# First Baptist Church, Brady, Texas



*Our Mission:* FBC Brady is a family that exists to *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 2021

# newsletter

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# Message From The Pastor: Three Things

by Jeff Quattlebaum, senior pastor

The year 2020 has come and gone, but the events that happened will remain in our memories for the days and weeks ahead. There was a wide range of events and emotions that we all experienced in the past 366 days: the global pandemic, the Presidential election, riots, protests, and so much more. For FBC Brady, the year 2020 was an important year in a couple of ways as well. The pandemic forced FBC to stop for a time in-person services and go to online services that reached far more people than darkened the doors of the church. In June FBC Brady called a new pastor and looked forward to a new beginning in the community of Brady.

As we look back over 2020 and look forward to 2021, I am reminded of what David said in Psalm 139:23-24, "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you and lead me along the path of everlasting life." How many people have we come across in 2020 that needed to hear about the grace of Jesus? How many things did God want us to do as individuals and as a church that we did not do? How many times in 2020 did Jesus whisper to us those words that are found in Matthew 8:26, "Why are you afraid? You have so little faith!"

Looking forward to 2021, my Brothers and Sisters in Christ, I have three main goals for FBC Brady individually and as a whole to become what God wants us to be. The first goal is that we take Psalm 139:23-24 to heart. I challenge you to pray that prayer, *"Search me, O God."* For FBC Brady to grow in faith and eventually in numbers we must be willing to ask God these four words. Ask God to show you ways that you can change for His glory. Ask God to show you things that you need to improve on in 2021 so FBC Brady as a whole can be the light for Brady and McCulloch County.

The second goal is to become a Church that follows Matthew 28:19-20 to a whole new level than in the past. One thing that this pandemic has taught us is that we need to look outside the box to reach the people with the Good News of Jesus. The major temptation in this is coming up with ways that bring glory and favor to the Church and not to Jesus. As we do this, let us not forget what Jesus said in John 12:32, "And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." Notice that Jesus said, "I will draw." We just need to be willing to go and tell the Good News.

The third goal I have for FBC Brady in 2021 is to become a church where everyone who is broken is welcome. If we are honest with ourselves there is a reputation going around that only a certain type of people are welcomed at FBC. Now, this reputation has developed over time by events that have happened in the past. The good news is that it is in the past and we are looking to the future. Matthew West, a Christian artist, wrote a song called "Truth be Told" and the second verse says:

There's a sign on the door, says, "Come as you are" but I doubt it. Because if we lived like that was true, every Sunday morning pew would be crowded. But didn't you say church should look more like a hospital? A safe place for the sick, the sinner and the scarred, and the prodigals, like me.

May this be said of FBC Brady in 2021, that we are a church where those sick with sin and the prodigals are welcomed with open arms just like Christ welcomed all of us, not with judgement, but with unconditional compassion and love.

I pray that as we start 2021 and by the time 2022 comes around (if Jesus doesn't come back) that we are able to look back to see a church family that has drawn closer to Jesus and that puts the words of Paul into action. 1 Corinthians 13:13, "*Three things will last forever – faith, hope, and love – and the greatest of these is love.*"

May God bless you and your family in 2021.

Pastor Jeff!

# January 2021 at First Baptist Brady

# —from Marsha Gainer and the Children's Ministry Team

The Children's Ministry is thankful that we were able to continue to have **Sunday School**, **Children's Church, and BAM** through the end of 2020. We are looking forward to a new year full of health and lots of activities for our precious children. A huge thanks to all the workers involved, and an invitation is extended to anyone who would like to be involved this new year.

We will resume BAM on Wednesday, January 13.

Love, Marsha Gainer

### —from Karen Behrens and the Music Team

Christmas has come and gone and wow what a year 2020 has been. We have had to deal with singing with no congregation at times to slowly building back folks to church. I enjoy seeing everyone's smiling faces and watching you all sing. I am also happy that those that are at home can still watch and enjoy our worship and message.

Our **Christmas program by the Community Choir** went off without any problems and sounded great. I'd like to thank everyone that participated and Holly Stewart for leading us.

Our **Christmas Eve service** was just as special as our praise team sang and Pastor Jeff read scriptures. The candlelight was truly something special to see.

We will have a **Fifth Sunday singing** on January 31. If you would like to provide special music or have a hymn you want us to sing, please let me know.

I'm so proud to be a part of this church family. I enjoy singing with you all every Sunday and look forward to continuing on into 2021.

Blessings, Karen Behrens

### *—from Betty Smith* and the **Missions Team**

Missions goes on in the hearts of mission-minded folks. As of Sunday you have given \$1,480 to the **Lottie Moon Offering for International Missions**. There is still time to give if you want to.

With the leadership of the Mission Team, FBC gave \$25 Sonic Gift Cards to each of the workers in **Godly Impressions Preschool.** They have responded with a thank you card signed by all the workers.

A good load of items was taken to **The Haven** in December. Please help us continue this ministry. Ra Non Caraway finished up with a **Parenting Class** participant before Christmas and is taking a break for the holidays.

Bobby Williams made a 450 mile round trip to the border to deliver our donations to the **Banda Ministry**. He plans to go again in the spring. In the future we will be taking a special offering periodically for that ministry. They need money to buy food and Pastor Banda can buy it cheaper himself.

At the **Food Pantry** in December each adult box included a Christmas sack with **homemade cook-ies.** Ladies of FBC, you did an awesome job. We had plenty of cookies and they were so much

appreciated. Additionally, Laurie headed up giving out **baskets or bags** of household items to 40 families, as well as 25 cook-

books. This year was different from our traditional Christmas party but it was good, and we are grateful for all the help.

New ideas will be part of looking at this new year. Your mission ideas would be appreciated and considered. Maybe even a mission trip?

- December Food Pantry numbers: under 65: 84 over 65: 52 18 and under: 45 181 total people 97 families
- January Food Pantry will be Friday morning, January 8, drive-through only, 9:00-11:00.
- **January radio spots** will be done by Judy Mitzel (4-8), Claudette Young (11-15), Karen Behrens (18-22), and Marsha Gainer (25-29).
- **Deacons on call in January** are Virgil Middleton (325-240-9764) and Bobby Williams (325-240-9791).

January birthdayscook-<br/>istmas partybur missionn a mission1-1 Oralia Barrera1-3 Amelia Britteon1-7 Kay Holloway1-14 Janis Groves1-21 Pat Matula1-22 Marsha Gainer1-24 Ashlee Shaw1-27 Regan Quattlebaum1-28 Albert Pearson1-29 Nadine HinshawFor your calendarJan. 4: LIBA breakfast, Down HomeCountry Cooking, 8:30; Associational Meet-

# ing – FBC Santa Anna- 5pm, Meal at 6pm, Service 6:45 with Dr. David Hardage of BGCT Jan. 8, 9-11: Food Pantry food distribution Jan.13, 6:00: BAM resumes for new year Jan. 17, 4:00: Church council meeting

Jan. 24, 5:00: Business meeting



- Bro. Jeff Quattlebaum, Misty, Regan, and Sam
- All health care workers; local, state, and national leaders; school administrators, teachers, and staff,; and missionaries
- All who have Covid-19 our church staff and
- ministries our members in the nurs-
- ing homes and our homebound members
- the lost and unchurched in our community
- Brady children & youth
- the Navajo Nation

Wvatt & Francisca Anderson Marshall Armstrong Mary Ballew

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

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Bill, Sherry, and

Jennifer McAnally Ericka Moore Louise Morrow Alisa & Brayden Morton Justin Norris Lois Patton Norma Ridout James & Anna Richards Tristan Rodriguez Kelly Rushfeldt Betty Sargent Mike and Tanzee Shedd Bill and Lorraine Trujillo Edith Slaughter Madison Slaughter Kathy Stanley Jack and Susan Turk Becky and Ed Weber Linda Wall Megan Wall Mackie Jo Walters Dale Webb

Search me, Oh God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Psalm 139:23-24

In military: Jon Bradshaw Brandon Haymon David Hernandez Jose Lopez Moses Marmolejo Jennifer McAnally Concho Moore Brandon Pfannenstiel Jace Telford Joseph Telford Jonathan Torres Wes Stark Justin Williams Ricky Williams, Jr. We pray for comfort for the families of Bobby Doyal, Mary Sue Fields, Fayrene Easley, Maurice Mallow, Richard "Dickie" Hemingway, and Bill Spiller.

First Baptist Church Brady, Texas

> "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you." Matthew 6:33 (CSB) Memory verse for January

> > First Baptist Church

0	From Godly Impressions Preschool: <i>Bright New Year!</i>
some dear friends:	Godly Impressions is ringing in a "Bright New Year"! We will be decorat-
Becky Elliott 1806 Nashville Ave. Midland, TX 79707	ing our doors and classrooms with bright and joyful colors and patterns. We hope you enjoyed your Christmas time fellowshipping with family and friends as you celebrated the birth of our Savior. We are excited to be back with our kiddos and are looking forward to teaching them letters Rr-Uu, color blue, and rectangle this month.
Lois Patton 4003 87th St. Lubbock, TX 79423	I know I have been writing a little excerpt these last few months but I did- n't want to take away from what Pastor Jeff so eloquently stated. So this month I just wanted to reiterate and sit in the magnitude of the same four words he quoted from Psalm 139:23, <i>"Search me, O God"</i> .
Judy Keltner 1608 Scott Lane	Blessings, Ashlee Shaw,

Ashlee Shaw, Godly Impressions Preschool Director