



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

newsletter

FBC Brady, TX
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<http://www.fbcbrady.org>

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Message From The Pastor: *Reflections on Lent*

by Jeff Quattlebaum, senior pastor

In the game of basketball, things change much more quickly than in football. Partly because there are three-point shots; partly because of the trumping effect of last second foul shots; partly because the basketball court is still the same size it's always been while players are now all seven feet tall, weigh 250 pounds and can dunk from the free throw line. The score, the balance of power, in any game seems as though it can change in an instant. In basketball, two minutes left on the clock is an eternity. Entire games are played, entire lifetimes are lived, in those last two minutes. Unless your team is down by more than 20 points, you still have a chance in the game. That's why the most nail-biting, hair-raising, ulcerating, blood-pressure moments in sports are in the last 10 seconds of a neck and neck basketball game. In the last few seconds of a one-point game the test becomes not of skill, or style, or strength. No, at that point everything comes down to *timing*.

In the big game of life timing is everything. Does anyone doubt the devil's timing when he arrived to accompany Jesus after forty days and forty nights of fasting in the wilderness? Jesus was exhausted, hungry, alone, tired, and wobbly. The devil wrongly calculated that he (Jesus) would be a perfect victim. But his timing is often perfect when he tempts us.

In the church calendar, we are in a season that is called Lent. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and it spans 40 days leading up to Easter Sunday (not counting Sundays). During these 40 days of Lent the church has historically sought to join Jesus in the wilderness. Lent is the season of repentance, prayer, and preparation. Some people give up something for Lent as a way to renew their dependence on Jesus. Who would have thought in the past few days we would be fasting from electricity and running water?

A.W. Tozer once said, "Whatever keeps me from my Bible is my enemy, however harmless it may appear to be. Whatever engages my attention when I should be meditating on God and things eternal does injury to my soul. Let the cares of life crowd out the Scriptures from my mind and I have suffered loss where I can least afford it. Let me accept anything else in the Scriptures and I have been cheated and robbed to my eternal confusion." The Bible says Joshua 1:8, "*Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.*" David tells us in Psalm 19:14, "*May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.*"

In this season of Lent and time of remembering what Jesus did on the cross for you and me, what is holding us captive from drawing close to Jesus? In this season I challenge you to give up 10 to 15 minutes of sleep and use that time in prayer, Bible Study, and personal devotion. In the early 1990's Kelly Carpenter wrote a simple worship song titled Draw Me Close and let this be our prayer this season in Lent:

*Draw me close to You, never let me go.
I lay it all down again to hear You say that I'm Your friend.
You are my desire, no one else will do,
'Cause nothing else could take Your place; to feel the warmth of Your embrace
Help me find the way, bring me back to You.
You're all I want, You're all I ever needed.
You're all I want; help me know you are near.*

God Bless!
Pastor Jeff

March 2021 at First Baptist Brady

—*from Marsha Gainer and the Children’s Ministry Team*

Our BAM February activities did not work out as we had planned, but we are thankful for God’s love and protection. March brings new hope for a wonderful spring. We will be planning for our Easter Egg Hunt and will need filled eggs towards the end of March. We will begin a rotation for Children’s Church in March. If you can serve a Sunday in this rotation, please contact Marsha Gainer or Betty Smith. Thank you for your support and prayers for our wonderful children!

Love, Marsha Gainer

—*from Karen Behrens and the Music Team*

February was full of firsts for many I am sure. With the weather causing us to be without power and water, it sure put a strain on things. I was so glad to hear of the stories of those that our church provided for during this time. I look forward to seeing what other ways we may help those in need here in our community.

We will begin practice for our Easter Choir on Wednesday, March 3rd, at 7pm. I look forward to seeing everyone there at practice. We encourage anyone with song suggestions for our church services to submit those to our music team as well. We look forward to seeing each of you on Sunday mornings.

In Christ’s love, Karen

—*from Betty Smith and the Missions Team*

FBC continues to have ongoing mission opportunities we can all be involved in. Again a good load of items was delivered to **The Haven** this month. Thank you for your contributions. RaNon continues to have participants in our **Christian Women’s Job Corps** with the Parenting Class. She has one now with the possibility of a new one coming soon. Be sure to read George Matula’s **Food Pantry** report below. Thanks to Joyce Scott and Bro. Jeff who made it possible for our church to provide a box meal to about 20 folks who were housed in a motel by the **Salvation Army** during the extreme weather last week. Remember to bring your encouraging cards to the church for us to give to those in the **hospital**. After a break from collecting mission offerings, the **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions** is right around the corner. March 7-14 is the Week Of Prayer. Our church goal is set for \$2,000. Thank you for your support of mission causes. As our weather warms up—hopefully—so will opportunities. Let’s be ready.

—*from George Matula and the Food Pantry ministry:*

Food distribution from the food pantry was canceled for February 12th due to icy conditions. We did not want our clients or volunteers to get hurt and re-scheduled for February 19th. We braved the cold and distributed 80 adult boxes and 10 children’s boxes on the 19th because we knew our clients were in need.

- **March Food Pantry** will be Friday morning, March 12, drive-through only, 9:00-11:00.
- **March radio spots** will be done by Joyce Scott (1-5), Jeanagayle Behrens (8-12), Velma Hendley (15-19), Misty Quattlebaum (22-26), and George Matula (29-April 2).
- **Deacons on call in March** are Buddy Cox (325-240-9764) and Farion Morton (325-240-9791).

from Ashlee Shaw, Godly Impressions Preschool director

Our theme this month is “Cars, Planes, and Trains” and our verse is, “*The Lord your God is with you wherever you go,*” Joshua 1:9. Our hope for these sweet children is that they know no matter how far they travel, whether by car, plane, or train, they know God is beside them! During March we will also be focusing on the color red, letter Z, numbers 1-3, and the shape of an octagon.

During the next few weeks as we observe Lent and are in the days leading up to Easter, many people will make a commitment to give up or abstain from a certain item that they place value on, such as sweet treats or the use of technology/social media, etc. The goal is to use that time that you usually spend on those things to draw near to Christ. As I went through the list of things that I would find hard to part from, I wondered what it would look like to give up something that wasn’t material, something that I didn’t have to let back in my life after the 40 days. I wondered what it was like to give up trying to get in the last word in an argument, to give up my spot in the grocery line to someone who is in a rush, to give up more of my time and spend it on and with others. If the goal is to look more like Christ because I spent more time with Him, then how much more could I move toward that goal by also acting like Him?

This could easily be a time where we focus on the things we are missing out on, but I think that misses the big picture. We are called to be imitators of God (Ephesians 5:1) not just by what we give up but what we do afterwards. Jesus demonstrates this perfectly in Matthew 16:14: “*Deny yourself, pick up your cross, and follow me.*” First we have to give up something before we can gain anything, and lastly we have to put it into action and let it change us.

So I challenge you for the next few weeks to find something to give up that isn’t just physical, whether it’s your comfort, time, or skills.

And remember it’s not just about denying yourself but how you let the experience change you as a result.

Blessings, Ashlee





They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship,
to the breaking of bread and to prayer.
Acts 2:42

- Bro. Jeff Quattlebaum, Misty, Regan, and Sam
- All health care workers; local, state, and national leaders; school administrators, teachers, and staff; and missionaries
- All who have Covid-19
- our church staff and ministries
- our members in the nursing homes and our homebound members
- the lost and unchurched in our community
- Brady children & youth
- the Navajo Nation

Wyatt & Francisca Anderson
Marshall Armstrong

Don and Lucy Baughn
Holden Bedwell
Amelia Britteon
Bill Burns
Sherry Cox
Glen Douglas
Glenda Douglas
Shelton & Chere Durst
Barbara Fields
Charlie and Maria Garcia
Tony, Janis, & Holly Groves
Nita Groves
Roy Guthrie
Betty Henderson
Ronnie Holloway
Riley Jacobs
Curtis and Genna Jennings
Leslie Jones
Rex Joslin
Janie Lowery
James Mallow
Jennifer McAnally

Ericka Moore
Louise Morrow
Alisa & Brayden Morton
Justin Norris
Lois Patton
Felix Ramirez
Norma Ridout
James & Anna Richards
Tristan Rodriguez
Kelly Rushfeldt
Mike and Tanzee Shedd
Edith Slaughter
Madison Slaughter
Kathy Stanley
Jack and Susan Turk
Harold Underwood
Sherry Vensen
Becky and Ed Weber
Linda Wall
Megan Wall
Mackie Jo Walters
Bobby Williams, Jr.

Coleman Williams
Joe Wills

In military:
Jon Bradshaw
Brandon Haymon
David Hernandez
Jose Lopez
Moses Marmolejo
Jennifer McAnally
Concho Moore
Brandon Pfannenstiel
Jace Telford
Joseph Telford
Jonathan Torres
Wes Stark
Justin Williams
Ricky Williams, Jr.

We pray for comfort for the families of Betty Sargent and Matt Popnoe.

First Baptist Church Brady, Texas

The newsletter is available on the church website: fcbbrady.org. If you would like a reminder of when it is posted each month, send your email address to Becky Martin: becky@scottmartin.net.
Print copies are available at the church and can be mailed on request.

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“Don’t you yourselves know that you are God’s temple and that the Spirit of God lives in you?”
1 Corinthians 3:16 (CSB)
Memory verse for March



Operation Christmas Child goal for this year: 150 boxes. We will be collecting certain items each month to fill the boxes in November.
For March: bouncy balls and small stuffed animals

For your calendar
March 1: LIBA breakfast, Down Home Country Cooking, 8:30
March 3, 7:00: first Easter choir rehearsal
March 7-14: Week of Prayer for North American Missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
March 12, 9-11: Food Pantry food distribution
March 21, 4:00: Church council meeting
March 28, 5:00: Business meeting

March birthdays
1 Jackie Behrens
4 Darlene Friar, Becky Martin
5 Wanda Burns
12 Bobbie Williams
22 Jeanine Willis
26 Misty Quattlebaum
27 Bobby Williams



We welcome (back!) new member Harold Underwood.
We also welcome new deacon, Buddy Cox, who served as deacon in his previous church, First Baptist Silsbee.