



**First Baptist Church Alvarado**  
 P.O. Box 362  
 Alvarado, TX 76009

Phone: 817-783-5181 or 817-790-5181  
 Fax: 817-790-8511

**Bible Study**  
 Sundays at 9:15 a.m.  
 Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

**Worship**  
 Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

www.fbcalvarado.org  
 Email: office@fbcalvarado.org  
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/firstbaptistchurchalvarado

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**PROVIDING STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE CHRIST LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY**

**Church Staff:** Wade Taylor/*Senior Pastor* • Scott Arthur/*Associate Pastor; Admin, Edu, & Children*  
 Glen Turner/*Associate Pastor; Worship* • Ethan Yates/*Associate Pastor of Students*

**FBCA**  
 STUDENT MINISTRY

2017 has come to a close and we are into a new year! Making New Years resolutions has never been something I have participated in, but I would love to inform you about the changes that will be added within our Student Ministry! Starting on Wednesday, January 17, our Wednesday night student services will start at 6:05PM and will end at 8:05PM. Meals will still be served at 5:45 and the students are still encouraged to eat! This change gives us the ability to get more students involved in the service and allows more time for activities.

Valentine's Day is next month, and we would love to be able help you out with your plans! The Students will be hosting a Valentine's Steak Dinner at the church on Sunday, February 11 from 6PM to 9PM. Plates are \$15 a piece and include sides and desserts. The money that is given will go toward helping our students go to youth camp this summer! You are encouraged to bring a date and dress nice! Please consider letting our students serve you on this night!

Although youth camp is in June, we are already preparing. It takes a lot of work to get us where we're going, but I am thankful for a God who always sees us through. To make paying for camp easier, we have set monthly deposit due dates leading up to camp, and the first \$50 deposit is due on Wednesday, February 7. Checks or cash can be given to the church with the checks being made out to "First Baptist Church Alvarado." To make things even easier, we have a tab on our online giving app for youth camp and want to encourage you to use that! If you are looking for something to give to, consider sponsoring one of our students for youth camp! For a student to go to camp, the cost is \$250.

Thank you for all your prayers and support! This ministry could never survive without you!

In Christ,  
 Ethan Yates  
 Associate Pastor of Students

# The Beacon

NEWS AND INFORMATION | FBC ALVARADO, TX  
 JAN-FEB 2018



**First Baptist Church Alvarado**



## Pastor's Ponderings

Our daughter is in Israel right now (pray) as part of a class trip from her university. Before she left, her class assignments required her to research some of the sites that they will be visiting and doing some archeological work. Why? So that she can really appreciate and understand what she is viewing and experiencing.

An author of an award-winning travel book commented that folks used to be "travelers" and have instead become "trippers." Where once tourists studied to understand what they would be seeing, now, having no background of understanding, they just look on amazing relics of the past and are unaware of their meaning and significance.

Your church staff wants you to not be a "tripper" in God's Word, but a "traveler" whose travels deeply impact your life. Let's take a cue from Deut. 31 where we have the record of Moses handing off the torch of leadership to Joshua.

Deut.31:12 says, *Gather the people – men, women, children, and foreigners living within your gates – so that they may listen and learn to fear the Lord your God and be careful to follow all the words of the law.*

That is our focus as a local church for the days ahead – we invite all within the

sound of voice (or within the reach of this mailing) to gather together regularly for several things pointed out in this verse:

1. To hear / read / glean what God has to say about Himself and what He desires from each of us.
2. To search the Scriptures and develop a reverence-based relationship with Him.
3. To be motivated in that relationship to obey Him and serve as He commands and directs.

A quick glance over our church membership rolls brings to mind about 25 families that have not been attending with us over the last couple of months, and as far as we know, are not attending elsewhere. Hey FBCA family! How about making a few phone calls or dropping by a few homes of these friends and encouraging them to pursue spiritual growth with their church family in the new year ahead!

Your Fellow "Traveler,"  
 Wade



## Church Events

- Jan 1 Church Office Closed New Years Day
- Jan 7 Deacons' Breakfast
- Jan 10 Women in the Word Kickoff
- Jan 14 Called Business Meeting
- Jan 15 Ladies Prayer/Bible Study
- Jan 22 Ladies Prayer/Bible Study
- Jan 28 Super Sunday Cereal Breakfast
- Jan 29 Ladies Prayer/Bible Study
- Feb 4 Deacons' Breakfast
- Feb 5 Ladies Prayer/Bible Study
- Feb 7 1<sup>st</sup> Youth Camp Deposit Due
- Feb 11 Youth Fundraiser Steak Dinner \$15 each Dine In or Carry Out
- Feb 12 Ladies Prayer/Bible Study
- Feb 14 Valentine's Day
- Feb 16-17 Youth Guys & Girls Night
- Feb 19 President's Day Ladies Prayer/Bible Study
- Feb 25 Committee Meeting
- Feb 26 Ladies Prayer/Bible Study

# Discipleship Ministry

Reading the Bible on a daily basis is the single greatest factor in the development of a disciple of Christ. Through the "Read The Bible for Life" study by Dr. George Guthrie, we were introduced to a series of methods, helping you to understand the different parts of the bible and how to read it in context in order to get the best interpretation. Now we want to encourage you to take what you have learned and continue the practice of reading God's Word everyday.

## 2018 Sunday Morning Bible Study Plan.

Now that we have looked at the methods it is time to put what we have learned in practice. In 2018 we will embark on a one year plan to read and study the entire Bible in a chronological (story form) plan. This vision to see all of our church read the entire Bible, in a story format, will produce greater understanding of God, His story, and how we relate to it.

All of our Sunday Morning Bible Study Groups, from youth through adults, will be participating in this plan that will help us fulfill part of the mission of making disciples. We encourage all participants to pick up a copy of the "Readers Guide To The Bible : Chronological Reading Plan" By Dr. George Guthrie. This book will serve as your Sunday Morning Bible Study curriculum for the entire year. Each day you will read the brief commentary provided in the book followed by the assigned reading in the bible for that day. Then on Sundays you will meet with your Sunday Morning Bible Study groups

to discuss the readings for the week. It is our prayer that you will wholeheartedly embrace this effort and not only make the commitment to participate for the entire year but to serve as an encourager to others as we progress through this plan. In addition to the book, which is provided for you through our Discipleship Ministry, there are several other tools that are available that you may want to consider to customize your reading and study.

**BOOK:** Available from the church

**E-Book:** Available on line from Lifeway Christian Resources for \$9.99

**Chronological Bible:** *Reading God's Story* available from Lifeway Christian Resources and other outlets for \$14.99.

**On-line Audio** Listening plan. Enter this link into your web browser to locate this free resource. [www.bhpublishinggroup.com/m/rbl/daily-reading/](http://www.bhpublishinggroup.com/m/rbl/daily-reading/)

**You Version Bible App** Select reading plan - Reading God's Story: One Year Chronological Plan

**Printed paper copy of Chronological reading plan** will be available for free in the foyer of the church.

My Word Search Bible is a free online tool that will provide you some good study helps. It is free from Lifeway simply go to [www.mywsb.com](http://www.mywsb.com) and set up your account.

If you have any question please contact the church office, staff member or your Sunday Morning Bible Study Leader.

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**Wednesday Evening Meals for Jan/Feb 2018.**

1/10	Mexican Chicken	2/7	Lasagna Soup
1/17	Sloppy Joes	2/14	Shepherds Pie
1/24	Tater Tot Casserole	2/21	Teriyaki Chicken
1/31	Beef & Cheese Enchiladas	2/28	Fajitas

Meals are served from 5:50 until 6:20 P.M.  
\$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for kids, Maximum of \$15.00 per family.

**Make plans now to attend 2018 RA & GA Summer Camps**

**July 24-28, 2018**

Monthly payments can be made through-out the year at the church or through e-giving using the GIVE+ app. Please indicate RA/GA Camp and child's name on offering envelope or type students name when making payment online.

**Cost is \$230.00**

## Sunday Morning Bible Studies

1/7 Wk-1	<b>God's Plan for All People</b> Josiah and the Last Scroll	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
1/14 Wk-2	<b>God's Covenant People</b> Daniel Chose to Obey	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
1/21 Wk-3	<b>The People</b> Daniel in the Lions' Den	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
1/28 Wk-4	<b>The People</b> (continued) Jonah	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
2/4 Wk-5	<b>The People</b> (continued) John the Baptist Told about Jesus	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
2/11 Wk-6	<b>Deliverance</b> Jesus Helped People	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
2/18 Wk-7	<b>Covenant and Law</b> Peter Walked on Water with Jesus	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
2/25 Wk-8	<b>Covenant and Law</b> (continued) Jesus Taught About Forgiveness	(Youth/Adults) (Children)

# Music

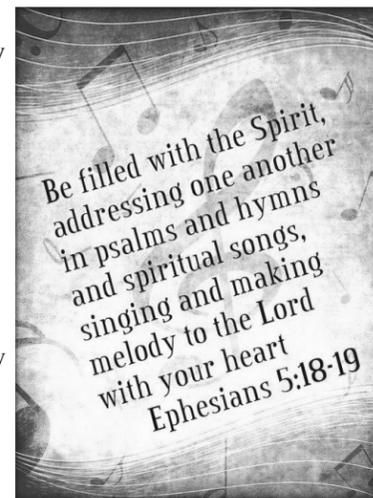
## Why Sing God's Praise?

The Bible has over 400 references to singing, and over 50 direct commands to sing his praise. The longest book in the Bible, Psalms, is actually a song book. And in the New Testament we are commanded not just once but twice to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to one another. (Ephesians 5:19 & Colossians 3:16)

Why does God so often tell us to sing his praises? Why not just pray and preach? Why sing? There are many reasons, but one that I believe is of utmost importance is because our God himself sings! "The Lord your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will rejoice over you with singing." (Zephaniah 3:17) In Matthew 26:30 we learn that even on the very eve of his crucifixion, Jesus sang hymns with his disciples. And Ephesians 5 teaches us that one result of being filled with the Spirit is "addressing one another in psalms, and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord in your heart." (Ephesians 5:18-19) Our

triumph God is a singing God, and he wants us to be like him!

So, if you want to be more like Christ, singing his praises is an important part of your spiritual growth. It doesn't have to be beautiful by man's standards, it just has to be sincere, heart-felt worship of the One who gave us this wonderful gift of singing!



(Excerpts from an article by Bob Kauflin, a pastor at Sovereign Grace Church in Louisville, KY)

## NOW OFFERING 4 WAYS TO GIVE

<p><b>GIVING ENVELOPE</b> PLACE IN YOUR SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY FOLDER, THE OFFERING PLATES DURING SUNDAY SERVICE OR MAIL TO: FBC ALVARADO PO BOX 362 ALVARADO, TX 76009</p>	<p><b>ONLINE GIVING</b> COMING SOON: LOOK FOR THE OPTION TO GIVE ONLINE AT: <a href="http://fbcalvarado.org/give">FBALVARADO.ORG/GIVE</a></p>	<p><b>TEXT GIVING</b> TEXT YOUR AMOUNT TO 817-813-8782 TO GET STARTED</p>	<p><b>MOBILE GIVING</b> 1. DOWNLOAD THE GIVE+ APP ON ITUNES OR GOOGLE PLAY 2. SEARCH FOR: FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ALVARADO INC. 3. ENTER YOUR CC OR BANKING INFO FOR SAFE AND SECURE EASY MONEY TRANSFERS.</p>
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Women please mark you calendar for Wednesday Jan 10th at 6:30 PM.

We will kick off our *Women in the Word* series. At that time we will get you plugged into a small group, where you as a group will determine the day of the week, time & location you will meet. During this 6 week study we will navigate through the book of Ruth & build relationships together.

## Celebrating Staff

The Personnel Committee would like to acknowledge the following Staff Anniversaries:

**Associate Pastor of Worship**  
Glen Turner - 6 Years

If you have recently moved, changed phone numbers or email address, please update the office with your current information. You can drop by the office at any time during the week M-F 8:30-5 or email us at [office@fbcalvarado.org](mailto:office@fbcalvarado.org).

Thank you

**Contribution statements for 2017 are available in the foyer before and after service or in the church office M-F 8:30-5:00.**

**Current Building Loan Balance**  
**\$224,802.95**

## Let's Honor The Lord With Our Giving

"Remember this, whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly. And whoever sows generously will also reap generously."  
2 Corinthians 9:6