Marmolejo
Concho Moore
Brandon Pfannenstiel
Jace Telford
Joseph Telford
Jonathan Torres Wes Stark
Justin Williams
Ricky Williams, Jr.

We extend sympathy to the families of Ray Lubke and Norma McNeely (Nelda Martin's sister).

The newsletter is available on the church website: fbcbrady.org. The newsletter is also sent to email addresses as requested. Just send your address to Becky Martin: becky@scottmartin.net.



**FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH**

*And He will be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9:6b*

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Beth Sparkman, Worship Leader
Norma Ridout, Pianist
Deryl Bishop, Organist

**PEACE
HAS
COME**

A MUSICAL FOR CHRISTMAS

*Sunday, December 9
11:00*

Godly Impressions Preschool



"It is more blessed to give than to receive," Acts 20:35. This is the Bible verse that all of our preschoolers will be memorizing this month in preparation for the Christmas season.

We have many adventures planned for this month including a ride on the Polar Express in our PJs and our annual Christmas program on Friday, Dec. 21 at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Everyone is invited to attend and then enjoy our birthday party for Jesus which will follow in the fellowship hall.

In January we will "whale"-come 2019 with a study of the ocean and all its wonderful creatures.

From all of us at Godly Impressions, we wish you a joyous holiday season!

In His service,
Holly Stewart, director
Staci Novell, assistant to the director
Jennifer Asbill, Taylor Asbill, Jessica Evans, Krissy Morton, Genisha Spencer, Drea Torrez,
Mari Villarreal, Tiffany Villa and Mary Ann Wilton

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