

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The Church Council of First Baptist Church of Midland, Texas met for its regular meeting on Monday, October 21, 2019. Members present: Clark Butts, Andy Cobb, Michelle Cobb, Charlotte Cooke, Randy Cotton, Scott Daw, Linda Freeman, Tom Hanna, Jayna Hobby, Dr. Richard Jolly, Ralph Lea, Patrick Mayers, Mark McKinney, Clark Moreland, Fred Nobles, April Paris, Toni Redman, K'Lynn Roberts, Wilma Roberts, Ginger Schantz, Jason Sims, Perry Taylor, Randy Thornton, and Tracye Vaughan.

Staff members present: Dr. Darin Wood, Cory Brand, and Larry Grimes.

Chairman Richard Jolly called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. He asked for prayer requests. Prayer was offered by Patrick Mayers.

The new and returning Church Council members for 2019-20 were all welcomed by Dr. Richard Jolly. The minutes from the September 16, 2019 Council meeting were **approved**.

REPORTS

Senior Pastor - Darin Wood

Dr. Wood asked Council members to download the LEAD app to access the My First Family program. He mentioned that the app gives members access to information in the church database, but that member privacy is protected by leveled permissions. Mr. Brand then proceeded to present on how to use My First Family for Council purposes (see below).

After Mr. Brand's presentation concluded, Dr. Wood praised the new Minister to Senior Adults James Ervin for his fine work so far. He asked the Council to continue praying for a new Student Pastor. He then mentioned that he would be absent at the next Council meeting to attend the Baptist General Convention of Texas annual meeting.

Dr. Wood then reported on his attendance (with Larry Grimes, and Cory & Amy Brand) at the Caring Well Conference, which was held in response to allegations of sexual abuse in the Southern Baptist Convention. The Conference, Dr. Wood said, addressed how churches can protect their members from sexual predators; for example, they learned strategies for closing gaps in the recruitment and training processes for volunteers. He said they heard from survivors of abuse, and was disturbed by how widespread and seemingly random the cases were, except for the fact that most victims knew their assailants. Dr. Wood took that to mean that current background check procedures may not be sufficient. He said the Safety and Security Committee will be looking at the Conference's recommendations, and ministers will be looking to adapt parts of the Caring Well curriculum for use in FBC Midland. He asked for the Council to pray for protection for the congregation.

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Dr. Wood concluded by reporting on the vote to dissolve the Basin Baptist Network on October 13th, and noted that as he and others develop a new local church network, they will focus their efforts on supporting the Baptist Crisis Center and Baptist Student Ministries at Midland College and UT Permian Basin, while also fostering relationships and providing training for smaller churches.

LEAD App Training – Cory Brand

Mr. Brand talked about the functionality of the LEAD app (Church Community Builder, My First Family), including attendance check-in, messaging, membership rosters, file storage, reports, subscriptions to group calendars, notes for special days, etc. He also talked about how Council members can use the app to contact or visit members' homes. Mr. Brand also mentioned the website that members can use if they prefer that to the app:

<http://myfirstfamily.ccbchurch.com>.

Larry Grimes said the app would be useful for committees to deliver meeting dates and schedule events on campus. Patrick Mayers mentioned that he has uploaded a map of the church for his Sunday school group so they can find their classroom. Mr. Brand said if Sunday school leaders are not connected yet to classes on the app or website, they need to contact him. Mr. Grimes assured the Council that privacy was protected through leveled permissions, and certain data (such as tithing) was not available to even senior ministers. There was discussion about how visitors and guests would be registered in the system. Mr. Grimes added that there will no longer be "Sunday-school only membership," and that non-church members who regularly attend Sunday school will be designated as "Sunday school attenders" in the system. Mr. Brand assured Council that he will create a homebound group in the app.

Clark Butts asked about rollout dates for training for church members. Mr. Brand said the main rollout will take place in Sunday school classes, and that around 90% of leaders have already participated. James Ervin is helping with training senior adult leadership, he said. Dr. Wood predicted the app would improve communication among members, lay leaders, and ministers, and Mr. Grimes Larry added that it can facilitate prayer requests. Mr. Grimes predicted that if used appropriately, the system would free up church secretaries for other work. Ginger Schantz said that it could help members get to know those outside of their Sunday school classes. Mr. Grimes said they're hoping for 80% participation from the congregation eventually. Finally, Mr. Grimes thanked the core group that have worked on researching and training folks to use the app over the past year.

Richard Jolly asked committee members to review the Ministerial reports. (See attached report.) He also mentioned staff birthdays and passed around cards. Dr. Jolly then reminded previous committee chairs and new chairs to communicate with each other, exchange notebooks, and get committee leaders up to speed.

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Finance Committee – Tom Hanna

Tom Hanna presented the September Financial Report. Being the end of the fiscal year, Mr. Hanna noted that the total expenditures were \$781K below gross receipts, despite the fact that receipts were \$321K below what was predicted by the 2018-19 budget. Salaries and benefits were 49% of the total expenditures, well below the 52% target. The general fund balance was \$2.068M, with an \$781K operating gain and \$887K in investment income being added to the original balance of \$400K. There were \$1.053M in capital funds available, and total assets were valued at \$9.018M. Mr. Hanna expressed appreciation to Larry Grimes and LaNell Dean for their stewardship. On behalf of the Finance Committee, Mr. Hanna brought forward the report for approval. **A motion to accept the monthly financial report passed unanimously.**

Mr. Hanna then mentioned that Jason Sims led the Finance Committee meeting the day before. At that meeting, the general fund balance for 2019-20 was reestablished at \$400K. He also reported that a Royalties Subcommittee was formed inside the Finance Committee to help determine how the church should handle royalties from minerals excavated under church land. That Subcommittee is comprised of: Tom Hanna, Mark McKinney (Finance Committee Vice Chair), Tom Beebe (Church Comptroller), Kim Ortega (Secretary), Clark Moreland, and Larry Grimes (ex officio). Mr. Hanna also referenced Comptroller's reports with receipt trends, which are used to forecast budgeting.

At this point, Jason Sims honored Richard Jolly for his service of Chairman of Church Council. Dr. Jolly then thanked members who were rotating off the Church Council – Clark Butts, Andy Cobb, Charlotte Cooke, Mike Mayer, K'Lynn Roberts, Perry Taylor, and Tracye Vaughan –and excused them from the meeting.

The election of officers for 2019-20 was then held. The Executive Committee had previously nominated Linda Freeman for Secretary, Clark Moreland for Vice Chair, and Jason Sims for Chair. An opportunity was given for other nominations from the floor. None were provided. A verbal vote was held and **the three nominated were unanimously elected.** Jason Sims assumed the chair, and Linda Freeman assumed secretarial duties.

Deacons – Randy Cotton

Mr. Cotton reported on the ordination of Flo Akintunji on October 6th, as well as the activation of already ordained deacons: Jody Sneed, Chad Sullivan, Adam Vourazeris and Ricky Cox.

Chairman's Report – Jason Sims

Mr. Sims challenged the new council members to spend time daily in prayer and reading God's Word. Mr. Sims has asked Wilma Roberts to serve as prayer coordinator for 2019-2020. Mrs. Roberts asked us to meet in the prayer room on Monday from 5:45pm-6:45pm the week prior to our monthly Church Council meeting.

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Committee Reports

Missions – Fred Nobles

Mr. Nobles reported that Craig Yenser made a motion to give \$25,000.00 to Teen FLOW to help pay for a van. Mr. Yenser also made a motion to give \$5833.33 to Habitat for Humanity to partner in the Apostles Build Project. Keith Skarr reported that the Ends of the Earth sub-committee approved \$2400.00 to help Janice Tankersley, from our deaf ministry go to Bangkok and Nepal for a mission trip.

Family Ministry – Ginger Schantz

No report.

General Nominating – Randy Thornton

The General Nominating Committee met over email on October 19th. The Committee approved the names of the following volunteers for service in the noted areas for 2019-2020: 1st Grade A/B: Kay Merritt; 4th Grade B: Karla Roberts; 3 Yr. Old Choir: Cathy Scott; 4 Yr. Old Choir: Karen Norman. On behalf of the General Nominating Committee, Mr. Thornton brought forward the report for approval. **A motion to accept the nominations passed unanimously.**

Maintenance and Expansion – Richard Jolly

The M&E Committee met for a luncheon on September 12th in the conference room of BCKK Engineering. Jim Hansen reported on his budget and surplus spending, and noted that all projects have been completed except for window replacement at the activities building, Phase 2 of the drain replacement, and the remodel of the restrooms by the business office. Mr. Hansen said he hopes there will be surplus funding next year to change out more light fixtures and work on plumbing repairs. Mr. Hansen stated that his area was \$78K under budget. Mr. Grimes said the church is now on 811 and that orange and black poles and signage now mark where all fiber optics are located, which will hopefully prevent contractors from ever cutting the cables. It was a priority to get this done before construction on Garfield Street begins. Mr. Hansen then presented a list of items he would like to complete if surplus funds are available. Those repairs are:

Replace Air Handler Unit (Sanctuary AHU)	\$250,000.00
Replace Air Handler Unit (AHV #10 & AHV #11)	110,000.00
Replace Fireproof Ceiling (Kitchen & AB Cafe)	10,000.00
Carpet Rooms (A Hall & Preschool Area)	50,000.00
Total	\$420,000.00

LaNell Dean will be putting together a report to show reductions in recent electricity usage

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thanks to installation of the new windows and more efficient air conditioning units. In addition, there should be a reduction in cost with the new electricity contract. Finally, Mr. Butts said he would bring up the idea of a creating a sub-committee to study building usage at the next church council meeting (see September Church Council minutes).

Membership - Ralph Lea

The Council reviewed the additions and losses to the membership. The additions to the church totaled 8 in September (5 by baptism; 2 by letter; 1 by statement), with 10 membership losses (8 by death; 2 by letter). The additions would be voted on at the October 2019 Church Conference. Total active resident members are 2957. **A motion to accept the membership report passed unanimously.**

Personnel - Jason Sims

No report.

Transportation - Scott Daw

No report.

Safety and Security Committee - Patrick Mayers

Mr. Mayers reported that the S&S Committee met on October 16th. They inducted new members, looked over the Committee charge, and reviewed S&S-related facility activities, such as camera and lock installations and fire drills. The Committee also reviewed a Personal Protective Equipment and Job Hazard Analysis, and discussed plans to form an S&S Emergency Response Plan. The Committee plans to conduct a walking tour of the facilities. Finally, the Committee discussed the Caring Well Conference and heard how the staff is evaluating how to implement certain recommendations from the conference.

New Business

None.

Toni Redman closed the meeting in prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 PM.



Clark Moreland, Secretary, 2018-19
Linda Freeman, Secretary, 2019-20

Date Approved

Ministers Monthly Report to Church Council
November 18, 2019

Darin Wood
Senior Pastor

Dear Church Council friends,

Grace and Peace today! Thanks for your service to the Lord, His Kingdom and the First family. Please forgive my absence tonight. Once a year, our state Baptist group, the Baptist General Convention of Texas, holds an annual meeting. That annual meeting is November 17-19. Ten percent of our total budget receipts are given to this group. Thus, along with my friends Bryan Pinson and Cory Brand, we are representing you as an act of stewardship of the Lord's money and mission partnerships. I shall look forward to being back with you this coming Sunday as well as back with you for our December meeting of the council.

We (Larry Grimes, Cory and Amy Brand and I) started the month with a trip to the Dallas area for a meeting. Some months ago, the Houston Chronicle ran a story about the epidemic of sexual assault and sexual abuse within Southern Baptist Churches. The Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission – the “conscience” of the Southern Baptist Convention (our national membership) put the event on in conjunction with their launch of a new church-wide curriculum called “Caring Well.” This month, we introduced that curriculum to our ministry team as well as our Safety and Security Committee. The curriculum is long, detailed and pervasive by design. They don't WANT to leave a stone unturned on the question of protecting the church. Neither do I. While it's unlikely that we will use ALL elements of the new curriculum, you can look forward to seeing changes made in how we protect ourselves. After all, we are protecting the bride of Christ – no bridge is too far.

The second Sunday of the month we had our most recent “I'm new to FBC” class during the Sunday School hour. This meeting invites people who are new members, considering membership or are just curious about FBC to come meet me, many of our staff, ask questions about how we operate and function and what it means to be a member of the First family. These have proven to be quite effective to us. Most every time we do this, new members come as a result. This time was no exception.

We also spent a considerable amount of time and energy planning the launch of “First Baptist en Espanol.” Our friend Adolfo Chavez has been an amazing asset to us in putting this on it's feet. In a manner only God could orchestrate, one of the young couples who came to our “I'm new to FBC” class were Hispanic. While they didn't want or need a Spanish language solution, one of their parents did. That was the final straw in their decision to join us. We welcome them – ALL OF THEM – with open arms and well-resourced to meet their needs.

Our Bright Night event went over quite well in spite of the weather. It didn't take long to determine we NEEDED to be indoors. It was COLD! But the spirit of both events was WARM! The people who came were so thrilled we did the event. Our volunteers were excited and loving to all who came. The administration of the schools told me Sarah Arrambide and Amy Brand are to be commended for their fine work. I couldn't agree more! We are deeply grateful for the doors Bright Night opened. What I

noticed more than anything was the number of people who came who don't look like us. For us to join them in their building and serve them there spoke volumes about who we are. I couldn't have been happier and you should feel the same. It was a great night for the First Family.

Larry Grimes

Business Administrator

Dr. D and I continued the process of interviewing candidates to potentially fill the Student Pastor opening. We narrowed our search to one individual and had an in person visit with the individual. We decided to invite him in November to interact with some students, volunteers and parents to get further feedback. Depending on the results of this feedback will determine if we move forward with this candidate.

The replacement cameras for old outdated cameras for our security system were installed in October. We now have all new cameras throughout the building. It appears that all the surplus approved improvements have been completed and any additional camera or mag locks needed are being reviewed by the Safety and Security Committee. Dr. D, Amy, Cory and I went to a sexual abuse awareness and prevention conference in October. The staff is now reviewing to see what we will recommend to Safety and Security to implement regarding background checks, volunteer processes with minors, and trips with minors.

Most of the leadership in the church has now been trained in the use of CCB. It was decided that due to the relative closeness of the holiday season we will wait until January to open the system up to the entire congregation. Our hope is that CCB will also by that time have their new app available so we can train regarding it at the same time, but if it isn't available, we will still open the system for all to know how to utilize it. October will be the first financials to be completely done in the new Shelby Next software. Some reports will look a little different, but the same information will be provided to the Finance Committee and the Church Conference.

Surplus Committee was activated to begin the process of recommending how the surplus will be spent. LaNell and I collected recommendations from ministers and are prepared to share these with the committee. After meetings are held in November there should be a recommendation to Finance and Church Council during the November meetings. If approved through these committees then the Surplus allocation will be voted on by the Church at the December 4th Conference.

The staff worked well in planning the two Bright Night events. Sarah Arrambide led the overall meetings and she then led the team planning for volunteers at Lamar. Amy Brand led the team at Sam Houston in planning and volunteers. The night was cold and windy, but we had a great turn out and many were ministered to and invited to future opportunities at FBC. Plans are being made for follow up and establishing a process for communicating with people who attend events like Bright Night through CCB. Messages will be sent by the Pastor and other staff as well as invites to events during the month of November.

October 2019 - Church Council Report

	Oct. 2019		Year to Date 9/1/19- 10/31/19	10.201 8 Avg. Attend
Sunday School	Avg. Enrollment	Avg. Attend.	Avg. Attend	
55+ Adult	926	386	399	432
Adult & Family	556	179	189	190
Singles	132	47	49	53
College	50	8	8	6
Student	160	93	95	105
Children	225	111	111	116
Preschool	393	127	128	139
Main Campus Total	2442	952	978	1041
Mission Midland		104	103	106
Child Development Center	115	115	115	115
CDO Enrollment	136	136	136	136
Total	2693	1307	1332	1398
			Year to Date	
		Month	9/1/19- 10/31/19	
Sunday School members joined the church		7	15	
Total visitors recorded		211	426	

Aaron Hodges ***Minister of Music***

The search for a new church pianist has hit a wall. Since we are having a difficult time finding someone, we will continue to do as we are doing now. We will use the accompanists we have to fill in week by week. Each of them is willing and able to work like this. We will keep our ears open to keep trying to find a permanent replacement.

Lisa Alston served as the Ministry Assistant in the Music Ministry for over a year and has decided to step and go back into Real Estate work. Her last day was October 31. Starting November 4, Chris Kejr will be taking that role. Chris was the Ministry Assistant in the Youth Ministry part time and has decided it is time for a full-time role. We are blessed in the Music Ministry to have her. When you see Lisa, thank her for her work and when you see Chris, thank her for stepping in immediately.

The New York team is preparing and getting excited. Most of us leave for New York on Friday, November 22. I have included the schedule so that you will know what we are doing and how you can specifically pray for us. On a personal note, when we sing in Carnegie Hall, I am going to be singing in an ensemble with 7 other Ministers of Music on one of the pieces and to top it all off, I will be directing one of the pieces in the concert. This is going to be an incredible experience for all those that are going.

Friday, November 22nd

- Late morning or early afternoon arrival in NYC
- Welcome by CCT Staff
- Transfer to Crowne Plaza Times Square for check-in
- 72-hour Hop-on/Hop-off bus pass begins
- Evening Free

Saturday, November 23rd

- Breakfast buffet
- Rehearsal at the Crowne Plaza Times Square
- Late afternoon and evening free

Sunday, November 24th

- Breakfast buffet
- Worship at Brooklyn Tabernacle
- Lunch cruise around New York Harbor
- Evening free

Monday, November 25th

- Breakfast buffet
- Morning free
- Afternoon Dress Rehearsal at Carnegie Hall
- Dinner break (on own)
- 8:00pm - Concert at Carnegie Hall

Tuesday, November 26th (Non-extension)

- Breakfast buffet
- Check-out of our hotel
- Transfer to airport for return flights home

The whole music ministry is also preparing to lead our musical this Christmas entitled “The Miracle of Christmas” on December 15th. We have some big things in the works for that presentation. You will not want to miss it!

Robbie Boyd

Minister of Pastoral Care

During the most recent reporting period:

- 115 hospital/homebound/assisted living **visits** and **calls**.

- **Bereavement visits/calls** for 9 families.
- Conducted/Assisted with 7 **funerals**.
- Had lunches with 2 church members and discipleship with 1 church member.
- Coordinated all Wednesday night **Prayer Meetings**. Taught 3 times.
- Taught **Sunday School** 1 time.
- Assisted in **“Bright Night”** on Wednesday, October 30th at Lamar Elementary.
- Planned and promoted the **“Hope for the Holidays”** event for people who have lost loved ones in the past 12 months.
- Led out in the **Lord’s Supper** in the Chapel Service on Sunday morning, November 10th.
- Attended the **“Boomer Conference”** in Abilene with James Ervin.
- Assisted **Cory Brand** with coordinating Sunday afternoon church **outreach**.
- 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.

James Ervin

Senior Adult Minister

Thank you for the opportunity to be part of this church family and minister with a great ministerial staff. Most of my first days in this new ministry position has been geared to meeting people and developing relationships with the staff and church family. Nancy and I want to thank the church for allowing us the privilege to live in the missionary house as we seek to find housing.

Sunday School Ministry

I am attending each Sunday School department/class in the 55+ adult ministry area to become acquainted with the leadership and members. I will continue this process over the next several weeks until I have attended each class. We have some amazing Bible teachers. I praise the Lord for their love of the Word of God. Nancy and I have also been invited to several department fellowships, which has given us an opportunity to meet more folks. We appreciate the hospitality of everyone at FBC. Cory and I have been working to train SS leadership in the CCB software, how to take attendance on their smart phones with the LEAD APP and showing them the basic functions of CCB and how it will benefit their department. Cory and I worked together to merge two departments that expressed interest in combining. We worked with the leadership to guide this process. It has been a successful merger from all reports we are receiving.

DMA

57 folks attended the October DMA Luncheon. This gave me another opportunity to share my heart and vision for the 55+ ministry. I encouraged folks to fill out a sheet sharing some biographical information about their self. I anticipate this will help me make deeper connections and remember the names of

people. I also provided a spiritual gifts survey for people who have never had an opportunity to discover their spiritual gift. To help people minister and serve more effectively, it is helpful when they know their spiritual gifting.

New to FBC Class

I was excited to be able to attend the brunch on October 13 and meet people who are interested in joining FBC. This was my first opportunity to be involved and excited that FBC offers this ministry.

Boomer Conference

Robbie Boyd and I attended a Boomer Conference in Abilene on October 22. Boomers are the generation of people born between 1946 and 1964. Boomers do not like to be called senior adults and the ministry geared to this generation needs to be different than the model of ministry to the Builder generation – people born before 1946. It is my plan to use the information gleaned in the conference to reach Boomers in the most effective way possible.

Planning Team

In my first month here, I have been working to discover and enlist a team of people to join with me in the ministry to adults 55+. This team will be a visionary team and help carry out the ministry covering areas of outreach, music, special events, missions, homebound ministry, volunteers, and other areas.

Hospital Visitation

Robbie Boyd was gracious to assist me in getting registered in the chaplain's office at Midland Hospital. I have joined with him visiting senior adults in the hospital, and that has helped me get acquainted with the hospital procedures and the layout of the facility. I have also made visits at the Encompass Rehab center, and I am learning about Manor Park. I've met their chaplain and we've talked about ministry possibilities there.

Bright Night

It was a joy to help with this outreach to our community. Sarah and Amy, and their committee did an awesome job organizing and executing this event. I was glad to see a good number of adults 55+ helping with this event.

Ministry Assistant

Cory and I worked together interviewing possible candidates for this position and we are happy to announce we filled the position. Rhonda Carroll joined our staff on October 15.

Cory Brand

Minister to Families

CCB:

CCB trainings for lay leadership have continued each Sunday and Wednesday evenings. Our CCB implementation team wrapped up our Tuesday afternoon conference call with our CCB coach. Our Shelby and CCB reports (both run through October) lined up well, so November brings the official switch to CCB alone. The church-wide launch of CCB will be in January.

Deacon/Church Council:

I attended the Deacon's meeting this month to share about ReEngage and our marriage ministry, as well as CCB. I also attended Church Council meeting to do the CCB training.

Youth Parents/D6 Parenting Training:

I am working my way through different groups of parents to hold recurring trainings on what being a Deuteronomy 6 parent means. In October, I met with youth parents one Sunday night after Table Talks and look forward to meeting with preschool and elementary parents soon, as well.

ERLC Conference:

Darin, Larry, Amy and I attended the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission's annual conference in Dallas in early October. This year's conference was called 'Caring Well,' and focused on preventing and responding to abuse in the church.

Communio:

Communio is a partnering ministry/organization whose desire is to equip churches to strengthen families and communities through data-informed, full-circle relationship ministry. They specifically are interested in partnering with local churches to strengthen marriages throughout the whole community. I have met with them (and will again in early November) about how they can help FBC communicate our heart for marriages and families to our entire area.

Brunch:

We had a 'New to FBC' brunch in mid-October, and I enjoyed the chance to visit with families who are just beginning to attend our church.

ReEngage:

October 11th was our most recent ReEngage event. We had 20 couples attend, many of whom have not been with us before. Our theme this year is 'Closer,' so all of our games and the message were focused on getting closer as a couple. We had one couple at the end who expressed interest in being mentored through our Marriage Mentorship program.

Brotherhood Luncheon:

A huge thank you goes to the Brotherhood men and WMU women for hosting the church staff at the luncheon on October 14th. We were honored by the encouraging words and message, and well as the generosity of both groups.

Bright Night:

I served at Sam Houston and was able to have valuable interactions with multiple families as I led in the Registration area.

Marriage Mentors:

We have continued training with several marriage mentor couples and have a few couples already connected or in the process of starting meetings. We have 13 couples trained and committed to this ministry and are currently building a website for couples in the community to use when looking for this type of help for their marriages.

Family Ministry Team:

Our team met to finalize plans for our upcoming fall family campaign, Word 511. This campaign will encourage family interact around the Bible. We are encouraging each individual to spend 5 days a week in the Scripture, 1 day a week together with their spouse, and 1 day a week in family devotional and will run through the month of November.

Ministry Assistant Search:

James and I conducted multiple interviews and were able to find a great candidate for the Senior Adult/Family Ministry Assistant position. Rhonda Carroll was hired mid-month and is already proving to be a valuable member of this team.

Katy Little***Interim Student Pastor***

We meet for Midpoint every Wednesday from 6 to 8 pm. Sheldon Kinnison wrapped up his “Let’s Talk” series, and he will continue to teach once a month at Midpoint. On the other Wednesday nights, Katy is teaching through a series called “Rooted” about growing deeper in our relationship with God. We are averaging 70 people every week, and many students are bringing friends from school.

On Wednesday, October 9, we had Fields of Faith out at Grande Stadium. Youth Groups from churches all over Midland met together to worship, hear testimonies from students, and listen to a gospel message. One of our seniors, Paige Low, spoke in front of the large crowd and told of how God was the answer for healing and hope after her best friend died last year. She proudly held up the Bible and told everyone how it was true and how she relied on it. Eight of our students walked down to the field at decision time and rededicated their lives to Christ.

The Reconcile Student Band has been very active and a great force for momentum in our Student Ministry. They practice every week and lead us in worship at Midpoint, but they have also had opportunities to play in the community. They led a worship set at Pink the Park on October 19 for Breast Cancer Awareness. They also set up and played outside in frigid temperatures at Sam Houston Elementary School for Bright Night on October 30. We are very proud of their hard work and dedication as they seek to lead our students to the throne of God every week and reach out to the community as well.

On Sunday Nights, students continue to enjoy Bible Drill, Rooted Student Choir, Aux Small Group Bible Studies, and Challengers. We have 4 students who meet every week to increase their knowledge and skills in the Bible at Bible Drill. Our Rooted Student Choir is preparing for Christmas and planning to go on a mission trip again this summer. Aux Small Group Bible Studies for High School girls and Jr. High guys and girls are a great time of small group discipleship. Challengers have had missionaries and BGCT leaders come speak to them, and they continually challenge High School guys to live their faith in real ways.

Every Tuesday, a group of adults from First Baptist leads 1 to 1 Tutorials at San Jacinto Jr. High. We help them with their homework and encourage them to not give up, but to persevere in their homework and studies. According to the principal at SJ, some of our most important interactions are the conversations that we have with the students who do not have adequate communication skills. We average around 35 students and 6 adult tutors each week.

Sarah Arrambide

Minister of Children's Education

Sunday School

We continue to have many guests in Sunday School! Our goal is to contact each guest either by phone, card or a personal visit. We are working hard to transition from Shelby to CCB, both in Sunday School and in the office. Everyone likes CCB!

October Happenings

October 4 – We had a fun family movie night under the stars on the East playground. Several families showed up to enjoy a fun movie, eat popcorn, pickles and candy. God provided a lovely cool, clear evening.

October 6 – Prayer leaders, Darrell and Barbara Dunton launched the Prayer Lessons

October 8 – Prayer and Dessert for CM leadership. We meet in a home to pray specifically for the families in the Children's Ministry and one another.

October 19 – Martin Ortega, Pastor at Iglesia Bautista Emanuel invited me to speak at a leadership conference held at his church. It was a joy to share and get to meet so many leaders from various Hispanic churches in the area.

October 30 – Bright Night was a huge success even though we had to move it indoors due to the weather. I had the privilege of serving at Lamar. Many families showed up.

VBS

Yes.....we are already planning for another wonderful VBS. The timeline has been set, the curriculum has been ordered, the grade level coordinators have been recruited, and most importantly, the prayers have begun. VBS is scheduled for June 1-5. Our theme this year is "Concrete and Cranes." That week children will discover that skyscrapers aren't the only things that need a rock-solid foundation. Kids will learn to build their faith on Jesus as they uncover the truth that He who began a good work will be faithful to carry it on to completion. Can't wait!!!!

GA's and RA's

Both our GA's and RA's are doing very well. They average about 140 kids in attendance. The GA's raised money to go to the Mary Hill Davis offering.

A.S.K (After School Kids) Community Bible Study for Children

We are blessed to host After School Kids in our building. Currently there are 178 kids attending on average each Monday afternoon.

It was a super busy, fun month!!

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Children's Minister. It is a joy to serve our Lord here at FBC!!!

Amy Brand

Minister of Preschool Education

October has been a busy month in Preschool Ministry! God is doing amazing things, and I am honored to be able to join Him where He is working!

I started the month off by attending the Ethics and Religious Liberty's annual conference with Dr. D, Larry, and Cory. The conference this year was entitled 'Caring Well,' and focused on the crisis of abuse inside of the church, and the church's response to abuse that occurs both inside and outside of our walls. I found the most valuable portions of this conference to be the sessions that focused on prevention, and specifically the emphasis on screening of volunteers and on the grooming process. This conference was difficult to attend, and while there was a lot of anger and hurt that was clearly communicated during many of the sessions, it did remind us that we cannot afford to be lax or apathetic in our approach to this topic.

I was able to attend the 'New to FBC' brunch on October 6th and had the opportunity to speak briefly to the families in attendance there. I love that this has become a pattern for our church. I think it has been beneficial to all involved.

Cory and I led ReEngage on October 11th. We had 19 couples attend, many of whom had not attended ReEngage before. While it was a smaller group, I believe it was a very effective evening as we looked at our marriages and how we can improve our relationships with our spouses.

The Preschool Ministry took 167 people to Fiddlesticks Farms on Sunday afternoon, October 13th! We had so many parents, children, and volunteers, and it was a wonderfully relaxed opportunity to interact with our young families! This was our second annual trip, and based on feedback, we plan to continue it next year.

The church staff was invited to the Brotherhood luncheon on October 14th for staff appreciation. We had a wonderful meal together, enjoyed an encouraging message, and were blessed by both the Brotherhood men and the WMU ladies as they showed their appreciation! Our time together was very meaningful and greatly appreciated.

On October 15th, our CCB Implementation Team wrapped up our weekly conference calls to learn and set-up our new church software. We continue to learn as we go and are continually training others as new portions of our lay leaders come on board. I have helped Cory during his twice-weekly training sessions for adult teachers and other volunteers

Our Family Ministry Team met in October to finalize plans for the Word 511 campaign to encourage families to be involved in reading scripture both individually, with a spouse, and together as a family. The resources will be available on November 3rd, and the campaign will run for the month of November.

Our staff and leadership team for Bright Night continued to meet and plan for that event throughout the month, and our volunteer training/prayer time was held on the 27th. I was in charge of the Sam Houston team. We had a great number of volunteers for that campus...118, at best count! Sam Houston and Lamar were excited to have us back on campus, and thankfully were very gracious to allow a back-up plan in case of inclement weather this year! We needed it! In preparation for the inclement weather, I made a trip over to Sam Houston on Tuesday the 29th to look at their gym to formulate a layout. The decision was made on Wednesday to move indoors, and while we had to shift things around a bit, everything moved extremely smoothly and I believe God was honored by our efforts. We had 111 families register at Sam Houston. As far as we can tell, 69 of those had no connection to FBC! All were provided with more information about FBC, our ministries to families, and the gospel message! We are already working on follow-up with our guests.

I led my first Monday night Life-Skills session for this school year at Midland Fair Havens with the ladies there on October 21st. Our first session was an opportunity to reconnect from last year, get to know the new girls, and share my testimony. We spent the rest of our time in Deuteronomy 6:5-9, Ephesians 6:1-4, talking about our God-given responsibilities as parents, and talking through the seven principles of 'reality discipline' (where we can love and discipline our children in a consistent, decisive, and respectful way.) Our next session together is November 11th! I am honored to have the chance to minister with them again this year!

As always, let me know if you have any questions about anything in this report, or just anything about the Preschool Ministry in general! I am so thankful to serve the little ones and their families at FBC, and love being a part of a church that loves families just as much as I do!

Bryan Pinson

Minister of Missions

Future Missions Ministry Events:

- November 10 - 2nd Costa Rica Mission Trip Mtg
- Nov 10, 13, and 17 - Gift Child and Family Christmas Adoption
- November 17 – Mission Team Mtg w/ speakers from Arab Bapt Th Seminary & Elam
- Nov 24th and Dec 1st - Gift Volunteer Sign-ups
- Dec 1 - Mission Magazine Available & Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
- December 8 – Mission Team Mtg w/ speaker from BH Carroll
- December 14 – The Gift

Missions Ministry Priorities

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

Benevolence

Praise the Lord! Our Benevolence Ministry helped **225** families with assistance towards rent, utilities, prescriptions, and miscellaneous help totaling more than \$137,000. Almost 20 families a month are shown the love of Christ and hear the Gospel from one of our wonderful benevolence volunteers. **Eva Diaz** does a fantastic job of organizing this volunteer team while showing grace and compassion to those who sometimes need it the most. FBC Benevolence also helps host a software database and encourages the cooperation and sharing of information between local ministries and agencies to make sure that the people who need this assistance the most are receiving it to the very best of our ability with as little waste as possible. Greatest of all, **13** people made professions of faith through this ministry! Amen!

October Missions Mtg Report

The Missions Committee, in their October 20 meeting, approved **\$34,193** in additional funds to support the following ministries:

- Teen Flow - Purchase of a new van
- Habitat for Humanity – Apostles' Build Project
- Huasteco Missionaries in Central Mexico - Leadership development
- Janice Tankersley - Mission trip to assist IMB missionaries to Deaf people groups in S Asia

Partner Meetings/Significant Phone Conversations

Stephen Loots and other team members - Harvesters Ministries
 Mickey Lenamon - Texas Baptist Men
 Jon ?(held for security) - IMB Missionary in Toronto
 Dk Hale – Midwest Baptist Association, Cochrane, Alberta
 Chase Bost – Missions Pastor, Redeemer
 Brian Colbath - Circle 6 Baptist Camp

Jeremiah and Susan Kibobi- Kenya Mission Trip Follow-up Mtg
 Basin Baptist Network Mtg
 Wilberforce Fundraiser Dinner
 Child Evangelism Fellowship- Brotherhood Lunch

Benevolence Report – September and End of Year 2019

Appointments	Amount Given	# Helped	Walk-Ins & Referrals	Amount Given	# Helped
Electric	\$ 1,771.12	6 (1)	Electric	\$ -	
Gas/Propane	\$ -		Gas/Propane	\$ -	
Water	\$ 1,185.51	2	Water	\$ -	
Rent & Motel	\$ 13,418.37	12 (1)	Rent/Motel	\$ -	
Prescriptions/Doctor			Prescriptions/Doctor	\$ -	
Transportation/Gasoline			Transportation/Gasoline	\$ 75.00	1 (1)
Food Voucher	\$ -		Food/Toiletries	\$ -	
Miscellaneous	\$ 107.97	1	Miscellaneous	\$ 655.00	1
Monthly Total	\$ 16,482.97	21		\$ 730.00	2
Yearly Total	\$ 113,467.99	185		\$ 23,759.77	40
Profession of faith this month: 2					
Total to date: This year we have assisted 225 people financially and have seen 13 persons come to know Christ as Savior.					
() Indicates helped family/individual with more than 1 service					

John Elliott
Minister of Activities

- Upward basketball registration is under way and will end on November 8th. At this point we have around 384 registered well over half way of our number of 400 from last year.
- Bright Night 2019 was a major event for us in October as we did two locations this year, Sam Houston Elementary and Lamar Elementary. Activities ministry was over this event in regard to execution and reserving attractions and entertainment. It was a great evening with approximately 500 people on each campus.

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)
- First Baptist Church Men's Basketball on Tuesday and Thursday (about 15 men)
- The cardio/weight room (40 people per day)
- Senior Adult Fitness on MWF

Mary Schultz

Child Development Center Director

October was a busy month at the CDC. The children, our staff, as well as parents participated in several fall activities.

Our kindergartners visited Fiddlesticks Farms the first week in October. Both classes enjoyed the day on the farm, including a picnic lunch there.

The second week in October, our four-year-old classes traveled to the Pumpkin Patch at Saint Luke's Methodist Church. Parents and teachers took adorable pictures of the kiddos there with all the pumpkins and other fall scenery.

On October 7, the CDC staff met for a monthly meeting. Our local fire marshal provided training on the use of fire extinguishers at work and at home.

The CDC children were given the opportunity to show support for their favorite sports team by wearing a jersey or team shirt on October 18. Many teams from across the state were well represented.

On October 31, the students and staff participated in a Make-Believe Parade. Parents and church staff greeted the children and teachers as they strolled through the church dressed in their costumes.

Our CDC students learned so much this month during chapel time. Ms. Pryor taught them about Isaac, Jacob and Esau, Joseph, Baby Moses, Hannah, and Samuel. Many of the four-year-old students participated as actors in the lessons, making them even more meaningful.

Jim Hansen

Director of Maintenance

MAINTENANCE:

- Change our two faucets and one urinal at AB
- Change our water fountains in the CDC
- Upgrade men's restroom by the main office
- Replace cast iron piping above men's and women's room by main office
- Replace shaft, bearing in AHU 221 C-Hall

- Ice machine for kitchen repaired and cleaned
- Fire extinguisher inspected and passed 10/23/19
- Tile repair around church
- Tile adult resource room across from Parlor
- Change filters on RTU units
- Daily work orders

CUSTODIAL:

- Cleaned carpet C-Hall, D-Hall, upstairs
- Cleaned carpet A-Hall, E-Hall, downstairs
- Sprayed all rooms with E-Mist Disinfectant
- Daily work orders
- Events - October

1.	CDO
	M.A.R.Y. Mentoring
	AFLAC Meeting
	A.S.K.
	Handbells
2.	CBS
	Children's Choir
	GA's and RA's
3.	Iron Men
	Benevolence Crosscheck Meeting
	Precept Women's Bible Study
	Ladies Lunchtime Bible Study
	Midland Retired Teachers
4.	M.O.P.S.
6.	AUX Sunday night students
7.	CDO Staff Meeting
	WMU Prayer lunch
	Brotherhood
	MHS Booster Club Meeting
8.	GAP Men's class
9.	Moms in Prayer
	Wednesday evening meal
	It Starts At Home
11.	Re-Engage
13.	I'm New to FBC
	Rooted Student Choir

	Song of Solomon Study
14.	Boss's Breakfast
	GriefShare
	Deacons Meeting
15.	CDO Playdate
	Sonshiners
16.	CDC Chapel
	Gideon's Wives
	Marcos Dept. WMU
	Midpoint Student Wednesdays
17.	Precious Memories Choir
	Benefits Meeting
	ESL Citizenship Classes
18.	M.O.P.S.
20.	FBC Missions Team Meeting
	Faithful Men
21.	Golden Girls
	Personnel and Church Council Meeting
22.	CDC Lunches
	A.S.K.
23.	Jeffrey Smith Funeral
	Eloise Lambeth Bereavement Meal
	CBS
	Parenting is Heart Work
24.	DMA
	Adult ESL Classes
26.	Jerry Barker funeral and bereavement meal
27.	Bright Night Training
	Church conference
	Unspoken Reason Tour Concert
28,	MOPS Leadership Meeting
	Lydia Lunch
29.	Handbells
	Sonshiners
30.	Bright Night
31.	Iron Men Study
	CDO
	Precept Women's Bible Study