



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

May 2016 newsletter

FBC Brady, TX

325-597-2956

<http://fbcbrady.org>

Vol. 17, No. 5

To our mothers. . .

by Dr. Kevin McDonald

fbcbrady.org@gmail.com

The ash tree between the FLC and the church has had seeds on it for a month now. Some have even started falling. It's way too early for that in my book, but the tree wants to sow seeds, so it does. Scripture has several stories, parables and sayings about sowing seeds. One of my favorite songs is called "Sowin' Love" by Paul Overstreet. For a long time I thought the title was "So in Love", until I paid better attention to the song. (But in my defense, it would work that way too).

In movies and myth, we are most always presented with the picture of men as farmers, the ones who "sow the seed." They do the work: toiling in the fields, baking under the sun, making it happen, getting the crop in the ground, no matter the cost. That may work in agriculture, but in life you don't sow once and then go eat the big meal (more movies and myth) prepared by the women who support the work by cooking the food and setting the big table outdoors.

A farmer sows once or twice a year, but mothers never stop sowing. It is no wonder that they continue to reap a harvest all their lives. They tirelessly, constantly, consistently sow seeds of love into the lives of their family, into our lives. Mothers are the great sowers in life and of life.

I don't know what image or picture you have in your mind's eye of your mother. But the mothers I have known and love are sowers. And like the sower in Mtt. 13, they sow in some difficult terrain at times and under difficult conditions. But they continue to sow love in hope, always believing, never worried that some of those seeds will be wasted. Like the song says, they are always "sowing love".

We know the old hymn that says "no one ever cared for me like Jesus". That is a truth, but mama comes in a close second. Happy Mother's Day. Your love continues to sprout and bear fruit. You have not sown in vain.

—Bro. Kevin

Fellowship at Elliotts' ranch May 1

Everyone is invited to the fellowship picnic at the Elliotts' ranch on Sunday, May 1, at 5:00. A group of visiting Chinese students will be there as part of their tour of Texas. They are sponsored by Green Acres Baptist Church in Tyler.

The Elliotts' ranch/retreat center is a beautiful place on the San Saba River, a few miles off the pavement but easy to find with Charlie's directions! Please bring a chair.

Please sign up to bring part of the "fixins" for the picnic and cook-out.

The students will each speak about themselves in a short program. All of these young people are outstanding students who were chosen from hundreds of applicants to make this trip to the U.S. We can help introduce them to Christian love and fellowship.

Kay Curry on staff as financial secretary

At the church business meeting on April 10 the church voted to hire Kay Curry as part-time financial secretary.

The Personnel Committee made the recommendation.

Kay is a graduate of Colorado State University with a B.S. degree in accounting. She has many years of experience as an accountant for various businesses.

She has lived in Brady since 2000.

RaNon Caraway, who has served in this capacity since 2005, will now work part-time as church secretary.

Thank you to the Personnel Committee and the Finance Committee for their work. Welcome to FBC, Kay! And RaNon, we love you and appreciate you!

AWANA finishes the year

The AWANA and missions programs ended the year on Wednesday, April 27, with Family Night. Over 130 children were served by this ministry this year.

Thank you to the many volunteers who made AWANA possible for these children.

Registration: Maurice Mallow, Claudette Young, Bobby & Bobbie Ann Williams

Cubbies/Mission Friends: Shawnté Virdell, Joanna Coston, Bobby & Bobbie Williams, RaNon Caraway, Deryl Bishop
Sparks: Shelly Bean & Sherry Pierce
GA's: Betty Smith, Joyce Hollingsworth
RA's: Daniel Virdell, Jerry Caraway, Charlie Elliott, & Jeremy Couvillion
TNT: Marsha Gainer, Laurie Morton, Becky Bauer, Russell Pierce, and Melanie Couvillion

Kitchen: Lynn Munden, Stefani McKay, Matt Popnoe, Jeanagayle Behrens, Jerlene Smith, Austin Reeves, Darlene Friar, Alisha Williams, & Joyce Scott

Church cookbook project

by Lynn Munden

I am happy to report that we have sold the required number of cookbooks (59) to place our order with the company. Anyone who wants to put recipes in the cookbook can still give them to me or Susan through May 8th. We will send in the order on May 10.

You can still purchase cookbooks from Susan at church or go by the Edward Jones office (where Susan works) during the week. They are \$15.00. We are ordering 200 books so we need to begin thinking of friends and family members who would want to purchase one or more. Also these will make great gifts.

Watch for plans for a "Tasting Party" of some of the recipes when the books get here in the summer!

Annie Armstrong mission offering exceeds goal

by Claudette Young

The time for our Church emphasis on this offering has come to an end, but a gift to support our North American Missions work can be given at any time.

On our North American map, we had 26 target areas where our missionaries are serving and starting new work. Our goal was to give support to them in prayer and with our offerings.

Our total to date for the offering is \$2072.08, which exceeds our goal of \$1500. We are so thankful for everyone who continues to support our mission work through First Baptist Church.

Group attends Graham prayer rally

by Charlie Elliott

On April 26, 12 people from our church and 2 from FBC Lohn climbed on the First Baptist Church, Brady, TX bus to go to a prayer rally on the grounds of the Texas State Capitol. There we joined with over 8100 other Christians who came to pray for America. Franklin Graham, son of Billy Graham, led us to pray that America will turn back to God and biblical principles.

But before he reminded us of the sins of immorality in America, he quoted a line we all know from the Bible: HUMBLE YOURSELVES AND PRAY. He asked us to join hands all through that huge crowd standing in front of him and pray for forgiveness of our own sins. The quiet oral prayers of 2000 Texans confessing their own sins was a powerful moment: He reminded us that Jesus told us to pray: FORGIVE ME OF MY SINS AS I FORGIVE THOSE WHO SIN AGAINST ME.

God smiled on us with perfect weather, cool breezes, safety, and tons of fellowship time on the ride back home. We want to thank Jerry Caraway for sharing his skills in driving us and negotiating Austin traffic for such a big rally.

Keith's Konnections
May 2016

Ahhh, May. Spring has sprung, school will soon be out, summer vacations are being planned, and things slow down just a tad for a while. As I sit here and reflect on the last four months since the beginning of a new year, it is clear to see that God has done a great work in Lake Ivie Baptist Association and prayerfully, will continue to do so. We have had the opportunity to host the Senior Adult Rally, with approximately 60 people in attendance, the (un) Apologetics seminar with Scott Willingham with 15 in attendance, and just recently, the Ladies Spring Luncheon event in which we had 48 in attendance. These types of events are to encourage each of us in a particular endeavor, or just to fellowship, eat, and have a good time. Our breakfasts are well attended and it seems as if everyone who attends enjoys the fellowship and food there as well. May will be the last month that we will have our breakfasts, but then we will start them up again in September.

The Association exists for its member churches/or pastors and tries to bring current events/topics/ workshops/ seminars to keep our members abreast of current events going on, not only in the great state of Texas, but nationally and internationally as well. I know sometimes that churches feel as if they are out there all alone, but WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!!! If there is any workshop that you would be interested in, please do not hesitate to call the office and let us know and we will see if we can arrange to do it. I currently have materials on Church Safety if any church is interested, and we are looking at formulating plans to do a "Weekend to Remember" video series on marriage. Other plans are also in the works for the fall, and our Annual Meeting will be upon us before we know it. We do not have a definite date set, but FBC, Eden will be hosting it in October, and we hope to have some break-out sessions similar to last year.

We will be having our next Associational Meeting/Executive Board meeting in Santa Anna on May 17 at 5:00 p.m. I am currently working on securing a speaker for the event. Remember, these meetings are open to anyone who is interested, the food is always great and the fellowship is even greater, so I encourage you to attend. Our Brady breakfast will be May 2, with Coleman breakfast on the 9th, and our Ballinger breakfast on the 16th.

And last, but not least, I must say how impressed I am with the work our churches are doing across the Association. I have the opportunity to either fill the pulpit or to visit a different church each Sunday, and the warmth and welcome we are receiving is beyond belief, and I encourage each church to "contend for the faith" as Jude says. Even though there may be few in number, the spirit is always there, and I applaud our churches for remaining steadfast and true to their calling. God doesn't count numbers as much as He counts faithfulness and spiritual growth, and I see that occurring in each of our churches. Never give up doing good. Acts 2:42 says, "And they continue steadfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in prayers." (ASV) We still need preachers who will preach that Hell is hot, Heaven is real, God is not dead, sin is sin, and Jesus is the ONLY way! Go forth and proclaim the Good News to all who will hear, and may God bless your every effort.

Keith Simpson

Ministry Director, Lake Ivie Baptist Association

Events this month:

- May 2: Brady Breakfast, El Flamingo, 8:30
- May 17: Associational meeting, First Baptist Santa Anna, 5:00

Youth News
by Gabe Rios, Minister of Youth and Music

Hello to all the Brady and surrounding area youth (grades 6th-12th) and to your parents! The purpose of this section of the FBCB Newsletter is to let you know of upcoming events and the accomplishments of our youth. Kids are now allowed to begin arriving at the church/ family life building right after school on Wednesdays! We will open at 3:30pm so all kids, middle school and high school, are welcome to come and do homework, play in the gym, play outside, play games etc... At 6:30pm we eat a great meal together and around 7pm we will head back to the youth room for worship and a lesson. Youth group ends at 8pm, so please make the proper arrangements to get home and PLEASE invite your friends from school to come join us.

Food is taken care of by Stephanie McKay, Matt Popnoe, Lynn Munden, Austin Reeves, Jeanagayle Behrens, and JerleneSmith and we are very grateful! If anyone is interested in helping out with the youth or special events call or text Gabe @ 830-391-4367.

Past Events

***Youth Lock-In** – Our lock-in was very fun! (And tiring) but I think the kids had a great time. It was an all night sleepless sleepover that featured group games, video games, food, movies and worship.

Ping-Pong – a small group of us have been playing ping-pong on Tuesday nights at 6:30pm. If you like to play please come out and join us and invite a friend.

Sunday Night Hoops - every Sunday night starting at 8 the gym will be open to high school age and above to come fellowship and play some basketball. We have been averaging 15-20 a Sunday and would love to have you! Occasionally we will also play during the week on a Tuesday or Thursday at 7pm. Text Gabe to get updates on when the gym will be open.

Upcoming Events

***Sunday school** is ongoing every Sunday from 9:45 – 10:35am. The youth meet in the family life center. We would like to have as many youth attend. Youth Sunday School is currently taught by Sharon McDonald.

***Summer Camp** - July 3rd-8th is the week we will be attending summer camp at Mt. Lebanon Baptist Camp. It is open to current 6th – 12th grade students. Sammy Lopez will be the speaker and the Nick Gainey Band will lead worship. This will be a blast and it would be great to take as many students as possible. Please get your forms turned in as soon as you can to secure your spot.

***Youth Sunday/ Youth Fundraiser** - May 22nd will be a special event in which the youth will be running the service in every way as well as selling fajita plates as a fundraiser to help with costs for summer camp. Plates will be 7 dollars a plate. More information will soon be available. Last we will be honoring our high school graduates on this Sunday as well. Hope you will plan to attend this jam packed Sunday!

Game Room – we would like to turn the upstairs space above the gym into a game room and hang out area for the youth. To make it more functional we would like to lay carpet squares up top and build some cool stylish furniture. We would also like to add some video game consoles and small tvs for kids to enjoy. If you can help or would like to help in any way please contact Gabe so that we can get this vision off of the ground. This will hopefully be a summer project the kids can participate in.

Lunch - I have enjoyed attending the middle school lunches on Thursdays the past several weeks and look forward to getting to know more and more students! I eat with the high school somewhere in Brady outside of school on Wednesdays, so come join us!

School Activities - I attended a few track meets including the district track meet in Bangs a few weeks ago and it was awesome to see all the kids that participated! Congratulations on a great season.

Wednesday Night Series – In the Beginning, God Created Relationships is our new series starting with the first relationship between God and Adam. Then Adam and Eve and their fall.

IMPORTANT –

If a Wednesday is not listed here as a special event or as “no youth,” we are having a regular youth night.

If there are any concerns that you as students or parents may have please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your prayers and support.

God bless,

Gabe Rios, Youth Minister

Josh meets goal for mission trip funds, thanks to FBC generosity

by Joyce Collier

We are pleased to announce that we have reached our goal for fundraising for Joshua's mission trip to China. We would like to thank everyone who helped us reach this goal. Joshua will be leaving June 11th and will return July 6th. Please continue to pray for Joshua and the rest of the iGo global teams that will be in the mission fields this summer.

If you missed the first order of the FBC Brady t-shirt sale, you may still get one. The order forms are still in the foyer outside the sanctuary. We have to order in amounts of 12 shirts or more. The profit made from the shirts will be placed in an account to support future mission trips for First Baptist Church members.



Worship led by youth, graduates honored, fajitas served—May 22

May 22nd will be a special event in which the youth will be running the service in every way as well as selling fajita plates as a fundraiser to help with costs for summer camp. Plates will be 7 dollars a plate. More information will soon be available. Last we will be honoring our high school graduates on this Sunday as well. Hope you will plan to attend this jam-packed Sunday!



Godly Impressions Preschool

Our preschool graduation and special program is planned for Wednesday, May 25, at 11:30 in the sanctuary. Everyone is invited to this exciting event!

The 5-year-old graduates will receive a special gift from the Dorcas Quilting Ministry.

Other preschool news: there will be a garage sale on Saturday, May 7, at 2016 S. Walnut (home of Susan and Jack Turk), with all proceeds going to the preschool. Come and find a bargain!

Congratulations to our 2016 graduates

Alexa Bean, *summa cum laude* graduate of West Texas A&M University, B.S., certified to teach all levels of special education

From Brady High School: **Faith Bean, Jessica Medrano, Austin Reeves**

From home schooling: **Carson Brandenberger**

From Godly Impressions Preschool: **Laney Johnson, Gerick Pearce, Craig Dodds, Madalyn Najera, Joy Jennings, Emerson Taylor, Kelsey Delk, Ethyn Rush, Milly Pitcox**



Community Concert Tuesday, May 3

The Damrosch Music Club will be celebrating National Music Week with a community concert on Tuesday, May 3, at 7:00 at First United Methodist Church.

A number of local musicians will perform, including **Gabe Rios**, Debbie Rule, Jey Jones, Landri St.Clair, Gwen Ragsdale, Karen Bishop, Debbie Steinbach, David McCarver, Mary Ann McCarver, **Norma Ridout**, **Deryl Bishop**, Martha Jones, Wynona Williams, Barbara Finlay, Kamry Keese, an ensemble from the Brady High School band, and the Damrosch Music Club Chorus.

The public is invited and admission is free. A reception for everyone attending will follow the program in Fellowship Hall.

Texas Mission of Mercy—July 9

Texas Mission of Mercy is a community-led project to provide primary dental care for those with no other access to dental care. TMOM will treat approximately 150 patients in one day completely free of charge.

All dentistry is provided by volunteer licensed dentists and dental hygienists. The service is first come, first served. Call Dr. Susan Jolliff's office (597-7441) to register or get more information.

Brady churches will provide snacks for the patients and sack lunches for the volunteers.



Baby dedication service: Sunday, May 15

Mia Kinley Alonzo, daughter of Reno and Kristin Alonzo, will be dedicated in this special service.

Please contact the church office or Becky Martin (456-1256) if you know of others who would like participate.



May 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 5:00 Fellowship picnic at Elliotts' ranch to welcome visiting Chinese students	2 LIBA Brady breakfast, 8:30, El Flamingo Wes Avant Tim Owens	3 Ethel Blackwell	4 Oleta Weaver Matthew Bishop	5	6	7 Preschool garage sale, 2016 S. Walnut Daniel Virdell
8 Mother's Day Deacons meeting Edith Slaughter Blane Woodard	9 Triple S, noon	10 Terry Virdell	11 Josh Collier	12 Cody Munden Crockett Jurrius Layla Virdell	13 Food Pantry food distribution, 10:00 -12:00 Pat Gary Jack Jennings Jett Jennings	14 Wesley Virdell
15 Baby dedication service, a.m. Business meeting Norma Ridout	16	17 LIBA meeting, 5:00, Santa Anna Lynn Munden	18	19	20	21 Sharon McDonald
22 Youth Sunday/youth fundraiser lunch/ graduates honored	23 Triple S. 5:30	24	25 Preschool graduation, 11:30	26 Jeanagayle Behrens	27 Food Pantry food distribution, 10:00 -12:00 Teresa Felts Layne Avant	28
29	30 Arlan McBee	31				

Weekly Events

Sunday

9:45 AM Sunday School
10:50 AM Morning Worship
6:00 PM Bible study

Monday

4:00 PM Ladies Bible study
home of Mary Ballew
6:30 PM CWJC, Building Men for Christ

Wednesday

7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast
Presbyterian Church
3:30 PM FLC opens for all youth
6:00 Adult prayer meeting
6:30 Youth meal
7:00-8:00 Youth worship and Bible study

Thursday

9:30-11:00 Dorcas quilting ministry
9:45-12:00 Food Pantry: donated food brought from Walmart to the Church

Greeters for May

East Door
May 1 Charlie and Gwen Bush
May 8 Mabel Jones and Joyce Scott
May 15 Bill and Wanda Burns
May 22 Bobby and Bobbie Williams
May 29 Judy Oden and Nelda Martin

Broadcasts on KNEL 95.3 FM

Sunday morning: live broadcast at 11:00 AM
Weekdays: Morning Devotional at 7:45 AM

Thanks to Janis Groves, George Matula, Norma Ridout, and Lisa Remini. for recording radio spots in April.

May devotionals will be done by Joyce Hollingsworth, Kay Holloway, Jerry Caraway, Becky Elliott, and Jeanagayle Behrens.

Food Ministry Report

April 2016

- 135 families
- 152 adults
- 67 children under 18
- 34adults over 65



Food distribution days for May are the 13th and the 27th from 10:00 to noon. New volunteers are welcome! Help is also needed on Thursday mornings from 9:45 to noon to bring donated food from Walmart to the Food Pantry in the FLC.

Deacons on call in May

Gerald Nobles 597-1869
Jerry Caraway 792-8749

Coming in June:

- June 20-24: Day Camp in Richards Park, 8:00 till noon, Monday-Friday, led by mission team from FBC Midland and our youth and other volunteers. No fee. Youth activities every afternoon
- June 24, 25, and 26: Churchwide revival led by the Midland team
- June 24-July 3: Navajo mission trip to Eagle Spring Baptist Church in New Mexico. Contact Betty Smith at 597-0740 FMI.

Coming in July:

- July 3-8: Youth Summer Camp at Mt. Lebanon Baptist Camp for 6th-12th grade
- July 11-14: Vacation Bible School at FBC, in the evenings, for pre-K-5th grade

Pray without
ceasing. . .

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.
Colossians 4:2

- 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
- Navajo mission trip
- Josh’s China mission

Joseph Aguirre
Louise Baker
Dr. Alton Bishop
David Bishop
Misty Chandler
Sherry Cox
Isla Dodds

Fayrene Easley
Jacque Elliott
Tina Feemster
Mary Sue Fields
Faith Gray
Chuck Green
Holly Groves
Roy Guthrie
Theda Henniger
Eva Little
Curtis and Genna Jennings
Mary Beth Lewis
Peggy Lohn
Mike Lowery
Evelyn Martin
Betty McMillan
Louise Morrow
Gene & Shirley Nelson
Tracy Parsley
Diane Peavy

Bobbie Petty
Dorothy Reeves
Edith Slaughter
Mike and Laurie Slone
Sherry Thomas
Tinsley Thompson
Sissy Trevino
Jack and Susan Turk
Jack B. Waide
Tess Warren
Billy Whitaker
Kenneth Young

In military:
Jon Bradshaw
Howard Brown
Brandon Haymon
Talisha Hendley
David Hernandez

Jose Lopez
Moses Marmolejo
Concho Moore
Brandon Pfannenstiel
Jace Telford
Jonathan Torres
Alisha Slone
Wes Stark
Justin Williams
Ricky Williams, Jr.

We extend sympathy to the families of Mary Christine Ruano, Faith Gray, David Moreno, and Larry Henderson.

First Baptist Church
(325) 597-2956
1103 W. 17th St.
Brady, TX 76825
<http://www.fbcbrady.org>
Dr. Kevin McDonald, Pastor
fbcbrady.org@gmail.com
597-1926
RaNon Caraway, Secretary
mrc48nona@yahoo.com
Gabe Rios, Minister of Music and Youth
rios_gabe@yahoo.com
830-391-4367
Kay Curry, Financial Secretary
Jerry Caraway, Maintenance Supervisor
Christy McAnally, Nursery Director
Kim Coleman, Preschool Director
Norma Ridout, Pianist
Deryl Bishop, Organist

The newsletter is available on the church website: [fbcbrady.org](http://www.fbcbrady.org). A link can be sent to your email address each month; just send your address to Becky Martin: becky@scottmartin.net.



FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH

Be knit together by
strong ties of love.
Colossians 2:2

Thank you for housing the Sahawe Indian Dancers in your Family Life Center on April 9, during the McCulloch County Early Days Celebration. They really appreciated the facility—it allowed them to have a comfortable night!
K.J. Hallmark

First Baptist Church,
Thank you so much for the lovely meal for Ann’s family.
It was such a comfort for the family to have fellowship with your church family.
Ann Roberts’ family

Mary Christine Ruano, Pete's sister, passed away at Seton Hospital South on April 14th after a lengthy illness. We would like to thank everyone for their kind words, thoughts and prayers for us and all of Pete's family. We are comforted knowing that Mary Christine is now with her Lord and Savior.
Pete & Oralia Barrera

Volunteers needed tor Children’s Church June through September, Call Charlie Elliott at 597-0066 to talk about it!

Congratulations to **Austin Reeves**, who will be competing at the State UIL meet this month in Social Studies and Current Events.
Austin also competed in the Texas Citizen Bee competition in Austin on April 16, scoring a perfect score in the round robin oral questions.
We’re proud of you, Austin!

Navajo Mission Trip
June 24-July 3
Contact Betty Smith
@ 597-0740 FMI