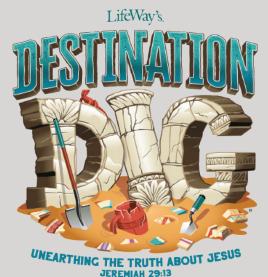
# First Baptist Church

### **Newsletter June 2021**

#### **Vacation Bible School 2021**



This year, we will have two different 3-day sessions of VBS in July for grade-school aged children (Kinder through 5th grade) that families may choose from:

July 7, 8, & 9 - 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. July 12, 13, & 14 - 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Volunteer and participant registration are now open at fbcep.com/children.

April Giving			
		2020	
Budgeted			\$126,885
Received			\$144,779
		2021	
Budgeted			\$137,755
Received	(est.)		\$120,000

#### Ways to Give

- Text "Give" to (915)975-7300
- Online at fbcep.com
- First Baptist Church El Paso Mobile App
- Mail Gift to:

805 Montana Ave.

Attn: Finance

El Paso, TX 79902

# A Message from the Committee on Committees by Carol Graham, Chair, Committee on Committees

The Committee on Committees is beginning the process of nominating people to serve on church committees and ministry teams. We will be contacting current standing committee members and ministry team leaders to thank them for their service and to determine if they wish to continue their service through the next term, which begins on September 1, 2021. We will also be contacting prospective new members to fill vacancies left by those rotating off. Most new terms of service for standing committee members will be for three years.

The Committee on Committees will be praying for the Lord's direction during this important time. We also ask you to be seeking the Lord's will about whether to serve when asked.

If you have any questions about the standing committees or ministry teams, please contact me, Carol Graham, at 915-269-0685 or Kara Jones at 915-533-1465.

May God continue to bless the ministries of First Baptist Church of El Paso.



We are so excited about taking a step FORWARD this Summer with an incredible local Summer Camp planned for June 27-30! FBC Youth will partner with several local churches (including Mesa Place Church, First Baptist Church of Horizon City, Del Sol Church, and Betesda Church) for an exciting local camp for middle school and high school students (grades 6-12).

FORWARD, the camp's name and theme, will feature inspiring messages and worship, engaging small group discussions, hands-on training, outreach and serving opportunities, fun activities, and great food. The purpose of this event is to provide students with an opportunity to get away from normal, connect with other students, and be equipped to go FORWARD in their life with the hope and purpose of the Gospel.

The devotions, messages, and small group discussions during FORWARD will help students

- know why it's so important to own their faith;
- think differently about their purpose and influence;
- and equip them to practice the spiritual habits and actions necessary to grow a meaningful faith that will help them follow Jesus for the rest of their lives.

If you know of any middle school or high school students from outside of our church, please let them know that they

are welcome to participate with us! Cost is only \$100/person and includes food, a t-shirt, and everything else needed for an impactful week.

Registration for FORWARD will be online through www.fbcep.com/youth beginning June 4, with a registration deadline of June 20. Please pray for us as we continue to plan for this incredible event!

#### **2021 GRADUATION CELEBRATION**

We will celebrate the accomplishments of this year's amazing high school and college graduates on June 13. Please submit the name of your graduate, their school, and their degree to Jeremy Kroeker by emailing him at jkroeker@fbcep.com by June 10 so that we might recognize them.



#### by Nicki Licking

I am personally thrilled to announce the start of the brand new Redeeming Art Ministry at First Baptist Church of El Paso. This endeavor to disciple believers through visual creativity has been my heart beat for many years. It is a tremendous and humbling blessing to witness the start of an art ministry in the church where I have been raised since I was a small child.

We are each given a measure of creativity; yes, ALL of us. God Himself is creative, and as His image bearers we also are creative in so many different ways. In making visual art, we are surrendering our minds, our hands, and our spirits to God's call to share His love and life with a world in desperate need of the redemption only He can provide. Learning how to express the things of God through the work of our hands both helps us to internalize the things that God has to teach us about Himself and it gives us a broader vocabulary useful for reaching the people around us. This is discipleship: breathing in the Word of God so that it nourishes and becomes part of us, and breathing out His Word to nourish and bring life to those around us.

For those of us who make art regularly, either as a hobby or professionally, learning how to hone our skills as artists with the purpose of bringing glory to God is an act of worship. Directing our hands to sing God's praises brings wholeness and purpose to our lives.

These truths are the foundation for Redeeming Art Ministry. As we get going, we will hold five foundational workshops, each with a different focus and lasting six weeks long. These workshop sessions will be just long enough to dip our toes into each topic and give us an introduction into the processes of making. They are open to FBC members of all skill levels who desire to learn about art and discipleship. For more details, the full schedule, and registration, visit fbcep.com/art-ministry.

Lastly, our desire is to expand the art ministry to include at least three additional instructors with a solid foundation of both theology and art education. If this appeals to you and if you are willing to be trained to instruct or assist with Redeeming Art Ministry, please email nlicking@fbcep.com to express your interest.

# *Men's Ministry Report*by Erick Jimenez, Minister of Discipleship

We want to thank all of the men who joined us this last weekend for our first men's breakfast in a few years. It was exciting to see over fifty of our church men joining us for a great time of fellowship and breaking bread. The ages ranged from 5 years of age to some of our men in their seventies. Please stay tuned for our upcoming events as we continue to plan and move forward with building relationships and establishing discipleship. We have another breakfast scheduled for August and as we plan accordingly we will communicate the detailed information. Your prayers are appreciated!

And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Galatians 5:24 (ESV)

#### **Dates to Remember**

6/6 @ 11:30 a.m. & 12:30p.m.—VBS Training 6/13 @3:30 p.m.—Deacons' Meeting 6/13 —Graduation Celebration 6/27–30—Youth Summer Camp/Conference

#### **New Members**

- Debbie Wright by letter.
- Bob and Janet De La Peña by letter.
- Fatima, Vitarra, and Angel Juarez by baptism.
- Beatrice Galloway by baptism.
- Kelsey Dunning by baptism.
- Shawn Sims and Georgia Lane by baptism.

### **Sympathy**

- Ellen Brooks and family in the passing of her husband, Don Brooks.
- Kimham and Choghig Eter in the passing of his brother, John Eter.
- The family of Phil Boaz.
- Shellie Walker in the passing of her mother, Margaret Allyn.
- Teresa Rotramel in the passing of her mother, Sharon Mearse.
- Mike and Kelly Stewart in the passing of her brother-in-law, Scott Butler.
- The family of Charlie Brown.

#### **Northeast Men's Prayer Breakfast**

The Northeast Men's Prayer Breakfast will resume this month. The Prayer Breakfast takes place every Thursday morning at 6:30 a.m. at the Denny's on Transmountain (4690 Woodrow Bean Transmountain Dr.). All men are invited to join us for prayer and fellowship.

#### Weekly Digital Sunday Bulletin

The Sunday bulletin is available each week with the title of that day's message, a link to read the key Scripture, and full detailed announcements. Visit fbcep.com/bulletin or use the FBC mobile app to access the weekly bulletin. Feel free to call the church office during the week at 915-533-1465.



#### Women on Mission in June

Mission Service Project for June: WOM will partner with BSM students as they go on summer mission trips in June and July 2021. These mission trips are adventures of faith and willingness to serve as God leads the students. Some students may make a commitment to full time mission work. Please pray and give funds to support these students.

- Andre Velasco will serve alongside Pastor David Whitehead at Connections Church in Kapoei, Hawaii. He will be sharing the Gospel through outreach events, evangelism and social media efforts.
- Albert Delgado will work with Epic Life Team in Seattle,
   Washington serving the homeless and reaching the people with the Gospel.
- Hannah Aguilar will be working in Corpus Christi, Texas reaching teens for Christ, camps, discipleship, mission trips, and hosting vacation Bible School.
- Silvia Chavez will be doing mission Labs in El Paso sharing the Gospel and serving in ways that are needed throughout the city.
- Katy Clark will be working in Arlington, Texas sharing the Gospel and providing help to families.
- Tolulope and Kristtian will serve in England and Greece sharing the Gospel.

Thank you for contributing to the May Mission Service Project. The WOM partnered with the BSM students who join Casas por Cristo in Juarez, Mexico and built a house for a family in the poorest area. Below are pictures of the house going up and the BSM students.

#### **Pray for Missionaries Passage:**

Genesis 1:1-31 with focus on Genesis 1:1-3, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light."

Words are powerful. They are so powerful God used them to create the earth and everything on it. Nine times in today's passage is the phase, "And God said," or, "Then God said." God could have just made light appear and darkness disappear. He could have formed land with His hands, scooped up the waters and separated them, dropped seed into fertile land, produced wildlife and birthed humans. All without a word.

Instead, He spoke a word of intention, a word of declaration, a word of creation. He verbalized what He was about to do. God's words established ownership of the world He was creating. His words carried authority, and the world resulted.

A different kind of void exists today. Much of our world is empty of meaning. There is a pervading darkness caused by the adversary. But the Spirit of God still hovers over it all. And God still speaks. We have His Word in Scripture, and it is still powerful. Pray today we will have the courage to share it. Pray for missionaries on their birthday. Many missionaries

save the difficult tasks for their birthday because so many people will be praying all over the world for them on "their" day. That is trusting in the power of prayer.

Pray for North American Mission Board: Arizona, Sungchin Cha, California, Jordan Nassie, Florida, Eric Bancroft, Michael Faircloth, Joshua Rowell, Indiana, Benjamin Hurt, Missouri, Jernigan Schwent, Utah, Maximo Cruz International Mission Board: American Peoples: TJ, Central Asian Peoples: JB, AH East Asian Peoples: JB European Peoples: Jen Stewart, Jeffrey Williams Northern African and Middle Eastern Peoples: KB,CD,CL,FL,TM,CT Southeast Asian Peoples: SH, GM, Daniel Watson Chaplains, Volunteers, State Convention Missionaries, Retired IMB: JB, Carola Barbour, Teresa Bolls, Ruth Griffin, Rosalie Hunt, Barbara James, Jeanne Mahoney, Nhan McDougal.

## Taiwan Prayer Update from Glennda Cook *Praises*:

1-Tina, a Hakka in DongShr, is a new follower of Jesus. I am doing follow-up with her and Fu-ying (an older believer) once/month. Tina's husband's family runs a "family temple" they have opened up to the community. This will present extra challenges for Tina.

### Pray for:

1- weekly cross-cultural Hakka outreach in MiaoLi County (about 30 people each week visit 80+ Hakka in about 30 locations). Pray for the salvation of these Hakka senior citizens who can influence their families to follow Christ and leave ancestor worship. Pray for more regular Hakka outreach efforts elsewhere in Taiwan and Asia.

2-the salvation of students at Taichung NUTC-nursing college and NTUS sports university with whom we've been working this school year. Pray for God's Word to penetrate their hearts and bring them to faith in Jesus. Pray for summer follow-up opportunities.

3-churches to go with me and visit their Hakka members, their lost family members. Pray for these churches to have a burden for the lost Hakka in their communities.

4-Taiwan is still in a drought. There has been some rain, but reservoirs are still dangerously low. Taichung has a mandatory water rationing 2 days/week for everyone. As the land and people are in great need of steady rain, the people are in greater need of spiritual showers. We need God's grace and mercy; people need His salvation-turning from idol worship and turning to Jesus. Pray for rain.

5-I hope to return to US for stateside around Mar-Sept, 2022. I am looking for mission housing in Texas or New Mexico. If your church has available housing, please let me know. There are a few places I'm already considering. I would like to visit churches nearby (100-200 miles).

Thank you for praying, Glennda, Missionary to Taiwan

Thank you for your amazing faithful mission ministry. Many people are blessed by your generosity.

—Martha Caldwell, Director, WMU, and Pat Murtland, WOM Facilitator.