



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

April 2017 newsletter

FBC Brady, TX  
325-597-2956  
<http://fbcbrady.org>  
Vol. 18, No. 4

## Two life-changing opportunities

by Dr. Kevin McDonald

There are two important events coming up for FBC that you should be aware of and that you should be a part of. They are our mission trip (June 18-23) and 4Xfour.

I just got back from an eight hundred mile round trip to McAllen so I could better know what to tell you about the mission trip. The accommodations are very nice. The price for fifteen meals and six nights of rest at a newly refurbished Baptist encampment is only \$180.00. The park where we will teach VBS in air-conditioned comfort and teach basketball and soccer to children is spacious and nice. We will also have the opportunity to teach parenting classes if we have the personnel. But I didn't need to go eight hundred miles to tell you why you should go on this mission trip.

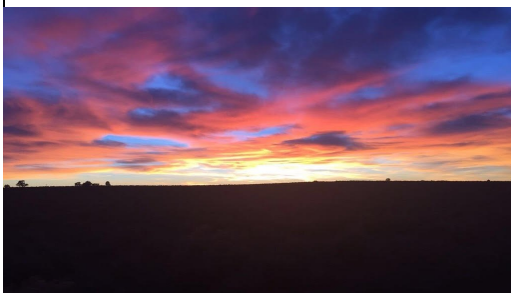
You should go because you need to go. You should go because you need to spend a week with people from this church that you need to know better. You should go because there are people in this church who need to know you better. You should go because your kids need to see that their parents want to share the love of God with others. You should go because you need to see what incredible servants your kids are, and how they are growing in the Lord. You should go because you need to stop talking about missions and do missions. You should go and see how desperately people need to hear the Good News. You should go and see spiritual and material poverty of a magnitude you don't want to look at. You should go because you need to sacrifice something you think is really important for something Jesus has already said is really important. You should go and get your eyes opened. You should go and get your heart opened. You should go because you have never gone before. You should go because you never fail to go. You should go because you haven't gone in a while. You should go. Really, you should go.

The other opportunity you should be a part of is 4Xfour. This is a relationship evangelism tool that is ridiculously easy to use. We will be starting to learn the how and why of it very soon. I cannot over-emphasize to you how important this can be to our church. The days of church growth being based on the children of members and Baptists moving in from another town (or church) are DEAD. Transfer growth is just swapping pieces of the pie, and the pie is disappearing faster than you will believe. We must return to biblical church growth, which is bringing the lost to Christ, not swapping or stealing sheep from another flock. 4Xfour will give anyone of any age a very simple process to share their faith. I encourage you in the strongest way possible to come and learn how easy this tool is to master and to then put to work in your life.

We have had a year of learning some truths about ourselves. It's time we faced the future and begin to take hold of the biblical tasks of missions and evangelism—*discipleship*—and get serious about our spiritual health, our spiritual growth and the spiritual needs of our little corner of the world and see if we can't leverage that into a vision for the bigger world out there.

I have told you what **you should** do. I strongly encourage you to remember that I haven't told you anything that Jesus hasn't already said **you must** do. The opportunities are being laid out before you. You really should take advantage of them.

—Bro. Kevin



Sunset near Tinian Baptist Church, New Mexico, 3-13-17

## Navajo Mission report

Betty Smith, Lynn Munden, Becky Martin, and Paige Bauer participated in a 3-day Navajo Mission women's Bible study and crafts class at Tinian Baptist Church and Eagle Spring Baptist Church, both near Cuba, New Mexico, March 11-16.

The trip was a big success. We made contact with over 20 Navajo women at the two churches. On the third and last day, both

groups met together for the study and crafts and for lunch, which included fry bread, blue corn mush, beans, cornbread, and cookies.

Lynn led the Bible study on ways Satan tries to distract Christians from serving the Lord. Becky led the crafts, and Betty facilitated everything and did a closing every day. We stayed in the Tinian Fellowship Hall, actually in the kitchen!

Paige was a blessing to everybody on this trip. She took care of two small children so their grandmother and aunt could attend the studies. You might also ask Paige what she learned about mice, and about low water pressure.

Thank you to the church for your prayers, donations of clothing and fabric, and financial support, and to Jerry for getting the van in great condition for us.

We will be sharing a slide show from the trip on Sunday, April 2. The photo at the left is of a beautiful sunset we witnessed.

## ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING

*Together for His Kingdom*  
Week of Prayer for North  
American Missions:  
April 2-9 Our goal: \$2000

### Hands-on missions still to come: can you help?

**1. The Mission at Brady**, the first two weekends of June. This is a multi-church project to work on 10 local homes, making them warm and dry. Volunteers of every skill level are needed. Carpenters, roofers, painters—all needed, but if you can pick up trash, there's work for you! Volunteers are also needed to prepare and serve food for the workers. See The Mission at Brady Facebook page FMI and photos of last year's projects.

**2. Mission Mercedes:** A mission week in Mercedes, TX, June 18-23, assisting Julian Garcia of McAllen with VBS, a sports camp, meals, and prayer walking. Bro. Kevin is leading this and will go to Mercedes in the next few weeks to look things over. Families, youth, senior adults—everyone is welcome to be a part of this trip. There is a place for *you*

**3. Vacation Bible School**, July 9-13, in the evenings, for preschool through 5th grade. The theme is *Galactic Starveyors*. Teachers, helpers, musicians, food service, crafters, rec leaders—come join the VBS team!

**4. Day Camp in the Park** for children 1st-6th grades M-F July 17-21. The Rec Team from FBC Midland—3 young men—will be here from July 16-23 to lead this great camp at Richards Park. Some of our youth will serve as counselors-in-training and will meet with the Rec Team in the afternoons. The camp is from 9:00-noon. On Sunday the 23rd the kids from the camp will be invited to sing in the morning service, and they and their families will join us for lunch.

**5. Paisano Encampment**, July 23-28, where our youth who helped at Day Camp in Brady will be serving on the Day Camp staff for Family Camp.

### Welcome new member

Marissa Botello, by baptism on 3-19

### Attention all children!

There will be an Easter egg hunt during Sunday School on Easter Sunday, April 16, for nursery through 5th grade. Be sure to come! Bring a basket!



## Youth news

by Gabe Rios, Youth Minister

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 allowed to begin arriving at the Family Life Center right after school on Wednesdays! We open at 3:30pm so all kids, middle school and high school, are welcome to come and do homework, play video games, play in the gym, outside, or play board games etc... At 6:30pm we eat a great meal together and around 7pm we 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 on time and PLEASE invite your friends from school to come join us.

Food is taken care of by Stephanie McKay, Matt Popnoe, Lynn Munden, Jeanagayle Behrens, and Jerlene Smith 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](tel:830-391-4367).

**Recurring events:** Sunday Night Hoops - every Sunday night starting at 7:30pm the gym is open to high school age and up, to come fellowship and play some basketball. We have been averaging 20-25 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.

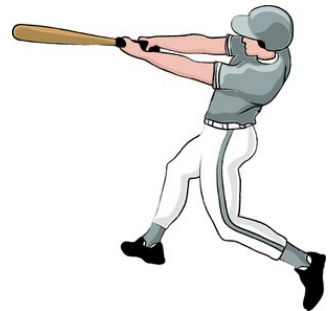
**Lunch:** I've enjoyed attending middle school lunches and high school lunches and have met a bunch of new kids! For high school kids, every Monday I am available to pick y'all up in front of the school and take y'all out to eat in town.



**School Activities:** Track and Baseball season are in full swing! It'll be fun to see all the kids participating in their events.

Youth THEME Dinner - April 12th we will have our monthly dinner. Please bring a dollar to help cover the cost.

**Youth group:** Exploring the Bible has been our series for the past few weeks and we have been looking at the events leading up to Easter and the Resurrection of Christ.



### Upcoming events:

April 21st - youth LOCK-IN! Open to all youth 6th-12th grade. The time will be from 8pm to 8am. Games and activities will include...Video games, board games, dodgeball, kickball, ultimate frisbee, soccer, football, basketball, and movies. Pizza will be served for dinner and breakfast food in the morning. Once you come to this event you will not be allowed to leave unless you have permission prior to the event. The most exciting part about this lock-in will be illusionist Zack Mirzadeh who will be doing a show during the night as well as students from DBU who will be leading us in worship. This will be the biggest event of the year for our youth group. Please plan to attend and bring friends. Cost is 5 dollars a person.

If you would like to help volunteer as a chaperon please contact Gabe.

April 30th - 3 on 3 basketball tournament fundraiser. The times and location are still TBD. But we are trying to have two divisions one for kids and one for adults. More details to come soon.

Youth summer camp Fajita Fundraiser Sunday May 21st!

Mercedes Mission Trip - June 17th-23rd.

Summer camp - Mt. Lebanon July 2-7.

FORMS for summer camp will be available as soon as they are released. Fifty dollars right now will reserve your spot for the camp.

### 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

## Keith's Konnections

by Keith Simpson, Ministry Director, Lake Ivie Baptist Association

How's your heart? By this, I don't mean are you having heart problems, etc. By this I mean, how is your heart toward other people? Are you concerned about those around you and their faith condition? Greg Wallace, author of the 4XFour Evangelism training says, **"It is one thing to be lost, but it is another thing to be lost and know that no one is looking for you!"** How many lost/unchurched people are in our communities and no one is really looking for them? In the average Texas community, some 60%-65% of the people are lost. AND NO ONE IS LOOKING FOR THEM!! Therefore, in a town of 5,000, there are approximately 3,000-3,250 people in that community that do not know God, and our hearts are such that we seem to be unconcerned about these people. The number one killer of American Christianity today is APATHY. How many churches do you know that baptized NO ONE last year or maybe just a small percentage? The numbers will astound you, if you look at the statistics. Approximately 27% of Texas Baptist churches last year baptized NO ONE; another 25% baptized from 1-5 people; another 20 something per cent baptized 6-10 people, and only about 10% of our Texas churches baptized more than 10 people. Folks, it seems that we have forgotten about the Great Commission found in Matthew 28:19-20, **"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."** (NIV)

Maybe what our Texas churches need today is an old fashioned revival, not for those **outside** the church, but for those **inside** the church. We need to be revived, regenerated and rejuvenated in order to do the work that the Lord has impressed upon us. We have challenges all around us, we see lost people all around us, and we have opportunities all around us, and yet we seem to be oblivious to all this and we are content with "the way things are!" We can change the way things are if we will commit to sharing our faith one on one with someone who may need to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I would encourage all our churches to cast a new vision for 2017 that they will do more than ever before, that they will reach out to people in their community more so than before, and that we make a commitment to BE ALL THAT GOD WANTS US TO BE!

### Upcoming Events!

#### April

3<sup>rd</sup> Brady Breakfast  
10<sup>th</sup> Coleman Breakfast  
14<sup>th</sup> Good Friday (Office will be closed)  
16<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday  
17<sup>th</sup> Ballinger Breakfast  
20<sup>th</sup> Bunch Gathering- Bluff Creek 6pm  
30<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Singing

#### May

1<sup>st</sup> Brady Breakfast  
2<sup>nd</sup> Admin Team Meeting- Eden  
8<sup>th</sup> Coleman Breakfast  
14<sup>th</sup> Mother's Day  
15<sup>th</sup> Ballinger Breakfast  
16<sup>th</sup> Association Meeting- Mason  
29<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day (Office will be closed)  
\*\*REMINDER\*\*  
May will be the last month for Breakfast until September\*\*

#### Women of Faith

Quarterly Singing will be held at Millersview Baptist Church at 4:00 pm on April 30<sup>th</sup>. Refreshments Following

### Jesus Has Risen

24 On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. <sup>2</sup> They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. <sup>5</sup> In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup> He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: **Luke 24:1-6 NIV**



Please continue to be in prayer for our pastor-less churches:

El Cordero, Santa Anna  
First Baptist Church, Winters  
First Baptist Church, Bronte  
First Baptist Church, Ballinger  
First Baptist Church, Bronte

Keith Simpson  
Ministry Director  
P.O. Box 639 Ballinger, TX  
Cell: 325-456-0928  
Email: [keithsimpson47@gmail.com](mailto:keithsimpson47@gmail.com)

Starr Sims  
Ministry Assistant  
Office: 325-365-2585  
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Email: [lakeiviebaptist@yahoo.com](mailto:lakeiviebaptist@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.lakeiviebaptist.com](http://www.lakeiviebaptist.com)



# April 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Bill Burns
2 <i>Deacons meeting</i>	3 <i>LIBA Brady breakfast, 8:30, El Flamingo</i>	4 Sherry Cox Mabel Jones	5 Farion Morton	6 Robert Reeves	7 Austin Reeves	8 <i>Texas Baptist Men gathering, Early, 9:30</i> Charlie Elliott
	<i>Week of Prayer for North American Missions, Annie Armstrong Easter Offering</i>					
9 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	10 <i>Triple S, noon</i>	11 Raymond Tally Robby Paradise	12 <i>Youth theme dinner</i>	13 Becky Elliott	14 <i>Good Friday</i> Kevin McDonald Margaret Mitchell	15
16 <i>Easter Sunday</i> Mikayla Springer Jonathan Torres	17	18	19	20	21 <i>Food Pantry food distribution , 9:00-noon</i> <i>Youth lock-in</i> Billy Whitaker	22 Glenda Douglas Cy Nobles
23 <i>Business meeting, 5:00</i>	24 <i>Triple S, 5:30</i>	25	26	27	28	29
30 <i>Lord's Supper; Fellowship meal at noon</i> <i>Women of Faith quarterly singing at Millersview, 4:00</i> Beth Snowden, Carrie Pearson Toney Urban						

## Weekly Events

<b>Sunday</b>	
9:45 AM	Sunday School
10:50 AM	Morning Worship
6:00	Bible study
7:30	Sunday Night Hoops, FLC
<b>Monday</b>	
4:00	Ladies Bible study Mary Ballew's room at Brady West for now
6:30	CWJC, Building Men for Christ
<b>Wednesday</b>	
7:00 AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast Presbyterian Church
3:30	FLC open for youth
5:30-7:15	AWANA
6:00	Adult prayer meeting
6:30	Youth meal
7:00-8:00	Youth worship and Bible study
<b>Thursday</b>	
9:45-12:00	Food Pantry: donated food brought from Walmart to the church
2:00-3:30	Dorcas quilting ministry
7:00	Easter choir practice

## Greeters for April

April 2	Welman and Becky Bauer
April 9	Albert and Carrie Pearson
April 16	Betty Smith
April 23	Laurie Morton
April 30	Melanie and Jeremy Couvillion

## Deacons on call in April

Farion Morton	597-1965, 792-6596
David Munden	456-9029

Everyone is encouraged to attend the business meeting at 5:00 on April 23. At the March meeting it was suggested that all committee chairs give a report of what their committees are doing. This in the interest of better communication!

Thank you to Carol Bedwell and Debbie Nobles for painting the library and to Pat Matula, Betty Smith, Deryl Bishop, and Glenda Middleton for getting all the books labeled and in order.  
The church library is open to all. Come and borrow a good book!

The eaves of the main building are being repaired, replaced as needed, and repainted.  
Thank you to the Properties and Services committee for making this happen!

**Broadcasts on KNEL 95.3 FM**  
*Sunday morning:* live broadcast at 11:00 AM  
*Weekdays:* Morning Devotional at 7:45 AM  
April devotionals will be done by Randy Bedwell, Jeanagayle Behrens, Gerald Nobles, Claudette Young, and Debbie Nobles. Thank you!

Pray without ceasing. . .

The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.  
*Matthew 28:5-6*

- 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
  - AWANA
  - 2017 missions
- Joseph Aguirre  
Louise Baker  
Mary Ballew  
Nate Bernal  
David Bishop  
Matthew Bishop  
Frances Caraway  
Tina Durst Cellars  
Tammy Childs  
Sherry Cox
- Susan Davenport  
Aneta Doyal  
Joy Doyal  
Fayrene Easley  
Daltyn Farris  
Amy Faulkner  
Chelsea Fore  
Mindy Gober  
Chuck Green  
Holly Groves  
Donna Hutcheson  
Curtis and Genna Jennings  
Charles and Jerry Jordan  
Greg Jordan  
Mike Lowery  
Gary Matula  
Boyd and Billie Moore  
Carol Newport  
Brian and Judy Owen  
Gwen Ragsdale  
Dillon Roberts  
Allie Roddie  
Donna Rogers

- Joshua Rogers  
Rudy Rule  
Michael & Tanzee Shedd  
Edith Slaughter  
Joe Solis  
Tinsley Thompson  
Jane Tomlinson  
Lorene Trujillo  
Jack and Susan Turk  
Mackie Jo Walters  
Tess Warren  
Kay Dawn Wilson  
Dr. Darin Wood (pastor of FBC Midland)  
Ladonna Yoder
- In military:*  
Jon Bradshaw  
Howard Brown  
Brandon Haymon  
Talisha Hendley  
David Hernandez  
Jose Lopez

- Moses Marmolejo  
Concho Moore  
Brandon Pfannenstiel  
Jace Telford  
Joseph Telford  
Jonathan Torres  
Alisha Slone  
Wes Stark  
Daniel Virdell  
Justin Williams  
Ricky Williams, Jr.
- We extend sympathy to the families of Dewey Young, Fletcher Fields, Russell Slone, Stephanie Lafuente, Mary Beth Lewis, Charlie Fairchild, Jackie Currie, and to Shirley Nelson on the loss of her mother.

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



FIRST BAPTIST  
C H U R C H

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



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**Kay Curry**, Financial Secretary  
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Holly Stewart, our Preschool Director, was called out of town unexpectedly this week. Her column will return next month.

Easter choir is practicing!

A great group has been rehearsing special music for Easter Sunday. The choir will sing “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” by Stuart Townend, with the choral arrangement by Larry Shackley. Rehearsals are at 7:00 pm on Thursdays in the choir room. It is not too late to be a part of this group. All are welcome.

Dear First Baptist Church,  
Thank you for providing the Reserve Champion Breeding Rabbit buckle that I won at this year’s livestock show. I will wear it with pride and look forward to working hard next year to win another buckle.  
  
Sincerely,  
Madalyn Moelby

Texas Baptist Men event in Early on Saturday, April 8

You are invited to attend a Texas Baptist Men’s event on April 8 at the Heart of Texas Baptist Network, 1809 Early Blvd. in Early, beginning at 9:30 and ending with lunch. TBM volunteers will share information and testimonies about the ministries of TBM.

The Yellow Cap Disaster Relief training will be offered in the afternoon.  
Call 325-643-1348 (Heart of Texas Baptist Network) for more information and to RSVP.

Food Ministry Report  
March 2017

- Families: 88
- Adults: 96
- Children: 24
- Adults over 65: 22

Food distribution day for this month is April 21 from 9:00-12:00. This was moved to the third Friday this month because of Good Friday on the regular week.

