

The Beacon

NEWS AND INFORMATION | FBC ALVARADO, TX
JULY - AUGUST 2018



**First
Baptist Church
Alvarado**



Pastor's Ponderings

Of Kings And Kingdoms...

On an OT exam, a seminary student was asked to write what he knew about the various kings of Israel and Judah. He listed as many of them as he could remember and wrote out beside each name "he did what was evil in the Lord's sight." He passed! He passed because nearly all the kings of Israel and Judah from Solomon to Zedekiah were bad kings and ultimately failed to fully follow the Lord.

One area of sin into which so many fell was that they "failed to remove the high places" – Canaanite "ridges" or elevated hilltop areas where the Canaanite gods were worshiped. God repeatedly told His people to destroy these altars and idols. Instead they often "jewishized" them – kept them and used them as a place to worship Yahweh God.

One grave danger believers face today is "syncretism" – to combine 2 or more different beliefs or faith practices into one. In other words, we pull things we like from other religions or beliefs and make them a part of our own faith and practice. Instead of "pure and undefiled religion" (James 1:27) we mix a whole bunch of religious ingredients together until we have a stew that tastes like we want it to taste!

Let's keep the gospel – and our heart / life before the Lord – simple, pure, and un-blended. Hold firmly to the truth of Scripture – truths like 1Cor.15:3-4 – *...Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.* And truths like 2Cor.5:21 – *He made the One who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.*

Keep reading the Word folks and learn more of His Kingdom!

Wade

Church Events

- July 1 Deacon's Breakfast
Back Pack Drive Kick-Off
- July 4 Office Closed
No Mid Week Activities
- July 11 WOW Kids - Swim Party
Ladies - Prayer Journals
- July 18 WOW Kids - Tour de Church
Ladies - Christmas in July,
operation Christmas Child
- July 21 Youth Service Project / Top Golf
- July 24-28 RA/GA Camp
- July 25 Ladies - Quilting
- July 29 Cereal Bar SS Breakfast
Back Pack Drive Ends
- Aug 1 WOW Kids - Ga-Ga Ball
Ladies - Back Packs for Kids Hope
- Aug 2 AISD Back to School Bash
- Aug 5 Deacon's Breakfast
Promotion Sunday
- Aug 8 WOW Kids - Wacky Water War
Ladies - Back to Basics, Meal Prep
& Calendar time savers.
- Aug 11 Equip Leadership Conference
NRH Baptist Church 9am-3pm
- Aug 12 Committee Meetings
- Aug 13 AISD School Starts Back - Pray for
our students and teachers
- Aug 15 RA/GA Kick Off Celebration
Ladies - Dessert Night / Deliver
quilts & cards of encouragement
to our homebound members
- Aug 26 Business Meeting
Church wide - Ice Cream Social

Discipleship



It's summer time and that means baseball is in full swing. The College World Series is about to crown a new National Champion and Professional baseball is nearing its midway point with the All-Star Game. The poor Texas Rangers are in last place in the AL West. But take heart, my Texas friends, the Houston Astros are the best team in baseball. It appears that the Rangers may be in a bit of a slump. That may be an understatement.

Many churches around this time of year go through slumps as well. Slumps in attendance, slumps in giving, slumps of enthusiasm, slumps in faithfulness. Some people just check out for the summer. And I understand that everyone needs time away with their families to refresh, rest and reconnect. Being together is vital for family life. As a matter of fact these summer family times can be great times to spend together in family devotions, discussions, and even some type of service or mission project as part of a vacation. And it is also important to stay connected to your church family when our regular schedules change. You are here because God placed you here and we are not a complete body when you are missing. Remember, for a disciple to continue moving forward we must continue to make heart space and life space.

With that in mind, we are now entering week 27 of our Read the Bible for Life Chronological reading plan. This plan of being in God's word everyday is the first and most essential habit of a disciple's spiritual development. We recently have been reading about some kings that have been in a slump so to speak. That may be an understatement as well. We also have read about a couple of kings who swung for the fences. May I encourage you to do the work and keep yourself in shape by continuing to read daily. Show up for practice by being faithful in attendance. Give your best in the game of life for His glory.

Scott

Men's Mid-Week Study:

Embark with us on a journey of Faith with Ray Vander Laan; in which he explores different Biblical topics from on-site locations in Israel.



WEDNESDAY EVENING MEALS WILL RETURN AUGUST 15

Menu will be announce in Bulletin and on Facebook.
Please make plans to join us for great food and fellowship.

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.

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

WOW - KIDS	DATE	WOW - LADIES
NO ACTIVITIES	JULY 4	NO ACTIVITIES
SWIM PARTY LOCATION TBD PERMISSION SLIPS REQUIRED PARENTS WELCOME TO JOIN	JULY 11	PRAYER JOURNALS COME CREATE YOUR VERY OWN PRAYER JOURNAL DEVOTIONAL - LISA RICHARDSON
TOUR DE CHURCH BRING YOUR BICYCLE, HELMET AND GEAR SEE HOW MANY LAPS YOU CAN MAKE AROUND THE CHURCH	JULY 18	CHRISTMAS IN JULY OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD DEVOTIONAL - CARRIE PERKINS
RA/GA CAMP IN GLENROSE, TX NURSERY PROVIDED FOR THOSE NOT ATTENDING CAMP	JULY 25	QUILTING MAKING QUILTS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS DEVOTIONAL - LAURA TAYLOR
GA-GA BALL COME READY TO COMPETE IN A FUN GAME OF GA-GA BALL	AUG 1	BACK PACKS COME PACK BACKPACKS FOR OUR KIDS HOPE KIDS DEVO - KIDS HOPE VOLUNTEER
WACKY WATER WAR LOTS OF OUTDOOR WATER FUN, COME BATTLE THE ALVARADO FIRE DEPT. IN OUR WACKY WATER WAR	AUG 8	BACK TO BASICS MEAL PLANNING, CALENDAR/SCHEDULING, AND TIME SAVERS DEVOTIONAL - BRANDI PRICE
RA / GA / MISSION FRIENDS KICK-OFF EVENT INVITE A FRIEND	AUG 15	QUILT DELIVERY & SWEET SPOT DESSERT NIGHT BRING CARDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT & A SWEET TREAT TO SHARE DEVOTIONAL - LISA RICHARDSON

Sunday Morning Bible Studies

7/1 Wk-31	Kings and Prophets (cont.) The Rich Young Ruler	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
7/8 Wk-32	Kings and Prophets (cont.) Jesus and Zacchaeus	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
7/15 Wk-33	Kings and Prophets (cont.) Jesus and the Women at the Well	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
7/22 Wk-34	Exile Saul Told About Jesus	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
7/29 Wk-35	Exile (cont.) Paul's First Journey	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
8/5 Wk-36	Exile (cont.) Paul and Barnabas Told About Jesus	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
8/12 Wk-37	Exile (cont.) Paul's Second Journey	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
8/19 Wk-38	Exile (cont.) Paul Taught Lydia About Jesus	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
8/26 Wk-38	Return Paul Wrote a Letter to Timothy	(Youth/Adults) (Children)

Worship Ministry

Sheila and I have SO much for which to be thankful! God is restoring my health day by day and we believe it is largely due to your prayers! I know some of you were not with us on June 10th when I shared my testimony of this journey battling acute myeloid leukemia so I want to share part of it again here.

The reality and relevance of God's word has become much more powerful to us in these past few months as we clung to His promises. For example, "I have set the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore, my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your holy one see decay. You have made known to me the path of life." (Psalm 16:8-11a)

Our Savior continues to save us every day through his great love and compassion! "May your unfailing love be my comfort according to your promise to your

servant. Let your compassion come to me that I may live, for your law is my delight." (Psalm 119:76-77)

We must live each day fully unto the Lord recognizing that life is a gift from God! For me, AML no longer stands for acute myeloid leukemia; it now stands for the Almighty's Miraculous Life! We must not take any day for granted, for we do not know when our Father may call us home to be with him eternally. And it is so wonderful to have complete security in Christ, knowing that we have no reason to fear death! "When calamity comes, the wicked are brought down, but even in death the righteous have a refuge." (Proverbs 14:32)

I am so happy to be able to again lead us all in worshipping our Lord and Master! May he richly bless you for your great love shown to us in so many ways during our time of need! Be blessed and a blessing! (Genesis 12:2)
-Glen Turner

Current YTD (as of 6/28/18) Giving \$179,000.62 · YTD Giving Needed \$192,136.00

Current Building Loan Balance \$202,753.04

DONATE NEW BACKPACKS FOR KIDS IN ALVARADO ISD.

BACKPACK DRIVE

July 1- July 29

BRING NEW BACKPACKS AND PLACE IN THE BIN LOCATED IN THE FOYER



SUMMER VACATION CHECKLIST

- Flip-flops
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Bible
- Give+ (online giving)

While the pace changes during the summer, ministry and the expenses that it produces continue full stream ahead. God is still at work, even when you go on vacation. Sign up for E-Giving with our Give+ App or Text your giving to 817-813-8782.

Scan here 



**AUG
11
9-3PM**

EQUIP



LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR ALL ASPECTS OF MINISTRY

**AUG
11
9-3PM**

Every church wants more leaders. Every church wants to see their current leaders develop into better leaders. That's where EQUIP comes in. EQUIP is a conference designed for the local church and offers leadership training in all aspects of ministry. In fact, EQUIP offers 20+ areas of ministry training. Whether you are a pastor, children's minister, deacon or lay leader, EQUIP has something to help you become a better leader in your church.

Location: NRH Baptist Church, Cost: \$10 if pre-registered by Aug 6, \$15 at the door (lunch is included). Please see Pastor Wade or Laura Taylor for more information.



First Baptist Church Alvarado

**P.O. Box 362
Alvarado, TX 76009**

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

**Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Alvarado, Texas
Permit # 7**

**Bible Study
Sundays at 9:15 a.m.
Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
Worship
Sundays at 10:30 a.m.**

**www.fbcavarado.org
Email: office@fbcavarado.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/first
baptistchurchalvarado**

«First Name(s)» « Last Name»

«Address»

«City, State» «Zip»

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

Howdy!

Summer has finally made it here and so has the heat, but I'm not complaining about either! Even though summer has just begun, there are so many things that have already taken place! Because of this, I feel somewhat out of place now sitting in an office behind a computer screen!

As many of you know, we recently returned from youth camp out in Leakey, Texas. In case you were wondering, the difference between the heat here in Alvarado and the heat there is the humidity level. We were a bit surprised getting out of the bus in Leakey and realizing that breathing isn't as difficult as we thought it was! Nevertheless, I want to share with you what an incredible week of camp we had! It's always a joy to see the Lord work in the lives of students, and we were able to witness that all week long both in our own group and many others as well. There were also relationships that were built and strengthened as the week progressed. I am very grateful to have had the prayers and support from the church as well as many others. I had an incredible team of adults who tagged along and helped me throughout the week in more ways than they will ever know. I love seeing the Lord do what only He can do!!

As for what we have coming up for the rest of this summer, we are looking forward to doing some service work in the community on July 21. Afterwards we will be taking a trip to Top Golf in Fort Worth to show off our club-swinging skills. We will also be looking at taking trip near the end of next month to the big city of Galveston with our high school graduates! We want to send them off to college the right way with some ocean air and seafood! I also want to make you aware of our Sunday night summer activities. Since it is summer and the students are not in school, every Sunday night from 6PM to 9PM, those who attend Sunday Morning Bible Study will meet at the church and spend time playing games, eating food, and enjoying each other's company. This will continue until Sunday, August 12.

Again, I want to say thank you for all your prayers and support! It means so much that you take the time to read this, pray, and give. Have a great rest of the summer!