

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

FBC Bangs "The Messenger"
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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

We are just a month away from our church-wide retreat, Feb 2-4, 2018.

As Jesus encouraged His disciples in the verses above, we too have an opportunity to go to an out-of-the-way place so we can 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.

Our theme for the weekend is "How Great Is Our God!" 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 their sessions and small group times, our kids (K – 5th grades) will be having their own simultaneous sessions with four young ladies from the Baptist Student Ministries at Howard Payne University. Also, nursery care will be provided during those same times for newborns through pre-K.

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. Check-in begins at 4:00 pm on Friday, Feb 2nd, with activities starting with dinner at 7:00 pm. The retreat will end after lunch on Sunday, Feb 4th.

Please be sure to register for the retreat by going to our church website at www.fbcbangs.com. You can't miss the big yellow button on the top banner of the main page – it says "**Click Here to Register Now!**" You can also fill-out a registration form (available in the church lobby) and put the completed form in the registration box. It's very important that you register so we can get a total head-count and plan appropriately for housing arrangements. For those who would like to bring your RV, RV hook-ups are available for both 30 and 50 amps.

Please make every effort to participate in this exciting and important weekend for our church fellowship. Please pray for each other as we share together during this retreat. Pray for our speaker, worship leaders, and children's leaders. Pray for a re-energizing of our church fellowship, and pray for good weather during the weekend.

I look forward to sharing this special time with you, and to what the Lord will do in our hearts and lives.

Pepper



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- Jan. 1st: New Year's Day, Church Office Closed
- Jan 2nd: School starts
- Jan. 4th: Clothes Closet OPEN
- Jan. 7th: Missions Committee Meeting and Lunch, Children's Choir Kick-Off, CMT Meeting
- Jan. 8th: Advanced Group Luncheon
- Jan 10th: Celebration Choir rehearsal for Sunday
- Jan. 14th: Celebration Choir will sing in Morning Worship
- Jan. 17th: Deacons' Meeting
- Jan. 21st: Children's Ministry Luncheon
- Jan. 24th: Business Meeting, Maintenance Committee Meeting
- Jan. 25th: Emmaus Community Gathering
- Feb. 1st: Clothes Closet OPEN
- Feb. 2nd-4th: All Church Retreat at Glen Rose
- Feb. 7th: Valentines for Bangs Nursing Home, Celebration Choir rehearsal
- Feb. 11th: Celebration Choir will sing in Morning Worship, CMT Meeting
- Feb 13th: Advanced Group Luncheon
- Feb 14th: Valentine's Day
- Feb. 18th: The Lord's Supper
- Feb 19th: Presidents' Day
- Feb 21st: Deacons' Meeting
- Feb 28th: Business Meeting, Maintenance Committee Meeting

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST



Ladies' Fitness Classes will start up for 2018 on Tuesday, Jan. 2nd at 7:30 am in the Gym. Ladies of all ages are welcome on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays at 7:30 am! If you're looking to shape up and have some fun along the way, this just might be for you! Contact Cindy Boyle for more information.

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

SAVE THE DATES! CHILDREN'S NEWS



Jan. 7th: Kid's Choir Begins - Sunday evenings at 6:00 pm
Jan. 21st: Children's Ministry Luncheon following the Morning Worship Service.
Feb. 2nd-4th: SIGN UP NOW and BRING THE FAMILY to our Church Retreat! **You don't want to miss this sweet retreat as we worship and discover HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD!!!**
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

WARRIOR Dads, Moms, Grandparents, Families, Teachers & FBC family, HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!
I pray this year brings you many blessings, joy and laughter. With any challenge you face, I pray you know God as your "Way Maker"! We hold in our hands precious arrows! Straight "true" arrows to be released to fulfill the plans and purpose that God has called them to. As we begin a new year, let us renew our commitment to love and disciple our arrows at home and at church so that they may be fully equipped for the mission God has for them **today!** Let us fervently pray for them as they face their battles. May each of us have COURAGEOUS FAITH to STAND STRONG and share GOD'S GREAT LOVE!
Pray about where God is calling you to serve in our FBC Family! I would love to visit with you about serving in our Children's Ministry! Some areas of need are Children's Church, Sunday School helpers

and Vacation Bible School. Come be a part of making an eternal difference in the lives of our kids!

Blessings on you! **JOY** ☺

FBC Bangs believes one of our greatest responsibilities is to inspire, equip and support parents and families in their ministry to children. *"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 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."* Deuteronomy 6:4-7



"CHILDREN
ARE A HERITAGE
FROM THE LORD...
LIKE ARROWS
IN THE HANDS
OF A WARRIOR..."
PSALM 127:3-5



NEWS

Greeting FBC Bangs!! For those that do not know me, my name is Seth Pitman, and I have just started as the Associate Pastor/Youth Minister on December 15th, 2017. Amy, my wife, and I are glad to be back home here in Bangs, Texas.

We have two adult children; Jordan (21) and Hunter (19). Jordan is a senior at Howard Payne University and will be graduating in May with her undergrad degree. Hunter is a freshman at Seattle Pacific University in Seattle, Washington.

Amy and I look forward to ministering in various roles here at FBC Bangs. My plan is to reinvigorate the youth ministry, to establish a vibrant college ministry, to provide a seamless transition between children and youth ministries, and to help guide and train our volunteer education departments. All of this will take time. It will not happen overnight. However, I believe that with God's guidance and grace, we can establish these things and much more.

I have big plans for FBC Bangs, so keep looking for ways to be involved. If you have a youth aged student, I would like to encourage you to press upon your student a renewed involvement in the youth group. Parent meetings will be coming soon to discuss the rest of the year and coming summer.

I leave you with this verse: *"Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain"* (1 Corinthians 15:58, ESV). This is the verse I plan on building our ministries—a ministry that is steadfast, immovable, and abounding in the work of the Lord. I do hope to partner with many of you, so do not be surprised when I come-a-knocking!

Again, Amy and I are so glad to be here! God bless, and Happy New Year!

Seth

BUSINESS MEETING NOTES

NO MEETING WAS HELD IN OCTOBER.

NOVEMBER 2017 MINUTES

- September 2017 minutes were approved as printed.
- Reports were accepted and new members were approved.
- The 2018 Church Calendar was approved.
- The 2018 Proposed Church Budget was approved.

- The 2018 Ministers' Housing and Benefits for tax purposes was approved.
- CALLED BUSINESS MEETING, November 12, 2017: The church extended a call to Seth Pitman for the position of Associate Pastor and Youth Minister by a 98% affirmative vote. The call was accepted.

MISSIONS



Clothes Closet OPEN! Thursday, January 4th, 10:00 am-3:00 pm
Clothes Closet OPEN! Thursday, February 1st, 10:00 am-3:00 pm
Bangs Food Pantry OPEN! First and Third Thursdays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.



International Missions and
Lottie Moon
Christmas Offering®

Thank you for your generous gift of \$3,282!
Providing financial support to missionaries as they share the gospel overseas.



Our Medical Closet!

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



FBC Children's Ministry Team, Teachers and Helpers,

Thank you for your faithfulness to our children and families! It is such a joy to serve the Lord with you! Please allow us to honor you at our Children's Ministry Luncheon following the Morning Worship Service on January 21st. Bring your spouse or a guest and join us for a time of fellowship. Lunch and childcare will be provided for your children.

"And whoever welcomes one child like this in My name welcomes Me." Matt. 18:5

MUSIC NOTES



Hello, all!

Hard to believe that the year 2018 is upon us and will pick up speed as they all seem to do! As we kick off the new year, we are starting several new initiatives in the worship ministry that we hope will get more of you involved in what we are doing. You will see several new faces leading in worship with us over the next few months. I hope that you'll be super-encouraging to them! Also, we are starting a new concept with our worship choir that many seem to be excited about. I know how hard it is to commit to something such as choir rehearsal every single week of the year. So, we are starting what I am dubbing the *Celebration Choir*. I am asking everyone who can sing to join us for rehearsal on the **first Wednesday of every month**. We will rehearse from **7 to 8 pm** and then sing special music the very next Sunday. This will happen each and every month. This would allow many more folks to be able to commit to that once-a-month rehearsal, while still allowing the choir to be able to share a special each month. The feedback I've gotten so far has been great. I hope you'll join us!

So, for the first half of 2018, our rehearsal schedule will look like this:

Wednesday, January 10th – Rehearsal – 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in choir room

Sunday, January 14th – Sing in Morning Worship Service

Wednesday, February 7th – Rehearsal – 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Sunday, February 11th – Sing in Morning Worship Service

Wednesday, March 7th – Rehearsal

Sunday, March 11th – Sing

Wednesday, April 4th – Rehearsal

Sunday, April 8th – Sing

Wednesday, May 2nd – Rehearsal

Sunday, May 6th – Sing

Wednesday, June 6th – Rehearsal

Sunday, June 10th – Sing

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!

Soli Deo Gloria, Bro. Corey

OCTOBER 2017 GENERAL FUND

Total Contributions: \$37,003.40
Weekly Average: \$7,400.68 (5 Sundays)
Weekly Requirement: \$8,480.75
Fund Balance: \$10,895.31
BUILDING SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$86,886.50 (10/31/17)*
CHURCH ROOFS ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$29,179.82 (10/31/17)
GENERAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$8,277.40 (10/31/17)

NOVEMBER 2017 GENERAL FUND

Total Contributions: \$30,518.96
Weekly Average: \$7,629.74
Weekly Requirement: \$8,480.75
Fund Balance: \$10,452.67
BUILDING SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$85,262.50 (11/30/17)*
CHURCH ROOFS ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$30,055.82 (11/30/17)
GENERAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$8,278.40 (11/30/17)

* Includes funds for the roof projects