

First Baptist Church Brady, Texas

Give.
Grow.
Go.

FBC Brady is a family that exists to GIVE - GROW - GO
GIVE - by meeting real needs in our community
GROW - by equipping people to become authentic Christ followers
GO - by taking the gospel message to Brady and beyond

January 2020
newsletter
FBC Brady, TX
325-597-2956
<http://fbcbrady.org>
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Serving Him through music

by Karen Behrens, Music Team Lead

What is serving? And how do we sing about it? Jesus said: "...But whoever would be great among you must be your servant..." (Matthew 20:26), so obviously serving is important to living godly lives. Serving is doing things for others out of love. It's about setting a good example for others with our kindness, obedience, and humility.

I'd like to think that in the month of December we had a chance to serve in some form or another in our church. I know for me this month has been extra special. It was jam-packed with places to serve and things for not only our church members, but folks from other churches. It was great to see so many from other churches perform "Shine on Us". I want to extend a big Thank You to Ms. Holly Stewart for leading our Community Christmas choir. It was definitely one to remember. Christmas Eve was a blessing as the praise team made up of Karen Behrens, Jeanagayle Behrens, Misty Urban, Amy Tetens and pianist Norma Ridout sang songs and told the story from Luke of Jesus's birth. We had a really good crowd in attendance.

Once again, I appreciate everyone that helps me serving in song and praise for our church. The praise team would like to thank the hospitality committee for the cookies and refreshments after the Christmas concert, and the decorations committee for all of your hard work in decorating the sanctuary.

In Christ's Love, *Karen*

Missions Team update

by Betty Smith, Missions Team Lead

From your Missions Team: We have gotten a good bit of our goal towards the **Lottie Moon Mission Offering**, but there is still time to make your donation. We will still take the money through January. The team put together and delivered **goodie Christmas sacks** to the workers in our Preschool. Bobby and Bobbie Williams made the trip to the border with a truck full of items for **Frank Banda**. Thank you, Mr. and Mrs. Bobby. We have put together **Welcome Packets** that you can find on the table at the rear of the sanctuary and in both foyers. Take one for your Bible, ready to give to any visitors in church, or elsewhere. Being on mission is never ending.

The sign as we leave our parking lot says, "You are entering the mission field." How true. The new year will bring many opportunities to be involved in missions. I can't wait to see what God has planned for us.

Thoughts on the new year from Bro. Lee

2020 is upon us. The 365 days of 2019 have passed. Each of these days have varied in experience. Some have been filled with joy and happiness and others with pain and sadness. There have been frustrating days and wonderful days. Days of busyness with activity and hard work, along with days of leisure and relaxation. Some days have even been boring.

2020 is another 365 days. Days of opportunity. Ps. 90:12 says, "So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom." The word 'teach' is to know or perceive. The word 'number' is to reckon or count; to appoint.

Let's think this way about 2020. Let's make it a Psalm 90:12 year. As God grants us days, may we seek God's help (teach us) to reckon or appoint (number) every day to be lived well for His honor and glory. 2020 will hold some of the same type of days 2019 did. But if our mindset will be to honor God with each day God grants, the days of 2020 can be lived with a heart of wisdom. So when the sad, hard, boring days come we will have what is needed to live them out well.

See you in 2020!!! —*Bro. Lee*

Search Committee News

by George Matula, PSC Chair

The Search Committee continues to receive and review resumes. Profiles for the pastor, our church, and community have been developed. A list of questions to ask pastor candidates has also been developed. Profile information is being shared with several candidates and additional information is being asked of them. Please pray for wisdom and guidance for the Search Committee and pray for the man God has chosen to be our spiritual leader and shepherd.

Search Committee members: Pete Barrera, Jeanagayle Behrens, Tony Groves, George Matula, Farion Morton, Joyce Scott, and Betty Smith.

BAM Christmas program warms hearts

by Marsha Gainer, Children's Ministry Team lead

The BAM Christmas program and Family Night was a wonderful success. Misty Urban directed the precious play. Becky Martin played the piano. The church members who provided the food on Wednesday nights were recognized and thanked for their great meals. Parents were invited for pizza, cupcakes, and cookies as they watched slides of their children during our BAM sessions, photos made and projected by Oralia and Pete Barrera.

It was truly a blessed evening. Thank you for all of your support, and we welcome all to help as we begin 2020.



Keith's Konnections...

by Keith Simpson, Ministry Director

Lake Ivie Baptist Association

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I hope and pray that you are having or have had a wonderful time of celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ during this holiday season, and I wish each of you the best for the upcoming New Year. Not only does God give us a new day every day, but we have the opportunity to start afresh each January 1, and I am not talking about making resolutions that we know we won't keep. I read once that it takes doing something for three weeks for it to become a habit, and some habits are good while others are not. I would like to challenge you to accept a good habit this New Year by reading your Bible every day for the entire year. When I get up in the morning, and as I am drinking coffee, I read at least two chapters (maybe more) every day, and when I need to miss my readings, I feel lost for the day. If you are more technologically advanced than I am, there are wonderful Bible apps that you can put on your phone, iPad or computer in several different translations.

In II Chronicles 34, a new king, Josiah ascended to the throne and was a young man who was seeking after God and destroying all the vestiges of the pagan gods. He also ordered the re-building of the house of the Lord, his God. Verse 14 records, "And when they brought out the money that was brought into the house of the Lord, Hilkiah the priest found a book of the law of the Lord given by Moses." Verse 19 says, "And it came to pass, when the king had heard the words of the law, that he rent his clothes." It seems that for several years, the nation of Israel had forgotten the covenant that they had made with God and had forgotten the laws that were given to Moses. Because of this, the Israelites had also forsaken their most important celebrations such as Passover. Josiah re-instituted the Passover celebration, and in II Chronicles 35:18, it is recorded, "And there was no Passover like to that kept in Israel from the days of Samuel the prophet; neither did all the kings of Israel keep such a Passover as Josiah kept, and the priests, and the Levites, and all Judah and Israel that were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem." (Almost 400 years had elapsed since they last celebrated the Passover!!!!)

You may be asking the question, "What does this have to do with me, my church, my state and my nation?" It seems that we have forgotten the word of God and His laws, decrees, and commandments as well. It is not enough to just READ the Bible, we also need to HEED the Bible and what it says. Our nation is in such a mess because we have forgotten WHO God is, WHAT He has done, and WHY he does what he does. We, as a society, no longer put stock in what God's word has to say, and it has seen America decline the last several years. If we get back INTO the word of God and get the word of God INTO us, then we can and will turn this nation around. We, as a nation, are lost in a wilderness of political correctness, of forsaking God's direction, wisdom and guidance, and we are afraid of offending someone with our Godly beliefs as the nation of Israel was in the time of Josiah, the king. It is time that we rend our clothes, put on sackcloth and ashes and BEG God's forgiveness for what we have allowed to happen because we sat idly by. (WE CANNOT WAIT ANOTHER 400 YEARS AS THE NATION OF ISRAEL DID!!)

Let us look at what Nehemiah the prophet says in chapter 1 in a condensed version. Nehemiah first BEGS God to hear his prayer for his nation, he then confesses the sins of his nation, both his personally and his forefathers as well. He admits that the nation had dealt corruptly against God, and had not kept His commandments. We, as a nation founded on Christian principles, need to pray this same prayer and beg God's forgiveness for what we have allowed to happen in the last several years. Rather than trying to uphold several hundred commandments, laws and decrees like the Israelites, we cannot even uphold the TWO that Jesus gave us to Love God with all your heart, mind and soul and to love others as ourselves. Lord, we beseech You, to help us be better ambassadors and representatives of YOU in 2020!

—Keith

January events in LIBA

*January 6th- Brady breakfast,
8:30am, Down Home Country Cook-
ing

*January 6th – Associational Meet-
ing, Santa Anna, Business meeting–
5:pm/Dinner-6:pm Program 6:45
with Dr. David Hardage, Executive
Director of BGCT



**Please continue to
pray for our pastor-
less churches:**

El Cordero, Santa Anna
First Baptist Church,
Brady

January 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Oralia Barrera	2	3 Amelia Britteon	4
5 Avery Virdell Deacons meeting, 5:00	6 <i>LIBA breakfast, Down Home Country Cooking 8:30 LIBA meeting, Santa Anna, 5:00. Dr. David Hard- age, speaker</i>	7 Kay Holloway	8 <i>BAM resumes 6:00-7:30</i>	9 <i>Apt. Bible study resumes, 5:00- 6:00</i>	10 <i>Food Pantry food distribution, 9:00- 12:00</i>	11
12	13 <i>Triple S, noon</i>	14 Janis Groves	15	16	17 Joyce Hollingsworth	18
19 <i>Business meeting, 5:00</i>	20	21 Pat Matula Kathy Branden- berger	22 Marsha Gainer	23	24 Fayrene Easley Ashlee Shaw	25 .
26 <i>Church council meeting, 4:00</i>	27 <i>Triple S, 5:30</i>	28 Albert Pearson McKenna Bran- denberger	29 Nadine Hinshaw	30	31 Doris Collins	

Food Ministry Report

December 2019

- Adults (19-64) 133
- Children: 53
- Adults over 65: 29
- Families: 116
- Total served: 215

Food distribution day this month is January 10 from 9:00-12:00.



Deacons on call in January:

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

Broadcasts on KNEL 95.3 FM

Sunday morning: recorded sermon from previous week at 11:30 AM

Weekdays: Morning Devotional at 7:45

January devotionals will be done by Bobbie Williams (week of 6-10), Jason Behrens (week of 13-17), Melinda Cook (week of 20-24), and Farion Morton (week of 27-31). Thank you!



Thank you to Mary Ann McCarver, Norma Ridout, and Janet Harlow, all representatives of the Damrosch Music Club, for providing live Christmas music during the Food Pantry Christmas reception.



Weekly Events

Sunday

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

Monday

- 4:00 Ladies Bible study, Church Library

Wednesday

- 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast Presbyterian Church
- 6:00- 7:30 PM BAM Children's Ministry

Thursday

- 9:45-12:00 Food Pantry: donated food brought from Walmart, sorted, and stored
- 2:00-3:30 Dorcas quilting ministry
- 5:00-6:00 Adult Bible Study at Trails Apartments Clubhouse

BAM Meal Schedule for January

- Jan. 8: Jeanagayle Behrens, Jerlene Smith
- Jan. 15: Betty Smith, Becky Martin, Laura Allsup
- Jan. 22: Toney and Misty Urban
- Jan. 29: George and Pat Matula and Joyce Scott



Cookies baked, served, and enjoyed!

A big THANK YOU to all who made or supplied cookies for special events in December. We had cookies for the fellowship following the Christmas Cantata evening performance on December 7, cookies for the Food Pantry Christmas reception on December 13, and cookies for the BAM Family Night on December 18. All so good! All made with love!

At the Food Pantry reception we served dozens of cookies of all kinds along with punch and coffee. There was such an abundance of cookies that we were able to send cookies home with people for their families.

So maybe you can let yourself and your oven rest a little in January! Your sweet generosity was greatly appreciated.



Prayer unlocked the past and will open the future at First Baptist Church Brady.



Remember to pray.

- our church staff, ministries, future pastor
- our nation's leaders
- our members in the nursing homes
- our homebound members
- the lost and unchurched in our community
- Brady children & youth
- Our Sunday School
- Our preschool
- the Pastor Search Committee

Mary Ballew
Holden Bedwell
Amelia Britteon

Doris Collins
Burns Cooper
Sherry Cox
Virgil Davis
Fayrene Easley
Charlie and Maria Garcia
Tony, Janis, & Holly Groves
Nita Groves
Roy Guthrie
Cindy Jaeger
Curtis and Genna Jennings
Jerry Jordan
Rex Joslin
Fernando Lafuente
Janie Lowery
Mike Lowery
Louise Morrow
Alisa Morton

Kay Morris
Lois Patton
James & Anna Richards
Betty Sargent
Mike and Tanzee Shedd
Edith Slaughter
Madison Slaughter
Pam Speer
Kathy Stanley
Jackson Tijerina
Jack and Susan Turk
Shawnte Virdell
Megan Wall
Mackie Jo Walters
Kenneth & Claudette Young

In military:
Jon Bradshaw
Howard Brown
Brandon Haymon
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 family of Sandra Blair.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!
2 Corinthians 5:17

The newsletter is available on the church website: fbcbrady.org. If you would like a reminder of when it is posted each month, send your email address to Becky Martin: becky@scottmartin.net. Paper copies are available at the church and can be mailed on request.

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So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.
Ps. 90:12

Godly Impressions Preschool

"Connecting children to the love of Christ through Godly impressions"

Happy New Year! We are so excited to "whale"-come the new year where we hope to be "sea"-ing "20/20"! Students at Godly Impressions will be diving into a study of the ocean and sea creatures this month.

Thanks to everyone who was involved in our Christmas program, "The True Meaning of Christmas," including my staff, my board of directors, my own family, and of course the main stars of the show, our preschool students! And a special thank you to the church members who came and were a part of our audience.

Here's hoping your 2020 is filled with much love and happiness.

In His service,
Holly Stewart

godlyimpressionsfbc@gmail.com



New agreement in place with preschool

At the December business meeting the church voted to approve a written agreement with the preschool, a document that clarifies the partnership between the church and this important ministry. Bro. Lee, the Transition Team, and the Preschool Board had worked for several months on the details and were in agreement on each provision.

Copies of this document are available in the church office.

Lottie Moon
Christmas Offering®



Our goal: \$2500

Our giving as of 12/29: \$1910

We will close out this offering at the end of January, or before if we meet the goal before then.