

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
P.O. BOX 520
401 S. SECOND STREET
BANGS, TX 76823

Non-Profit
Organization
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PERMIT NO. 9



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OFFICE: 752-6724 FAX: 752-7516 www.fbcbangs.com

FBC Bangs "The Messenger"
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or call: 325-752-6724

Words of Encouragement...

Philippians 3:13-14 – *Brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.* [NLT]

Regardless of what happened this past year publicly, privately, politically, professionally, or personally, there are four things we can affirm and say with a great amount of conviction & certainty: *Christ is risen, Christ is Lord, Christ will restore all things, and Christ has called us to this cultural moment.*

These are four things every Christian should know and remember. Otherwise, we will be unable to make any real sense of our current cultural moment, or anything else that happens in our personal lives.

These four things—again, that *Christ is risen, Christ is Lord, Christ will restore all things, and that we are called to this time and place*—are True, with a capital "T." They aren't true for me and not for you. They aren't true only for those who believe them to be true. They aren't true for our church and community and not for other churches and communities. They are just True – in the sense that they adequately describe God's involvement & control in the world we live.

Not only are they true in our American context—with all of its political divisions and cultural upheavals—they are true in every context, country, and culture. They are even true for our brothers and sisters around the world, who face a cultural moment of persecution, oppression, and even death.

But remember, it is in *this* climate, not another, that Christians must work to advance that which is true, good, and righteous. It is in *this* climate, not another, that we return to what Jesus called the two great commandments: To love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength; and to love our neighbor as ourselves. (...to represent Christ clearly & openly to those around us.)

So, as we begin this new year let us look to Christ, trust His Word, and remember these vitally important truths. Hold them fast and hold them up: *Christ is risen. Christ is Lord. Christ will restore all things. And He has called us to this time and this place.* Amen.

Blessings to you in this New Year as you glorify Christ in all you say and do. **Pepper**



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- Jan 1st: New Year's Day, Church Office will be closed
- Jan. 5th: All Church Work Day
- Jan. 6th: Missions Committee Meeting/Lunch
- Jan. 8th: Advanced Group Luncheon
- Jan. 9th: Deacons' Meeting
- Jan. 13th: Children's Ministry Team Meeting
- Jan. 16th Business Meeting
- Jan. 20th: Children's Ministry Luncheon, Youth Ministry Team Meeting
- Jan. 23rd: Maintenance Committee Meeting
- Feb. 2nd: All Church Work Day
- Feb. 3rd: Missions Committee Meeting/Lunch
- Feb. 6th: Deacons' Meeting
- Feb. 8th-10th: Youth Disciple NOW Weekend
- Feb. 10th: Children's Ministry Team Meeting
- Feb. 12th: Advanced Group Luncheon
- Feb. 13th: Business Meeting, Children's Emphasis Valentines for Bangs Nursing Home
- Feb. 14th: Valentine's Day
- Feb. 17th: The Lord's Supper
- Feb. 24th: Youth Ministry Team Meeting
- Feb. 27th: Maintenance Committee Meeting

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
TUESDAY, JAN. 1ST, 2019 FOR NEW YEARS DAY.**



SENIOR PASTOR: Dr. Pepper Dill
ASSOCIATE PASTOR/YOUTH MINISTER: Seth Pitman
CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR: Joy Mitchell
OFFICE MANAGER: Cindy Boyle
OFFICE ASSISTANT/WEB MASTER: Marsha Zabecki

CHILDREN'S NEWS



Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. Colossians 3:23-24

Happy New Year!
 GOD is SO GOOD! He has brought us to a new beginning and a new opportunity to LOVE, SERVE, FORGIVE, WORK, THANK, PRAISE, GIVE, TEACH, FOLLOW AND LEAD WITH OUR WHOLE HEART! Have you ever noticed how many times and how many things God said to do "with your whole heart"? I pray that we will embrace this new year whole heartedly! Like Caleb, may we have a different spirit and follow Christ wholeheartedly (Num. 14:24) as we possess the promise land and blessings that He has given us. Give God your jobs, spouse, family, your kids-(I know Mommin' and Daddin' ain't easy!), all the GIANTS in your land and let God handle it! Be faithful and trust Him with your WHOLE HEART! He has a plan and he will finish the good work that he has started in you!

SAVE THE DATES For 2019!

- Jan. 5th: Work Day, 8am-12 Noon
- Jan. 20th: Children's Ministry Luncheon following the AM Worship Service.
- Feb. 2nd: Work Day, 8am-12 Noon
- March 2nd: Work Day 8am-12 Noon
- April 7th: CMT & VBS Training Meeting at 7:10 pm - Children's Church Room
- April 20th: The Great Hunt! Community Wide Easter Egg Hunt- 2:00pm pm at Bangs City Park
- May 5th: Kid's Spring Musical
- June 7th-10th PreTeen Camp at HOTBE (weekend session 2)
- June 23rd-26th: VBS-5:30-8:00 pm Group's ROAR!
 Life is Wild! God is Good!
- June 30th: FAMJAM at Camp Bowie Aquatic Center

Let's give God our very best and see what great things He will do this year! I LOVE YOU with my WHOLE HEART!

Joy 😊

Camp Scholarships & Work Days

We would like to partner with parents to assist with summer camp cost. If your student participates in 3 work days by March, we will pay \$88 of your camp cost. The remaining \$87 can be raised by fundraisers or paid by the camper.

STUDENT MINISTRY NEWS

So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom" (Ps. 90:12, ESV)

As we are now in a new year—with fresh slates and fresh ideas—we may be tempted to occupy our time with visions of change.

Maybe we want to lose weight, get in shape, contact that old friend, or mend those broken relationships. All of these are commendable things to accomplish. However, what if we made better use of our time this year? What if, instead of trying to accomplish a resolution that will most-likely fail in 6 weeks, we tried to "number our days?"

Carpe Diem! Seize the Day! Each day that we are gifted brings new challenges, joys, heartaches, and trials. Each day is a new beginning. SO, why are we programmed to wait for a "new year" to accomplish the tasks we have pushed aside? The psalmist asks the LORD to "teach us to number our days." In doing so, we become wiser.

We are wiser because we realize that each day is a gift. We are wiser because we have been taught to extract every ounce of life from the day we have been given.

Perhaps this year we need to take a pause and breathe. Inhale the day that has been numbered for you. Live this day to the fullest!

Upcoming Dates:

- January:**
- Jan 5th Workday at FBC
 - Jan 19th Possible Tim Hawkins Concert (Cleburne, TX)
 - Jan 23rd Deadline for D-Now Sign Up
- February:**
- Feb 2nd Workday at FBC
 - Feb 8th-10th D-Now Weekend

seth



MISSIONS

Bangs Food Pantry OPEN! First Thursdays from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, Third Thursdays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Every church.

Every nation.

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

Our Goal was \$3,500

Thank you for your generous gift of \$3,894!

It's not too late to add your gift! Place it in the offering plate in a Lottie Moon Christmas Offering envelope.



Thank you for your generous gifts of time, money, and food to help the Bangs Community Food Bank to serve our community!!



Our Medical Closet!

We have a wide variety of equipment to loan out including wheel chairs, walkers, beds, bed rails, and shower chairs.



Perspectives™

Perspectives is a 15 week life and learning opportunity at HPU that will change the way you view the world around you. In it, you will have your eyes opened to the heart and purpose of God, and how you can take part in His work all over the world, from the urban streets of America to the rain forest and deserts of distant lands.

Dates: Tuesdays, January 15th-April 30th, 2019

Time: 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Class Enrollment Levels: Certificate \$250, College Credit \$500—Discounts are available, please check the website or contact Bryan Allen. The first class on January 15th is free!

Location: HPU's Faith and Life Leadership Center [1012 Center Ave Brownwood TX 76801](https://www.hpu.edu/1012-Center-Ave-Brownwood-TX-76801)

Contact: Bryan Allen at 325-217-2376 or email at hbryan.allen@gmail.com

Website: <https://class.perspectives.org/Visitor/Public.aspx?ClassId=434006>



2019 IS THE YEAR! "COMMIT TO BE FIT!"

Ladies' Fitness Classes start back up Monday, Jan. 7th! Classes meet Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays in the FBC Gym at 7:30am. Classes are designed for all levels of fitness and ages; just bring a mat and hand weights and be ready to have a great group time of fellowship and getting healthy!

For more information call Cindy at 325-642-5908.

New Day Orphanage News

Christmas and New Year's is :

- ♦ A time to dance: The repair to the main bridge to New Day has been completed.
- ♦ A time to celebrate: The end of the year-round school year.
- ♦ A time to give: On Christmas Day we gather together to share the story of Jesus and give gifts.

Thank you, FBC Bangs, for your continued support!

BUSINESS MEETING NOTES

OCTOBER 2018 MEETING MINUTES

There was no October Business Meeting due to calendar scheduling.

NOVEMBER 2018 MINUTES

- ♦ September 2018 minutes were approved as printed.

- ♦ Reports were accepted, letters were granted and new members were approved.
- ♦ The 2019 Church Calendar Highlights were approved.
- ♦ The 2019 Proposed Church Budget was approved.
- ♦ Ministers' housing allowances and benefits for tax purposes were approved.

OCTOBER 2018 GENERAL FUND

Total Contributions:	\$30,440.66
Weekly Average:	\$7,610.17
Weekly Requirement:	\$8,437.98
Fund Balance:	\$13,807.33
BUILDING SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE:	\$57,090.84 (10/31/2018)
GENERAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE:	\$8,287.76 (10/31/2018)

NOVEMBER 2018 GENERAL FUND

Total Contributions:	\$28,894.13
Weekly Average:	\$7,223.53
Weekly Requirement:	\$8,437.98
Fund Balance:	\$9,697.62
BUILDING SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE:	\$57,090.84 (11/30/2018)
GENERAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE:	\$8,288.95 (11/30/2018)