

Oct was busy with a church birthday celebration (plus a surprise "40 years in ministry" for your pastor -thanks!), a farewell reception for Caleb Norman, and a successful Family Fun Fest. Thanks for so many of you that worked, served, gave, fixed, decorated, welcomed and ministered to lives this past month!

November tends to be a quiet month in church life -- but not behind the scenes. Committees meet and do budget, leadership, and calendar planning for the upcoming year. Please pray for our committees, staff, and church leadership as decisions are made -- we need God's infinite wisdom and direction in matters that effect the entire church family.

We continue to have guests each week to join us for worship (and some for Bible Study classes).

You are doing a great job welcoming and engaging them -- keep it up!! Add some "follow-up" to your efforts in contacting them during the week and either begin a relationship with them or connect them with someone of like age, interest, family situation, etc. You can be like Andrew and be a "connector." (See Jn.1:41-42; 6:8; 12:21-22)

Pray for our church staffing needs. God has leaders and provision for them. We just have to seek our *Jehovah Jireh* -- our God who provides. And the biggest reward is in the seeking!!

Faithfully yours in Jesus,

Wade



A huge thank you to all those that donated candy and to those that came out and helped with our Annual Fall FunFest! We had an exceptional turn out from our church family and the community. Seeing the smiles on the children's faces as they played games & knocked on doors was a beautiful site to see! What are some ways you think we can make it even better next year? Email your suggestions to office@fbcalvarado.org. Again, Thank you for all you do!

Associate Pastor, Scott Arthur

Dear Church,

As I was considering what to say to you all, I was reminded of Jesus' words in John 15:13 and how I have seen it come alive in this congregation.

"Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."

During my two years of being included into your family, I personally experienced grace and love extended to me in ways I could not have imagined. Not only did you invite me into friendships at FBCA, but many laid their lives down for me in numerous ways, and I am humbled by your love. I learned a great deal about leadership, worship, and kindness through serving alongside you. It was a joy to be a part of the dinners, holidays, and everyday happenings of life in Alvarado.

I know that my leaving may be difficult for you all, even as I have been undergoing a process of grieving. My hope and confidence, however, is in the goodness and wisdom of God for whom I hold my life with an open hand. As I pursue wherever God may lead, my prayer for you all is the same as the exhortation in Hebrews that you would "hold fast the confession of your hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful." (Heb. 10:23) Please know that I will be praying for you all and hope to visit again soon.



For the Kingdom, Caleb Norman

