

# A Church that equips you to be “Faithful & Fruitful.”



“Have a blessed day” seems to be the going phrase when the clerk checks you out at the store or when the waiter or waitress drops off your check / tab. When you ask someone how their day is going, often you will hear, “I am blessed!”

I used to think that these words were coming from the lips of a believer and were their way of perhaps opening a witnessing opportunity. But I’m beginning to think they have just come into standard use and lost much of their meaning.

For sure, if anyone is “blessed” beyond measure, it is a believer...a follower of Jesus! Over the next couple of months (as Jesus tarries) our sermon series will be “Blessed,” a look at some of the chief blessing that are ours as a believer. Come worship with us each week and be “blessed!”

Ephesians is a “blessings” book -- read it slowly a few times this month. We are well introduced to our blessings in Eph.1:3 -- *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places...*

Our church month includes a chili cookoff (Oct. 8), a Night of Worship (Oct. 15), and our annual Fall Festival on Oct.31!

Continue in prayer for our search committee. Watch for an update soon.

For FBCA to grow, it takes all of us being faithful and reaching out to wayward members and to those who need Jesus and a new church home. Share some of your “blessings” with someone else!

*Pastor Wade*

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**October is here!** Which means the “Fun Fest” (one of our biggest outreach events) is just around the corner! Start inviting families and individuals to come and enjoy free food, fun games, and fellowship on October 31<sup>st</sup>. This event will be from 6-8 pm. We will need lots of help to make this a successful outreach event. Kaitlyn will be asking for volunteers in the coming weeks to help in various ways.

**We want to see our church family GROW and we can use EVERYONE'S help!**

The children's ministry is also hosting a Pumpkin Party for families who have preschool and elementary aged children, on October 15<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 pm at the Taylor's home (3409 County Rd 401). This will be a time of fellowship for families to mingle, paint pumpkins, and enjoy some tasty treats. Invite families that you may know to join us!

**Please see Kaitlyn for more information on both of these wonderful events.**



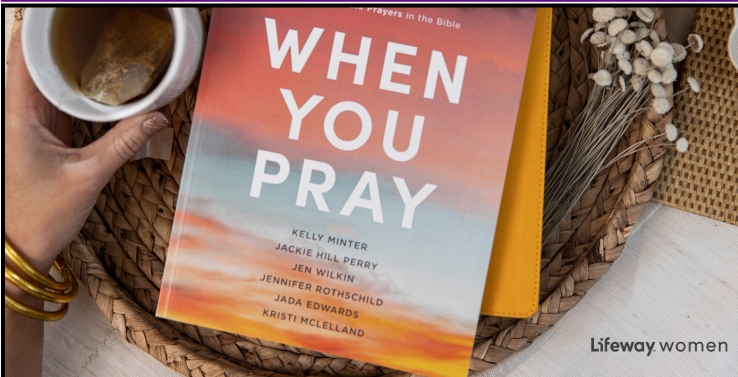


## UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

- Oct 1 Deacon's Meeting
- Oct 8 Youth Fundraiser Chili Cook Off 4pm  
Youth Game Night following
- Oct 15 Youth Night of Worship
- Oct 22 SWMBA Assoc. Mtg  
5-7:30 pm Bono Baptist
- Oct 31 Fun Fest

## FINANCIAL UPDATE: (9/25/2023)

Current Checkbook Bal	\$108,793.29
-Designated Funds Bal.	\$13,414.76
-Repair Funds Bal.	\$25,129.45
<b>=Total Available Funds</b>	<b>\$70,249.08</b>
2023 Total Giving Received	\$228,581.58
2023 Total Giving Needed	\$259,564.89



### MONDAY MORNING LADIES BIBLE STUDY!

Facilitated by KayLynn Biggs.

Join us October 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am

At First Baptist Church, Alvarado

"WHEN YOU PRAY" - A Study of Six Prayers in the Bible

Authors: Kelly Minter, Jen Wilkin, Jackie Hill Perry, Jennifer Rothschild, Jada Edwards, and Kristi McClelland  
7 Session Study with engaging homework in between.

## Nursery Volunteers Needed

Sunday Mornings during the worship hour and Wednesday evening during Bible Study. Volunteer once a month or as often as you feel led.



# FBCA

STUDENT MINISTRY

John 15: 1-12

This is super interesting. John 15 talks about the love of Christ and staying close to Him. However, the thing that struck me, in verses 1-2. Jesus says He is the vine, and the Father is the gardener. The gardener takes the stuff that is not producing fruit and removes it. He also prunes the vines that are producing fruit, to make more fruit. This means as followers there will be times where it is tough to follow and keep strong. We must remember that God's plan is not our own, and that God is with us always.

This section also ends with a command from Jesus. We are to love each other, as He loved(s) us. This is a bold statement to make. The love we should show to others is a sacrificial love. That is not something that is easy to do. People get under our skin, and they may have wronged us in the past. The question is, how we can love them even though they did us dirty? The answer: like Jesus, even though He knew the people would reject Him and one of His own would betray Him, He did not have hatred in His heart for them. This, as humans, is hard for us to do. However, we need to follow Christ's example. This is how we grow and get pruned to produce fruit.

TJ Arango, Associate Pastor of Students

