

The Beacon

NEWS AND INFORMATION | FBC ALVARADO, TX
SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2018



Pastor's Ponderings

Can you believe that it is already September! Before Fall hits quickly, let me bring three things to your attention:

STAFF MATTERS

Join in congratulating Ethan Yates for 1 year of service with us as our Associate Pastor of Students. Also congratulations to Scott Arthur for his 10 years of service as our Associate Pastor of Ed / Admin / Children. Both of these guys are a large blessing to our church family! Be sure that you share your appreciation for who they are and what they do.

Be in prayer for our Associate Pastor of Worship Glen Turner and his family as they seek out additional help from a California clinic to keep his Leukemia in remission. Our gracious God holds Glen in the palm of His hand and we are all praying for his best!

READING THE WORD

We continue our journey through God's Word, nearing the end of the Old Testament. I've heard a number of folks say what a blessing their reading has been in helping them put all the pieces of the OT together. Well, hang on folks – the gospel accounts are on the way! Mt. 16:13 tells us that Jesus asked His disciples a curious question, "Who do you say that I am?" Not, "Who does everybody else say that I am?" but "Who do you say that I am?" Have you answered that question personally? If not, it is the most important question that you can ever answer, so it's vital that you answer it correctly! If you have answered it personally, what difference is that awareness making in your life on a daily basis? Let's spend some time in the NT together in the next few months and learn about the difference that Jesus can make in your life.

SHARE FELLOWSHIP

Over the next few months we'll have several occasions to share in church-wide fellowship, starting Sept. 9th with our Old Settlers Sunday. What a great fellowship we will enjoy as a church family! Let's be sure that we are extending that fellowship to new folks who come through our doors – and even to new folks in our neighborhood, work place, and school. It's a joy to break bread together and to encourage each other in our walk with Jesus.

Your Pastor Wade

Church Events

- Sept 1 Youth Back 2 School Throw Down
- Sept 2 Ladies Fellowship Breakfast 8:15 am
- Sept 3 Office Closed - Happy Labor Day
Daycare Closed
- Sept 9 Old Settlers Sunday - Fellowship
Happy Grandparents Day
- Sept 10 New Ladies Mon Bible Study 10:00 am
Job - Lisa Harper
- Sept 15 Beth Moore Simulcast - Field Street
\$15 (includes lunch) 10 am - 4 pm
- Sept 26 RA & GA Can Food Drive Begins
- Sept 30 Cereal Bar Breakfast 8:30-9:15 am
- Oct 7 Deacon's Breakfast 8:00 am
Ladies Fellowship Breakfast 8:15 am
- Oct 17 New Ladies Mid-Week Study Begins:
Crossing the Waters - Leslie L. Fields
- Oct 31 Family Fun Fest
RA & GA Can Food Drive Ends

Discipleship


We are now 36 weeks (as of the first week in September) into the Read the Bible for Life Chronological reading plan, nearing the end of the Old Testament. What an amazing journey it has been! So many of you have been faithfully making life space and heart space for God to help you grow as His disciples. The journey through the Old Testament has been long and, at times, difficult but always rewarding. We will learn more of the Hero of the story (God) and His desire to have a people who will love Him and join Him in His mission to see all people be restored to a right relationship with Him. It has become very clear through our reading that God's chosen people struggled all through the stories of the Old Testament with being faithful to God. You can also see that ...His holiness requires a separation from those who sin against Him. His justice requires a punishment for those who choose to be willful against His commands. His discipline is enacted for those who need their attention turned back to Him. And is love is the pathway to the new covenant for all people to be made whole by the all sufficient sacrifice of His Son for all sin and for all time. He is an amazing and wonderful God and certainly more than deserving of our complete and total devotion. That's just a little bit of what I saw in the Old Testament stories. I hope that you saw this too and much more.

I also want you to see a wonderful opportunity that is coming for you in the month of October. On October 3rd, we will begin reading the New Testament together as our chronological reading plan continues. This is a great time to invite new people who are not a part of your Sunday school or small groups to come join as you read the continuation of the amazing story of God's new covenant. Through the chosen people of the Old Testament, God will bless all people for all time and His Kingdom will reign forever and ever. The Story of Jesus is about to begin. Will you make every effort to pray and ask God to place people in your pathways and life who need to hear this story? Will you make every effort to boldly invite people to be a part of your group and make them feel special, welcomed? Will you make every effort to encourage them as they begin to read the story of Jesus? Will you answer questions, ask questions, help them make life space and heart space? Will you ask them if they want to begin a relationship with Jesus? Will you ask the important questions? We serve a great God and He wants us to show the world what He is like. Would you do this for Him and for His glory and for those He loves? Will you be His Disciples?

-Scott

LADIES MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

BEGINS SEPT 10 @ 10:00 AM



DISCOVER AN UNLIKELY JOY

A 7-Session Bible Study by Lisa Harper

Study guide available \$13.00

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.



Ladies Mid-Week Study:

Please join the ladies every Wednesday night throughout the month of September/October as we journey together through the Bible. Come learn with us as we continue to study the old testament with Nancy Guthrie.



NEW LADIES Mid-Week STUDY BEGINNING OCTOBER 17

Crossing THE Waters



FOLLOWING JESUS THROUGH THE STORMS, THE FISH, THE DOUBT, AND THE SEAS

Sunday Morning Bible Studies

9/2 Wk-36	Exile (cont.) God Created the World	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
9/9 Wk-37	Exile (cont.) God's Plan for People	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
9/16 Wk-38	Return Adam and Eve Sinned	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
9/23 Wk-39	Return (cont.) Cain and Abel	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
9/30 Wk-40	New Testament: Christ's Coming Noah Worked Hard	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
10/7 Wk-41	Christ's Ministry Joseph and His Brothers	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
10/14 Wk-42	Christ's Ministry (cont.) Miriam and Moses	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
10/21 Wk-43	Christ's Ministry (cont.) Moses Spoke About Families	(Youth/Adults) (Children)
10/28	Christ's Deliverance	(Youth/Adults)

Worship Ministry

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2018

"Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails." (Proverbs 19:21) I am learning from our Lord more and more each day that even though my plans may be for the good of His kingdom and church, it is ultimately only His plans that really matter. I must gladly submit to His will and sometimes just wait on Him. It is only by His great love and mercy that we awaken each morning. "Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:22-23)

You may have heard that recently my white blood cell count and neutrophils count have plummeted to dangerous levels and I am now neutropenic with no immunity. That is why the doctors have recommended that I stay at home and avoid all public places. I was so looking forward to continuing to lead worship with you, and especially on our Old Settlers Sunday, but I will not be able to be there. The Lord has led us to seek more individualized treatment options at a well-known cancer center in Irvine, CA, the largest one of it's kind in North America. They will do extensive testing with my blood to pinpoint exactly how it

responds to over 50 different treatment options. In order to minimize my exposure to people we have graciously been loaned an RV. My son Matthew will drive us there. My first appointment is Monday morning September 10th. Amazingly, Irvine is also where my niece and her husband live and they have offered for us to stay in their home. God is working out the details day by day.

We ask that you please continue to pray fervently for us and for the doctors there. We don't know God's plan for me and my health, but we know that we are secure in His loving hands! "We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in you." (Psalm 33:20-22)

With much love and thanks! Glen

Be blessed and a blessing!
(Genesis 12:2)



Current YTD (as of 9/06/18) Giving \$244,990.03 · YTD Giving Needed \$268,990.40

Current Building Loan Balance \$195,319.75

Daycare News

I would like to introduce you to a member of our staff, Misty Burden, who on Sept. 23rd, will celebrate her 10th anniversary at First Baptist Daycare. She has been our morning Infant teacher from day one. Before coming here she had worked at La Petite Academy, beginning in 2002.



Misty and her husband Stephen will also celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary this month. They have one son, Corby, who attends Venus High School, where he is a senior. He plans to go to UTA and study computer, jazz music and gaming design. As a family, they enjoy camping with their dog Titan.

We are very blessed to have Misty as a part of our team and hope she stays with us for many years to come.

We hope everyone has a safe and relaxing Labor Day weekend.

As always, so very blessed to serve,

Christie Pippin

FBC Alvarado Daycare Director

RA & GA

**CAN CASTLE'S FOR
CHRIST FOOD DRIVE
BENEFITING HELPING HANDS FOR JESUS
SEPT 26 - OCT. 31**



**We have 4 Burial Lots
- Glenwood Cemetery**

**If you are interested
in purchasing, please
call the church at
817-783-5181**

JOIN US SEPTEMBER 15, 2018

LIVING PROOF

Simulcast

with Beth Moore

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Cost: \$15 (includes lunch)

FIELD STREET BAPTIST, CLEBURNE

SEE BRANDI PRICE FOR TICKETS AND MORE DETAILS





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

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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

School is back, and we all know how ecstatic teenagers are when they have to get back into their daily school routines. Some look forward to going back while others loathe the thought of it. The kids are not the only ones in school, though, as I have started my semester of seminary classes for the fall. So, as you are praying for our students this year, I ask that you include me in those prayers as well!

We just finished up our Back to School event and had an incredible time with an incredible turnout! I was blessed to see the participation from both the students and our volunteers! We are looking forward to many other events with the students this semester as well, including the upcoming Funfest on Wednesday, October 31st. Students are encouraged to participate in the events and help out in any way possible.

Following our FunFest, the students who participate or help out will be given the opportunity to join us in our Fallapalooza on November 3rd. This will be held at the church from 7PM to 11PM and will include games, food, and fellowship with each other!

I also want to inform our students about this year's See You at the Pole rally on September 26. This is the global day of student prayer that began in the 90's. See You at the Pole is a prayer rally where students meet at the school flagpole before school to pray. With that being said, this is a *STUDENT LED* event. I want to strongly encourage our students to take this responsibility and to lead other students in prayer on this day. It was originally started by students and should therefore still be led by students almost 30 years later. What an awesome privilege they have to still have the liberty to do such an incredible thing! There is always something to praise the Lord for!

As always, I want to thank you all for your time, prayer, and commitment to the church, our students, and our staff. Your prayers do not go unnoticed. As a word of encouragement to you, I often try and remind myself that God is always on his throne and that nothing ever takes him by surprise. It's comforting to know that he's the one in control instead of me! Pray hard, and as the apostle Paul says, "rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in all circumstances!"

In Christ,

Ethan Yates