

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

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OFFICE: 752-6724 FAX: 752-7516 www.fbcbangs.com
Words of Encouragement...

Mark 6:31-32 ➤ *Then Jesus said, "Let's go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile..." So they left... for a quiet place, where they could be alone.* NLT

You have probably heard by now what the "big announcement" was on Sunday, Feb. 5th. We are planning a church-wide retreat for next year. The dates for our retreat will be **Feb. 2-4, 2018**.

In the verse above, Jesus encouraged His disciples to go with Him to an out-of-the-way place so they could be together away from the hustle and bustle of everyday activities. There is something refreshing and re-energizing about "getting away" to spend some concentrated time hearing from the Lord and fellowshiping with fellow believers. A retreat away to a quiet place affords such an opportunity.

The Lord began laying this idea on my heart this past summer when our kids and youth came back from their respective camps and shared during our worship service what the Lord had done in their hearts while they were at camp. The blessing they experienced and excitement they felt spilled-over onto us. And I began to think and pray about how the whole church fellowship could experience God in a similar way and be re-energized in our soul.

I shared this idea with the ministerial staff and the Deacon leadership, and both groups seemed to bear witness with the idea and encouraged me to continue pursuing what the Lord had laid on my heart.

Our theme for the weekend will be "How Great Is Our God!" And Mike Satterfield will be our guest speaker. Mike is a prominent speaker among Texas Baptists. He is on staff as a Teaching Pastor at Fielder Church in Arlington and regularly speaks at camps, retreats and conferences. Mike is a spirit-filled, energetic preacher and teacher – and I know the Lord will bring a timely message to us through him.

While the adults and youth are having our sessions and small group times, our kids (1st – 5th grades) will be having their own simultaneous sessions with their own leaders from Howard Payne University. And nursery care will be provided during those same times for newborns through kindergarten.

Our retreat will be held at Riverbend Retreat Center in Glen Rose, TX; with a cost of \$15 per person or \$45 per family of 3 or more. Activities will begin with dinner at 7:00 pm on Friday, Feb 2nd, and end following lunch on Sunday, Feb 4th. For those who might need transportation, we will be taking our vans. Sign-up sheets for the retreat and for transportation will be provided this coming fall/winter.

What you need to do now is plan ahead and adjust your schedule to take timeoff so you can attend our retreat on **Feb. 2-4, 2018**. Mark your calendars and begin to pray for this exciting and important weekend together. Please pray for those who will be attending, our speaker and children's leaders, a re-energizing of our church fellowship, good weather for the weekend, and for all the financial needs for the retreat to be met.

There has been a special activity account set up for those whom the Lord would lead to give toward covering the total cost for this event. Please pray about whether the Lord would have you give toward this important weekend for our church.

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May He show you His kindness and be gracious to you. May He watch over you and give you peace. **Pepper**



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER!

- March 5th: Missions Committee Meeting/Lunch, Girls' Night In
- March 9th: Clothes Closet Open
- March 12th: Daylight Savings Time starts
- March 13th-17th: Spring Break
- March 14th: Advanced Group Luncheon
- March 15th: Deacons' Meeting
- March 22nd: Business Meeting, Maintenance Committee Meeting
- March 26th-April 2nd: Week of Prayer for North American Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- April 2nd: Missions Committee Meeting/Lunch, Girls' Night In
- April 9th: CMT & VBS Training Meeting, Special Offering for Annie Armstrong/North American Missions
- April 11th: Advanced Group Luncheon
- April 14th: Good Friday, Church Office closed
- April 15th: Community-Wide Easter Egg Hunt
- April 16th: Easter, The Lord's Supper, no Children's church and no evening services
- April 19th: Deacons' Meeting
- April 26th: Business Meeting, Maintenance Committee Meeting
- April 30th: Fifth Sunday Breakfast, no Sunday School for adults and youth, Children's Sunday School at 10:00 am, Children's Spring Musical, and no Children's Church



THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED APRIL 14TH FOR GOOD FRIDAY.



Daylight Savings Time starts at
2:00 am on Sunday, March 12th.
Don't forget to set your clocks
ahead one hour on Saturday
night, March 11th!



Sunday, April 16th

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



CHILDREN'S NEWS



SERVANTS WANTED!

Are you ready to LOVE GOD & LOVE PEOPLE? Are you willing to SERVE others as a living witness by following the example of Jesus Christ?

Are you available to GO & MAKE DISCIPLES? Servanthood is not a service project! It is a condition of the heart!

Church family, Thank you for being a SERVANT Church! We truly are the "hands & feet of Jesus"! I pray that you will join us in fervent prayer for the lost & hurting! I pray that God would use Bangs FBC in a MIGHTY way to SERVE one another in LOVE! I pray that "all men will know that we are His disciples by our LOVE for One Another!"

Servanthood starts at home, then pours over into our church, locally & globally! Look for ways you can passionately & intentionally practice servanthood in your home, in your neighborhood, with your sports teams, etc. Deut. 6: 5-9 says to

5 "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. **6** These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. **7** Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. **8** Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. **9** Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates."

May we never become complacent, distracted or casual about the ministry that God has called us to!

April 9th: CMT & VBS Training Meeting at 7:10 pm in the Children's Church Room.

April 15th: The Great Hunt! Community Wide Easter Egg Hunt at 2:00 pm at Bangs City Park

April 30th: Kid's Spring Musical-"Kingdom Connection"

June 25th-29th: VBS at 5:30-8:00 pm-Group's Maker Fun Factory- Created by God! Built for a Purpose!

July 2nd: FAMJAM at Camp Bowie Aquatic Center

July 10th-12th: Pre-Teen Camp: Family Night: July 12th, Cost: \$150, Theme: *Do SOMETHING! Serve one another in LOVE!*

Sign up sheet and forms will be on the foyer ministry table SOON!

SAVE THE DATES!



NEWS

Church Family,

On Wednesday nights for the past couple of months we have been studying the book of Ecclesiastes. You might think that is an odd choice for teenagers to study and in fact maybe you haven't read much of it for yourself. Ecclesiastes is outstanding wisdom literature and it offers us the chance to learn from somebody who did things the wrong way. What a wonderful book to study with our youth group. So often we want to tell them of the potential dangers that lie ahead if they don't live according to God's Word. This is what the book of Ecclesiastes does. It's wisdom from a life lived apart from God. We chase so many things in life: money, popularity, power, and we often put God on the backburner as we pursue the things that we think will make us happy. Happiness isn't the thing to pursue because happiness is based on your happenings and it can have wild swings from one end of the pendulum to the other. Instead we should seek the eternal joy that is only found in knowing Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The writer of Ecclesiastes ends the book with this, "That's the whole story. Here now is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey his commands, for this is everyone's duty. God will judge us for everything we do, including every secret thing, whether good or bad." Now that is a message that all of us, regardless of age, need to hear.



*To Everything
there is a Season,
and a time
to every Purpose
under Heaven.
Ecclesiastes 3:1*

May God's Grace Abound,

Zach

BUSINESS MEETING NOTES

DECEMBER 2016 MINUTES

- November 2016 minutes were approved as printed.
- Reports were accepted, letters of transfer and new members were approved.
- Nominating Committee recommendations were approved.

JANUARY 2017 MINUTES

- December 2016 minutes were approved as printed.
- Reports were accepted and letters of transfer were approved.
- Approval was given to proceed with the next roofing project.

MISSIONS



Clothes Closet OPEN! Thursday, March 9th, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.
Bangs Food Pantry OPEN! First and Third Thursdays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

**BANGS
FOOD
PANTRY**

**ANNIE
ARMSTRONG**
EASTER OFFERING
For North American Missions 2017

*Together
For His
Kingdom*

Week of Prayer: March 26th-April 2nd

Our Goal: \$3,000

Special Offering: Sunday, April 9th

More CHILDREN'S NEWS

WE ARE THE CHURCH!

The church is not a place to go, it is WHO WE ARE! "The church is not an audience of spectators; we are a fellowship of disciplemakers"- David Platt. Let us proclaim and live it out! I AM THE CHURCH! I LIVE READY TO LOVE, SERVE & GO! If not us, then who? If not now, then when? God created me to do something!

In March we will begin collecting stuffed plastic eggs and candy for the "Great Hunt"! No chocolate please, it melts.

Mark your calendar for April 9th at 7:10 pm for a VBS Training meeting for ALL VBS helpers. Sign up at the foyer ministry table if you would like to help!



Coming soon!
Preteen Camp
Fundraiser!
March 5th-26th

Blessings on you!

Joy 😊



MUSIC NOTES 🎵

Hello, all!

Wow! Spring is upon us, and I'm excited that it is! Easter is always one of my favorite times of the year because of what it reminds us all of. It is the very reason that we have life and hope! It is the very reason; if you will, that we have a reason to sing! As we see the trees start to bloom and the grass, at least in places, starting to turn green, it reminds us of the new life that we all have in Christ! Our God lavished His love on us in the form of His son! Wow! I'm getting excited just thinking about it! Let's remember to keep His praise on our lips all year long! Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

He gave us His life!! What more could He give? Let us be reminded that our true joy and fulfillment in life will only be realized when we fully give ourselves to Him in return!

If you haven't been coming to choir, we want you to know, we miss you and want you to experience, again, the joy that it is singing with other believers in song to our Lord! There's nothing like it! We have a fantastic time singing each Wednesday at 7:00 pm in the choir room. Child care is provided also. Come and join us!

See you in Church!

Soli Deo Gloria, Bro. Corey



DECEMBER 2016 GENERAL FUND

Total Contributions: \$28,886.44
Weekly Average: \$7,221.61
Weekly Requirement: \$8,313.75
Fund Balance: \$7,594.47
BUILDING SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$99,500.14 (12/31/16)*
CHURCH ROOFS ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$37,727.82 (12/31/16)
GENERAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$8,270.47 (12/31/16)

JANUARY 2017 GENERAL FUND

Total Contributions: \$35,817.65
Weekly Average: \$7,163.53 (5 Sundays)
Weekly Requirement: \$8,480.75
Fund Balance: \$12,275.12
BUILDING SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$103,595.14 (1/31/17)*
CHURCH ROOFS ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$41,822.82 (1/31/17)
GENERAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$8,271.20 (1/31/17)

* Includes funds for the roof projects