

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

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Words of Encouragement...

John 12:32 ➤ "And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." NLT

After a year and a half of planning, and a year of publicity, our church-wide retreat has come and gone. It's actually hard to believe after all the praying and planning, that it's done.

I must confess that, even though I thought I'd heard from the Lord about doing this, sought counsel from the church staff and the Deacons, and all of them encouraged me to press forward with it – I wavered in my confidence that I had heard clearly and correctly about encouraging us as a church to go together on this retreat.

But, oh how the Lord is faithful – even when our faith wobbles. God proved Himself once again by pouring-out His love and blessing. The Holy Spirit truly moved among us and blessed us.

Mike Satterfield brought to us some timely and relevant messages. And the Spirit wonderfully coordinated those messages with the worship songs we sang and the Scriptures we read. God was at work throughout the weekend, from beginning to end. The name of Jesus was lifted-up and glorified!

During one of the messages, Mike shared of a recent personal experience he had. (You will very likely hear me share this story again sometime 😊.)

Mike told us he had recently gone to a barber shop – which we all laughed about, since he is bald. While he was sitting in a chair waiting, a man sitting across from him asked if he was a preacher. Mike didn't know the man, and he wondered what that question suggested about his appearance. But, he answered the man, "Yes, I'm a preacher."

The man introduced himself as Fritz, and asked Mike if he would pray for him. Fritz shared with Mike that his mother was in a nearby hospital suffering with late stages of Alzheimer's disease. Fritz continued to share that in the hospital he had recently asked his mother, "What makes you extraordinary, Mom?" Fritz reminded Mike that his mother's Alzheimer's had progressed to the point that she no longer remembered his name, his sister's name, or her own name.

Fritz said his mother answered his question about what made her extraordinary without any hesitation. She declared: "My Jesus, the Son of the living God!"

She called to memory the only name that mattered – Jesus. When all memory was gone, she spoke the only name that rose in her mind. She spoke the name above all other names. Jesus.

The truth is, that name – the name of Jesus – is the only name that matters in our lives as well. When all in our life is said and done, the only name that will matter – the only name that will have made any difference – is Jesus.

Dear loved ones, let all of us with all our voice, with all our life, with all that we have, lift up the one name that is above all other names – the name of Jesus. When we're asked what makes us extraordinary – what makes us different – may we, like Fritz's mother, declare; "Jesus, the Son of the living God!"

Blessings to you in this life journey of lifting up the name of Jesus!

Pepper

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- March 1st: Clothes Closet OPEN
- March 4th-11th: Week of Prayer for North American Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- March 4th: Missions Committee Meeting/Lunch
- March 7th: Celebration Choir rehearsal
- March 11th: Celebration Choir will sing.
- March 12th-16th: Bangs ISD Spring Break
- March 13th: Advanced Group Luncheon
- March 21st: Deacons' Meeting
- March 25th: Sunday School/Life Group Teacher Workshop
- March 28th: Business Meeting, Maintenance Committee Meeting
- March 30th: Good Friday-Church Office Closed
- March 31st: The Great Hunt-Community-Wide Easter Egg Hunt at Bangs City Park
- April 1st: Easter Sunday, The Lord's Supper
- April 4th: Celebration Choir rehearsal
- April 5th: Clothes Closet OPEN
- April 8th: Celebration Choir will sing, CMT & VBS Training Meeting
- April 10th: Advanced Group Luncheon
- April 14th: Parenthood Seminar/Workshop
- April 15th: Parent/Child Dedication Service
- April 18th: Deacons' Meeting
- April 25th: Business Meeting, Maintenance Committee Meeting
- April 29th: Fifth Sunday Breakfast, Children's Spring Musical

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY, MARCH 30TH.



Daylight Savings Time starts at 2:00 am on Sunday, March 11th. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night, March 10th!



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

FBC Bangs "The Messenger"
To be removed from this mailing or to submit updates, please email:
fbcbangs@fbcbangs.com
or call: 325-752-6724



CHILDREN'S NEWS



FBC Family,

It is such a blessing to serve our EXTRAORDINARY God with you! We have been GREATLY BLESSED by His love and miraculous power! I want to encourage you keep your eyes on Jesus (not the storms in your life) and walk by FAITH! **Do not be moved by what you see and hear** in the world or by doubt and fears. Stand FIRM! Pray without stopping! Remember that we are OVERCOMERS, MIGHTY WARRIORS and we are raising up the next generation who will LOVE GOD AND LOVE PEOPLE with all their HEART! May we have COURAGEOUS FAITH to Hear and Obey God as we train our children in the way of the Lord!

Please fervently pray for our families, youth and children. Pray about where God is calling you to serve in our FBC Family! There will be many opportunities with our Community Easter Egg Hunt and VBS to share Jesus and invite families to our church. Come be a part of making an eternal difference in the lives of our kids and families!

GOD'S NOT DEAD, HE'S SURELY ALIVE!!!

Joy 😊

Continued on facing page

SAVE THE DATES!

March 31st: The Great Hunt! Community Wide Easter Egg Hunt, 2:00 pm at Bangs City Park
 April 8th: CMT & VBS Training Meeting at 7:10 pm in the Children's Church room
 April 29th: Kid's Spring Musical-"O Chicken of Little Faith"
 June 4th-7th: Pre-Teen Camp at HOTBE-"Thriving for Christ"
 June 18th-21st: VBS 5:30-8:00 pm-"Group's Shipwrecked Rescued by Jesus"
 July 1st: FAMJAM at Camp Bowie Aquatic Center 6:30-8:30 pm



Associate Pastor/Youth Minister NEWS

"So I sent for you at once, and it was good of you to come. Now we are all here, waiting before God to hear the message the Lord has given you" (Acts 10:33, NLT).

Talk about a pastoral visit! The context of this verse is that of Peter hearing the explanation of Cornelius as to why Peter was summoned to his home. God wanted the Gentile people to hear the Gospel.

However, today, that same verse could be an indication of what some households expect from their pastoral staff. "We have all gathered, preacher...tell us what the Bible says." For Family Ministry, this concept is all too often the reality. It is a concept that Dr. Tim Kimmel calls, "sub-contracted parenthood" (*Connecting Church & Home*, 2013).

Do not hear me wrong--I believe that Children's Ministers and Youth Ministers are vital to the life and growth of the local church. However, I also believe that the role is more of a "partnership/coaching" role rather than that of a "spiritual EMT."

The family unit is the primary spiritual unit responsible for spiritual formation. It is what Kimmel says is, "The Domestic Church, while the local church is a gathering of Domestic Churches". This is God's plan for the family, but because of a fallen world, the family may not be doing this. This is where the church steps in. Praise God for people willing teach Sunday school and Life Groups, and for people willing to be the example to those who need it!

In keeping with this ideology, we (FBC Bangs) will host a few events to facilitate this concept.

- First, we will be having a **Sunday School/Life Group Teacher Workshop** on **March 25th** immediately following the morning service. Lunch will be provided.
- Then, in April, we will focus on the family. We will host a **Parenthood Seminar/Workshop** that is open for anyone to attend. It will be **April 14th from 9AM-Noon**. Continental style breakfast provided. Be looking for the flyers around the church.
- On **April 15th**, we will have a **Parent/Child Dedication Service** in the Morning Worship. Contact the church office or me if you would like to participate.

Together we can begin to weld the connection between church and home so that the bond will be virtually indestructible. **"Strong churches don't make strong families; strong families make strong churches"**

(Dr. Kimmel, *Connecting Church & Home*, page10).

Be Blessed and Be a Blessing

Bro. Seth

MISSIONS

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ORGANIZATIONAL: Media, Finance, Training, Communication, or Human Resources

BUSINESSES: Team Coaching, Social Responsibility, or Company Management

More CHILDREN'S NEWS

Help Wanted!

Candy Donations are needed for our Community Wide Easter Egg Hunt! No Chocolate Please! You may also pick up bags of empty eggs from the foyer and return them filled with candy. Sign up in the foyer if you would like to help with the Hunt on March 31 at 2:00pm!

Sign up now for Preteen Camp at Heart of Texas Baptist Encampment for a week of THRIVING for CHRIST!

Connected John 15:5,

June 4th-7th, \$170 due by May 27th

For kids who have completed 3rd-6th grade

Speaker: Randy Fair Worship: Nick Ewen

Sign up online at fcbangs.com or see Joy or Kialynn! Fundraisers will be available.

MUSIC NOTES



Hello All!

Wow! The year 2018 is moving along rapidly! Our first rehearsal and musical presentation by our newly formed Celebration Choir was a huge success! I hope that we'll have even more folks join us in singing and making music that ministers to our body here at FBC Bangs! Our next rehearsal is on Wednesday, March 7th at 7:15 pm in the sanctuary. Come and join us!! We have a great time! I know that I always leave refreshed from the encouragement that praise brings! Some of you need to be singing with us!

Music is truly a gift from God to us. Each time that we praise Him we find that our spirit is lifted and encouraged in the process. It absolutely never fails! And, when we sing with other believers it just seems that the blessing is multiplied! Give it a try. You'll be convinced!

We've got several ministry opportunities coming soon, including our Easter praise service, songs of ministry to encourage the shut-ins and sick, as well as some new great music that is sure to lift your heart as well as everyone who hears it! It is such a blessing being able to worship each week with our church body! See you Sunday!

Soli Deo Gloria, Bro. Corey

BUSINESS MEETING NOTES

DECEMBER 2017 MEETING MINUTES

- ◆ November 2017 minutes were approved as printed.
- ◆ Reports were accepted and new members were approved.
- ◆ Dissolution of the Associate Pastor/Youth Minister Search Committee was approved.
- ◆ Housing benefits and retirement for tax purposes was approved for the Associate Pastor/Minister of Youth.

JANUARY 2018 MINUTES

- ◆ December 2017 minutes were approved as printed.
- ◆ Reports were accepted and new members were approved.
- ◆ There was no old or new business.

DECEMBER 2017 GENERAL FUND

Total Contributions:	\$42,783.52
Weekly Average:	\$8,556.70 (5 Sundays)
Weekly Requirement:	\$8,480.75
Fund Balance:	\$14,445.58
BUILDING SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE:	\$91,828.73 (12/31/17)*
CHURCH ROOFS ACCOUNT BALANCE:	\$36,600.82 (12/31/17)
GENERAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE:	\$8,278.74 (12/31/17)

JANUARY 2018 GENERAL FUND

Total Contributions:	\$26,151.78
Weekly Average:	\$6,556.70
Weekly Requirement:	\$8,437.98
Fund Balance:	\$11,851.84
BUILDING SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE:	\$77,044.47 (1/31/18)*
CHURCH ROOFS ACCOUNT BALANCE:	\$21,808.82 (1/31/18)
GENERAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE:	\$8,279.49 (1/31/18)

* Includes funds for the roof projects