

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

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Bangs, Texas
PERMIT NO. 9

FBC Bangs "The Messenger"
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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- May 1st: Deacons’ Meeting
- May 4th: MAYFEST, All Church Work Day
- May 5th: Kids’ Spring Musical, No children’s church
- May 8th: Business Meeting
- May 12th: Mother’s Day, No children’s church, No evening services
- May 13th: Heart of Texas Executive Board meeting at FBC Bangs Fellowship Hall
- May 14th: Advanced Group Luncheon Meeting
- May 15th: Celebration Choir practice
- May 19th: Celebration Choir will sing, High School Senior Day & Banquet, Bangs High School Baccalaureate
- May 22nd: Maintenance Committee Meeting
- May 24th: Bangs High School Graduation
- May 26th: Youth Ministry Team Meeting
- May 27th: Memorial Day, Church Office closed
- June 2nd: Missions Committee Meeting, Children’s Ministry Team Meeting
- June 5th: Deacons’ Meeting
- June 7th-10th: Pre-Teen Camp at HOTBE
- June 12th: Business Meeting
- June 14th-18th: Youth Camp, Glorieta, New Mexico
- June 16th: Father’s Day, The Lord’s Supper, No children’s church, No evening services
- June 23rd-26th: Vacation Bible School, no other evening activities
- June 24th-28th: Youth Super Summer at HPU
- June 30th: Fifth Sunday Breakfast, FAMJAM

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
MONDAY, MAY 27TH FOR MEMORIAL DAY.



SALUTING THE VETERANS
MEMORIAL DAY

Happy Mother's Day! May 12th
Happy Father's Day! June 16th

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

May



THE MESSENGER



June

VOLUME 24

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NUMBER 3

OFFICE: 752-6724

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www.fbcbangs.com

Words of Encouragement....

Matthew 13: 18-23 ➤ “Now listen to the explanation of the parable about the farmer planting seeds: The seed that fell on the footpath represents those who hear the word about the Kingdom and don’t understand it. Then the evil one comes and snatches away the seed.... The seed on the rocky soil represents those who hear the word and immediately receive it with joy. But since they don’t have deep roots, they don’t last long.... The seed that fell among the thorns represents those who hear God’s word, but all too quickly the message is crowded out The seed that fell on good soil represents those who truly hear and understand God’s word and produce a harvest...!”

No doubt you’ve read the parable of the Sower and the Seed. And I suspect that most of the time, if not every time, this parable has been studied and explained from the perspective that Jesus is talking about the person (the heart) that becomes saved versus those that do not. While that certainly would be a part of the meaning of this parable, I believe its meaning is much broader and applicable to all of us every day.

This parable is not merely about those who “get saved.” This parable is really about the “readiness” of a person’s heart to receive the word of God (His message to us), whether that person is lost or saved. The explanation of this parable that Jesus offers in Matt. 13:18-23 clearly identifies the word of God as the “seed” in the story.

If a person is lost without Christ, and the word of the “good news” comes to him, then the nature of the soil (the heart) and its surrounding conditions influence the response of that person to the seed (the word) that is sown. Salvation, then, only occurs for the one in whom the seed “bears fruit,” not for the other three responses.

For those of us who have been born again, the same heart-readiness is required every time God’s word (God’s message) comes to us. God is looking for those whose hearts are ready to receive the word He has for them. And, as in the parable, there are a number of things in our lives that could prevent and choke out what God wants to do in our lives.

Only one heart response bears fruit. Only one condition of the soil is ready to receive and respond to the message (the word) from God. The other three conditions of the heart will keep us from bearing the fruit God desires from us. Satan is still in the business of “snatching away” the seed God is sowing. Satan still tries to keep God’s word from taking root in our hearts and seeks to choke it out by the worries and vain pursuits of this world that clutter our lives.

Again, the real issue is the nature and condition of the soil (the heart). God is regularly sowing His word (seed) into our hearts. He speaks His message through the Word of God that you read, through a sermon that you hear, through the lessons taught in Sunday School and weekly Bible studies, through a friend who brings you encouragement, and through countless other ways every day.

So, how is your heart-readiness for the message (the word) God wants to sow in your life? He wants your heart to receive His word and allow it to bear fruit in and through your life.

I know God is ready, willing, and sowing. Blessings to you on this journey of heart-readiness.

Pepper

The Parable of the Sower

The Seed is the Word of God



The Footpath



The Rocky Soil



The Thorns



The Good Soil

What type of Soil are You?

Is God Growing in Your Heart?

CHILDREN'S NEWS



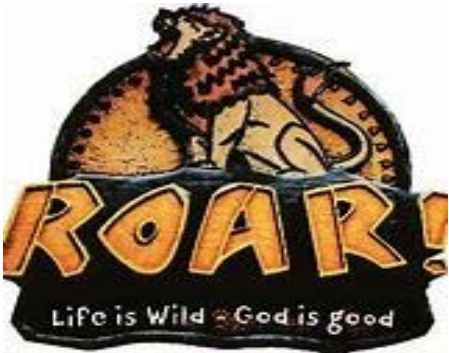
"By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another." John 13:35

I see you! I see you at church, at work, at the ball park! I see you inviting your neighbor to church! I see you on your knees being a prayer warrior and following up on every prayer request! I see you teaching kids, youth and adults! I see you volunteer or step up every time there is a need! I see the countless hours your have invested in PEOPLE!!! I see the way you love unconditionally and give abundantly! I see you encouraging others with the word of God on Facebook, in the pew, the church parking lot or at work! My HEART IS FULL to see our brothers and sisters living our Faith! You are such a blessing to me, our church and this community! Thank you for always being the FAITHFUL MIGHTY WARRIORS THAT YOU ARE!!! Most importantly, GOD SEES YOU and the world sees you! Because of this, they truly know that you are HIS disciples because of your GREAT LOVE for one another!!!

Grace Wins!!!
I love you dearly, Joy ☺

SAVE THE DATES!

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 6:30 pm at Camp Bowie Aquatic Center



Vacation Bible School-June 23rd-26th
5:30-8:00 pm Group's ROAR!
Life is Wild! God is Good!
Sign up NOW to volunteer or for your kids to attend at fbcbangs.com or on our Facebook page.
A meal will be served every evening.
Wednesday, June 26th is Family Night!

STUDENT MINISTRY NEWS

The student ministry at FBC Bangs is getting ready for another great summer. From recognizing our senior class to traveling internationally, this spring/summer will be one for the books.

It is a privilege to work with students, I just want to start off by saying "thank you" for trusting me and our team with the students of FBC Bangs. We have a great group of students!

I see great potential in the students that we currently have. I know that over time, our group will grow and mature in the leading of the LORD. We are a young student group, but that is ok. This will give us the opportunity to lead these students in the direction that we want them to go. New traditions are forming, and students are buying into the over-all theme of getting the Word out to the people. "World Tour" Student Ministry is taking root and it is awesome to see.

With that said, I am currently working on building a program that involves students and adults from our church in local, national, and international missions. We will use an "even" and "odd" year approach to planning these mission trips and opportunities. Odd years we can focus on an international opportunity and in the even years we can focus on national opportunities. In state opportunities we will focus on as they are presented.

Please be in prayer for our student ministry with these upcoming events:

| | |
|---------|---------------------------------------------|
| 5/19 | FBC Bangs Senior Sunday |
| 5/24 | Bangs ISD Graduation |
| 6/14-18 | FUGE on Missions Youth Camp in Glorieta, NM |
| 6/24-28 | Super Summer Session 5 @ HPU |

Seth



Glorieta
Adventure Camps

SANTA FE
NEW MEXICO

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



Thank you Church Family
for your generous support of
Missions!

Texans for Christ Honduras Trip
(Ryli Pruitt): \$1,210
Annie Armstrong Easter
Offering: \$3,457
Macedonia Mission Trip: TBA

The Missions Committee will have
short meetings once a month in the
front of the church sanctuary at noon
on Sundays as scheduled in the
Church calendar.



Our Medical Closet!

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

Celebration Choir NEWS

We will practice on Wednesday, May 15th at 7:10 pm in the Choir Room and then sing on Sunday, May 19th. We will take a break for the Summer and start back with a party in September. Have a great Summer!



Don't miss our Fifth Sunday Breakfast prepared and served by the Deacons on Sunday morning June 30th at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall!
The meal is free, however a Love Offering will be collected.
There will be no adult or youth Sunday School classes, and the children will meet at 10:00 am in the Children's Church Room.

BUSINESS MEETING NOTES

FEBRUARY 2019 MEETING MINUTES

- January 2019 minutes were approved as printed.
- Reports were accepted,
- Budget and Finance Committee recommendation to amend Bylaws pertaining to deposit and reconciliation passed.
- Personnel Committee recommendation on wording job description change for Office Manager/Financial Secretary will be voted on at March's Business Meeting. A second recommendation was approved to compensate Lead Worship Team Ministry during the interim while searching for new Music Worship Ministry Leader.

- Budget and Finance and Personnel Committees recommendation to revise the Ministry Staff expenses paid to be in line with new IRS regulations and was approved.
- Nominating Committee recommendations were approved.

MARCH 2019 MINUTES

- February 2019 minutes were approved as printed.
- Reports were accepted, one new member was approved.
- The amendment to the job description presented and discussed at the February business meeting was approved and amended in the Bylaws.

FEBRUARY 2019 GENERAL FUND

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Total Contributions: | \$34,041.21 (4 Sundays) |
| Weekly Average: | \$8,510.30 |
| Weekly Requirement: | \$8,437.98 |
| Fund Balance: | \$14,886.32 |
| BUILDING SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE: | \$57,135.97 (2/28/2019) |
| GENERAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE: | \$8,292.52 (2/28/2019) |

MARCH 2019 GENERAL FUND

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Total Contributions: | \$44,217.18 (5 Sundays) |
| Weekly Average: | \$8,843.43 |
| Weekly Requirement: | \$8,437.98 |
| Fund Balance: | \$15,000.00 |
| BUILDING SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE: | \$61,839.32 (3/31/2019) |
| GENERAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE: | \$8,293.67 (3/31/2019) |