



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK: Growing Disciples

As many of you know, this is a time of year that I try and find time to reflect on the past year and make plans for the one to come. As I look over the last 12 months, I see how God has moved in hearts and lives within our family. We have seen engagement increase, particularly in the area of small group Bible study.

Just over a year ago, we began a 5-year journey of growth moving toward our 150th anniversary as a church in 2028. As we began to communicate the vision last year, many of you acknowledged that the vision is simply to become intentional about doing the things we should be doing anyway. The idea of making moments in prayer and Bible study, moments in community and serving, moments investing in the Kingdom – these are all ways to be about what God has called us to do.

It is not an issue of pride, but rather one of clarity, to say that our church majors on discipleship. Scripture illustrates that growing disciples grow disciples. Jesus came to make disciples who, in turn, make disciples. So, that is what we are to be about – growing in our faith and inviting others to do the same.

We begin 2024 with a new sermon series, "Inside Out." This series will remind us that we cannot give what we do not have but once we have it, we cannot keep it only for ourselves. We start with ourselves and make sure we are growing in our faith. And then we turn our focus outward – letting the world know about the hope, joy, love, and peace that can only be found in following Jesus.

May God use our church family to make a significant Kingdom impact in the coming year.

Brian



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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Wyatt Baker



Teoddy Baker

IT'S ABOUT THE MOMENTS

#EveryMomentMatters

Through prayer, I have felt more connected to God. A couple of moments were:

My mom got a job after a year of prayer. Also, during my trip, we were stuck in a hotel and I prayed continuously to be able to continue my trip. When part of the trip was cancelled, I was still able to continue and collect samples.

"Are you God?" was the question asked of me by a preschooler in the hallway at church. And, this 3-4 year old young lady was absolutely serious. I was taken aback and honestly didn't know how to answer her innocent question. I knelt down and said, "No, He has all the power, and I really don't want that responsibility!" She seemed satisfied. When describing the incident to others, everyone suggests that maybe it's time to commune with Him and seek the words describing what He means to me.

Letter to Pastor Brian from Jana Pinson, Executive Director of the Pregnancy Center of the Coastal Bend:

I wanted to make you aware of a wonderful donation from the Sewing Ministry of First Baptist Church. A representative from that group dropped off some beautiful handmade blankets and bibs. These gifts will be treasured by some of our mommas and their little ones! Thank you for encouraging your congregation to use their gifts and talents to be the hands and feet of Jesus. As you know, God uses each person in the Body of Christ to grow and expand His Kingdom here on earth. Giving a baby blanket may seem like a small deed, but God will grow the seeds planted in love to make a difference in each life that received that special gift.

EVERY
MOMENT
MATTERS

firstcorpus.org/moments



WORSHIP CENTER FLOWERS

January 7-Given by Chance Durbin in celebration of Tarah's birthday this week.

January 14-Given by Bobby Scott in loving memory of Phyllis Scott.

January 21-Given with love and appreciation for Boyd and Wendy Horn from the Koinonia family.

January 28-Given by Glenda Bailey in loving memory of her husband, James E. Bailey, M.D.



BAPTISMS



Abigail and Julia Tan
baptized on
December 3, 2023



SUNDAY NIGHT DISCIPLESHIP

SND

January 14 - May 5

Sunday Night Discipleship
Growing in faith. Together.



5:15pm Fellowship Meal - Elmore Hall

6-7:30pm Sunday Night Classes

ADULTS

Exploring Ephesians

Led by John Campione (Room 151)

When You Pray*

Women's Study Led by Laura Tosto (Room 260)

Faith & Finances

Led by Victoria Orr & Joanna Berry (Room 261)

Parenting

Led by Chris Skoglund (Room 262)

Run For God*

Led by Stephen Heslip (Room 263)

**Book available for purchase*

KIDS

Childcare

(Birth-3s) | Nursery

Kids Ministry

(PreK-Kinder) | Nursery

Kids Ministry

(1st-5th Grade) | Creation Station

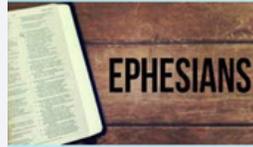
Student Ministry

(6th-12th Grade) | Rec Center

Scan to read class descriptions and register



first baptist church



Exploring Ephesians

Join Pastor John Campione as he leads a study digging deeper into the book of Ephesians.

ADULTS | NEW TO WORSHIP



When You Pray (Women's Study)

Prayer is a gift - an invitation to talk with God. Join Laura Tosto for this study where six beloved Bible teachers will each guide you through a prayer from the Bible that can inspire and transform your own prayer life.

ADULTS | BELIEVERS



Faith & Finances

The Faith & Finances program offers a context for low- to moderate-income people to learn best practices of financial literacy—including saving, expense tracking, and building productive assets. Even more, as part of God's work in the world, people in all income levels discover that they play a key role in God's kingdom, using their resources to restore broken relationships. Led by Joanna Berry and Victoria Orr.

WOMEN | NEW TO WORSHIP | BELIEVERS



Parenting

Join Pastor Chris Skoglund for a class and study on parenting.

DADS | MOMS | SINGLE/DIVORCED PARENTS | GRANDPARENTS | SOON-TO-BE PARENTS



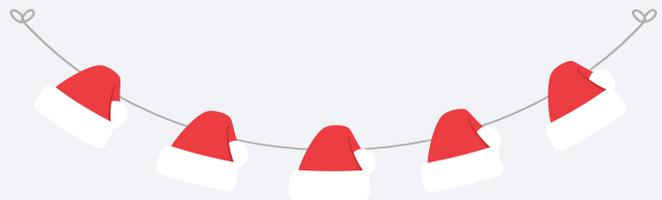
Run For God

Author Mitchell Hollis introduces runners to the similarities between running and witnessing for Christ. Run For God is designed for all levels of runners, even those who have never run. Learn to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ while understanding the parallels in enduring a sport like running and enduring faith. Lace up your running shoes and join Pastor Stephen Heslip for this class*!

**Running field trips are part of this study.*

ADULTS | BELIEVERS

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

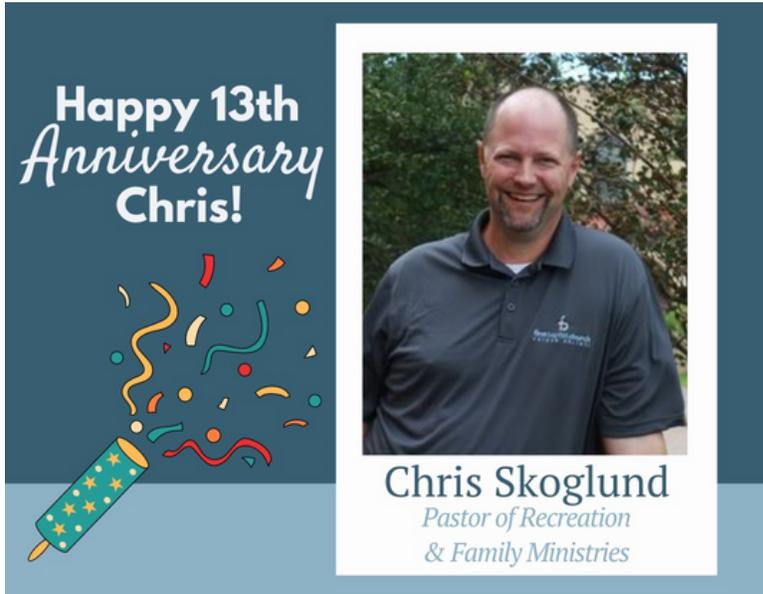


On Saturday, December 9, families lined up to have breakfast with Santa and hear him read The Christmas Story!

This annual event continues to grow!



STAFF CELEBRATION



WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 5, 42 ladies enjoyed appetizers, cookies and a hot chocolate bar at the Women's Christmas Party. Berta Eaton showed the group how to make handcrafted Christmas cards for FBC's homebound members. Thank you to Brittany Soliz and Amanda Warnock for coordinating this wonderful event!



LIVE NATIVITY



CAROLING AT KOINONIA



After our church tamalada, we headed over to see our neighbors at Koinonia Homes. Christmas carols filled the courtyard and residents enjoyed the visit!

CASA HOGAR DE NIÑOS CAMARGO



Thanks to your generosity, church members and staff traveled to deliver Christmas gifts for 26 children at Casa Hogar de Niños. Visitors received hugs and were treated to a special Christmas performance!



January

WEEKLY RECURRING EVENTS

MONDAYS

Flower Ministry • 8:30am-11am

Help to break down the worship center flowers and deliver to our members who are unable to attend services. To participate, contact Glenda Bailey @ 361-986-9793.

Pickleball • 9am-12pm

Ceramics • 9:30am-2:30pm

This is strictly ceramics – some molds and slip available. (No pottery wheels.) Beginners welcome!

TUESDAYS

Library Open • 9am-4pm

55+ Basketball • 11:30am-2pm

Open Basketball • 2pm-4:30pm

Bible Study Fellowship • 6:15pm-8:15pm

WEDNESDAYS

Preschool Play Day • 9:30am-11:30am

Free and open to children kindergarten and younger. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Pickleball • 11:30am-2pm

Choir Rehearsal • 6:45pm

This is the perfect time to see if music is a fit for you. All are welcome to attend our weekly rehearsals!

THURSDAYS

Déjà vu Crew • 9:30am

Come join the rowdy group playing Mexican Train at the Rec Center!

Sewing Ministry • 10am-12pm

55+ Basketball • 11:30am-2pm

Open Basketball • 2pm-4:30pm

Street Ministry • 7pm

To participate, contact Jeff Chilcoat @ 361-944-8952.

FRIDAYS

Food Pantry • 9am-11am

(No Food Pantry 1/5)

We are a distribution site for the Coastal Bend Food Bank. Help us serve our community.

To participate, contact Ed Cooke @ 361-991-8253.

Pickleball • 9am-2pm

SATURDAYS

55+ Basketball • 9am-11am

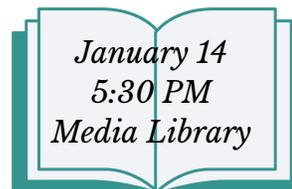
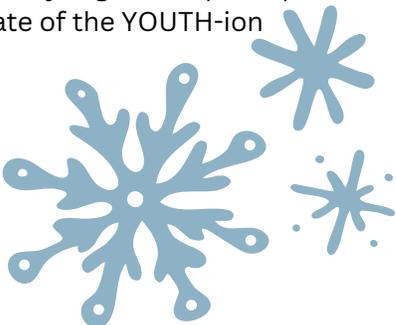
SUNDAYS

Bible Study • 9:30am

Worship Service • 10:45am

NEW THIS MONTH

- 1/7/24 Soup-Off (to benefit Kid's Camp) & SND Preview
- 1/14/24 Sunday Night Discipleship Classes Begin
- 1/28/24 State of the YOUTH-ion



Delve into the Cold War Era and the Cuban Revolution through the eyes of sugar heiress Beatriz Perez as she tells the story of how she and her family lost everything and were forced to flee Cuba. Beatriz is recruited by the CIA to infiltrate Fidel Castro's inner circle and is pulled into the dangerous world of espionage. She is consumed by her quest for revenge and her desire to reclaim the life she lost and ultimately is forced to choose between her past and her future, a choice where the wrong move could cost her everything.



Senior Adult Newsletter

First Baptist Church Corpus Christi • January 2024



Elmore Class News

Happy New Year everyone! May your New Year be healthy, happy and full of joy.

Our sincere thanks to Louann for sharing her musical talents with us as we start our bible school classes each week. We especially enjoyed Johnny Glover, accompanied by Louann, singing Go Tell It On The Mountain on December 17th. We also thank Lydia Morales for sharing the church news, informing us of class members in need of prayer, and keeping our records.

Our class Christmas party was a big success as it gave us time to visit with one another and share the wonderful meal prepared by Carla.

Please continue your prayers for the following members of our class and members of their families that are ill: Pat Stewart; Faye Smith and her son Don; Coralea Shaw; Ellen Rossi and her friends Bonnie and Susie; Margaret Parks and her daughter Susan; Quince and Bettie Mitchell; Mamie Medlin;

Marie Marshall and her sons; JoMae London; June Littlefield; Helen Lingo; Kim Huling; Lila Huling; Jody Heymann; Karen Harwood and her husband Bill; Peggy Hall; Richard and Brenda Guerra and her daughter Aimee and her grandchildren Annalee and Ethan; Clydell Gilmore; Helen Gaines, her son Danny Dobson, and her sister Linda Woods; Shirley Eads; Ray Duvall; Barbara Dufraim; Faye Creely; Dr. Joe and Carolyn Christina; Patsy Bucey; Janet Bobo; Lucile Biles and her son-in-law Cedric Peters; DonEtta Beaty; Elaine Bates; and Tillie Abrego's brother Oscar Escamilla.

We will miss Karen Harwood as she has moved to Louisiana to be with her daughter.

Open Door Class News

The focus of the Open Door class is serious Bible study. Singles and couples are welcome. Directors are Bill and Andranette Humphries, teachers are Chris Matt and Brad Smith, and substitute teacher is Marcia Tan.

Open Door Class News (continued)

This year our directors have motivated our class to gather donations to help different organizations in our area. Here is a list of what we brought:

- 80** socks for the homeless
- 60** lbs of sugar for The Station Church
- 95** bars of soap and bags for the food pantry
- 84** cans of food for the FBC Pantry
- 298** granola bars for the Ronald McDonald House
- 85** coffee mugs for The Station Church
- 72** packages of sticky notes for Menger Elementary
- 196** razors for our Christmas project
- 73** bars of soap for our Christmas project
- 71** toothbrushes for our Christmas project
- 70** ceramic crosses for our Christmas project

Below are a couple of pictures from our Christmas party and one of the class packing gifts for the clients of the FBC Food Pantry. Happy New Year to all!



Happy Birthday

JANUARY

- 3 Judy Nichols, Nancy Varelas
- 4 Pennie Medina
- 8 Maria Loughran
- 9 Cindie Reynolds
- 11 Don Dunlap
- 13 Ruth Carson
- 14 David Rodriguez
- 16 Laura Klingaman, John Reimers
- 17 Amanda Urban
- 18 Edd Price
- 20 Barbara Wilson
- 23 Armi Bright, Dorothy Egge, Gail Robertson
- 25 Mary Jo Cooke
- 30 Mary Sue Nowell, Sylvia Tovar
- 31 Connie Armstrong, Myriam Bell

Happy Anniversary

Ron & Lynn Stephens

January 3, 1981

Pablo & Susana Tarazaga

January 10, 1973

Roger & Jan Barber

January 11, 2014

Mac & Ruth Aipperspach

January 11, 1975

