



**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 be-*  
*yond*

**newsletter**  
**FBC Brady, TX**  
**325-597-2956**  
<http://www.fbcbrady.org>  
**Vol. 25, No. 12**

God is at Work!

What a beautiful time to be here at Brady, Texas. As my first time here during the fall, I am shocked having only worn my sweater once, but I have enjoyed this beautiful weather. Although it might be hard to know whether it’s going to be hot or stay cold, it is still so amazing that all of this is in control of our Father in Heaven. I mean just stop and thinking about that for just a minute, every little detail is known and decided by God. Something as mind blowing as what the weather is going to be, to your life and mine, God is at work!

We could say the same thing about our church, God is at work! In the smallest of details to even the biggest, God is at work! For that, we should be thankful for in this season where we get to celebrate a holiday called “Thanksgiving.” In many ways, let this be a gentle reminder of what you are thankful for. I know to some, this has been a hard year, maybe even a hard season, and amid all the mess, you cannot find what you are thankful for. If that’s you, I want you to know, we have all been there, when things just look so hopeless, when things look so messy, that you read something like this and just say, “if only they knew…”

Deuteronomy 31:8 says, “*It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.*” One thing we could always count on is that the Lord goes before us and it is the Lord who gives us strength and the mindset to make it through. Rejoice today, that the Lord is with you and it is the Lord who goes before you. Why? Because God is at work! You see, for the past year, God has been at work at FBC Brady. We have seen our highs, we have seen our lows, and through it all, God has been and is still at work!

My encouragement to you today is that you find how God has been at work in your life and even in our church and you rejoice in that. There is so much to write out but I will keep it short for the sake of this article. We had an amazing VBS, we have had great fellowship game nights and great fellowship lunches. We got to throw our Fall Festival where we got to see more than 300 come through the doors of our church. We got to celebrate birthdays and celebrate a new beginning. This is just a glimpse, this is just the start of what God has in store for 2025. Remember today, God is at work! Don’t focus on the bad, focus on the good today. Stay humble, stay active, be thankful, and rejoice daily for the Lord goes before us and is truly at work here at First Baptist Church of Brady.

*Pastor Christian Garcia*

Firm Foundation

Our FBC Brady youth team is proud to say we’ve been able to begin to cultivate a relationship with our youth in Brady. We’ve been able to attend FCA fellowships and also invite our youth from Rochelle for lunch to build a firm foundation of care, trust, and love with them. Our hope is by doing this, we will spread the love of God into the schools and into the hearts of the youth. With many more challenges competing with the church, it’s important that we rise as a church and invest into the next generation.

The youth are the future of our church and the next generation of leaders. May we be faithful in this opportunity the Lord has given First Baptist Church of Brady to invest, love, and pour into our youth. Be in prayer for us as we continue to develop vision but also be in prayer for our youth.

*Priscilla Garcia, Youth Team Lead*

For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
Of the greatness of his government and peace  
there will be no end.

He will reign on David’s throne  
and over his kingdom,  
establishing and upholding it  
with justice and righteousness  
from that time on and forever.  
The zeal of the LORD Almighty  
will accomplish this.  
Isaiah 9:6-7

## The Ministry of Hospitality

by Judy Mitzel, Church Hostess

*Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; His love endures forever.*

Psalm 118:1

As we celebrated a time for thankfulness through fellowship together on November 17, we said farewell to longtime members Jerry and RaNon Caraway. They left a forever memory in our hearts and lives at FBC Brady. Goodness, what an outpouring of love was shown through this couple. We wish them only the best. Special thanks to Destiny (the Caraways' daughter) for the photos and to Valerie Gonzalez for the video in their honor that was played during the meal.

Our celebration of thankfulness was full of a variety of foods from customary/usual to different. It was enjoyed by everyone. You know when the dish is "spoon clean" that it was good. We had a bunch of spoon-clean dishes. Thank you, church—the cooks, decorators, and workers. It is amazing how God works through our celebration of His love. We passed out thankful notes and the most popular answer was "family and church." And of course we had to throw in some humor. Thank you for taking the joking well as we all had a laugh or two. . . or three.

Special mention to Linda Torres and Mary Leamons for cooking, cleaning, and running errands. It is amazing to watch these ladies in the kitchen. Thank you to Shelly Torres for serving desserts and to Laura and Ed Alsop and Toney Urban for serving the drinks, along with decorating, serving, and dealing with maintenance issues. Your Hospitality Team is committed to serving with a servant's heart and an attitude of our Savior's love and compassion towards others.

If you missed this celebration we missed you and know that there will be another opportunity this month as on Saturday, Nov. 30, everyone is invited to decorate for Christmas and enjoy a pizza lunch. Then on Dec. 15 we will have a Casserole Christmas lunch following our Cantata service. Sign-up sheet for food is in the west foyer.

Finally, we are already getting ready for the New Year with a new vision. We look forward to rejoicing in God's grace in love through fellowship with one another.

*May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had.*

Romans 15:5



## Looking back at 2024

### Children's Ministry

by Marsha Gainer

Honorary Children's

Ministry Director

The Children's ministry has had a busy and glorious 2024. Our program has been focused on reaching as many children as we possibly could with the love of Jesus.

- Our mini-camps have provided many children with the opportunity to experience the gospel in a fun and inviting atmosphere.
- The church put on an amazing VBS for all Brady children. We had commitments made to follow Jesus by all the older children.
- Our Sunday school has grown and opened a new class for the 4-5-year-olds.
- The church gave the community a wonderful Fall Family Festival which was a great outpouring of our love to Brady.

We have one more big event, Camp Christmas, on December 13 from 1-4. Then we will begin a new year focused again on sharing our Savior Jesus with all!

Looking back at everything First Baptist did this year, we see a church with a heart for children. Thank you for all the hours of work, prayers, and donations! The children will remember all you have done for them as they grow and flourish in their walk with God!



Dear Church Family,

Jerry and I want to thank you so much for the service you all had for us. We were so blessed, and we love each one of you. So many sweet memories have turned over and over in our minds. We will truly miss each one of you.

God bless y'all, and know we are watching online until we find a church home.

Love, love, love to each of you,

Jerry and RaNon Caraway

New address:

Jerry and RaNon Caraway  
397 PR 4650  
Boyd, TX 76023



Dear Pastor Christian and Church Brotherhood,

I want to thank you for this great gift given to Kingdom Kinetics. This money was used to redo a well in Nigeria that was never cased and had caved in. Now it is fully functional and serving the community with water.

This community has expressed their sincere gratitude for this gift.

We sincerely appreciate this gift to the Lord,

Sincerely,

Don Fawcett

## Operation Christmas Child report

We loaded and Clifford Crouch delivered 84 shoeboxes! 47 were from us and 37 were from the Melvin Bible Church.

Thanks, everyone!



## Peace Has Come! Christmas Cantata Sunday, December 15

Let's fill the sanctuary on December 15 to worship and celebrate through this beautiful cantata.

Two rehearsals remain: Dec. 4 and 11.

That day after service we will have "Casserole Christmas," a festive fellowship meal in Fellowship Hall.



## Let's Go Caroling

On Thursday, December 19 at 5:30, we'll meet at the church to go caroling. Please come! You don't have to be a great singer! Just come and enjoy the good time together. We'll make stops at Brady West and Royal Oaks and points in between.

Please let Karen or the church office know if you plan to participate so we'll know if we need one or two trailers.





Happy Birthday!

December

- 1 Jackie Maxcey
- 9 Lois Patton
- 5 Khalila Gonzalez
- 11 RaNon Caraway
- 15 Jerry Caraway
- 18 Rhonda Capps
- 18 Roy Guthrie
- 21 James Ridout
- 21 Josh Day
- 28 Mary Ann Wilton

Deacons on call  
in December

Rusty Capps: 325-347-4974  
George Matula: 325-792-8611

Weekly Ministries

**Sunday:** Sunday School at 9:45, worship at 11:00

**Wednesday:** Men’s Bible study, 6:00; cantata practice,  
Dec. 4 and 11, 6:00

November Food Pantry

Adult boxes	80
Children’s boxes	16
Adults over 65	39
Adults under 65	85
Children	32
Total Clients:	156

December radio spots

2-6: Valerie Gonzalez  
9-13: Marsha Gainer  
16-20: Kay Holloway  
23-27: Judy Mitzel  
30-3: Jeanagayle Behrens  
On KNEL radio, 7:45 weekday mornings

For your calendar

**Nov. 30:** Decorate church for Christmas (9:00), pizza provided for lunch

**Dec. 1-8:** Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

**Dec. 2:** LIBA breakfast, Sandy’s Kitchen, 8:30

**Dec. 12:** Royal Oaks meal, 5:00

**Dec. 13:** Food Pantry Christmas reception and food distribution, 9:00-11:00; Camp Christmas, 1:00-4:00

**Dec. 15:** Christmas Cantata and fellowship meal (ham, meat casseroles, veggies, and desserts).

**Dec. 19:** Christmas caroling and fellowship, 6:00

**Dec. 22:** Sweater Sunday; children will sing

**Dec. 24:** Christmas Eve service, 6:00

**Dec. 29:** Vision Sunday



Cookies are needed for the Food Pantry Christmas reception on Dec. 13. Please bake—or buy!



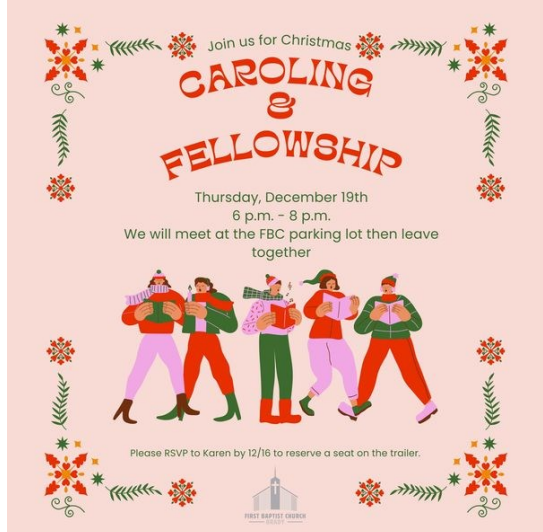
The Great Pursuit:  
Reaching the Nations.  
Together.

Lottie Moon Christmas  
Offering

Our goal: \$2000



In this busy season, please don’t forget the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions. Our church’s goal for the offering is \$2000. (Last year we exceeded it: \$2152.00.) The Lottie Moon mailboxes are in place in the west hall. You can “mail” Christmas cards to your church family by simply placing your cards in the alphabetical slots. The money you save on postage? Consider donating it to the Lottie Moon Offering. Please pray and give as we support missions around the world.





The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.  
*Isaiah 9:2 NIV*

December Prayer List

- Christian, Priscilla, Zoe, Liana, and Elijah Garcia
  - T.J. & Katie Beth Stroudt, Harlem Community Church in NY
  - Johnstone & Irene Magomana
  - Britton and McKenna Forney
  - our members in care facilities and our homebound members
  - the lost and unchurched in our community
  - the youth of Brady and worldwide
  - the homeless in Brady

Rhonda Aguirre  
Jackie Behrens  
Holden Bedwell  
Beverly Bigby & Stephanie Pyle  
Jerry & RaNon Caraway  
Cristobal Castillo  
Sherry Cox  
Sue Crow  
Carma Eary
- Nicole Fish & Bruce Van Houten  
Linda Flint  
Charlie & Maria Garcia  
Elias Garcia  
Holly Groves  
Janis Groves  
Melanie Groves  
Roy and Janet Guthrie  
Janabeth & Charles Hanson  
Curtis and Genna Jennings  
Jenny, Chris, Luke, & Elle Jones  
Frankie Leamons  
Janie Lowery  
James Mallow  
Brenda Mennis  
Glenda Middleton  
Gary Mitzel  
Lois Patton  
Carole Ramsey  
James & Norma Ridout  
Joyce Scott  
Rhoda Shannon  
Avanell Siler  
Jerlene Smith  
Wendy Smith
- Jake Trevino  
Jack and Susan Turk  
Harold Underwood  
Josie Waldron  
Linda Wall  
Gene Walton  
Addie Jo Webster  
Bobby and Bobbie Williams  
Debbie Winkle  
Claudette Young

*In military:*  
Jon Bradshaw  
C.J. Gonzalez  
Jennifer McAnally  
Brandon Pfannenstiel  
Christian Pittman  
Jace Telford  
Jonathan Torres  
Ricky Williams, Jr.

family of Amy Faulkner

<p>First Baptist Church 325-597-2956 1103 W. 17<sup>th</sup> St. Brady, TX 76825 <a href="http://www.fbcbrady.org">http://www.fbcbrady.org</a> <a href="mailto:bradyfbc@gmail.com">bradyfbc@gmail.com</a> <b>Christian Garcia</b>, Pastor 915-356-9130 <a href="mailto:christian@fbcbrady.com">christian@fbcbrady.com</a> <b>Karen Behrens</b>, Music Leader <b>Vickie Roddie</b>, Acting Financial Secretary <b>Becky Martin</b>, newsletter and website editor 325-456-1256 <a href="mailto:becky@scottmartin.net">becky@scottmartin.net</a></p>	<p>The newsletter is available on the church website: <a href="http://fbcbrady.org">fbcbrady.org</a>. If you would like a reminder of when it is posted each month, send your email address to Becky Martin: <a href="mailto:becky@scottmartin.net">becky@scottmartin.net</a>. Print copies are always available at the church and can be mailed on request.</p>
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<sup>19</sup> Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, <sup>20</sup> built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. <sup>21</sup> In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup> And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.  
*Ephesians 2:19-22 NIV*

First Baptist Church  
Brady, Texas