

The Beacon

NEWS AND INFORMATION | FBC ALVARADO, TX
NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2019



Pastor's Ponderings

Journeying through the gospel of Mark, we find Jesus giving new meaning to the priority of the Sabbath and how to keep it. Mark 2:27 says, *"The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath."* Mark 3:4 says, *"Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to kill?"*

In both instances, Jesus is trying to help us understand that it is not to be about ritual & tradition, but about honoring God through treasuring human life and meeting human need.

As we journey through the next couple of months – "holiday" months – we can let them be all about ritual & tradition – or we can let them be all about honoring God through treasuring human life and meeting human need.

Most of us will gather with family & friends over the next 60 days, maybe 2 or 3 times! We will share life with them, food with them, and memories with them. But don't let your Thanksgiving and Christmas time gathering be just about ritual & tradition. Pay attention to your relationships, value those that God has placed in your life, and ask God to make you sensitive as to how you can leave that person better off than when you met them again. Be the presence of God in your holiday gatherings and honor Him in everything you do & say.

Join your church family for several gatherings in the coming days – including:

Thanksgiving Potluck Meal, Wed, Nov.20

Christmas Goodies & Decorating, Sun, Nov.24

Missions & Ministry Service, Sun. Dec.8

Pastor's Open House, Sun, Dec.22

Also don't forget to pray and plan about your World Mission Offering Giving over the next few weeks. Part of your involvement in missions is giving – "part" of it anyway. Ask God how else can you be involved in missions in 2020.

Church Events

- Nov 10 Home Bible Study #4
- Nov 15 Varsity Football Breakfast
- Nov 17 Committee Meetings
- Nov 20 Thanksgiving Pot-Luck Meal
- Nov 23 Santa's Helper Dinner / Auction
- Nov 24 Christmas Goodies & Decorating Business Mtg.
- Nov 27 No Wednesday Night Services
- Nov 28-29 Church Office Closed - Thanksgiving
- Dec 1 Deacon's Breakfast (8:00 am)
- Dec 3 Adult IV Christmas Party
- Dec 7 Women's Event CCCC
- Dec 8 Mission & Ministry Sunday
- Dec 14 Youth Six Flags - Holiday in the Park
Adult V Christmas Party
- Dec 15 Christmas Choir Musical
Adult VII Christmas Party
- Dec 18 Youth Christmas Party
RA & GA Christmas Party
- Dec 22 Pastor's Open House 5-7PM
- Dec 24-25 Church Office Closed - Christmas
- Dec 31 Youth New Years Party
- Jan 1 Church Office Closed - New Years Day

Worship News

Greetings!

God is worthy of our worship and praise and it has been good to worship with you these last few weeks! I've really enjoyed meeting you as a church family as I see how God is working in your lives. Though I'm still learning names and memorizing faces, I've been able to get to know many amazing servants of God's kingdom in Alvarado! As 2019 closes, the choir is preparing for our Christmas program which is open to any who'd like to join us! Our practices are on Wednesday nights at 7:15 pm.

Thank you all so much for your encouragement and support and may your worship strengthen your witness!

Caleb Norman - Associate Pastor of Worship



**MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD
- JOIN THE CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS -
PLEASE SEE CALEB IF YOU ARE INTERESTED**

**Current YTD (as of 11/05/2019)
Giving \$ 313,173.47
YTD Giving Needed \$ 328,240.00
Current Building Loan Balance
\$139,428.90**

If you have not sent in your updated photos & info, please send to office@fbcalvarado.org no later than 11/25/19. We will try to have new directories early 2020. If you have questions or need help taking your photo please see Tara Monrose or call the church office at 817-783-5181, Thank you.

**We are updating the
CHURCH
DIRECTORY**

Ladies Mid-Week Study:

Come join us on Wednesday & Thursday nights for a discussion on the book of Hosea as we use the tools learned from Women of the Word. We will gain insight into how to study the Word of God and make application! Hope to see you there!



**LADIES: SAVE THE DATE
DECEMBER 7, 2019**

*Coffee, Cookies,
Carols & Christ
Celebration!*

WITH GUEST SPEAKER:

Renee Urbanovsky

**COST: \$6
INCLUDES DINNER**

Sunday Morning Bible Studies

- | | | |
|------------------|---|-----------------------|
| 11/3 | God Declares a New Covenant | (Youth/Adults) |
| <i>U15 S3</i> | Jeremiah, Prophet to Judah | (Children) |
| 11/10 | God Answers a Confused Prophet | (Youth/Adults) |
| <i>U15 S4</i> | Habakkuk the Prophet | (Children) |
| 11/17 | God Disciplines a Rebellious People | (Youth/Adults) |
| <i>U15 S5</i> | Judah Taken Captive | (Children) |
| 11/24 | God Pictures a Future Hope | (Youth/Adults) |
| <i>U15 S6</i> | Ezekiel Gave Hope | (Children) |
| 12/1 | God's Presence Sustains His People | (Youth/Adults) |
| <i>U16 S1</i> | The Fiery Furnace | (Children) |
| 12/8 | God's Authority Sustains His People | (Youth/Adults) |
| <i>U16 S2</i> | Nebuchadnezzar's Dream | (Children) |
| 12/15 | God's Protection Sustains His People | (Youth/Adults) |
| <i>U16 S3</i> | Israel Taken Captive | (Children) |
| 12/22 | Immanuel, God with Us | (Youth/Adults) |
| <i>Christmas</i> | Jesus Was Born - God with Us | (Children) |
| 12/29 | God's Promises Sustain His People | (Youth/Adults) |
| <i>U16 S4</i> | Daniel's Dream | (Children) |

Children's Discipleship & Missions

We had an amazing time of Fun & Fellowship at this year's Family Fun Fest. We estimate that over 300 children and their families participated in this event. This successful event is due to your faithful support. Thank you for all that came out to serve. We gave away a SkyCurve swing to one of our families that filled out a simple registration form. On this form we asked if they attend church at least 1 Sunday out of the month. Out of all the registration forms, we had 23 entries that said they do not attend. That is 23 families in our community that are not going to church and they are not bringing their children to church. Please join the children's department as we pray for these families and for the families that did not respond. Pray that they will see a need for Jesus in their lives and find a church home. Please enjoy some of the photos taken at Family Fun-Fest and think about ways you can help next year!



NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2019

PLEASE JOIN US
FOR A POT-LUCK

WEDNESDAY

NOVEMBER 20TH

AT 6:00 PM

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



**Christmas
Decorating
Party**

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 24 @ 5:00 PM
BRING A CHRISTMAS TREAT TO SHARE
SHORT BUSINESS MTG TO FOLLOW

**LET'S
EAT
DINNER
TOGETHER!**

Wednesday
FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Wed. Night Meals are available 5:45-6:20 pm
Adults \$5, Kids \$3, Max \$15 per family

NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
Nov 6 - Baked Potato & Salad Bar	Dec 4 - Pork Chops
Nov 13 - Chicken Alfredo	Dec 11 - Taco Soup
Nov 20 - Church Wide Thanksgiving	Dec 18 - Christmas Ham

**ALVARADO
INDIANS**

**AHS VARSITY
FOOTBALL
BREAKFAST**

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP SERVE,
PREPARE, OR BE A PART OF THIS EVENT,
PLEASE SEE SCOTT FOR MORE INFO.

NOVEMBER 15 AT 6:30 AM



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

PROVIDING STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE CHRIST LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY

Church Staff: Wade Taylor/*Senior Pastor* • Scott Arthur/*Associate Pastor ; Admin, Edu, & Children*
Ethan Yates/*Associate Pastor of Students* • Caleb Norman/*Associate Pastor of Worship*



Howdy!

I get so excited for this time of year because there are Christmas decorations in just about every store you walk into! I just wish they would start playing Christmas music in them as well! And no, I would never skip Thanksgiving! When buttermilk pie is on the menu, it's a holiday worth celebrating! Of course, nothing beats this time of year because of the time shared with family and the memories that are made. Whether it's hunting, eating, or discussing theology, I love the time I get to spend with my family over these holidays!

In the month of December, the students will be taking a Six Flags trip on the 14th! Tickets will be \$45 each and are due on the 4th. Our Christmas party is scheduled for the 18th, and will be located in the youth room. Also, we are always looking for ways to serve our church and our community, so please contact me if you or anyone you know could use help in some capacity!



It has been a joy to work with our students this past year, and it's hard to believe our year is coming to a close. I have witnessed SO much spiritual growth within many of the students, and that is ever so encouraging! We, as always, appreciate and are in constant need of your prayers, so thank you for being faithful in doing so! Thanks, also, for your giving and support!

In Christ,
Ethan Yates
Associate Pastor of Students