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TOTAL GKG2 NEW
BUILDING FUND
DONATIONS
AS OF 1/12/16:
\$759,037.06

(Includes Arlan's 1%
rebate of \$444.91)

STAFF WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Senior Pastor

Tuesday—Friday
8:30am—noon
& 1pm—5 pm

Tuesday—Thursday
Evenings & Sundays
visits, counseling,
meetings, etc.
Please call the church
office 925-2825

Associate

Pastor of Worship

Monday—Thursday
8:30am—noon
& 1pm—5pm

Associate

Pastor of Youth

Tuesday—Friday
8:30am—12pm
& 1pm—5pm

Childhood

Ministry Director

Monday—Thursday
8:30am—noon
& 1pm—5pm

Financial

Administrator

Monday—Friday
8:30am—noon
& 1pm—5pm

The New Year 2016 has begun at AFBC and it's going to be an exciting year. We experienced a record year last year, and I believe that we will see an even greater year this year, His glory to behold!

This past Sunday night, AFBC elected to Call the Rev. John Tucker to serve as the Associate Pastor of Senior Adults at our church. He has accepted the Call and will begin his ministries with us this Sunday, January 17th. We rejoice in the Lord in this step of faith that concludes a 16 month search by the AFBC O.W.L.S. Council, acting as a Search Team for this position. A big "thank you" goes to the O.W.L.S. Council and Volunteer Senior Adult Director, Jan Gray, for taking the lead in this important effort and for having continuous unity and spiritual depth throughout the process. They successfully completed the task assigned to them by the church in September 2014. We thank the Lord for this excellent addition to our ministry staff and look forward to great things in the years ahead.

As we head into the final quarter of ***Growing God's Kingdom 2***, we are just a little behind in our January donations. If you have not made your monthly contribution yet, please consider completing it so that the church can complete its required payment this month. Everyone has been so faithful over the past 3 years to help us keep up with this campaign. It has been a great success. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

During the month January, we are studying our way through the Bible book of 2 Corinthians. Our study is called, ***"The Church Ministry Handbook."*** This amazing Bible book addresses many of the problems that the church was experiencing in Corinth around 57 AD and is equally applicable to our church today. So far, the study has focused on our relationship with Christ as Savior and Lord, our conduct as Christians, the need to forgive others, and God's supernatural power that works within us to heal, complete us, and make us right with God and others. The study will be addressing topics like what should a church's ministry include, who should be doing the ministry of the church, what happens when we don't get what we want from God, and what is God's plan for the church.

This past Sunday night, we studied chapter 4:1-6. Verse 6 states: *"For God, who said, 'Light shall shine out of darkness,' is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ."* This beautiful verse reminds us that God spoke the world into creation and commanded the light to shine "out of darkness (Genesis 1:2-3)." Moreover it is He who shines His light into our hearts through His Son, Jesus Christ, as we place our faith in Him. When He shines His light within our hearts, we receive the knowledge of or experience the fullness of the glory of God through Jesus Christ as His beauty and love is revealed to us and we become immersed into it. His light brings healing, love, wisdom, refreshing, wholeness, and discernment to follow His plan for us. The verses just prior to this verse remind us that the god of this world (Satan) blinds us and deceives us, causing us to go astray from God's plan. When we are receiving His fullness of Light within our hearts, we are filled with joy and peace and satisfaction to live a good and healthy life daily.

Plan to join us as we continue to study this amazing book on Sundays and Wednesdays throughout January. Let's study the Bible together! It's good for the soul!

In His Love,
Pastor Rick



**Divine Lessons in 2015****EVERY GOOD AND
PERFECT
GIFT
COMES FROM
ABOVE****-JAMES 1:17**

I recently mentioned on a Sunday morning that my family has the tradition on New Year's Eve of reflecting on the ways God blessed us that year. Our answers, though different, allow us the opportunity to give thanks to God, the giver of every good and perfect

gift (James 1:17). I thought it might be appropriate to also reflect on the lessons God taught me in 2015 and to share those with you.

If there is one area in which the Lord challenged me to grow this year, it was in my prayer life. I learned so much about the importance of prayer. Earlier in 2015 our church was going through a time of financial difficulty and as a staff we were concerned that we might not be able to make the payment on the new building without taking from the general fund and cutting ministry budgets. A prayer walk was held after church one Sunday and it was so moving to see so many of our church members circling the church building lifting up our need up to the Lord. Just a few days later, God provided for that need in abundance. There have been other times that I needed musicians, soloists, or men to sing in the choir and I started to become discouraged. I was gently reminded to trust the Lord and as I lifted my concern to Him in prayer He provided again and again. There have also been times in my family life in 2015 where we weren't sure what God wanted of us in certain situations. As we earnestly sought Him, He made His will abundantly clear. I am reminded of Matthew 7:7, "*Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.*" God has especially challenged me to spend a concentrated time in private prayer. I started getting up an extra 15 minutes early to devote more time to prayer in the morning. I can't begin to tell you how much this extra time has affected my spiritual life. It was well worth giving up 15 minutes of sleep.

God taught me a lot about trust in 2015. What probably exercised my trust the most was the planning of the Runge Project. I'm not sure that I have ev-

er led and organized something so large and involved. There were multiple occasions when I thought the bottom was going to drop out and that it wasn't going to happen. Every time, God reassured me of His desire for me to lead the important outreach endeavor and He worked out every problem in ways that I never imagined. The Runge Project also showed me how lost and hurting our community is. It was amazing how people would open up and share heartbreaking stories when we engaged them in conversation and offered to pray for them. Christian family, there are a lot of people without hope just down the road from us. We have to get outside of our homes and outside of our church walls and share the gospel with them. We have to show them love and follow up with them. We possess a hope in Jesus Christ that can radically change their circumstances both here on earth and for eternity.

The latest thing God taught me in 2015 is about how intentional we must be during busy seasons of life to keep our focus on Him. This holiday season was probably the busiest I have ever been in my years of ministry. At the start of December, my wife and I sat down, looked at the crazy calendar, and discussed ways that we could put our focus on Jesus. Every night possible, we read an Advent book to our children that shared Bible stories pointing to the significance of Christ's coming. We decided to participate as a family in the lighting of the Advent candles this year and we studied the significance of each candle we lit. Though we could probably have done a better job keeping our focus on Christ, we are extremely grateful for the time we spent reminding ourselves and our children that Christmas is not about Santa, reindeer, gifts, lights and food, it is about Jesus Christ leaving His perfect home in heaven to come to this earth knowing full-well that He would have to suffer and die to reconcile us to His Father. If we aren't intentional about taking measures to keep ourselves focused on the Lord during the crazy busy times in our lives, we will inevitably let our spiritual lives suffer.

I hope the Lord taught you a lot in 2015 and that you will look for lessons He may want to teach you in 2016. He has a great plan for us in this New Year. Let's seek Him, trust Him, and follow His leading! I love you and love being your Worship Pastor!

For His Glory,
Stephen Wilhite

Deacons on Call
2/07 Kelly Creech/Sammy Belcher
2/14 John Rothemel/Loran Lance
2/21 Doug Anderson/Joe Brantley
2/28 Sammy Belcher/Doug McDowell

February 2016

GROWING GOD'S KINGDOM 2

Weekday Education Ministries:
Arcadia First Baptist Christian School (Mon.-Fri. 8am-3pm)
Wednesday's 9:20am & 10:00am Weekly Chapel
Mother's Day Out: (Mon - Fri. 9am -2pm)
Wednesday & Thursday's (rotates) 10:35am Weekly Chapel
Full Time Childcare Ministry: Mon. - Fri. - 6:30am - 6:00pm
Extended Childcare Ministry: Mon. - Fri. 6:30am - 9am & 2pm - 6pm

	<div>1</div> <div>6pm Ladies Boot Camp LH-AC 6PM HANDBELLS REHEARSAL 6:30pm Missions Comm. Mtg—F6</div> <div></div>	<div>2</div> <div>9:30am Outreach Bible Study @ Amegy Bank Community Rm 6:30 Celebrate Recovery F4/F6</div>	<div>3</div> <div>12pm Ministerial Alliance lunch-BB 5:15pm WNS 6:30pm JANUARY BIBLE STUDY 6:30pm CHILDREN'S CHOIRS 6:30pm YOUTH IMPACT!-TYC 7:30pm Worship Choir Rehearsal-WC</div> <div></div>	<div>4</div> <div>GGK3 Leadership Meeting # 2 10am OWLS Council-Conf. Rm 10am-2p AFBC Piecemakers-F4 6:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal-wc</div>	<div>5</div> <div>Youth D-Now weekend 02/05 – 02/07</div>	<div>6</div> <div>10:30am Ladies Bible Study-F6 6pm John Larson & Rebecca Morris Wedding—Worship Center (Mike Myers officiating)</div>
<div>7 8:30M/11AM WORSHIP SERVICE HANDBELLS 9:45AM SS/Bible Study Feed the Hungry Mission Galt. 3pm Youth/Adult flag football 4:30pm 8th Superbowl Chili cook off & fellowship. Stephen Wilhite Dir., 5:30pm January Bible Study WC 5:30pm Superbowl & Fellowship—F4 Guest Half Time</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Newsletter Deadline 6pm Ladies Boot Camp LH-AC 6PM HANDBELLS REHEARSAL</div> <div></div>	<div>9</div> <div>9:30am Outreach Bible Study @ Amegy Bank Community Rm 6:30 Celebrate Recovery F4/F6 7pm Combined Leadership Expanded Church Council w/ Alan Knuckels-TYC</div>	<div>10</div> <div>5:15pm WNS 6:30pm JANUARY BIBLE STUDY 6:30pm CHILDREN'S CHOIRS 6:30pm YOUTH IMPACT!-TYC</div>	<div>11</div> <div>10am-2p AFBC Piecemakers-F4 6:30pm True Love Project Commitment Ceremony 6:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal-wc</div>	<div>12 INSERVICE/STUDENT HOL.</div> <div>AFBCS teachers & Bro. Rick @ ACTABS Training- FBC Pasadena</div>	<div>13</div> <div>10:30am Ladies Bible Study—F6</div>
<div>WMU FOCUS February 8 - 14 ,2016</div>						
<div>14</div> <div>Valentines Dinner & Movie "War Room" 5pm Supper—AC 6pm Movie-WC 8:30M/11AM WORSHIP SERVICE 9:45AM SSBIBLE STUDY 4:30PM DEACON MEETING 6pm Kids Open Gym & Bible Study-</div> <div></div>	<div>15 President's Day INSERVICE/STUDENT HOLIDAY 6PM HANDBELLS REHEARSAL</div> <div></div>	<div>16</div> <div>12pm Secretaries Luncheon– New Hope Baptist Church 9:30am Outreach Bible Study @ Amegy Bank Comm. Rm 6pm Budget & Finance Mtg –TYC 6:30 Celebrate Recovery F4/F6</div>	<div>17</div> <div>5:15pm WNS 6:30pm Prayer Meeting/Bible Study, WC 6:30pm CHILDREN'S CHOIRS 6:30pm YOUTH IMPACT!-AC 7:30pm Worship choir rehearsal-wc</div>	<div>18</div> <div>11:30am Chamber Luncheon 10am-2p AFBC Piecemakers-F4 5:30pm OWLS Monthly Outing— Supper @ T-Bone Toms– Kernah 6:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal-wc</div>	<div>19</div>	<div>20</div> <div>10:30am Ladies Bible Study—F6</div>
<div>21</div> <div>7:30am Men's Breakfast-F4 8:30AM/11AM WORSHIP SERVICES 9:45AM SS/BIBLE STUDY 6pm Kids Open Gym & Bible Study-AC 5:30PM Youth Forge - TYC 5:30-7:30pm GGK3 Prayer groups in homes</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Newsletter Deadline 6PM HANDBELLS REHEARSAL</div> <div></div>	<div>23</div> <div>9:30am Outreach Bible Study @ Amegy Bank Community Room 6pm Ladies Kickboxing LH-AC 6:30 Celebrate Recovery F4/F6</div>	<div>24</div> <div>5:15pm WNS 6:30pm Prayer Meeting/Bible Study—WC 6:30pm CHILDREN'S CHOIRS 6:30pm YOUTH IMPACT!-AC 7:30pm Worship choir rehearsal-wc</div>	<div>25</div> <div>AFBCS Preview Night 10am-2p AFBC Piecemakers-F4</div>	<div>26</div> <div>1pm GGK3 Leadership Meeting # 3— Conf. Rm. 7pm-8:30pm Seminar</div> <div>Spiritual Foundation & Financial Seminar Weekend 02/26– 02/28 - Bro Alan Knuckels</div>	<div>27</div> <div>9:30am-11:30am Seminar 12pm Lunch 1pm-3pm Bible Based Financial Planning Seminar</div>
<div>28 Bro. Alan Knuckels Guest Speaker both AM services 8:30M/11AM WORSHIP SERVICE 9:45AM SSBIBLE STUDY 12:15pm MDB Meeting –F4 6pm Kids Open Gym & Bible Study-AC 5:30pm Youth FORGE—TYC 6PM Evening Worship Service 7PM AFBC (CAW) Committee Activation Night-F6</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Mail GGK3 Newsletter #1 6PM HANDBELL REHEARSAL</div> <div></div>	<div>Activity Center Exercise Schedule Monday: & Thursday's 6:00pm Ladies Boot Camp Tuesday: 6:00pm Ladies Kickboxing</div>		<div>GROWING GOD'S KINGDOM 2</div>		

WMU FOCUS February 8 - 14, 2016



January Bible Study 2016 2 Corinthians "The Church's Ministry Handbook"

Bible Study started January 3, 2016 and continues through the month of January!

You will not want to miss this exciting study. SUNDAY: 8:30AM, 11AM & 6PM & WEDNESDAY EEEVENINGS: 6:30PM Workbooks are available in the foyer for a \$8.00 donation,

February Men's Breakfast

When: Sun. – Feb. 21st

Where: AFBC Fellowship Hall (F4)

Time: 7:30am

Guest Speaker: TBA

No need to sign up. All men are welcome and encouraged to attend.



7 Week Ladies Bible Study

Start Date: January 30, 2016

End Date: March 12, 2016

(This Includes a 1-week break)

Where: AFBC Fellowship Hall (F4)

Costs: Workbook – \$13

"Cross" Training T-shirt – \$15

Total Cost: \$38

Time: 10:30am – 11:30am

Where: AFBC–F6

Relax and sleep in on Saturday mornings; then come to Bible Study! If you're an early bird then get you stuff done before Bible Study!

Sign up in the foyer or see Julie Beanland for additional information.



AFBC 10th Annual Super Bowl Sunday Chili Cook- Off & Worship Service

FEBRUARY 7, 2016

4:00pm Chili Check in Time ~ F5

4:30pm Chili Cook-Off Supper ~ F4

5:30pm Worship Service ~ *Worship Center*

5:30pm Superbowl V Game ~ F4

Half Time Guest Speaker:
TBA

FELLOWSHIP, FOOTBALL GAME,
FUN & FOOD ~
FELLOWSHIP HALL

See Bro. Stephen
Wilhite (Director)
for more infor-
mation.





It's the season for resolutions...or not!

One of my resolutions is to lose the same 10 pounds that I have lost every January for the last 10 years! Nashville-based LifeWay Research finds that overall, 57 percent of Americans report making health-related New Year's resolutions. If we want to be successful in our efforts to improve our health or lose weight we must be intentional. Perhaps it is time to try a new kind of diet.



Time to Start a New D.I.E.T.

Tracie Miles – Proverbs 31 Ministries
December 28, 2015

"Don't you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you?" 1 Corinthians 3:16 (NLT)

The holiday hustle and bustle may be behind us, but perhaps you're like me and find you have a few regrets over the neglect of your health. It's so simple in the rush of the season to find a few bad habits sneaking in ... times where we take the easy route over the best route.

For example, on a busy day, it's quicker to zip through a drive-through than grill some chicken and veggies at home.

Not only can we take the easy way with our health, we can easily slip into bad spiritual habits as well. When we're exhausted, it's easier to slump onto the couch and seek comfort in milk and cookies, rather than open God's Word for encouragement.

It's so enticing to sleep late on Saturday mornings, rather than get up and spend quiet time with God.

Let's face it, easier and quicker isn't always better — either physically or spiritually. The best choices often take extra time and effort, but they are crucial for our health and a strong faith.

Our key verse reminds us we have a responsibility to care for ourselves spiritually because of Who resides inside: *"Don't you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you?"* (1 Corinthians 3:16).

This year, as we think about New Year's Resolutions, what if we focused on the inside? What better time to begin committing to a healthy spiritual diet that feeds our spirits, lightens our hearts, nourishes our souls

and fuels our walk with Christ than right now? Below is some "food for thought" for how to kick off a strong spiritual D.I.E.T. and become a spiritually healthier you in the coming year.

D — DISCIPLINE: 1 Chronicles 16:11 says, *"Search for the LORD and for his strength; continually seek him"* (NLT). The Bible gives us guidelines for living through His Word that help us grow spiritually healthy and mature in our faith. A daily dose of disciplined faith, which includes setting aside time every day to seek God through His Word and prayer, goes a long way to helping us achieve spiritual health.

I — INTENTIONAL: A strong faith doesn't happen on its own but needs to be intentionally pursued. I have to make a deliberate effort to put God first in my life. Acts 2:42 says, *"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer"* (NIV). What a beautiful example we have of the intentionality of the first followers of Jesus — they gathered together daily to study, pray and share the Lord's supper.

E — EARNEST: Being earnest in our faith takes effort to the next level. Have you ever read a passage of the Bible or listened to a sermon, and forgotten the topic 10 minutes later? Me too. I listened, but apparently my mind and heart weren't fully engaged. Hebrews 11:6 says *"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him"* (NIV). When we sit down to spend time with God in any form, He longs for our full, zealous attention and the reward for our intentional and earnest faith is the development of a deep spiritual hunger.

T — TRUSTING: My weakest times are when I doubt God's plans or purpose for the hard times. Psalm 9:10 says, *"Those who know your name trust in you, for you, O LORD, do not abandon those who search for you"* (NLT). When I start to feel weak, I need to uncover any doubt that has settled in my heart and choose to trust God. Trusting God, in the good and bad times, is an essential part of a healthy spiritual diet.

Is 2016 your year to start a new D.I.E.T. plan with Jesus? Why not start today? After all, it is a Monday, when all new healthy diets begin. *Sweet Jesus, I long to have a deeper relationship with You and commit to making my faith a priority. Give me the desire and strength to follow a healthy spiritual diet this year. In Jesus' Name, Amen*



What Force Today?

Our Adult Sunday School Instructor, Doug McDowell, made the comment in class that a lot of Christians are satisfied with the "Status Quo" and are reluctant to venture forth and contact strangers, and even people they know, with the need, and even wanted, information about the Saving Grace and Healing Powers of the belief in Jesus Christ as One's Savior.

That brought to mind a couple of "word pictures" I jotted down some time back. Go with me in your mind as I paint this picture. You might even physically perform the exercise with a friend for funzies.

Have you ever taken a handful of marbles and just "flung 'em"? Just tossed them out ahead of you and watched them finally come to rest? On a concrete pad or gym floor, those marbles, though they roll and roll, around and about, sometimes back and forth, back and forth, they will finally come to rest.

AND YOU KNOW WHAT????? THEY WILL NEVER MOVE AGAIN UNLESS SOME EXTERNAL FORCE IS APPLIED TO THEM!!!!

They are in what I like to call their 'comfort zone'. People have comfort zones! Did you realize that? Each of us has a dry, warm, secure, comfortable place where we can settle in and just let the world go by. Sound reasonable? Our comfort zones may vary from time to time, from hour to hour, but we all have one.

Can you visualize yourself in your easy chair after a hard day's work—a glass of iced tea in your hand, shoes off, evening news on the TV, the aroma being cooked permeating the atmosphere —THE PHONE RINGS! What a jarring, unwelcome sound! What an untimely interruption! (This was composed long before the advent (invention) of those bothersome things we hold in our hand at all time and look at when we should be being productive with something else). The old-time phones were across the room or maybe in the bedroom. Your first impulse is to let it ring. It'll quit eventually, and if it is important they will call back. That phone ring is an external force. You are different from a marble in that you respond to both Internal and external forces. You make yourself go. You, and you alone, can move yourself out of your 'comfort zone' and into a area of discomfort, whatever it may be.

Admittedly, external forces apply leverage to our internal forces, but we, and we alone, can motivate ourselves to do something we dislike, or fear, or do not understand. Also, we and we alone, as Christians are charged with the responsibility of spreading the truth about Christ and how the lost in the world can achieve salvation through belief in Him, and how, when that

moment of truth is achieved, peace of mind smooth the troubles of the believer. We must push the starter button that mobilizes our internal forces to get out and about, and just go for it. Have you told someone about Jesus Christ today?

We must always remember, we are an external force attempting to motivate their internal forces to move them in the right direction to Jesus Christ. They may resent us for that and show a negative reaction. Be not discouraged look what God accomplished in six days!

May you Always have Blessings of Health and Happiness

-Bill & Betty Flaniken

ADULT III CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Approximately 50 members of the Adult III Sunday School Class gathered on December 4th to celebrate the Christmas Season. Vickie VanWinkle did a great job organizing the annual "Make It, Bake It or Grow It" festivities. The group proved to be very creative and there was more than a little friendly competition in the gift exchange! Delicious snacks and beverages were enjoyed by all.





Growing the Flock... Let Me Introduce You to... Raymond & Frances Smith

Welcome new members, Frances and Raymond Smith. Frances is a BOI (Born on Island) and grew up in Galveston with her parents and one brother. Joe grew up in La Marque and had nine brothers and 1 sister.

The Smiths have been married for 53 years and have four children, two grandchildren and two great grandchildren. They are new to the Santa Fe area having been here only four months. Previously they lived in Houston and Sargent.

Although now retired, Frances previously worked for Alcon and Raymond was a computer programmer.

Raymond is also a former weight lifter and Frances a golfer who still enjoys playing when she gets the chance. Both describe themselves as being handy with tools!

The Smiths have been Christians for many years and felt the Lord's leadership in becoming a part of Arcadia First Baptist Church.

Welcome Frances and Raymond. We look forward to times of worship, service and fellowship with you.

Piecemakers Stitches. Prayer quilt for Tim Turner

By: Bert Chesshir-Morgan

Bert Chesshir-Morgan visited Tim Turner and his wife Jamie. Bert had a nice visit and a time of prayer with them when she delivered the prayer quilt. Tim is currently battling pancreatic cancer and is Bert's son in law. Tim and Jamie wanted to extend their heart felt thanks for the quilt and prayers Tim. Please continue to pray as Tim continues to undergo cancer treatment.



ARCADIA FBC SENIOR ADULTS EVENTS



January

- ⚡ No Monthly Owls Meeting for January
- ⚡ Senior Adult Retreat – **January 21-23, F-4;** Topic: 1 Corinthians; Guest Speaker - Jerl Watkins; Cost: \$30/per person; signup in the foyer; contact Jan Gray for additional information.
- ⚡ Piecemakers – **every Thursday in January, 10:00 A.M.— 2:00 P.M.—** AFBC F2, F3 & F4
- ⚡ Outreach Bible Study – **Every Tuesday, 9:30 am,** Amegy Bank Community Room

GALVESTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION EVENTS

Coming Soon:

- ⚡ GBA Senior Adult Banquet – **April 16, 2016, 12 Noon,** (location to be announced)
- ⚡ Grand European Tour – **April 28 – May 14, 2016 –** Viking River Cruise on the Danube, Rhine & Main Rivers through Germany, Austria & Hungary with 2 pre-cruise tour of Amsterdam during tulip-blooming season. For additional information call Lela Es-

May by the Bay
May 2-5, 2016

Guest Speakers: Robert Kruse, Walter Jackson, Mike Zimmerman, Donnie Melton, Dale Hill

Bible Teacher: Jerl Watkins

Music Leader: Alan Gentiles

Devotionals: J.V. Helms, Jim Howard, Richard Bours

For Reservations & information please contact Jeannie at Texas Baptist Encampment 361-972-2717





LOL...Laughing Out Loud

"A joyful heart is good medicine..."
Proverbs 17:22a (ESV)

CALORIE BURNING ACTIVITIES

Submitted by Jan Rothermel

With the New Year come resolutions. One of the most common resolutions has to do with losing weight and, weight loss usually involves exercise. Could it be that we really get more exercise than we think?

Beating around the bush	65
Bending over backwards	75
Jumping to conclusions	100
Eating crow	225
Swallowing your pride	50
Jumping on the bandwagon	200
Climbing the walls	150
Running around in circles	350
Passing the buck	35
Tooting your own horn	25
Dragging your heels	100
Opening a can of worms	50
Pushing your luck	250
Biting off more than you can chew	200
Adding fuel to the fire	150
Making mountains out of molehills	500
Throwing your weight around	50
(depending on your weight)	300
Wading through paperwork	300
Hitting the nail on the head	50



O.W.L.S. CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS



Feliz Navidad!

The O.W.L.S. celebrated Christmas on December 12th with a Mexican Flair! Approximately 40 participants enjoyed a delicious meal of enchiladas, beans and salad prepared by Joe and Sonja Brantley. A variety of yummy desserts were provided by other OWLS members. Dinner music featuring Christmas carols played on the piano by Carol Holst, daughter of Susie Munsch, created a festive atmosphere. The event provided a relaxing break from a holiday season that is often filled with an overabundance of activity.



MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES FOR SENIORS

Arcadia First Baptist Christian School is in need of substitute teachers. Contact Julie Beanland at 409-925-2825, ext. 2 for additional info.

Memory Verse of the Month

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)



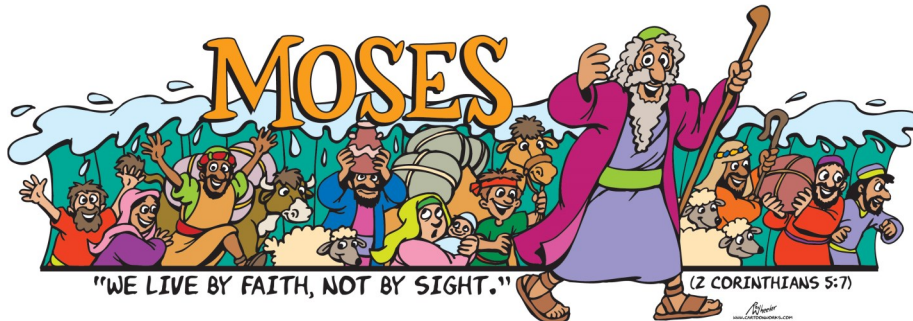
AFBC

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



CHILDREN'S OPEN GYM NIGHT & BIBLE STUDY—

Adventure Night has a new name to better explain our evening! We start off playing games in the gym, have a light snack, and then have a Bible study! We also work on scripture memory each week! We completed our study on Joseph and have begun a study on Moses! What a blessing

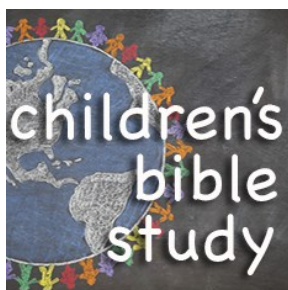


ing it is to study His Word! January 3rd was Bring a Friend Night! Here are the theme nights for the remainder of January: January 10 - Crazy Hat Night; January 17 - Popcorn Night; January 24 - Stuffed Animal Night; January 31 - Show and Tell Night. We meet on Sunday evenings from 6pm to 7pm Kindergartners through 6th graders are welcome! Hope to see you there!

CHILDREN'S CHOIR - Our preschool and children's choirs started back up after enjoying Christmas break! We meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.! If you haven't been a part of this ministry, now is a great time to join!



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY - The children are all enjoying their Bible Study classes! If you have not been coming lately, there's no time like the present! Don't miss out on the exciting hour of Sunday school each week! Be in Sunday School! Bring your sword!! Come arm yourself with the Word!!



KIDS LEADERSHIP TEAM - Our KLT will begin working on VBS music in just a couple of weeks! We have a really fun theme this summer, an underwater ocean theme! The kids are excited to be a part of VBS and are raring to go!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - The dates for VBS this summer are June 13-17, 2016!

Mark your calendars now so that you can be a part of this awesome ministry! The theme for VBS this year is an underwater ocean theme: **SUBMERGED: Finding Truth Below the Surface!** The scripture we will be learning is Psalm 139:23-24, *"Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my concerns. See if there is any offensive way in me. Lead me in the everlasting way."*

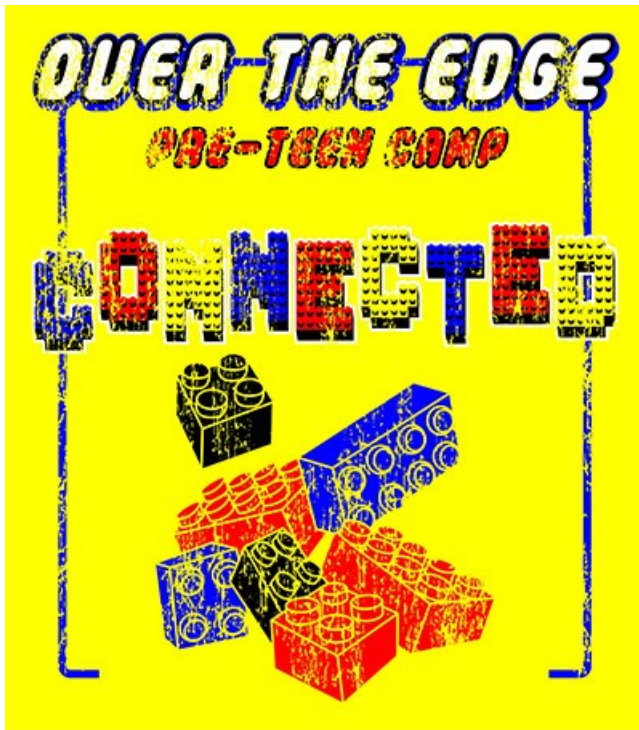
The MOTTO is... JESUS: SEES - KNOWS - SAVES!

Join us as we submerge ourselves in God's Word. VBS week the kids will discover that God sees people differently. He doesn't just see what's on the outside. He sees who we are down deep! What an exciting study this will be for our children and us adults! CAN'T WAIT!



PRETEEN CAMP SUMMER 2016 - The official dates for preteen camp for summer, 2016 are Saturday, July 30, 2016 through Wednesday, August 3, 2016.

We will be going to Pineywoods Baptist Encampment again this year! The theme is **CONNECTED**. Chris Allen will lead worship, and Tom Tombs will be the camp pastor! We are looking forward to another great week of summer camp! This is for preteens who will have completed the 3rd through 6th grades by this summer. The cost is \$250 per person! Ouch! (The price goes up to \$270 after July 1st! So, we definitely want to register all of our children early!) All children will also need an AFBC Kids t-shirt if they do not already have one! They are \$20. You may purchase one anytime from the children's ministry office. We will get on those fundraisers soon! We will send in our first batch of registration forms on March 1st! Make plans to join us!



MOTHER'S DAY OUT / PRESCHOOL - Our MDO / Preschool has a lot planned for

January! The children will be learning that God created winter, and they will be making lots of winter crafts. They will also learn some nursery rhymes! Looking forward to a fun January with our little ones! Can't believe it's already 2016!!



Mother's Day Out

We have officially started off the new year! We are halfway through AFBCS year four! We also enrolled two new students over the Christmas break, a 5th grade boy and an 8th grade girl! What a blessing! We began our third nine weeks on January 5, and things are running smoothly! Hopefully all of our teachers and students had a refreshing break!

REGISTRATION - We will have a private registration the first two weeks of February for those students who are currently attending AFBCS. Registration will be open to the public February 15, 2016. We will be registering for grades K-10! If you would like some information about the school, new packets will be available in the Children's Ministry Office within the next week or so!




Open House **OPEN HOUSE / PREVIEW NIGHT** - Our school will host a preview night on Thursday evening, February 25, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.! This will be a very informative evening. All of our students will be participating in the evening! Our faculty and staff will share about classes that we offer, and curriculum will be on display for prospective students and families to view. Classrooms will be open, as well. Looking forward to a super evening!



BOOK FAIR - We hosted our third scholastic book fair the first week of December, 2015! Katy Wheeler was in charge of this and, as always, did a super job, as with everything she does! She also had a team of volunteers! We are thankful for them! This took a tremendous amount of preparation and planning. The book fair was held in the Activity Center, and it was also a school fundraiser! **We raised \$3,956.45! What a huge blessing!** Thanks to all of you who stopped by!

SCOREBOARD - We are definitely enjoying our new scoreboard! If you haven't seen it yet, swing by and take a peek in the gym! Thank you so much Loran Lance, Kelly Creech, Doug McDowell and Joe Arrington! It was a lot of work — not to mention the altitude! We appreciate you!

 **BASKETBALL** - Our jr. high girls and boys basketball season began in November! We will finish up this month. Here's the remainder of the schedule for January:

Thursday, January 21, Trinity Episcopal @ Arcadia, girls @ 4:00, boys @ 5:00

Tuesday, January 26, Arcadia @ Living Stones, girls @ 4:00, boys @ 5:00

Thursday, January 28, Brazosport @ Arcadia, girls @ 4:00, boys @ 5:00

(Home games are in bold text)



BOX TOPS!! We received a check for \$1,395.70! What a blessing! Thank you so much, church body and school/mdo families, for cutting out and turning in those box tops, keep them coming! It's amazing how quickly they add up! What a blessing! **Aloha Berger is coordinating this fundraiser for our school! Thank you so much, Aloha!**

AFBCS SPIRIT SHIRTS - Spirit shirts are here and on sale for \$12!

**ARCADIA FIRST
BAPTIST CHURCH**
of Santa Fe

Dr. Rick Smith
Senior Pastor
AFBCS Administrator/Principal
Stephen Wilhite
Associate Pastor of Worship
Joshua Doss
Associate Pastor of Youth
John Tucker
Associate Pastor of Senior
Adults
Reggie Crosby
Minister
Julie Beanland
Director of Childhood Ministries
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OR CURRENT OCCUPANT

MISSION STATEMENT
The purpose of Arcadia First Baptist Church shall be to present Jesus Christ so that lost souls are drawn to Him through ministry and discipleship and to encourage fellowship in Christ for support.

*A Growing Great
Commission Church For A
Growing Gulf Coast
Community*

YOUTH STUFF

WEDNESDAY NIGHT
(in the Activity Center)

- ◆6:00pm Open Gym
- ◆6:30pm - 7:30pm Youth Impact Bible Study

SUNDAY NIGHT

- ◆5:30pm FORGE @ TYC

Sign-up for activities
(check the board)
www.arcadiafbc.org/dock



to host homes for group study. The "D" in "D-Now" simply stands for "disciple." It will be a great opportunity for students to spend the weekend focused on growing closer to God and learning important truths for their life of following Jesus.

This year we will be exploring God's plan for dating, relationships, and purity. The study we are using is called "True Love Project," which takes a well rounded approach to teaching purity and faithfulness to God in all areas of our life, not just sex. The goal of the weekend will be to partner with families to teach the principles of a godly view of sexuality and Christ honoring perspective on marriage and family. This is so that students will be equipped to live in a world that is telling them the exact opposite and to lead by example as a witness of Christ's power in them.

Important Info: "True Love Project" Feb 5-7th All forms due at time of registration. Register and pay by January 24th for early bird rate \$40 (Deadline for scholarships Jan. 24th.) January 25th - January 31st the standard rate of \$50 applies. Deadline to register is January 31st.

The final piece of the "True Love Project" will be a commitment ceremony hosted on Feb 11th at 6:30pm for those who decide to take this step. This will be a time for families to support the commitment decisions of their teens and celebrate God's design for love and faithful purity.

Please be in prayer for our teens as we prepare for this challenge. This topic is very difficult to teach and even more so to receive in this culture. Pray for their hearts as they begin to consider God's plan for their lives. -*Joshua*

D-Now is upon us! If you don't know what that means, D-Now is simple a term folks use for a youth retreat over a weekend, where teens gather at the church for games, worship, then disperse

true love
PROJECT
HOW THE GOSPEL DEFINES YOUR PURITY

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