



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

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*



What a joy it has been to be a part of FBC Alvarado for the past several months! I have had the privilege of getting to know several of the students as well as the parents and church family over time and I am very thankful for the support I have received thus far. Sometimes, I overlook the fact that growth is not only measured by numbers, but also by the relationships that are established and the individual spiritual growth. These relationships set the foundation that is needed to build true, spiritual growth. It has been an incredible thing to see God at work!

I want to say a very special thanks to all those who participated and helped with our Valentine's Steak Dinner this past month! We had an incredible turnout and I have a wonderful team who helped make this night a success. For those of you who came or donated, we thank you and hope you enjoyed your time with us! The money we raised goes a long way in helping us go to camp this summer in Leakey, Texas!

To keep you aware of some things that we have coming up, our DiscipleNow Weekend is March 23-25 and is \$40 per student! We are looking forward to a very special weekend as many students will learn the truths of how Jesus' life, death, and resurrection is what brings unity to a true and biblical church. Please be in prayer for the students, speaker, band, and other leaders as we are striving to make this weekend more than just a weekend event, but rather an opportunity for kids to grow both in their relationship with Christ and with each other. This weekend may also give students the ability to hear the REAL gospel message for the very first time, and that is what we hope to provide. If you are looking for a specific way to help, consider sponsoring a student with a donation of \$40. Contact me for more ways to help!

In the month of April, we will be having a Church Yard Sale as another Youth Camp Fundraiser on the 21st. We are asking for donations, but there are specifications! We are asking for **no clothes and no shoes!** Furniture is acceptable, but please contact me before donating! Please keep in mind that this is not an opportunity for you to get rid of the "junk" lying around your home, but rather, we ask, donate items that have been somewhat taken care of that you are no longer in need of. If you need help getting the items to the church, please contact me and we can make arrangements. **We will be announcing and collecting these items at the beginning of April, so please do not bring items to us before then!** As time gets closer, we will be giving out more details! This may give you some time to look around and see what items you can donate!

As always, I thank you for all of your prayers and support and for allowing me to serve you and the youth here at FBC Alvarado!

--Ethan

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The Beacon

NEWS AND INFORMATION | FBC ALVARADO, TX
 MARCH - APRIL 2018



Pastor's Ponderings

As our year began I challenged you to be a "traveler" in God's Word – one who looked for the meaning and significance of the content of Scripture as you travel through it.

As a church family we are gathering together each week to discuss the chronological portion of God's Word that we have read the previous week, with an end to:

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

Are you onboard with us? You can jump onboard next week and take this journey with us!

Folks like to do all sort of curious things while they are traveling – read, play game, color (yes, it's popular again!), listen to music, watch movies, or even sleep (only while not driving, please!).

While we are driving through God's Word this year let me suggest a few activities to do:

***Pray**

Scripture and prayer go hand-in-hand. So does a concentration on God's Word and Satan's activity.

Boy, he does not like it when we focus on God and His Word! He seems to be working overtime in lives in our FBCA family lately. Please pray

against his activity – we know Who is really in charge!

***Give**

Church financial needs continue whether you were out sick or out of town. We're still playing "catch-up" from previous short-falls, so please ask God to help you be consistent in your giving. He will!

***Speak**

Some in our fellowship are hurting and could use an encouraging word from a Christian bro or sis.

Some in our fellowship have pulled back from participating – choosing to either stay-at-home or to leave before worship time together. Speak up and let them know that their church needs them fully!

Others around you need to know Jesus! Recently I was challenged with the question, "When was the last time you shared Jesus with someone?" When is the last time you did? If the size of God's kingdom totally depended on those that you had personally led to Christ, how big would it be?

Still Your Fellow "Traveler,"

Wade



Church Events

- Mar 4 Deacons Breakfast
Women & Waffles
Business Meeting
- Mar 7 Youth Camp Deposit
- Mar 11 Daylight Savings
- Mar 12-16 Spring Break
No Midweek Service
- Mar 18 Estes/Russell Shower
2-4 pm Fellowship Hall
- Mar 23-25 DNOW Weekend
- Mar 30 Good Friday -
Church Office Closed
- Apr 1 Resurrection Sunday
- Apr 2 Deacons Dinner 7pm
- Apr 4 Youth Camp Deposit
- Apr 8 Women & Waffles
- Apr 21 Youth Yard Sale / BBQ
- Apr 29 5th Sunday
Cereal Breakfast
Committee Meetings

Discipleship Ministry

We are 60 plus days into our Chronological Reading Plan of the Bible. I am very excited to hear many positive comments about how the Read the Bible for Life Plan is impacting so many lives. Comments such as; "I have never read this before" to "I have a greater understanding of passage now". It is truly amazing how God will work in our lives if we will make life space and heart space for Him in our daily lives.

Researchers suggest that it takes on average 66 days to create a habit for something that is not all that difficult, such as, drinking a glass of water with your breakfast. However, for more difficult task the time required can increase dramatically. For some this habit of making life space comes easily and for others it is much more difficult. Wherever you find yourself on the scale of difficulty, may I encourage you to keep going, keep trying, do not give up! Making changes to our normal routines can be very difficult and many people have busy lives. Just making the life space in your schedule can be the hardest part of this important discipline.

As you are working on creating or continuing this discipline we are trying to support you by providing wonderful tools, such as the My Wordserach website that offers over 28 biblical helps all to support your reading... and it's free! Also we offer Right Now Media as a free resources to you and make suggestion on the Church's Facebook page of videos that we believe will enhance your understanding of the reading as well. Then we encourage everyone to be involved in a small group that meets every Sunday morning to discuss what we have read and what we are learning. You will find encouragement and accountability in these groups which is proven to help you stay on course.

It has been determined that the single greatest influence on the maturing process for disciples is reading the Bible on a daily basis. Studies have determined that only about 18% of people who claim to be believers practice this discipline. Our goal is to help as many people as we can become maturing believers. Moving through the process of being a hearer of the Word to become a doer of the Word starts with making life space and heart space.

-Scott

rightnow MEDIA
Over 3,500 FREE discipleship videos for kids, students, and adults

Email office@fbcalvarado.org for access to all discipleship materials.

Mid-Week Studies

Please join the ladies every Wednesday night as we journey together through the Bible. At this time we are in the old testament with Nancy Guthrie. Instead of simply telling the stories of the Old Testament and teaching us how to be a better, more successful person, The study we are currently in "The Lamb of God" points us over and over to the one who did it all for us. It is refreshing and inspiring to bask in our Savior's love for us—to be loved and accepted because of what Christ has done and not because of what we have done. Nancy's exhaustive research and her thought-provoking questions make these studies both challenging and enjoyable.



Wednesday Evening Meals for March/April 2018.			
3/7	Enchilada Casserole	4/4	Chicken & Rice
3/14	Spring Break No Meal	4/11	Tacos
3/21	Baked Potato & Salad	4/18	BBQ Chicken
3/28	Lasagna	4/25	Chicken Alfredo

Meals are served from 5:45 until 6:20 P.M.
\$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for kids, Maximum of \$15.00 per family.

Sunday Morning Bible Studies

3/4 Wk-9	Covenant and Law (continued) Jesus Fed the People	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
3/11 Wk-10	Covenant and Law (continued) Jesus Healed a Blind Man	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
3/18 Wk-11	The Land The Triumphal Entry	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
3/25 Wk-12	The Land (continued) The Last Supper	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
4/1 Wk-13	The Land (continued) Crucifixion and Resurrection	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
4/8 Wk-14	Kings and Prophets Thomas Believed	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
4/15 Wk-15	Kings and Prophets (continued) Peter Had Breakfast with Jesus	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
4/22 Wk-16	Kings and Prophets (continued) The Ascension	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
4/29 Wk-17	Kings and Prophets (continued) The Holy Spirit Empowers Witnesses	(Youth/Adults) (Children)

Music

Update on Associate Pastor of Worship, Glen Turner:



Glen was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia on February 8th and is undergoing his second round of chemotherapy. The Turners are extremely grateful for the love and support received, especially prayer. FBC Alvarado has set up a Benefit Account for the Turners medical bills at First Financial Bank. You can give directly at the bank; mentioning the benefit account of Glen J. Turner. You can also designate funds on your regular offering envelope or, you can transfer funds directly from your bank using the routing #111301122 and account #44110071469. For future updates log on to www.caringbridge.org to follow Glen's progress or you call the church during office hours.

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

FBCA
STUDENT MINISTRY
Community

23-25 MARCH

beyond our preference to Christ's purpose

D-NOW 2018

Speaker: Runkles Runkles
Music: Guns & Good Company

STUDENTS 7TH - 12TH GRADE
Cost: \$40.00 per student

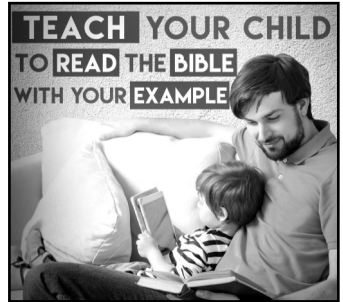
207 Hwy 67 E - Alvarado, TX 76009 - Phone: 817-783-5181 Email: office@fbcalvarado.org

Scan here to register for D-Now

Scan here to pay for D-Now

Daycare

I've found a great blog, "Path Through the Narrow Gate", that helps and encourages family bible reading and study. I wanted to share this article with parents and grandparents of elementary aged children.



4 Practical Ways To Encourage Your Kids to Read the Bible... for Themselves!

- Set a good example.**
If you want to help your children learn to read the Bible every day, you need to set a good example for them. Make sure that you are in God's Word every day, and let your kids see you doing this.
- Buy your kids their very own Bibles.**
There's something so special about having our own copies of God's Word. If your child is in first grade or older, you may want to buy them an actual Bible – not a Bible story book. They are not too young to start reading and understanding passages from God's Word.
- Help your kids Know where to start reading.**
If your kids are just getting started reading the Bible for themselves, help them to know where to start. (Hint: The Gospels are a great place to start for young readers!)
- Read with them.**
Another great way to encourage your kids to read the Bible independently is to read the same passage each day that they are reading. You can hold each other accountable and ask each other questions about the passage.

As you read the same passages with your children, you can also discuss what God is teaching you in the passage or how that passage can be applied to your lives.

Christie Pippin
Director, FBC Daycare

Current YTD (as of 3/1/18) Giving \$55,554.46

YTD Giving Needed \$61,483.52

Current Building Loan Balance
\$217,757.66