

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The Church Council of First Baptist Church of Midland, Texas met for its regular meeting on Monday, April 15, 2019. Members present: Andy Cobb, Charlotte Cooke, Scott Daw, Tom Hanna, Jayna Hobby, Dr. Richard Jolly, Ralph Lea, Mike Mayer, Clark Moreland, Kim Ortega, April Paris, Toni Redman, Ginger Schantz, Jason Sims, and Perry Taylor.

Staff members present: Larry Grimes and Dr. Darin Wood.

Chairman Richard Jolly called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. He asked for prayer requests. Prayer was offered.

The minutes from the March 18, 2019 meeting were **approved**.

REPORTS

Senior Pastor – Darin Wood

Dr. Wood reported that he was halfway through the Pastoral Epistles in his B.H. Carroll class that he was leading on Tuesdays and Thursdays. He reported good attendance at these sessions and noted that he wants to see growth in B.H. Carroll over the next year at FBC. Lázaro Diaz and Patrick Mayers are now leading the FBC site and have raised its profile at FBC and within the seminary itself. He asked for prayer that more people would enroll.

Dr. Wood then asked for prayer for Vacation Bible School. He noted that the start date of June 3rd is a bit earlier than usual, and that there was still a need to find volunteers to serve in the older grades.

He next reported that he would be accompanying a group from FBC on a ten-day tour of Israel at end of February. Andre Moubarak and Dr. Wood will be leading the tour, which will cost around \$2700 per person, not including airfare. An interest meeting would be held on May 5th at 4:00 PM. He said the reason for choosing February had to do with lower costs before Spring Break and cooler weather at that time of year. He said he is hoping to have 20 people go on the trip.

Finally, he asked for prayer for the Africa mission trip this summer. He noted that San Smith and the Safety and Security Committee is working on travel insurance and protection plans.

Business Administrator – Larry Grimes

Mr. Grimes reported that he successfully negotiated reduced rates on the new contracts with ShelbyNext and CCB. He also reported that the staff retreat went well, and that he has begun to introduce Ministry Grid, a leadership development software piece, and would share more details about it at the next Council meeting. Staff will be using it for developing leaders – more next time.

Richard Jolly asked committee members to review the Ministerial reports. (See attached

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report.) He also mentioned staff birthdays and passed around cards.

Deacons – Andy Cobb

Mr. Cobb noted that an abbreviated deacons meeting was held the week before. He reported that there has been a request to serve the Lord's Supper at Manor Park, coinciding with services at FBC. He said there would be a dinner served for deacons and their wives at the Freemans' house in June. Robbie Boyd gave ministerial report at the meeting. Randy Cotton then gave an update on the deacon nomination process. He said deacons in the meeting spoke about possibly restarting the Paul/Timothy deacon mentoring program.

Committee Reports

Chairman's Report – Richard Jolly

Dr. Jolly noted how quickly time has flown, and asked committee chairs to look at the original goals and use the remaining time this year to conclude their work as well as preparing their notebooks for the next committee chair. He reported that the surplus money is being well-spent. Finally, he encouraged Council members to attend the prayer time in the Chapel on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 PM.

Missions – Mike Mayer

Mr. Mayer reported that the Missions Committee hasn't had a meeting since the last Council meeting, but would be meeting a week after Easter. He said mission partners are sending in their annual requests, and the Committee has heard from all but about 8-10 partners. He has sought guidance from the Finance Committee about receipts and budgeting for the next year. Finally, Mr. Mayer said 45 tickets have been reserved for the summer Africa mission trip. Discussion occurred about vaccinations for travelers.

Family Ministry – Ginger Schantz

Ms. Schantz said the Family Ministry Committee has not met since the last Council meeting, but would be meeting the weekend after Easter.

Finance – Tom Hanna

Mr. Hanna presented the March Financial Report. He noted that while gross receipts for March were around \$63K less than expected, and overall total gross receipts for the year were \$107K below forecasts, the total expenditures were \$718K below budgeted funds, leading to an operating gain of \$765K. Counting church investment income and the beginning balance, the total general fund balance remained at \$1.7M.

The Finance Committee met the day before. He said advocates have been assigned to ministers for the upcoming budget process. He also said the Committee is reviewing how to handle

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royalty receipts so as to make a lasting impact. Looking at last year, altogether the total revenue for the church (gifts, offerings, and investment income) is comparable about where it was last year, but investments cannot be counted from year to year. Right now, he said they are forecasting a 2% cut in next year's budget, but it is still early.

Discussion occurred about whether February or March are low gross receipts months. Mr. Hanna said they typically are not, and he is concerned that April and May typically are. However, he anticipates an operating gain at the end of the year despite lower than expected gross receipts. There was a question about receipts from offerings taken on Sunday nights offering numbers. Mr. Grimes said they were fairly low on average. Mr. Hanna than noted that salary and benefits are at 50% of total expenditures, but that is without the surplus added in, so the percentage devoted to salary and benefits will shrink by the end of the year, and that regardless they remain well below the required threshold. **A motion to accept the monthly financial report passed unanimously.**

General Nominating – K'Lynn Roberts

No report.

Maintenance and Expansion – Clark Butts

Perry Taylor reported that the M&E Committee walked around the building to look at landscaping, and have suggested minor tweaks to the plan, but overall the campus grounds look good. He then reported that a subcommittee made up of members from M&E and S&S was investigating possible changes to the layout and security arrangements in the children's wing upstairs.

Membership – Ralph Lea

Mr. Lea said the Committee met on March 27th. The Bodybuilding program is still working through Sunday school departments. He reported that Kim Norris has joined the committee and will be helping the GAP department get connected with the larger church. They also discussed current membership policies.

The Council then reviewed the additions and losses to the membership. The additions to the church totaled 11 in March (5 by letter; 6 by statement), with 5 membership losses (4 by death; 1 by letter). The additions will be voted on at the April 2019 Church Conference. Total active resident members are 2985. **A motion to accept the membership report passed unanimously.**

Personnel – Richard Jolly

Dr. Jolly said the Search Committee for the Minister to Senior Adults is meeting, and has fielded several resumes. He said the Committee is looking into the possibility of changing the job description for the position, but he expects it to take time to work out. He then said Lisa

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Cleveland is resigning from Payroll, and her position is being advertised. Finally, Dr. Jolly noted that Andy Cobb is heading up Committee on Committees.

Transportation – Perry Taylor

Mr. Taylor said the Committee will meet the next month, and was making progress with updating their charter.

Safety and Security Committee – Randy Cotton

Andy Cobb reported that the Committee met last month, and then would be meeting again the following Wednesday night. Two officers from the Midland County Sheriff's Department would be leading active shooter drills in the main building on June 20th. Mr. Grimes said there would be a large police and fire presence on campus that day, and asked for help alerting church members so that there would not be concern. Mr. Cobb then reported that CRASE training would be offered soon, and that Council members may want to participate. Wes Lewis is working with members to show how the church would react in an active shooter situation. The S&S Committee is also reviewing three bids for adding cameras and magnetic locks for exterior doors. Mr. Grimes said they will vote on a bid Wednesday night. Priority will be given to the Missions Building and the Activities Building first. Finally, the Emergency Action Plan was updated, which mainly affects ministers and staff.

New Business

No new business.

The meeting was closed in prayer, and was adjourned at 8:05 PM.



Clark Moreland, Secretary, 2018-19

Date Approved

Ministers Monthly Report to Church Council

May 20, 2019

Darin Wood
Senior Pastor

Dear Council friends,

Grace and Peace! April this year was a wonderful experience! Here's some of my highlights.

Easter, of course, was a key point for us, but it really started the week before that with Palm Sunday. We heard from several who participated in our Palm Sunday program, both in person and online, and heard how people encountered God through the telling of the Passion story. I've always had the conviction that the Word of God, when presented well, doesn't need any help. That was our intention for that Sunday, and I believe we met that goal.

Our "Discover Easter" emphasis turned out to be a positive and encouraging force, at least from my perspective. The videos we rolled out to Facebook were received well and gathered enough views (how many times people encountered it) to make us say it's worth trying again. Our attendance on Easter was strong and the number of visitors who actually filled out a slip for us was strong as well. We've introduced a "Plan your visit" section to our church website and have had several people who have indeed planned their visit with us. We're working through the next steps on that.

Throughout April, I taught a class on Tuesday and Thursday lunches for BH Carroll on the Pastoral Epistles (1-2 Timothy and Titus). Primarily, I taught the class to our Sunday School class teachers and leaders. The idea was to equip them in advance of teaching the Pastorals this summer. The class went well – we averaged 6 students. We had a high of 14 and a low of 4 over the course of the entire term (March 13-May 9) but the results will really be seen once our teachers begin to teach their classes this summer. Did it help them? Did my class aid them in preparing well? We'll see. I enjoy teaching and enjoyed the class, but the preparation level was high for me. I spent a significant amount of time on it. Pray with me that the Lord will clarify if this is something we are to do again.

One of the chief highlights of the month was the RA camp-out. I want to express my gratitude to John Elliott, Kevin Ashmore and the RA leaders for their extraordinary efforts in putting this event together and being willing to lead it. I can't tell you when I've enjoyed tent camping more. For my son and every boy I saw there, it was a tremendous weekend!

By way of accountability, I thought I'd briefly share my reading list for April. Perhaps it will encourage you to join me in reading these things. I read two books in April – "No Beast so Fierce" by Dane Huckelbridge. This tells the story of Jim Corbett and the Champawet Tiger. The tiger ate 436 people in the span of about 10 years before Corbett killed it. A wonderful tale well told. The other one was "Pixar and Beyond" by Lawrence Levy, the original CFO of Pixar Animation studios. A fascinating, stream of consciousness narrative of the early days of Pixar.

May God guide us as we launch off into the summer!

Darin

Larry Grimes

Business Administrator

FBC Staff Retreat occurred on April 1-3 in Junction. Four sessions were held to view “Ministry Grid” which is a new leadership training tool we have purchased through Lifeway. The speakers we watched were covering the main competencies of the material and then we spent time discussing and planning implementation for all ministry leaders. We have established time in future staff meetings to review and discuss all the material so we can be more assured that everyone is going to utilize it in their ministry future. There will also be individual goals set during this year’s review times that will hold each staff member accountable for its utilization. The retreat’s last session was a time for strategic planning of churchwide events. Before leaving the retreat center a time of extended prayer was had by all staff together.

The search committee for finding a new Minister of Senior Adults continues to meet and pursue God’s person for the position. Resumes have been reviewed and initial contact with potential candidates has begun. Our hope is to have someone on the field in the Fall.

Pursuit of a vendor for helping manage and develop our cameras and door locks for security is continuing, but we should have a contract by the end of May. At that point priorities of spending surplus dollars will be made with Missions building and AB building taking priority initially. The primary reason for this is that both buildings currently are more vulnerable than the main campus when it comes to security. The subcommittee of Building and Expansion and Safety and Security has met twice and decided it would be good to survey parents of children in order to have input before making a recommendation. The survey was completed in April and a follow-up meeting to review survey results will be had before any recommendations are made for second floor security.

The new people software, called CCB, began training a core group the last day of April. A team of Cory and Amy Brand, LaNell Dean, Cindy Eoff, Jeff Wash, and myself will make up the lead group and will meet every week with our coach to lay the groundwork for implementation of the new software by the Fall. Parts of the software may begin to be utilized as early as August. Shelby Next, our new financial software, training for the business office has also begun and utilization of this software will begin approximately at the same time as CCB.

In addition to my normal duties I taught on three Wednesday nights a series on the Holy Spirit at Prayer Meeting. It was well received and those in attendance felt they learned a great deal about the Holy Spirit’s role in our lives for sanctification. In addition, Dr. Wood allowed me the privilege of preaching while he was out on Sunday morning April 28th.

Lastly, I had the privilege to represent FBC at the One Hope kick-off meeting in College Station on April 25th. There were approximately 300 in attendance and from what I could tell it has a great deal of momentum moving into the year prior to April of 2020. Their goal is to have 50,000 Christians and 50,000 lost at the event on April 25, 2020 to be held at Kyle Field. Over this next year they are working to unify the body of Christ across all denominations in The Brazos River valley. Many of the leaders of churches and ministries involved either spoke or prayed at the event. Pray for this movement of God which involves our own Chad Clark of Fuel the Fire Ministry. They will also have Francis Chan as guest speaker at One Hope 2020.

April 2019 - Church Council Report

	April 2019		Year to Date 9/1/18-4/30/19	4.2018 Avg. Attend
Sunday School	Avg. Enrollment	Avg. Attend.	Avg. Attend	
55+ Adult	927	441	428	450
Adult & Family	537	214	196	202
Singles	128	50	52	55
College	63	9	9	4
Student	175	100	101	95
Children	237	125	113	121
Preschool	523	161	141	145
Main Campus Total	2589	1100	1040	1073
Mission Midland		97	102	100
Child Development Center	115	115	115	115
CDO Enrollment	136	136	136	136
Total	2840	1448	1392	1424
			Year to Date	
		Month	9/1/18-4/30/19	
Sunday School members joined the church		11	81	
Total visitors recorded		152	1468	

Aaron Hodges
Minister of Music

Let me start by saying how wonderful it is to serve at First Baptist Midland. I sit here this morning thinking back on what God did in April and I am simply amazed. Palm Sunday was an incredible time as the choir, orchestra and Dr. Wood reminded us what the cross means. Then came Easter Sunday morning!! It was so good to have the youth and adults leading together that morning. This is something I would like to do periodically next year. The energy that was present was not just the great worship and incredible message, but it was the presence of the Almighty Risen King! Jesus was present and He was glorified!

Rooted Student choir is going great. We have continued to prepare for our Santa Fe Mission Trip. Final count is 28 Students and 10 Adults which includes 5 Rec Team members! We are going to lead out on Sunday, May 26 at the beginning of the 8:25 service by singing two songs which will be followed by a prayer time led by Dr. Wood. I have asked each Student and Adult going to get a prayer partner that is willing to pray for them every day while we are gone. This prayer partner will also be present the morning of May 26 to pray over their student or adult during the prayer time. I will include our schedule so that you can also pray for our team.

The Children's choirs finished the year very strong. Please let Kathy Dowell know how grateful we are for the service she has given our choirs this year. After a short break, we will begin to prepare for Super Sumer Singers.

I don't know if you have noticed but the orchestra is growing. We have added quite a few more members and they are sounding great!

Aaron Hodges

Rooted Student Choir Mission Trip weekly Schedule

Sunday, May 26:

- 7:30 a.m. - Arrive at church – Load vehicle
- 7:50 a.m. - Meeting with Students and Parents in the Youth Garage
- 8:30 a.m. - Sing the Call to Worship in the 8:25 service
- 9:30 a.m. - Depart for Santa Fe from the bus barn parking lot
- 12:00 p.m. - Lunch on the Road (Bring snacks for road trip)
- 4:00 p.m.- Arrive at G2 Retreat Center (Check in and get settled in)
- 6:00 p.m. - Dinner
- 8:00 p.m. - Rooted Student Choir Rehearsal in the Common Room
- 10:30 p.m. - LIGHTS OUT

Monday, May 27:

- 8:00 a.m. - Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. - Service Projects at G2 Retreat Center
- 12:00 p.m. - Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. - Depart for Santa Fe Railway Park water tower
- 2:00 p.m. - Perform at the Railway Park Water Tower
- 2:45 p.m.- Head back to G2 Retreat Center to finish any unfinished work
- 6:00 p.m. - Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. - FREE TIME
- 9:15 p.m.- Team Worship
- 10:30 p.m. - LIGHTS OUT

Tuesday, May 28:

- 8:00 a.m. - Breakfast
- 8:40 a.m. - Head back to Railway Park
- 9:00 a.m. - Service projects at the Railway Park
- 10:45 a.m. - Head to Senior Center
- 11:00 a.m. - Help Serve Lunch at the Senior Center
- 12:00 p.m. - Sing a concert at the Senior Center
- 12:45 p.m. - Lunch
- 1:30 p.m. - Free time in Downtown Santa Fe for tourism and shopping
- 4:30 p.m.- Head back to G2 Retreat Center
- 6:00 p.m. - Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. - FREE TIME
- 9:15 p.m.- Team Worship
- 10:30 p.m. - LIGHTS OUT

Wednesday, May 29:

- 8:00 a.m. - Breakfast
- 9:30 a.m. - Head back to Santa Fe Senior Care Center

10:00 a.m. - Sing a concert and love on the residents
11:30 a.m. - Head to First Baptist Church Santa Fe to sing at noon prayer lunch
12:00 p.m. - Lunch and Concert at FBC Santa Fe
1:30 p.m. - Head to St Elizabeth's Shelter
2:00 p.m. - Serve St. Elizabeth's Shelter
4:15 p.m.- Sing a concert at St. Elizabeth's Shelter
5:00 p.m. - Serve dinner to residents of St. Elizabeth's Shelter
6:00 p.m. - Dinner back at G2 Retreat Center
7:00 p.m. - FREE TIME
9:15 p.m.- Team Worship
10:30 p.m. - LIGHTS OUT

Thursday, May 30:

8:00 a.m. - Breakfast
9:00 a.m. - We will be traveling to Albuquerque, NM to enjoy the day at the Zoo,
Aquarium and the Botanical Gardens
4:30 p.m. - Head back to G2 Retreat Center
6:00 p.m. - Dinner
8:00 p.m. - Smores!!!!!! Evening Worship
11:00 p.m. - LIGHTS OUT

Friday, May 31

8:00 a.m. - Breakfast
9:00 a.m. - Clean Up and Pack Buses
10:00 am - Head HOME
7:00 p.m. - Arrive at FBC Midland

Robbie Boyd

Minister of Pastoral Care

During the most recent reporting period:

- 87 hospital/homebound/assisted living visits and calls.
- Bereavement visits/calls for 8 families.
- Conducted **7 funerals**. Several of those were not church members but were done to help families who did not have a church home in Midland.
- Coordinated all Wednesday night **Prayer Meetings**.
- Coordinated **Sr Adult Sunday School** in absence of Sr Adult Pastor, including DMA and Sr Adult Retreat.
- Led the senior adult **DMA meeting** on Thursday, April 25th. The entertainment was Dr. Don Newbury, past president of Howard Payne University. He is a storyteller and humorist. We had about 50 present for lunch and the presentation.
- Made announcements in senior adult choir rehearsal on Thursdays.
- Taught Sunday School on Easter Sunday, April 21
- Assisted with the **Kairos Weekend** at the Lynaugh Prison Unit in Ft. Stockton on April 25-28. Amazing weekend with God turning the hearts of many of the inmates who attended.

- Coordinated and led the **Senior Adult Bible Study Retreat** in Junction on May 6-8. We took 18 folks and invited David Johnson to lead the study. Everyone had a great time and we brought back the same number that we left with.
- Assisted Cory Brand with coordinating Sunday afternoon outreach.
- Coordinated the new “Care Team.”
- Coordinated the announcements, invitation counseling, and welcome each week in the 11:05am Chapel service.
- Rotated with other staff in the 8:25am blended service with announcements, ministry opportunities, invitation counseling, and welcome.

Cory Brand

Minister to Families

Pre-marital Counseling:

I am counseling weekly with 2 different newly engaged couples for pre-marital counseling. (I meet with each engaged couple weekly for 8 weeks.) There is another family that I am also working with who is concerned about a granddaughter. She is struggling with some self-esteem issues and they are searching for resources to help her.

New Church Software Implementation Team:

We have begun the implementation process for the new (upcoming) church software, CCB. I am part of the team of 6 who is meeting weekly and working in between those meetings to make decisions and train on the best usage of that software for our church.

Staff Retreat/Ministry Grid:

The ministerial staff attended our yearly retreat. We were hosted by the Blaylocks in Junction and had a wonderful time together. Our trainings focused on using Ministry Grid, a multi-media systematic resource to help us to train leaders within our congregation. We also had some time to enjoy the beautiful creation and relax a bit. It was a great time together for our team

Church Member Engagement:

Based on the information we covered at staff retreat, I began meeting with Elket Rodriguez and Chad Sullivan for leadership training. We will meet weekly for about 6 months (+/-) to cover all of the material and talk through it as we go. So far, these have been valuable, challenging discussions together.

I also had the opportunity to teach the Evermore Sunday School class on 4/28 while their leadership was away. This is our newest ‘young married’ class, and they are an active, vibrant group that is already growing.

I met with a family who lost a parent and conducted the graveside funeral for them on 4/24.

On April 24, I began a 4 week series during Prayer Meeting. We have been doing a character study on Peter, and I have found the preparation to be quite interesting. We’ve had some good discussions together, and I look forward to the next few weeks.

Family Ministry Committee Meeting:

We met on April 28th for the first time ‘officially’ as the Family Ministry Committee. Amy had several things to bring to the group from the preschool area, and we also talked about the possibility of promoting Right Now Media again to our church body. This is a great resource for families and individuals for Bible studies and Christian resources.

Family Ministry Team:

The Family Ministry Team (Jeremy, Sarah, Amy, and I) have continued the 'Meals at Home' campaign. This campaign encourages families to eat together a minimum of three times a week, around the table and without tv or devices. We have received a good number of commitment cards from families each week and use those for weekly drawings for restaurant gift cards. The grand prize in May will be a \$200 grocery gift card. These prizes have proven to be a great incentive for continued participation.

Our team, in preparation for Easter, also provided baskets and resources for our church members to invite families in their neighborhood to services at FBC. These had a great response, and all of the baskets were very quickly picked up to go out to neighbors and friends.

Personal Note:

I am continuing with a Marriage and Pre-Marital Counseling course from B.H. Carroll Theological Institute. I am really enjoying this class, as it has been extremely applicable to my daily functioning here at the church.

Jeremy Gengler

Student Pastor

Vision

As previously reported, beginning in the Fall, our ministry will be organized according to the values of the church: Prayer, Worship, Evangelism, Missions, Discipleship, and Community. Our particular mission statement for the Student Ministry will be as follows. *FBCSM exists to equip students and their families to: ENCOUNTER God's heart through prayer; EXPERIENCE God's presence through worship; ENGAGE God's world through evangelism; EXPRESS God's love through missions; EXPAND God's kingdom through discipleship; and ENCOURAGE God's people through community.*

To this end, we have selected Scriptures to guide our development of each area of ministry. We will use the verbs in each of these Scriptures to develop the direction of each ministry area. The Scriptures we will use are as follows. **ENCOUNTER GOD'S HEART** - *Devote yourself to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving. (Colossians 4:2)* Guiding verbs: **DEVOTE, KEEP ALERT**; **EXPERIENCE GOD'S PRESENCE** - *Serve the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful singing. (Psalm 100:2)* Guiding verbs: **SERVE, COME BEFORE**; **ENGAGE GOD'S WORLD** - *Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. (Mark 16:15)* Guiding verbs: **GO, PREACH**; **EXPRESS GOD'S LOVE** - *The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many. (Matthew 20:28)* Guiding verbs: **SERVE, GIVE**; **EXPAND GOD'S KINGDOM** - *The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. (2 Timothy 2:2)* Guiding verbs: **HEAR, ENTRUST, TEACH**; **ENCOURAGE GOD'S PEOPLE** - *Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:24-25)* Guiding verbs: **CONSIDER, PROVOKE, NOT FORSAKE, ENCOURAGE.**

As we have prayed through and discussed how our programming will be changing, we have determined that the best course of action is to address three points of emphasis for each value. Each emphasis is a ministry direction. Our ministry directions will thus consist of individual, group, and family. The purpose of the individual emphasis is to help our students grow spiritually as individuals in their personal relationships with Jesus. The purpose of the group emphasis is to reinforce, encourage, and model what the students should be doing in their individual relationships with Jesus. The purpose of the family emphasis is to both make it easy and likely for families to fulfill their role as the primary disciplers of their teenagers. The goal of each ministry direction will be to accomplish the church values in each ministry context. More details will appear in next month's report about the specifics of the programming.

Midpoint

- Average attendance was 60 students at Midpoint. Last month it was 50 students. Students are beginning to catch on to the importance of inviting their friends and are increasingly doing so.
- This month, Keller Vourazeris taught at Student-Led Midpoint. Bless him, despite his visible nervousness, he was able to communicate a powerful message about what it means to be in Christ's family. And he did so in a humorous way. He spoke on Luke 8:19-21.

Sunday School

- Sunday School Field Days resumed in March. The idea of Sunday School Field Days has been widely embraced, but because we are squeezing it into the Sunday School hour, our students and volunteers have felt time-constricted. This is something we will be adjusting for next school year. The Sunday School classes concluded their Field Day that consisted of prayerwalking City Hall. In May, Sunday School classes will be visiting fire stations and taking breakfast to firefighters. This Field Day, Field Day #4, consists of the following activity. The Fire Chief was excited to hear about our desire to bless and minister to the firefighters.

Field Day #4

Experience: Make and deliver breakfast to firefighters. Hang out with them and get to know them better. Take their prayer requests, and then pray over their requests as a group before leaving. Let them know how much Jesus and FBC loves them.

11 th Grade	Midland Fire Station 1	1500 W Wall St
7 th Grade	Midland Fire Station 5	2200 W Golf Course Rd
9 th -10 th Grade	Midland Fire Station 8	By the mall

AUX/Challengers

- Youth Choir and AUX/Challengers have a symbiotic and synergistic relationship. Because of Youth Choir, AUX/Challengers has yet to drop below 50 student participants; because of AUX/Challengers, Youth Choir is another cog in the Sunday night discipleship experience.
- Right now, the purpose of AUX is to help students understand what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. The study consists of 30 topics. 15 topics are covered each semester. By the end of the school year, students will have studied what it means to believe the gospel; to become a disciple; they will have learned basic theology that provides a framework for spiritual growth (The Bible, God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, Church) along with the character qualities of a disciple (Fruit of the Spirit, Forgiveness, Overcoming, Perseverance); and they will have learned how to practice the spiritual disciplines that define what a disciple's life looks like.
- AUX will conclude May 19 with an end-of-year AUX party.

At Home

- We had every intention and plan to resume At Home—the beginnings of an on-campus FBCSM parent ministry—after the mission trip to Alaska. Prior to our return, Footprints in February really took off. Once we discovered how God was moving on Sunday nights through Footprints, we encouraged all our parents to attend that instead. At Home will come back; it's just unclear right now how and when. This topic is currently under discussion and consideration.

Impact Weekend

- Impact Weekend has so much more potential to reach many more teenagers than what it has been doing. When Impact Weekend first started, there were a certain group of youth pastors who all came together to make it happen. So long as these youth pastors stayed at their churches, Impact had consistent participation. After doing quite a bit of digging, I have discovered that there has been a changing of the guard. All the Youth Pastors who initially came together to start Impact Weekend are gone. I still love the idea of Impact Weekend and think it's something that should continue. However, I have discovered we are having to start from square one—having lunch with Youth Pastors in the area

and getting to know them. Beginning in March, Katy and I began having lunch with Youth Pastors in the area one day each week for the purpose of fellowship and to encourage them to participate with Impact Weekend. We are looking to meet with 3-4 different Youth Pastors each time we have lunch. Update: we have had lunch with Youth Pastors from True Lite Christian Fellowship, FBC Stanton, First United Methodist, and will be having lunch soon with Youth Pastors from Lighthouse Christian Fellowship, St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Greenwood Baptist Church, First Presbyterian Church, and St. Stephen's Catholic Church. The lunches are wonderful times of fellowship and ministry and provide opportunity to pray for one another.

Schools

- **Lunch Bunch** – I had Lunch Bunch at Abell, Alamo, and Goddard. At Goddard, I was able to join my efforts to meet with students to First Priority and encourage students who otherwise would not attend First Priority to go. At SJ, I met several friends of students who did not go to church anywhere and who had never really heard much about Jesus. Probably my favorite Lunch Bunch of the year was at Alamo. We only have 3 students that attend Alamo, but these three students brought a total of 15 friends! These students really caught the vision for Lunch Bunch. Each one of their friends had a great time. I had a great time meeting them and encouraged them to ask their friends about coming to Generate Camp. Total, this semester, I have had contact with 175 students in the school system through Lunch Bunch. What I am hoping to accomplish through Lunch Bunch is three things. First, I want our students to know that they are loved and remembered even when they are not in the church building or on a youth trip. Second, I want to encourage any of my students' friends to go to church who do not attend church and to encourage them to come check us out. Third, I want to model the way for students regarding what it looks like to reach out to their friends, and how it doesn't have to be something extreme or scary. We have intentional conversations during lunch, but nothing that an unbeliever would consider threatening. At the end of lunch, each student has visibly enjoyed the time together and is grateful for the lunch that has been provided.
- My chaplain responsibilities with Midland High will resume soon. I will be working with Coach A-Z to determine what involvement looks like over the summer and making plans for the fall.
- 1 to 1 Focused Learning continued to meet at SJ. About 30 kids were in attendance. The final 1-to-1 tutoring session will be the first week of May.

.Interior Design

- All that remains is to cover the acoustic panels with the brighter colored fabric. About ¼ of the room is completed. David and Rodney have been contacted to help with this project. Jim has also been notified. By the end of the summer, all the details of the Youth Worship Room remodel should be complete. We have received the last roll of fabric.

Mission Trips

- A total of 16 people – 4 adults, 12 students, will be participating in the 7th-8th mission trip to the Navajo Nation

Overall, the Mission Credit program has been a success. It has kept our students more involved in our church and with a variety of ministries of our church.

College Ministry

- Carl Anderson, Melissa Anderson, and Whitney Livingston have all been engaged in intentional one-on-one discipleship with some of the college students.
- The College Crew is currently making plans for a summer retreat in Ruidoso. They will have a day trip to Balmorhea in mid-May.

Sarah Arrambide

Minister of Children's Education

Vacation Bible School

At the moment, I am focusing on VBS. As of this morning, 369 learners have registered online!!!!!! We held a night of training for our volunteers, which was well attended. Many thanks to Julie Wood, Darin Wood, Eva Diaz, Becca Hanna, Linda Freeman, Robin Hoke, Kay Merritt, the Preschool staff, the maintenance staff, the kitchen staff, the Compass Department, and Crystal Nickolaus for everything they did to make this a great evening. What a marvelous opportunity we have to share the love of Christ with the children of Midland. I am so thankful for the way God has orchestrated every detail of VBS. To God be the Glory!!!

Sunday School - What a wonderful blessing to see so many children get baptized in the past few months. Another positive is that we continue to have many first-time guests that keep coming back.

New Sunday School Curriculum – I have been praying about changing curriculum for the past couple of years. As a result, God has led me once again to the Gospel Project. I looked at it when it came out a few years ago but we weren't ready for it. We have used Bible Studies for Life for the past almost 10 years and it has served us well, but it is lacking in some areas. The Gospel Project for Kids will help our leadership, who by the way, is on board for making this change, teach kids to:

- See the Big Story: Kids will understand that the Bible is not a collection of stories, but God's unified story of redemption.
- Read Scripture as Christ-centered: The Leader Guide and Activity Pages provide a deep, Christ-centered Bible study experience.
- Grasp Essential Christian Doctrines: The Big Picture Questions and Answers are designed to help kids understand essential theological doctrines of the Christian faith.
- Study the Old and New Testaments: Kids spend equal time in the Old and New Testaments, learning the distinctions of each and how they fit together.

Another reason for the change is so that our curriculum will align with Preschool's curriculum. Our volunteers and I are excited about this new venture and look forward to seeing great results.

Camp Copass

Camp Xtreme is scheduled for July 8-13. We hope to take about 50 3rd -6th graders. Registration is currently open!

Teacher Night of Painting

We treated our Sunday School teachers to a night of canvas painting. Twelve teachers participated in this fun night of painting, eating and fellowship. We learned a lot about each other and strengthened our relationships.

Regional Bible Drill and Speakers' Tournament

FBC hosted the Regional Bible Drill and Speakers' Tournament on April 5-6. 77 children, youth and high schoolers participated from all over this region. It was great to be part of this event!

Staff Retreat at the Great House

We had a staff retreat at the Greathouse in April. The ministry team retreat was excellent. God revealed a lot to me about myself and those on our team. Let me just say that I count it a joy and privilege to serve with this team. Each one has wonderful gifts and talents that God is using at FBC. They are not only my colleagues; they are my friends.

Blessings to each of you as you continue to faithfully serve our Lord and Savior here at First Baptist Church. Thank you for all you do!

Amy Brand

Minister of Preschool Education

We have had a great month in Preschool Ministry! It has been busy with ongoing ministry happenings, but we've also had a couple of new and exciting developments in April!

VBS preparation is rolling along at record pace! We have been working with our preschool coordinators to help prepare them for the training and recruit volunteers. In the office, we've been preparing supply and craft boxes, putting together resource binders, and making sure that the curriculum is in order. All of that was handed out Tuesday, April 30th, at the VBS Training Night. We had a tremendous group of volunteers at the training, and were able to connect groups of teachers together with their teams, introduce them to the Bible stories that they will be teaching, and walk through the many logistical details that go into having 1100+ children in our building! (We also enjoyed a great meal and some sweet fellowship!)

I met with the Family Ministry Committee about the possibility of creating a sensory room in our preschool area. We have several children who could really benefit from having a 'safe,' less-stimulating environment to retreat to (with a trained adult) when they become overly stimulated or just need a break. In addition to our current children, we believe that this can speak volumes to those in our community who may have special needs children. Many of these families are unchurched, as they don't feel like there is a place equipped to 'handle' their child. We want to communicate that Jesus loves everyone, and that First Baptist Church welcomes their entire family here! The committee was very excited about this option. I have begun conversations with a few members of the Safety and Security Team about how to best manage the details of maintaining a safe environment for both our children and adults. I'm hoping to meet with this committee in May.

I also have been planning and preparing for the #messyfamilydontcare nights and have asked Sarah to partner with me on those. These nights will include a high-energy worship time, a devotional with family discussion questions, and then messy and/or wet games outside. The intent is to provide an environment where parents/grandparents can worship and play with their preschool and elementary children in an intentional, purposeful way. We have many families who disconnect during the summer months, so our hope is to encourage continued connection with the church, and ultimately Christ! Those who are attending Super Summer Singers (on the dates that we have overlap) will be encouraged to go to rehearsal and then come join us for messy games. We'll continue with a full night for those too young for SSS and for those choosing not to participate.

In April, we had someone here for a couple of days from Imagination Atmospheres. This is the company that is redesigning our preschool hallway, fish tank area, and JAM Room stage wall. He spent a great deal of time getting to know our facilities, our church culture, and taking lots and lots of measurements. I'm so excited about having a fresh look for our families! Installation will begin on July 22nd.

I have been invited to be a part of the Life Skills trainings that happen at Midland Fair Havens on Monday evenings. DiAnn Koehl asked if I would be willing to come and do multiple sessions with their ladies on parenting. This has already been just a tremendous blessing for me! I taught two Monday evenings in April, and have another one coming up in May. Briget McAninch (their program director) has talked to me about coming on a monthly basis for next year to allow us to have an ongoing conversation about parenting with these sweet single moms.

We had a luncheon on April 28th with those participating in the upcoming Baby Dedication/Family Commitment services to talk through the meaning of this special commitment. We have 11 children signed up for the May dedication. (We've had many more babies than that born this year, but some are new enough that moms and dads are opting to wait until December before participating.)

Our staff retreat was also in April! We had a wonderful time at the Great House in Junction as we learned and grew together. We also had a little time to relax and had some sweet fellowship and increase the unity among our team. Our emphasis for this retreat was on leadership development, specifically focused on intentionally training those who have the potential to grow beyond where they are currently serving. These trainings are emphasizing core competencies that translate to any area of service, not teaching specific skills that are limited to one particular role or ministry.

With Easter in April, the preschool area was busy! We had lots of new families with us that Sunday and have seen several of them already return. We also saw those who hadn't been here in a while, which is always encouraging.

I have been invited to be a part of the CCB (Church Community Builders) Implementation Team. This is to help plan and train on the use of our new church software/people management tool. This will be a six-month training and implementation process, and the use of the software will be rolled out in phases. We had our first meeting at the end of April, and I'm excited to be a part of the team.

I put together a team to assemble the Mother's Day gifts that will be given to each woman in our church on Mother's Day. This was fun to organize, and we had a great time of laughter and fellowship as we worked!

Our Family Ministry Team has continued promoting the Meals@Home campaign. We have had a wide variety of families participate in this challenge and have been able to give away multiple prizes through weekly drawings. We also organized and provided materials for church members to put together a small Easter basket to deliver to a family in their neighborhoods, along with a gospel tract and an invitation to join us for Easter services. We had a tremendous response to this, both inside of the church and out!

I have officially shifted offices within the main church office complex. A new door from my office to the preschool hallway was installed, which will allow me easy access to the hall, especially during weekday activities (CDO, MOPS, CBS) when I can connect with teachers and parents. While I don't spend much time in my office on Sundays, this ease of access during the week hopefully will allow me to be as accessible as possible to families and encourage relationships to continue to be built.

As always, let me know if you have any questions about anything in this report, or just anything about the Preschool Ministry in general! Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve Him here. There is truly nowhere else I'd rather be!

Bryan Pinson

Minister of Missions

Future Missions Ministry Events:

- June 9, 2019, 4th Kenya Team Mtg
- June 23, 2019, Mission Team Mtg & 5th Kenya Team Mtg
- June 18th – 28th, Dr D, Christian Cotton, and Watch & Pray in Ethiopia for Pastor Conferences, etc.
- June 28-July 7 Kenya Mission Trip

Missions Ministry Priorities

- Unreached People Groups
- Indigenous Pastoral Training
- Reproducible Church Planting

Missions Ministry Assistant Position Vacancy

Please pray that God will send the right person to help us in this important role.

RA Campout

I had the wonderful privilege of preaching to approximately 60 men and boys about Naaman's healing at the Jordan River as we worshipped on the banks of the San Saba River on the RA campout April 26-28th. Kevin Ashmore, our RA leader, and John Elliott, Minister of Activities, have done a wonderful work of recruiting and developing men and boys in this ministry. Fellowship and discipleship are magnified when men are involved in accomplishing tasks together with their hands.

It's Budget Time

Each missions team (Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and Ends of the Earth) met in April to begin discussion on next year's budget. Budget will be finalized during May 19th meeting.

Kenya Mission Trip (June 28th- July 7th)

We have 44 planning to go to Kenya this Summer to help two of our partners around Nairobi, Kenya. Tickets have been purchased and itineraries are being finalized. At Magnet School in Nairobi, we will be leading a Day Camp/VBS with school children while also helping to train/inspire their teachers. We will be assisting with the construction of a chicken house that will supplement their food source as well as generate some income for them long term. Dr. D and Lazaro Diaz will be conducting a Pastor Conference. At His Cherished Ones in Nakuru, Kenya, our team will be constructing a playground, helping with the care and love of the babies, and encouraging their aunties.

Salvation Army New Building

It is great to have other like-minded partners in town taking care of the less fortunate. They now have the ability to safely provide temporary shelter for single parents with children which has been a need in our city for some time. It's a great time to recognize our own Dick Campbell who is a long-time board member of this sister organization. Praise God!

Significant Meetings/Phone Calls with Mission Partners/Potential Partners

Brett Porter – Church Planting Catalyst – Toronto, ON
Stephen Cavitt – Missionary to Muslims – North Carolina/Jordan
Chris Clayman – Global Gates – New York City
FBC Missions Foundation
Salvation Army – Dedication of New Facility
Basin Baptist Network Luncheon - Missions Meeting and Pastor's Lunch
John and Tammy Worley – IMB Missionaries to Israel

John Elliott

Minister of Activities

Registration for our upcoming summer camps began April 1st. Day Camp 1 is June 10-14, Day Camp 2 is June 17-21, Volleyball camp is July 1-5 and Basketball camp is July 15-19.

Our Church wide picnic will be held at the Rockhounds this year on June 9th. The picnic will start at 1:30pm with the baseball game starting at 2:00. Adults and kids 13 and over are \$15 and children 4-12 are \$8 and children 3 and under are free.

John and Nathan will be meeting with the pastors from Priddy, Merkel and Ballinger to plan the week when the Travel REC team will be there this summer.

April 26-28, John and the RA's from Midland went to Brady for the RA Camp out. RA's from El Dorado came as well. There were a total of 20 men and 34 boys. Dr. D even came and as far as John can remember, he is the only pastor to attend RA camp since L.L. Morris. Seven boys accepted Christ at the camp out.

Here's what else is going on at the AB...

- The AB is open M-F 8:00 AM to 9:00 PM and on Saturdays 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM and for Sunday School on Sunday mornings... this is 90 hours per week.
- The Solid Rock Café is open Monday - Friday at the AB (about 60 people a day)
- FBC Business Men's Basketball on Tuesday and Thursday (about 10 men)
- The cardio/weight room (40 people per day)
- Senior Adult Fitness on MWF (8 people)

Mary Schultz

Child Development Center Director

The month of April in the CDC was devoted primarily to sharing the Easter Experience with our preschoolers and kindergarteners. We planned very meaningful, hands-on lessons for chapel. The children participated in five different stations, starting with waving palm branches as Jesus rode into Jerusalem, then having their feet washed just as Jesus washed the feet of his disciples. Next, each class sat around a tablecloth, just as the disciples and Jesus had a special meal together. Three giant crosses, a crown of thorns and large spikes brought the crucifixion to life for the children, followed by the viewing of an empty tomb.

Each class was also treated to an Easter Egg Hunt on the Thursday before our Good Friday holiday. Parents were invited, and a good time was had by all!

Our kindergarten classes visited the Blakemore Planetarium on April 25. The students enjoyed learning more about space while viewing a 3-D digital Dome Show.

Ms. Dowell began Spring Program rehearsals with all classes early in the month. The program is scheduled for May 2 in the Worship Center.

Jim Hansen

Director of Maintenance

MAINTENANCE:

- Install door for Preschool children office
- Painted rooms for Media Broadcast
- Change out light fixtures – Missions Bldg.
- VBS Props
- Received new planters – main facility
- All children areas have barrel bolts on doors
- Place crosses in windows for Easter
- Daily work orders

CUSTODIAL:

- Clean carpets in the Parlor
- Serviced the I-20 Windsor Scrub machines
- Changed out squeegee blades on all scrubbers
- Clean carpet on A-Hall first floor
- Daily work orders

1	WMU Prayer Lunch
2	M.A.R.Y. Mentoring
	CDO
	Handbells
	MISD Booster Club Team Dinner
3	CBS
	Children's Choir
4	Iron Men
	Precept Upon Precept
	BH Carroll Class
	Ladies Lunchtime Bible Study
	Midland Retired Teachers
4	Adult ESL
5	M.O.P.S.
	Regional Bible Drill and Speakers Tournament
6	Regional Bible Drill and Speakers Tournament
7	Safety Training
8	CDO Staff Development
	VBS Coordinators Meeting
	Deacons Meeting
9	BH Carroll Class
	CDC Staff Meeting
10	Wednesday Evening Meal
	Refine Class Fellowship
11	CDO
	Noon Day Prayer Meeting
	McDuffey Memorial Service/Bereavement Meal
12	Midland Classical Academy
	Joe Crimmins Memorial Service
14	Lord's Supper – AM
	Muffins for Missions
	Nehemiah Palm Sunday Breakfast
	Foundation Committee Mtg.
15	Brotherhood Luncheon
	Personnel and Church Council Meeting

16	M.A.R.Y. Mentoring
	John Malone Service and family meal
17	Children's Ministry Leader Meeting
	Safety and Security Committee Meeting
18	CDO
	Ladies Lunchtime Bible Study
22	Lydia Lunch
	MISD Girls BB Banquet
23	Handbells
24	CBS
	GA's and RA's
25	Precious Memories Choir
	DMA
	Adult ESL
26	Midland Classical Academy
26	VBS Decorating
27	Powers/Ingram Reception
28	Funeral Service – Chapel
	Baby Dedication Luncheon
	FBC Missions Team Meeting
	Church Conference
29	Golden Girls
	VBS Coordinator Meeting
30	BH Carroll Class
	CCB Implementation Mtg.
	VBS Training/Kickoff
	Nehemiah Ladies Bible Study