# First Baptist Church, Brady, Texas



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 November 2024
newsletter
FBC Brady, TX
325-597-2956
http://www.fbcbrady.org
Vol. 25, No. 11

#### **Producing More Fruit**

There is something exciting about seeing something grow into what it was designed to do. While in Washington D.C., I got into gardening and grew my first garden with different vegetables. I remember when I put the seeds into the ground, watering it daily multiple times, caring for the garden, and just watching the growth day after day. If you are one that wants results quick, gardening might not be your thing; but for those who enjoy a slow process, you will find a lot of beauty in this.

At first, it seems like you are watering nothing; there is nothing to show for all the work that you put in. Then suddenly, one day you will see a plant sneak its way through the soil. Then you watch it grow and grow. One thing that is important is to make sure you prune the plants, taking away the dead parts so that you continue to grow the plants, and before you know it, these plants begin to produce the very thing they were called to produce.

As I look back at these past two months of our time here with you guys, you could sense the excitement, the unity, and the willingness to go forward. In my eyes, I feel like we have sneaked our way through the soil. As we continue to grow, we must continue to allow God to prune each one of us individually. The verse that God has instilled into my heart for this season is found in John 15:1-2. It states, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful." (NIV)

The pruning process could be hard, but what we must remember is that God prunes not to cause us pain, but rather so we could produce even more fruit as individuals and then as a church. We welcomed the fall with our fall festival, along with our FLEX Friday camps, and that is just a glimpse of what is to come. My prayer for us as a church is that we abide in Him, that we go through this pruning process, and that our lives produce the very fruit we were called to produce. Get ready, FBC, for the plan God has for us is very exciting and I am honored to do this life alongside you!

Pastor Christian Garcia

#### **New Vision**

We are so excited to announce the new vision we have for our youth. We want to thank Vickie for the work she has done.

We begin our new way forward with our focus on utilizing our Family Life Center to bring our youth in. Our goal is to build and equip mature Christ followers. We meet with a purpose of leading and bringing people to Jesus Christ. In a world that has played tug-a-war with our youth, we are hoping to be the positive influence for our youth in this community.

As a church, it is important that we continue to focus and pour into our youth. We ask for your prayers, for both our leaders and students, that we build a familial and safe space for everyone! Pray that God continues to guide us and provide a way for us to bring more youth into our church.

Priscilla Garcia, Youth Team Lead







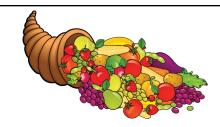
## FBC Fellowship at its best

by Judy Mitzel, Church Hostess

The FBC Hospitality Team is committed to having a servant's heart, to be humble before God, to love and serve others. We are so excited to be fully staffed as we welcome our new members—Laura Alsop, Mary Leamons, and Toney Urban—joining our ongoing staff of Linda Torres (team lead), Shelly Torres, Oralia Barrera, Pete Barrera (volunteer), and Judy Mitzel (church hostess).

October brought a year-long celebration of birthdays. On October 13 our church celebrated "Birthday Bash," which was a blast. We are so fortunate and thankful for those that participated by decorating, setting up, taking down, bringing food, and/or attending. If you were unable to attend, we missed you and look forward to seeing you at our next adventure.

Speaking of the next celebration, it will be Thanksgiving lunch on Sunday, November 17. How thankful we are to serve a risen Savior who is instrumental in our daily routines and lives. Please come celebrate with us as we show God's love be being His church this Thanksgiving.



# FBC Teamwork in action at Fall Family Festival

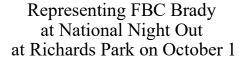
by Marsha Gainer Honorary Children's Ministry Director

The Fall Family Festival was an amazing success. We were able to provide a wonderful evening for a great number of children and their families! First Baptist really stepped up to provide cakes, candy, toys, and door prizes. First Baptist, your love and generosity touched the hearts of all involved. Thank you so much.

To the people who donated your time and heroic efforts, congratulations on a job well done. Each facet of operation from publicizing the event, setregistration, ting food, up, games, Go Fishing, cake walk, candy bar walk, pumpkin and face painting, photo booth, door prizes, costume contest, maintaining tickets and candy bowls, Fall Store, the delivery of take home bags, and clean up--all took Herculean efforts. It took basically the whole church.

Praise God who provided the right people at the right time. The Rochelle students who painted the parking lot, cleaned the Family Life Center, and set up the games on Thursday before the event were delightful to meet and work with and never complained or tired. They were definitely an answer to prayers!









You belong here!

# **Interesting Numbers from** Fall Festival

**30:** 30 or more volunteers ran all aspects of the event.

**100:** We gave away 100 bags (one per family) with info about the church.

**40:** More than 40 donated cakes and other goodies were given away in the Cake Walk.

**About 60:** Number of pumpkins painted

**184:** Number of hot dogs served

**100:** Over 100 large pieces of candy were given away to winners of the Candy Bar Walk.

And a **countless number** of folks donated hundreds if not thousands of pieces of candy, many dozens of toys, and a table-full of door prizes.

**200, possibly 300:** Total attendance. Too many to count!



#### Cantata Plans

It's that time of year again! That is right, it is time to prepare for the Christmas Cantata. We will start our choir rehearsal on Wednesday, November 6, at 7:00 pm.

This year we will be presenting *Peace Has Come* on Sunday, December 15, during the church service. We are all very excited to have a wonderful service.

Also on Thursday, December 19, at 5:30 pm, we will have our annual Christmas hay ride where we sing Christmas carols around the Heart of Texas. This is always a fun time and we invite everyone to come and enjoy the night with us.

Blessings, Karen Behrens, Worship Leader



# How Do You Measure a Church? by George Matula

Six thousand eight hundred eighty-six Sundays Six thousand eight hundred eighty-six Sundays so dear Six thousand eight hundred eighty-six Sundays How do you measure, measure a Church of 132 years?

In salvations, in conversions In blessing, in missions In works, in giving In gladness, in strife.

Six thousand eight hundred eighty-six Sundays How do you measure a Church's life?

How about God's love?
How about the founding members' love?
How about our love?
Measure in love,
Measure all the love.
132 years of love!
Six thousand eight hundred eighty-six Sundays
Six thousand eight hundred eighty-six Sundays to hear
Six thousand eight hundred eighty-six Sundays
How do you measure the life
After one hundred thirty-two years?

In sermons that were preached Or humns that were sung. The hearts that were reached And the tithes that were brung.

In six thousand eight hundred eighty-six Sundays What is the measure of a Church's life?

God will measure the love, He will remember the love.

Remember the love. Let us measure this life in love.

Note: George Matula wrote this poem for Heritage Weekend, May 4-5, 2019.

The church was founded in November of 1887. That's 7,115 Sundays now.

As George said, measure the love.



We can take a few days off after the Fall Festival, but November Flex days will be held on November 1st and 15th from 1-4 pm. The theme is Thankful Hearts. Camp Christmas will follow on December 13.

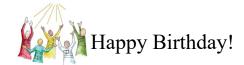
Thank you so much for giving us the opportunity to work with your children.

-Ms. Marsha

At right: some of the volunteers at the Fall Family Festival on October 26, pictured at the fun Photo Booth.

This wasn't everyone. There were too many moving parts for a complete group picture!





#### November

- 1 Lucie Martin, Nicole Fish
- 3 Buz Roddie
- 8 Vickie Roddie
- 9 Gunnar Roberts
- 11 Liana Garcia
- 12 TaRell Day
- 14 Drew Wilton and Genna Jennings
  - 16 Harold Underwood
  - 25 Madison Jurrius Goss



Giving to the Mary Hill Davis Offering as of October 27 was \$1350.

Total giving for Don Fawcett's mission in Africa was \$1140.

Thank you, FBC!

#### **Weekly Ministries**

Sunday: Sunday School at 9:45, worship at 11:00 Wednesday: Bible studies for men and women, 6:00 Child care is available.

**Tuesday and Thursday:** Walmart pick-up for Food Pantry, 10:00

Heart, 1:00-4:00

October Food Pantry	
Adult boxes	66
Children's boxes	7
Adults over 65	39
Adults under 65	61
Children	15
Total Clients:	115

#### November radio spots

4-8: Bobbie Williams 11-15: Shelly Torres 18-22: Becky Martin 25-29: Christian Garcia

On KNEL radio, 7:45 weekday mornings

### **Deacons on call** in November

Greg Torres: 325-456-0770 Jim Smith: 325-456-4921

## Congratulations to our youth!

- Gage Behrens, senior at Richland Springs High School, plays defensive lineman and running back on the varsity football team. The Coyotes' season record is currently 8-0.
- Riley Eckert, senior at Richland Springs High School, competed at the Regional cross country meet in Corpus and placed 1st in the girls division. She will advance to state. This is her 4th year to make it to state.
- MJ Penn, senior at Rochelle High School, was chosen Homecoming Queen.
- The Famed Brady Bulldog Band advanced in October to area competition in Lubbock. Bree Castillo, 7th grade band student, is a member of the prop crew.
- Zoe Garcia and Avery Virdell completed their 8th grade volleyball season. Zoe also competed in cross country. Way to go, girls!

## **Wedding Announcement**

McKenna Claire Brandenberger and Britton David Forney were united in marriage October 12, 2024

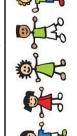


Hasse House Art, Texas

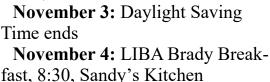
Parents of the bride: Carl Max and Kathy Brandenberger

Parents of the groom: *Dave and Joy Forney* 









**November 1:** Camp Thankful

For your calendar

**November 5:** Election day. FLC is a polling place.

**November 6:** First of 5 Christmas cantata rehearsals, 7:00

**November 8:** Food Pantry food distribution, 9:00-11:00

Nov. 10-12: BGCT convention November 14: Royal Oaks meal,

**November 15:** Camp Thankful Heart, 1:00-4:00

**November 17:** Church Thanksgiving meal and fellowship

November 19: November fellowship: Soup/Chowder/Chili cookoff, 6:00, FLC

November 24: deadline for Operation Christmas Child boxes

Church Council, 4:00; Business meeting, 5:00

Dec. 13: Food Pantry food distribution and Christmas reception, 9:00-11:00

Camp Christmas, 1:00-4:00

**December 15:** Christmas Cantata and fellowship meal

Dec. 19: Christmas caroling

## October 27 business meeting updates

The church accepted the resignation of Vickie Roddie as Youth Director effective October 18. Vickie will continue as Financial Secretary.

The church agreed to enable on-line giving through Venmo and Zelle. Greg Torres, trustee and member of the Budget and Finance Committee, will make this happen.

The church agreed to open the gym one night a month to the youth, under the leadership of Priscilla Garcia (team lead) and the Youth and Recreation Team.

The November Fellowship Night in the FLC will be on November 19 for a Soup-Chowder/ Chili cookoff at 6:00.

Christian and Priscilla Garcia and Greg and Shelly Torres were approved as our Messengers to the BGCT convention in Waco November 10-12.



## Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Hebrews 13:8

## **November Prayer List**

Christian, Priscilla, Zoe, Lia- Carma Eary na, and Elijah Garcia

T.J. & Katie Beth Stroudt, Harlem Community Church in NY

Johnstone & Irene Magomana

Britton and McKenna Forney Janis Groves

our members in care facilities Melanie Groves and our homebound members Roy and Janet Guthrie

the lost and unchurched in our community

the youth of Brady and worldwide

the homeless in Brady

Rhonda Aguirre Randy Bedwell Jackie Behrens Holden Bedwell Beverly Bigby & Stephanie Pyle Jerry & RaNon Caraway Cristobal Castillo Sherry Cox Sue Crow

First Baptist Church 325-597-2956 1103 W. 17<sup>th</sup> St. Brady, TX 76825 http://www.fbcbrady.org bradyfbc@gmail.com Christian Garcia, Pastor

915-356-9130 christian@fbcbrady.com

Karen Behrens, Music Leader Vickie Roddie, Youth Director and Acting Financial Secretary

Becky Martin, newsletter and website editor 325-456-1256

becky@scottmartin.net

Nicole Fish &

Bruce Van Houten

Linda Flint

Charlie & Maria Garcia

Elias Garcia Holly Groves

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 Jerlene Smith Wendy Smith

The newsletter is available on the church website: fbcbrady.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 always available at the church and can be mailed on request.

Jake Trevino

Jack and Susan Turk Harold Underwood

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.

families of Randy Ortegon and

**Everett Andrews** 

#### **Three More Things!**

The deacons organized a work day on Saturday, Oct. 19. They loaded and hauled off some bulky items from behind the FLC.

The Youth Team hosted the Rochelle girls volleyball team for lunch on Oct.

Operation Christmas Child boxes are due on Nov. 24. Clifford Crouch will take them to Coggin Ave. Baptist in Brownwood for us.

<sup>3</sup> I thank my God every time I remember you. <sup>4</sup> In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy <sup>5</sup> because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, <sup>6</sup> being confinership in the gospel from the first day until now, <sup>6</sup> being confinership. dent of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1:6

First Baptist Church Brady, Texas



Elijah Garcia and Jameson Torres at the 2024 Fall Family Festival