



The power of organized raindrops

by Dr. Kevin McDonald

Inundated. Overwhelmed. Devastated. The flood along the coast has used up all of our superlatives concerning natural disasters. It is difficult for me, having lived in west and central Texas most of my life, to comprehend the amount of water that is involved in this mega-disaster. But I do know what caused it.

Little drops of water. Trillions of trillions of trillions of raindrops are to blame. Break out the old exponents, boys and girls, dust off the scientific notation- we are talking numbers that end in more zeros than you can comprehend. Each and every one of those rain drops contributed to something bigger than themselves, and they made history. Not good history, but history nonetheless.

So many analogies, so little space to write them. Do I now write about all the seemingly insignificant choices you have made concerning your spiritual life, and how they have added up to make you the man or woman of God you are (or are not) now? So many little decisions to make everyday: to pray or not to pray, to worship or sleep in, to read your Bible or watch TV, to tithe or buy that new gizmo, to gossip or learn to tame your tongue?

Do I talk about the state of the nation, the church, or even this church, as each is the product of countless individual decisions? You know, the old “A journey of a thousand miles is begun (and composed of) a single step” cliché’.

I could, but I’m not. I will instead speak of solutions. Raindrops got us into this mess, and raindrops will get us out. The disaster along the coast will see the infusion of trillions of dollars. But forget the numbers you can’t wrap your head around. Instead, think of a box of diapers, some clean socks, a tube of toothpaste, a pair of clean pants or a shirt, a warm meal, or a hug and a prayer. Each one in and of itself is not much, almost a token effort, a frustrating reminder of how great the need is. Like a drop of rain during a drought. But we now know what a lot of organized raindrops can do.

We will begin collecting supplies for the folks along the coast. We can’t rebuild their houses (yet), and we can’t rescue them from the rooftops. But we can send them little things. And those little things will add up, and be an encouragement, reminding people who have lost so much that they matter, and are not forgotten, that they are not as alone as they might think. We can send them hope.

So let’s make it rain again on the coast. Let’s rain down God’s love on them with our prayers and our presence. Let’s join our efforts with lots of other small people, small towns, and small things. And God help us if we fail to appreciate the power of organized raindrops.

Bro. Kevin

Hurricane Harvey update from Texas Baptist Men, August 29, 10:30 pm

TBM has deployed Shower/Laundry units in support of shelters and volunteers to Angleton, LaGrange, San Antonio, Victoria and in support of Texas Task Force 1. An additional unit will be deployed to Katy on Thursday.

TBM has deployed feeding units primarily in support of first responders and shelters at Uvalde, Katy, Victoria, Angleton and in support of Texas Task Force 1. Additional units will deploy to the Woodlands on Wednesday.

TBM has deployed a childcare unit and chaplains to the Dallas Convention Center

TBM has deployed Assessors, Asset Protection and a Box unit to Victoria. Chainsaw units, and Heavy equipment units will deploy to Victoria later this week.

TBM mobile command post will be deployed on Wednesday to Victoria.

TBM has deployed a Flood Recovery unit and heavy equipment unit to Smithville.

Texas Baptist Men disaster relief has additional resources on Alert and will be deployed as the storm allows.

The TBM Disaster Operations Center (DOC) located in Dallas is operational.

TBM currently has 11 reporting sites where units are located or will be located with 22 units or teams in the field with 11 more units scheduled to deploy in the next few days. TBM currently has approximately 100 volunteers active in this response.



AWANA preparing for new year

Our Wednesday night Awana Clubs and mission organizations for children have a tentative start date of September 27.

However, several vacancies for adult leaders still exist.

We need leaders and helpers for Pre-K and kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade, and 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade. We also need people for food service and to lead the music and opening time in the sanctuary.

The Awana program has been an important part of our church and our outreach to the community for several years. Parents have already started calling to see when we will begin.

If you can help in any way, please sign up or talk to RaNon.

It takes a team to make this ministry happen. Please consider being a part.

Welcome new member

by letter

Cele Johnson

Proposed change in by-laws

This change in the church by-laws will be voted on at the September business meeting.

Current provision for Finance-Budget-Stewardship Committee: Organization: Three (3) members nominated by the Nominating Committee. The Church Treasurer, Bookkeeper, and Chairman of the Trustees will serve as ex-officio members of this committee.

Proposed change: Four (4) members will be nominated by the Nominating Committee. (Ex-officio members will stay the same.)

Supplies needed!

Along with the Lake Ivie Baptist Association, our church is collecting items for the people who have been devastated by the hurricane. We will be sending or taking supplies to hard-hit areas, or possibly using some supplies here, if we begin to receive evacuees at the FLC. Here is a list of possible donations:

non-perishable food
personal hygiene items
towels and wash cloths
baby food, wipes, diapers, and formula
blankets (clean or new)
cases of water
flashlights and batteries
sleeping bags, blow-up mattresses
sheets, pillows, and pillow cases
toiletries
feminine products
socks for adults and kids
sunscreen
trash bags
bug spray
fix-a-flat kits (plugs)
dryer sheets
hand sanitizer
\$10-\$25 VISA or HEB gift cards

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.

YOUTH GROUP WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Kids are allowed to begin arriving at the church/ family life building right after school! We will 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 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 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 will be 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.

School Activities - Football season is upon us as well as cross country and the new addition of volleyball! Can't wait to see all the kids that will be participating this year in athletics!

Summer!

Our summer was a busy one that started off with working the firework stand and raising \$2000 over Fourth of July for our youth group. The following week we headed to Mt. Lebanon for summer camp with 18 kids and had a blast all week! The speaker at the camp was Shane Pruitt and the worship was led by the Austin Stone worship team.

After a week of VBS the Midland Rec team joined 18-20 of our youth kids to put on a day camp at Richards Park. The most kids we had in one day was 90 and the least amount was 68! It was an amazing outreach.

The following week 4 of our kids teamed up with all the Midland Rec teams to do a day camp for the kids at the Paisano Encampment. It was a great experience for all that participated.

Upcoming Events

See You at the Pole - Wednesday September 27th.

We will be doing our "theme" dinners again starting in September so if you would like to help with food or decorations or financially it would be greatly appreciated! Remember, kids, to bring a dollar.

FCA Fields of Faith - October 11th

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



Keith's Connections
by Keith Simpson, Ministry Director, Lake Ivie Baptist Association

On August 19, we had a Strategic Planning Meeting in Coleman with 32 people in attendance from 19 different churches, to outline plans for the upcoming 2018 year. There were some 60+ ideas that we came up with and then we prioritized them in order of what participants thought were of most importance for us to address. Some of the items that migrated to the top of the list included discipleship strategies for smaller churches, deacon training, pastors and wives retreat, small group and Sunday school strategies, pastors leadership conference, pastor mentoring program, Bible study for pastors retreat, pastors wives support group, and better communication between the association and the churches. These are the top 10 needs, as determined by the strategic planning members and these are certainly things that we will address in the upcoming year.

Let me address the idea of better communication between the association and the churches first. We, at the office, send out a monthly newsletter that has details of ALL events coming up for the month, and we also send out email reminders about events that will be occurring in that month and the month to follow. Someone in each church is receiving this information, either the pastor or a lay person. If that information is not being shared with the local congregations, there is not much more that we can do. However, if you ever have a question about what is going on in the association, or questions about an upcoming event, please feel free to call the office at 325-365-2585, email us at lakeivebaptist@yahoo.com or call me at 325-456-0928 or email me at keithsimpson47@gmail.com and we will be more than glad to share that information with you. In addition, if you would like to be on the email list to receive this information, just call and we will put you on the email list.

Now on to more pressing matters. You know the destruction that has occurred around the Houston metroplex area and we have had churches calling asking where they might make donations. Texas Baptist Men are on site as the recovery is on-going, and they are feeding thousands every day. They also have trailers with showers in them, and they are aiding the hurricane victims in a huge way, as well as ministering to everyone who comes to be fed. You can go online to texasbaptistmen.org to give online, you may call Becky Majors at 214-275-1116 or can mail a check to Texas Baptist Men, 5351 Catron, Dallas, Tx 75227. Or if you would like to give to Samaritan's Purse (Franklin Graham's ministry), you can give online at samaritanspurse.org, call 828-262-1980 or mail a check to Samaritan's Purse, PO Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607. I am sure that there are many more opportunities to give through various other organizations, but these are the two that I would recommend as EVERY PENNY will be used EXCLUSIVELY to help those in need.

Remember that our Annual Meeting will be held on October 15, 2017 at North Coleman Baptist Church in Coleman. As usual, we will have the business meeting from 4:00-4:30 p.m., followed by 2 breakout sessions beginning at 4:30-5:15, then two more breakout sessions from 5:15-6:00, followed by a meal, then a worship service at 6:45 p.m. All are encouraged to attend. More on this in the next newsletter. May God continue to bless and keep you all.

Upcoming Events!

September

4th Office Closed Labor Day
9th Marriage Retreat- Mason (see attached flyer for info)
10th Trickham Union Church @ 6:00 pm
10th-13th Revival @ Millersview Baptist Church
11th Fellowship Breakfast- Coleman
12th Admin Team FBC, Eden @ 2:00pm
15th Annual Church Profiles Due back in LIBA office!!!!!!
18th Fellowship Breakfast- Ballinger
25th Fellowship Breakfast- Brady
27th SYATP Rally for all local participating schools.

October

2nd Brady Fellowship Breakfast
9th Coleman Fellowship Breakfast
15th LIBA Annual Meeting @ North Coleman
16th Ballinger Fellowship Breakfast

Fellowship Breakfasts will resume on September 11th. It has been decided, due to the financial constraints at Lake Ivie, that breakfast will now be paid for by each individual. (Due to Labor Day the Brady Breakfast has been moved to the last Monday in September)
The Normal Schedule will be:
Brady 1st Monday
Coleman 2nd Monday
Ballinger 3rd Monday

An Evening of Renewal or Recommitment

to your Spouse or Fiancé

Where: Premier Ranch (15379 Premier Ranch Rd, Mason TX)

When: Saturday September 9th from 2:00 pm – 8:00 pm

What: Biblical Marriage and Biblical roles of husbands and wives will be the focus

*Featuring Dr. Evan Lenow and wife Melanie

*Breakout sessions for both husbands and wives

*Couples of all ages welcome

*Childcare will be provided at First Baptist Church, Mason

*Meal will be provided

News from Godly Impressions Preschool and Child Care *by Holly Stewart, director*

Our Open House on Sunday, Aug. 20 was a huge success. We are officially ready for the new school year with a **completely full** preschool/daycare roster! I'd like to give a huge shout out to our AMAZING board members who worked tirelessly to prepare for this new year. Thank you Susan Turk, Carol Bedwell, Victoria Norrell and Ida Owens!

In September we will have fun learning about family and friends. Our Bible verse is "A friend loves at all times," Proverbs 17:17. On Sept. 15 we will be celebrating our grandparents with Grapes for Grandparents at 11:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

As always, if you would like to be involved in Godly Impressions in any way — by substituting, by reading to our children, through monetary donations, or some other way — please let me know. And, of course, we covet your prayers as we pour into our future generations.

In His Service,
Holly Stewart, Director
Godly Impressions



The Godly Impressions Gang—front row (left to right): Holly Stewart, Kwana Cole, Jennifer Asbill, Mary Ann Wilton, Dana Walker, Sue Tripp and Crystal Slaughter; back row: Staci Norvell, Misty Urban, Genisha Spencer, Drea Torrez, Krissy Morton and Jessica Evans.

“Connecting kids to the love of Christ through Godly impressions”



September 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Welman Bauer	2 Aberdeen Jeschke Mia Alonzo
3	4	5	6	7 Mackie Ranne Joyce Collier	8 Raymond Torres Food Pantry food distribution, 9:00-12:00	9
10 Virgil Middleton Baptismal service Deacons meeting	11 Joshua Torres Triple S, noon	12	13	14	15 Jody McKay	16 Sue Tucker
	Week of Prayer for Texas Missions, Mary Hill Davis Offering Our offering goal: \$2000					
17 Rodney Simmons Business meeting	18	19	20	21	22 Serena Alexander Laurie Morton	23 Judy Owen Judy Oden
24 Gregory Torres Sharon McDonald	25 LIBA Fellowship breakfast Triple S, 5:30	26 Gracie Galindo	27 See You at the Pole AWANA begins	28	29	30

Food Ministry Report

August 2017

- Families: 138
- Adults: 172
- Children: 66
- Adults over 65: 32

Food distribution day for this month is September 8 from 9:00-12:00. All volunteers are welcome and needed.

Weekly Events

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

Monday
4:00 Prayer meeting at Mary Ballew’s

Wednesday
7:00 AM Men’s Prayer Breakfast
Presbyterian Church
5:30-7:15 Awana (begins 9-27)
6:00 Adult prayer meeting
6:30-8:00 Youth group

Thursday
9:45-12:00 Food Pantry: donated food brought from Walmart, sorted, and stored
2:00-3:30 Dorcas quilting ministry

Deacons on call in September
George Matula 792-8609, 792-8611
James Mallow 597-2373, 456-6988

Greeters for September

Sept. 3 Bobby and Bobbie Williams
Sept. 10 Jackie Maxcey and Joyce Hollingsworth
Sept. 17 Tim and Ida Owens
Sept. 27 Jerry and RaNon Caraway

Broadcasts on KNEL 95.3 FM

Sunday morning: live broadcast at 11:00 AM
Weekdays: Morning Devotional at 7:45 AM
September devotion-als will be done by Joyce Collier, Becky Bauer, Velma Hendley, and Becky Martin. Thank you!

Pray without
ceasing. . .

The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer;
my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.
Psalm 18:2a

- Everyone affected by Hurricane Harvey
- 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
- McKenna’s mission trip to Uganda

Terry and Serena Alexander
Louise Baker
Al and Dorothy Bishop
Deryl Bishop
Sherry Cox
Susan Davenport

Charlie and Maria Garcia
Larry Garcia
Casey Flake
Linda Granberry
Holly Groves
Janis Groves
Tony Groves
Curtis and Genna Jennings
Charles and Jerry Jordan
Janie Lowery
Mike Lowery
Betty McMillan
Harold Nesbitt
Carol Newport
Mike Pagett
Brianna Patton
Brantey Patton
Gwen Ragsdale
Dillon Roberts
Edith Slaughter

Tinsley Thompson
Jackson Tijerina
Jane Tomlinson
Marvin and Sue Tucker
Jack and Susan Turk
Harold Underwood
Mackie Jo Walters
Tess Warren
Jane Whittemore
Joyce Wilson
Kay Dawn Wilson
Jane Wortham

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 Grace Mains, Gary Matula, and Martin Whitaker.

The newsletter is available on the church website: 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
C H U R C H

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

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Jerry Caraway, Maintenance Supervisor
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godlyimpressionsfbc@gmail.com
Norma Ridout, Pianist
Deryl Bishop, Organist
Becky Martin, newsletter and website editor
456-1256
becky@scottmartin.net

Thank you, fellow church members,
for the generosity of ham and chicken
for the meal you provided for all of us
following David’s service. Thank you
for your love and friendship through
the years.

Love,
Deryl Bishop and family

McKenna’s mission trip

McKenna Brandenberger will be going on a two-month mission trip to Uganda beginning this month. She will be working in an orphanage.
If you would like to help with her expenses, you can give a donation through the church office. Also, McKenna is selling T-shirts as a fundraiser. Call her at 456-2294 for more information.

This quilt made by the Dorcas Quilting Ministry was recently given to Charlie, Maria, and Larry Garcia, who experienced a house fire this summer. Alice Young, Lois Patton, Bobbie Williams, Carol Henderson, Becky Martin, Tina Young, Janie Lowery, Irene Riley, and Doniene Fullagar all helped make this sampler quilt.
The quilting group meets on Thursday afternoons from 2:00 to 3:30. Everyone is welcome!

