



**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

## Message from the Pastor: *Never Stop Praying*

When you hear or see the word “*prayer*,” what comes to your mind? Someone once said about prayer, “Prayer is the most important conversation of your day. Take it to God before you take it to anyone else.” Mother Theresa described prayer this way: “Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God.”

If we are honest with one another, many disciples of Jesus struggle to have a decent prayer life. It can be hard for us because it is easy to focus on the *act of praying* instead of *focusing on God Himself*. You see, my friends, having a great prayer life is not the goal. The goal is for you and me to connect with God, growing deeper in our intimacy with Him.

I think this scenario is familiar: We start praying when life is hard. Then as life gets easier, we do not pray as much because we do not need God as much. Then something difficult comes across our path and we know we need to fall on our knees to pray about it. On top of that, we feel guilty about it because we have not prayed in a while and we assume that God is going to be mad at us.

I personally believe it is time to look at prayer in a new light. I would advise you to think of prayer in the light of our closest relationships. It could be a sibling, spouse, best friend, etc. Our communication with them is very easy and just flows naturally with one another. We might even send a text message, letter, email, note, phone call, or even visit them in person. Sometimes we have long visits and other times we have brief encounters. We usually do not begin our conversation with this person like this: “*Dear Clayton, thank you for answering my call today. I am really excited to talk with you.*” Instead, we have this ongoing conversation that tends to just carry on to the next one.

If we treat prayer like we treat that relationship with those closest to us, I believe that prayer will interweave throughout all areas of our lives. It will connect the parts that we have disconnected from God. It will be an ongoing conversation we have with Him – filled with moments of gratitude, praying for others, even sharing with Him our frustrations. If this conversation is ongoing, then truly, is there even a need to say “amen”?

Now, this does not mean that we do not show God the honor He is worthy of and deserves. We do not address Him with, “Hey dude” or “Hey Bro....sup?” We live our lives where God is honored and worshiped and in doing so, our encounters with Him are far more genuine. I do believe that God cares less about our words to Him and more about the place where the words come from.

Our relationship with God will grow if we strive to have an ongoing conversation with Him. Remember what Paul tells us: “*Never stop praying.*” (1 Thessalonians 5:17, NLT) Short and long prayers have their place in our lives. We cannot expect to get to know God in a five-minute prayer each morning. If you look at the times Jesus prayed in the Gospels, many times he prayed for hours at a time. The disciples of Jesus asked Him about prayer in Luke 11:1: “*Once Jesus was in a certain place praying. As he finished, one of his disciples came to him and said, ‘Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.’*” (NLT) Jesus shows us that we have to bring Him into our daily lives and allow Him to breathe His peace, hope, comfort, and guidance into every aspect of our lives. Remember what Jesus told us in the model prayer: “*May your kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.*” (Matthew 6:10, NLT)

I humbly believe it is time to look at prayer in a new light in our lives.

I have some questions for you to ponder or reflect on:

Do you and I tend to pray once, or do we talk to God throughout the day?

How can you and I begin today to have an ongoing daily conversation with God?

Let us pray!  
Pastor Jeff

Believe

Trust

**Serving His children:  
Easter Sunday, Children’s  
Church, BAM, Bible Drill,  
VBS**

*by Marsha Gainer*

*Children’s Ministry Team Lead*

The Children’s team is planning the Easter Sunday activities. Breakfast will be served in the Family Life Center at 9:30. Around 10:00, we will go out to the baseball field for an Egg Hunt. Next, will be games in the gym followed by the Easter story and an Easter craft. Everyone is invited to all or part of the activities. Stuffed eggs will be appreciated for this event. If rain blesses us, all activities will be in the gym.

Children’s Church is returning to our original schedule which allows the older children to come into church for the music program and be dismissed right after the offering for the Bible story time.

BAM will be ending on April 12 until the next school semester begins. We have had such amazing children and learned about our Jesus. Thank you for the wonderful meals this year. A huge thank you to the workers RaNon Caraway, Rusty Capps, Becky Martin, Oralia Barrera, and Betty Smith as meal coordinator.

Bev Waisner is leading several Bible skills lessons for elementary age children on Sunday nights, March 26-April 30.

Please remember to keep July 9-14 open for VBS. A sign-up sheet will be coming soon. Thank you for all your prayers and support.

**Music ministry news:  
Karen Behrens steps aside  
as Music Leader**

Karen Behrens shared with the church at the March 26 business meeting that she is resigning as Music Leader, effective the end of March. She stated that with her fulltime job at the hospital and taking college courses full time, she does not have time to continue leading the music. Thank you, Karen, for your

dedication the last few years. We love you and wish you well. You have done an excellent job.

**Easter music**

*by Karen Behrens*

*Music Team Lead*

The Celebration Choir will practice on Wednesday, March 29th, and April 5th at 7 pm for Easter. We will present a selection of songs on Easter Sunday. We invite any church member that would like to sing to join us.

We have enjoyed having Ryan Boydston join us every Sunday. It has been a pleasure to have him add his guitar to the praise team.

If anyone would like to sing special music on Sunday, please get with the music team and we would be glad to have you.

**Missions team report**

*Becky Martin, Missions Team Lead*

The Missions Team, Hospitality Team, and a number of others from our church were privileged to serve the Bill Fore family and his brother firefighters at his memorial service, held in our sanctuary on March 17.

This is the month for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. Karen Behrens on March 19 and Bev Waisner on March 26 shared information about this mission. We have been watching videos every Sunday supplied by the North American Mission Board.

Our goal for this offering is \$2000. To date ????. Has been given. This opportunity for giving will be open through April.

The Bible studies at Royal Oaks are continuing twice a month, led by Linda Wall.

**325 Ministries: Youth news**

*Vickie Roddie, Youth Director*

We’re at the early stages of building this culture of discipling teens. A teacher shares information, but a disciple shares life. Discipleship is a command from God. To make disciples then, is to teach and encourage students to follow Jesus as the only way, to exalt Him as the

truth, and to come to Him for eternal life. John 14:6, *I am the way, the truth, and the life.*

Discipleship is needed from our church members and from student-to-student discipleship. We have seen this put into action as we have seen several new students attend our youth night events in the last couple of weeks.

We are working on upcoming events that will give our students a continued opportunity to witness locally, regionally, and globally. I will share next month all that God is allowing us to be a part of. It’s going to be a fun adventure. We are blessed to be a blessing.

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.*

Philippians 2:3



**.Memory Verse for April 2023**  
 God is not human, that he should lie,  
 not a human being,  
 that he should change his mind.  
 Does he speak and then not act?  
 Does he promise and not fulfill?  
*Numbers 23:19 NIV*

**ANNIE  
ARMSTRONG  
EASTER OFFERING**

Our goal: \$2000  
 Given to date:  
 \$1235

**United: Called to Be One**  
*“If, then, there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, make my joy complete by thinking the same way, having the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.”*  
**Philippians 2:1-2 CSB**

## *Mission Opportunities*

### **LIBA Mission Trip planned to Navajo Nation**

Dear Church,

As most of you know by now, Lake Ivie Baptist Association has not been able to go on our mission trip to Tse Bonito, NM, and Window Rock, AZ (for COVID reasons and other reasons) for the summer to work on, for, and with the Navajo Nation and Hilltop Christian School.

We plan on going back this summer, June 24 -July 1 (depart on Saturday and return the following Saturday), and will probably be doing some light construction, some backyard Bible studies, VBS, some evangelizing, a block party, complete with block party trailer and whatever else they ask us to do. We will be working with Hilltop Christian School there and other places to help them reach the lost of the nation.

We are anticipating some 30ish people going this summer at a cost of approximately \$150 per person (maybe less, depending on the response from our churches) plus we also need monies for construction materials, etc. If your church would like to help with the LIBA mission trip financially, may I suggest two things: Would you designate the money taken in during your Vacation Bible School to Across Nations ministry (formerly Western Indian Ministries), and/or consider giving to the mission trip from your church or individuals? Our estimate for the entire trip (food, gas and construction costs ) will run about \$10,000 due to rising costs of materials, fuel, food, etc. If you choose to do either one, the money will be used to purchase construction materials that we need to do the work which they have requested.

The finances that we receive from our churches and individuals will be placed into our Missions Account and will ONLY be used to help with the work whereunto God has called us.

For further information, you may call me at 325-456-0928 or Bryan Cawley (Missions Team Leader and pastor at FBC, Mason) at 405-312-1911. If you would like to send a check please send it to Lake Ivie Baptist Association, PO Box 639, Ballinger, Tx 76821 and make a note on the bottom of the check "For Mission Trip." Please do so by June 1 in order that we may know the amount taken in.

Thank you for your support and mostly for your prayers and God bless. We plan on having some pre-mission trip planning sessions in the near future, probably one on the south end of the association and one on the north end of the association.

J. Keith Simpson/Bryan Cawley,  
Lake Ivie Baptist Association

### **FBC Food Pantry marks 17 years of ministry to the Brady community**

FBC began its Food Pantry program on April 7, 2006, with a small group of volunteers and a short list of recipients. The program has grown over the years; it now provides generous boxes of food items every month to around 100 individuals. Some of the food is purchased from the Concho Valley Food Bank; more is donated weekly by the local Walmart.

The food was originally stored in a small room in the main building. Now the well-organized storage is in a large room in the Family Life Center. A team of faithful volunteers pick up food from Walmart every Thursday morning and stock it on shelving and in freezers.

Then on the second Friday of every month, boxes of food are distributed .

Recipients first come to the main building to check in or register. (They must meet income guidelines established by the Concho Valley Food Bank.) Volunteers meet with the people one-on-one to check paperwork and to pray together.

Then the people drive through in front of the FLC and volunteers there load the boxes into the vehicles.

The Food Pantry operates outside the church budget, solely by designated donations.

The program is staffed primarily by FBC volunteers, but a few people from other churches also help.

If you would like to volunteer, contact the church office or just show up at church on the second Friday at 9:00, or to help stock every Thursday morning. More help is always appreciated; you will be a blessing and will be blessed yourself.



June 3-4 and 10-11, 2023

This year will see the 100th home renovated since the **The Mission at Brady** began several years ago..

FBC will probably be assigned one house. Work often includes painting, siding, window installation, roof repairs, etc.—all exterior., some skilled work, some unskilled. Also people can help by providing food and water to the volunteers.

Contact Jason Behrens (325-456-6760) for information about how you can help.

### **Fellowship Meal to honor First Responders**

On June 4 our church will host an evening fellowship at the pavilion to celebrate Mother's Day, Father's Day, birthdays, and graduation and to honor Brady's first responders, who will be our guests. Watch for more information from the Hospitality Team for how you can help.

**April 2023 Bible Readings**

(AM)	(PM)
<b>DEUTERONOMY</b>	<b>PSALMS</b>
27-30	48
31-34	49
<b>JAMES</b>	
1-2	50
3-5	51
<b>JOSHUA</b>	
1-3	52
4-6	53
7-9	54
10-12	55
13-15	56
16-18	57
19-21	58
22-24	59
<b>MATTHEW</b>	
1-4	60
5-7	61
8-10	62
11-13	63
14-16	64
17-19	65
20-22	66
23-25	67
26-28	68
<b>JUDGES</b>	
1-3	69:1-18
4-6	69:19-36
7-9	70
10-12	71

(Used with permission from The Navigators. Adapted from The Discipleship Journal)

**Breaking news!**

Work began on Tuesday, March 28, on the parking lot refurbishment project! A big thanks to Jason Behrens and Jean Behrens for making this happen! The project involves breaking up and removing the concrete in a large section of the west parking lot, laying steel rebar, and pouring new concrete.

As of the March business meeting, \$23,300 had been donated for this major undertaking. If you would like to donate, your gift will be appreciated and put to good use.



*Believe*



*Trust*

**Women's Study Group**

The women's ministry at First Baptist Church launched a new season on March 27th. They are meeting on Mondays at 6 p.m. for the duration of the study.

The study group is going through a series on Max Lucado's book *Anxious for Nothing* providing a practical and powerful roadmap for battling with and healing from anxiety. With the combination of hopeful scriptures, and relatable discussions, this study equips us with the tools needed to help overcome the anxieties that are being faced no matter the situation.

Come join us as we encourage each other and grow in a deeper understanding of God's Word and our faith in Jesus Christ. See Shelly Torres or Kryste Boydston for more information.

Welcome new member!  
Awaiting baptism:  
Kent Beckett



**Good Friday Service**

The Brady Clergy Association is hosting a community Good Friday service at the First United Methodist Church at 5:30 on April 7. The service will be followed by a fish fry in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome.

**Fellowship Meal after church on April 2**

The Hospitality Team is supplying ham, and many folks have signed up to bring specific dishes.

If you didn't sign up, you can bring a dish of your choice.

The youth group will present a skit for our enjoyment!

Please plan to stay for lunch in Fellowship Hall.



**Garage Sale**

Saturday, April 15

8:30-noon

Bring donated items to the FLC before the event.

*Lots of bargains!*

The **Work Day on April 1** will begin around 8:00. Outdoor work—tree trimming, repairs—will be tackled, along with projects in the FLC, especially clearing out the loft.

Work can also be done in preparing for the April 15 garage sale. (The plan is to have a \$1 table, a \$5 table, etc., and a free table.) Please come and help if you can!

**Don't miss out! Bible studies at FBC**

- Sunday School: two couples' classes, one women's class, youth class, children's class
- Sunday night: through April, a study on Nehemiah; also Bible skills for kids
- Monday night: study on Zechariah; also women's book/Bible study using Max Lucado book *Anxious for Nothing*

**April radio spots**

- 3-7 Kay Holloway
- 10-14 Misty Quattlebaum
- 17-21 Becky Martin
- 24-28 Pat Matula

**Deacons on call in April**

- Buddy Cox 409-673-7916
- Jim Smith 817-400-4321

**March Food Pantry Report**

- 35 adults ages 65 & over
- 48 adults ages 19-64
- 19 children 18 & under
- 102 individuals
- 57 families

# April 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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Children's events on Easter Sunday begin at 9:30 in the Family Life Center:  
 Breakfast. . . Egg hunt. . . Games in gym. . . Easter story. . . Easter craft

1 Bill Burns Church work day, 8:00

2 Fellowship meal after church Deacons Meeting, 5:00 Bible Study 6:00 Bible Skills for Kids, 6:00	3 LIBA break-fast, Sandy's Kitchen 8:30 Bible study 6:00; 325 Ministries, 6:15-7:30 Women's book study, 6:00	4 Sherry Cox Mabel Jones	5 Farion Morton Prayer group 4:00 BAM 5:30 Easter choir 7:00	6 Robert Reeves Sr. GIPS Egg hunt and Easter parties	7 Austin Reeves Good Friday service, 5:30 FUMC GIPS closed	8
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9 <b>Easter Sunday</b> Lord's Supper Bible Study 6:00 Bible Skills for Kids, 6:00	10 Jeremy Couvillion Bible study 6:00 325 Ministries 6:15-7:30 Women's book study, 6:00	11 Missions Team meeting, 2:00	12 Prayer group 4:00 Last night of BAM 5:30	13 Becky Eliott	14 Food Distribution, 9:00-11:00	15 Church Garage Sale, FLC, 8:00-noon
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16 Jonathan Torres Church Council, 4:00 Bible Study 6:00, Bible Skills for Kids, 6:00	17 Bible study 6:00 325 Ministries 6:15-7:30 Women's book study, 6:00	18	19 Prayer group 4:00	20	21	22 Glenda Douglas
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23 Business Meeting, 5:00, Bible study, 6:00 Bible Skills for Kids, 6:00	24 Bible study 6:00 325 Ministries 6:15-7:30 Women's book study, 6:00	25	26 Prayer group 4:00	27	28 Shelly Torres	29
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30  
Carrie Pearson  
Toney Urban  
Lord's Supper; Bible study, 6:00  
Bible Skills for Kids, 6:00

**Weekly Ministries**  
**Sunday:** Sunday School at 9:45, worship at 11:00, Bible study at 6:00; Bible Skills for kids 6:00  
**Monday:** Bible study in library at 6:00; Women's Book study 6:00; 325 Ministries (Youth) 6:15-7:30  
**Wednesday:**  
 • Women's prayer group, 4:00  
 • BAM 5:30-6:50 (ends 4-12)  
**Thursday morning:** Walmart pick-up for Food Pantry

The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. *John 1:14 NIV*

- Bro. Jeff Quattlebaum, Misty, Regan, and Sam
- our church staff and pre-school
- 325 Ministries (youth)
- our children's ministry
- McKenna Brandenberger on mission in Uganda
- Texas Baptist Men
- our members in care facilities and our homebound members
- the lost and unchurched in our community
- Brady Clergy Association

Rhonda Aguirre

Laura Alsop  
 Ray and Rita Ash  
 Pete and Oralia Barrera  
 Holden Bedwell  
 Karen Bivens  
 Tiffani Bohannon  
 Amelia Britteon  
 Bill and Wanda Burns  
 Sherry Cox  
 Linda Flint  
 Charlie & Maria Garcia  
 Roy and Janet Guthrie  
 Ronnie, Kay, & Cathy Holloway  
 Curtis and Genna Jennings  
 Mabel Jones  
 Colleen Laman

Janie Lowery  
 James Mallow  
 Mary Ann & David McCarver  
 Louise Morrow  
 Lois Patton  
 Charles & Carole Ramsey  
 Anna Richards  
 Donald & Margie Richardson  
 James and Norma Ridout  
 Tommy & Kathy Stanley  
 Edith Slaughter  
 Jack and Susan Turk  
 Gene Walton  
 Virgil & Anita Webb  
 Addie Jo Webster  
 Bobby and Bobbie Williams  
 Angie Willis

Claudette Young

*In military:*  
 Jon Bradshaw  
 C.J. Gonzalez  
 Jennifer McAnally  
 Brandon Pfannenstiel  
 Christian Pittman  
 Jace Telford  
 Jonathan Torres  
 Ricky Williams, Jr.

We pray for comfort and guidance for the families of Bill Fore, Joe Wills, and Jerry Petty.

# First Baptist Church Brady, Texas

The newsletter is available on the church website: [fbcbrady.org](http://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](mailto:becky@scottmartin.net).  
 Print copies are available at the church and can be mailed on request.

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**Norma Ridout** and **Carol Bedwell**, Pianists  
**Becky Martin**, newsletter and website editor

### April at Godly Impressions Preschool

Theme: Spring has Sprung and New Life has Begun!  
 Verse: "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you." Ezekiel 36:26  
 Color: Purple                      Shape: Oval                      Letters: J, D, U  
 Move over Easter bunny, it's all about Jesus! While Easter can be more difficult to explain to young children, we have plenty of crafts/lessons that will highlight the true meaning of Easter. Activities will not only focus on spring and the new life that comes with the season but the new life we are given through Jesus Christ. We will have our annual Easter egg hunt on Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> followed by class Easter parties. Godly Impressions will be closed on Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> for Good Friday.  
 Last month I shared we were ordering butterfly kits; ours arrived over spring break and all the caterpillars have now formed chrysalises. The children are anxiously waiting for the butterflies to emerge!  
 Last but not least, we have welcomed Angi Ugalde as a new full time nursery worker.  
 Blessings, Meredith Navarette



**Thank you**

Dear Church Family,  
 Thank you so much for all the loving thoughts, prayers, food, texts, and phone calls. We pray that God will bless you all as you have blessed us in our time of loss. You each are very special to us and we thank God for you all.

Love,  
 the Caraway families

**Memory Verse for April 2023**

God is not human, that he should lie,  
 not a human being,  
 that he should change his mind.  
 Does he speak and then not act?  
 Does he promise and not fulfill?  
*Numbers 23:19 NIV*